

A black and white photograph of a multi-tiered waterfall cascading over rocks in a forest. The water flows from a rocky ledge in the middle ground down to a pool of water in the foreground. The background is filled with dense evergreen trees.

# *The Silver Lining*

*Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.*

November 2003



*Sermon by Elder Brother Mark Bahr, Detroit, MI*  
**Isaiah 44:21-28 and II Corinthians 13**

Beautiful words of life. As we read these two scriptures together, from the beautiful Old Testament book Isaiah, and as we read then from the New Testament, second book of Corinthians, were there particular words that seemed to stand out to you? Undoubtedly, if we were to have the opportunity to go through and just momentarily check each of us, certain verses, certain thoughts touched our hearts. It is the way it is when we read the Word. The Word is quick and it has the ability to quicken the heart and soul of man.

One of the opportunities we have this afternoon hour is to come, just as the scripture exhorted us to come. To come honestly and to come with this awareness so beautifully described in Isaiah 44. This awareness of who we are in the light of our Creator, almighty God.

The scripture says simply, it is given unto man once to die, after that the judgment. (Hebrews 9:27) That is where we are at today, loved ones. It is given unto man once to die, after that the judgment.

We shared together, we prayed together, we acknowledged John 3:16, a verse that perhaps many of us learned as children in Sunday School or upon our mother's or our father's knees. We learned that God so loved the world that He gave Jesus Christ.

So the first verse that we read in Isaiah 44 begins with an exhortation that we want to utilize today. Way back in the Old Testament, in the early books of the Old Testament, Joshua and the men of God were leading the people. They had come through the Jordan River. God in His wisdom inspired some of those Godly leaders at that time and He said, select some people to go back and bring some stones from the river and establish a memorial. So that when future generations come by and they see this memorial of stones, they will ask, what are the stones? And the scripture says, when they ask, tell them. Tell them what is the memorial. Tell them that that is the time when God, almighty God, our God provided for His people. (Joshua 4:1-7) That is exactly

what He wants to do for us today.

The first verse we read says, "Remember these, O Jacob..." (Isaiah 44:21). Remember O Jacob. Jacob and Israel. Just beautiful portions of people or groups of people in an era of time that represented the very heart of God. God loved them. And He loves you and me today. He cares and He knows what every one of us are dealing with today.

We all, I would expect, walked in through the same or similar doors this morning and this afternoon. God knows exactly what is in our heart. So when He says, "Remember these, O Jacob and Israel; for thou art my servant: I have formed thee; thou art my servant: O Israel, thou shalt not be forgotten of me." (Isaiah 44:21). God knows us and He loves us. He wants to share with us the kingdom of heaven. So let's consider some of the instructions given in these later verses.

Verse twenty two says, "I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me; for I have redeemed thee." (Isaiah 44:22). Where are we at in that process of redemption and returning? Have we yet returned unto our Creator?

There is within every one of us a living soul. There is a need. There is an absolute, inherent need within us as God created us, to someday return unto our Creator. To know Him. So the exhortation is, remember I have formed thee, thou art my servant.

But the next verse says remember also that He has the ability to forgive sin. To blot out iniquity and for us to know that we have been redeemed. Jesus Christ Himself, while He was walking upon this earth, He left us an invitation that to this day is both tender and powerful. Jesus Christ said, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." (St. Matthew 11:28,29).

How does that balance against the turmoil of the day in which we live? That is the same Jesus Christ, the Redeemer. He wants to redeem us from

our sin. So we have an opportunity here to be reminded that, "Thus saith the Lord, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the Lord that maketh all things..." Isaiah 44:24.

So one of the questions as we read this Isaiah scripture, that we want to diligently and honestly answer individually, is knowing we have once been formed and created by almighty God, have we been born again? Have we been

*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

November 2003

### How Long, O Lord, How Long?

Nearly every child of God experiences severe trials at some point in his life. Sometimes the situation lasts long enough and is severe enough that it can test the faith of even the most faithful of God's people.

When the test is strong enough and long enough to cause us to ask questions, it can also make us feel guilty for questioning God. Sometimes we ask what we did to cause the problem? Why do others find relief and we don't? Why are there those who seem to ignore God and live wicked lives and yet prosper? Why does God allow these things to happen? Will it ever end?

Most of these questions have been asked for thousands of years by various individuals who were trying to do God's will and yet suffered significant problems.

When Jesus' disciples saw a man who was blind from his birth, they asked, "...Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him" (Jn. 9:3-4). Jesus healed the man of his blindness and he promptly faced another problem.

The Pharisees soon found fault because the man was healed on the Sabbath day. The man who had been given sight was then put through a severe trial, including being cast out of the synagogue. Through faith he was able to gain a clearer understanding of who Jesus was. Through the ordeal, Jesus opened his physical and his spiritual eyes so he could see clearly.

The trials that come upon us are not necessarily related to our behavior. There are times when our behavior can be the cause of tribulation, but there are also times when our trials come for no apparent reason, and God can use this as an opportunity to make Himself manifest to others. There are also times when God uses adversity in our lives to help us grow in our faith.

We can read numerous accounts in which requests for healing were granted immediately. When Jairus' daughter died, Jesus went and raised her from the dead (Mt. 9:18-25). The high priest's ser-

vant whose ear was cut off was healed with a touch of Jesus' hand (Lk. 22:51). We can read of the multitudes that came to Jesus and were healed (Mt. 14:36; Mt. 15:30). Although we do not know the length of time those in the multitude suffered, we know they were healed at the time that they requested healing from Jesus.

There are other situations where healing was requested but not granted. Paul besought the Lord three times that his thorn in the flesh could be removed and he was told "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness" (II Cor. 12:9). Eleven of the twelve original disciples endured hardship for the Lord. Ten of them suffered a martyr's death. John was exiled on the Isle of Patmos. Not all who ask are granted relief. However, all who ask in faith can receive grace to endure.

Earthly blessings do not always come to those who are faithful and are not always denied to the wicked. The poor widow who gave all she had (two mites) was credited with giving more than those who gave much. We do not read that she became wealthy in this life for her faithfulness. The churches in Macedonia "...in great trial of affliction ...and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality ...beyond their power..." (II Cor. 8:2-3) gave - but they remained poor.

Job tells us that sometimes the wicked prosper. They become "mighty in power ...their seed is established ...their houses are safe from fear... their cow calveth...their children dance" (Job 21:7-11). Solomon wrote that "...there is a wicked man that prolongeth his life..." (Ecc. 7:15). The laborers who only worked in the vineyard one hour were made equal to those who bore the burden of the day (Mt. 20:1-16).

Why does God allow these things to happen? Does He not care? God has always allowed mankind to have a choice. God does allow sin although He hates it. "I hate every false way ...vain thoughts ...lying..." (Ps. 119:104; 113; 163). Many other references to God's hatred of sin could be cited. Since God hates sin, why does He allow it, especially when it hurts His people? Perhaps it would be more ac-

curate to say God allows mankind to make choices, to choose to do good or evil, to choose to obey God or to disobey Him.

Since we know God has allowed us to have a free will of serving Him or rejecting Him, it is not beneficial to simply ask why God allows evil. It may be more beneficial to ask why mankind chooses to do evil even if it hurts us or others. That is not an easy question to answer. The Apostle Paul addressed this question in his epistle to the Romans where he wrote of the carnal and the spiritual mind.

Paul recognized that Satan can cause us to even do things we hate as long as we are under the carnal mind. He recognized that there was no good thing that dwells in the flesh. In himself he found the desire to do good, but in himself he found no way to perform the good. When left to the carnal mind, we would not do good but rather do evil.

Paul's struggle of the flesh versus the spirit is a struggle that each of us faces in our life. He found that he could never achieve the spiritual mind through the law. But God, by "...sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh; and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh; that righteousness...might be fulfilled ...not after the flesh, but after the spirit" (Ro. 8:3-4).

The afflictions that we endure may come from our struggle of the carnal versus the spiritual mind. However, they may also come as a result of the wickedness of others. After the Lamb opened the fifth seal, those who had been slain for the Word of God asked, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood ...and it was said unto them that they should rest yet for a little season, until their fellow servants also and their brethren should be killed..." (Rev. 6:10-11).

How long will it continue? God knows the limit of our endurance. "He ...will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (I Cor. 10:13). Perhaps the affliction will last as long as someone will benefit from it, and then "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;..." (Rev. 21:4).





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

### Kitchener Church

The Kitchener, Ontario church is located in the tiny town of Heidleberg, nestled in the rolling hills of central Canada. It is situated on the western edge of Kitchener-Waterloo, an area with a very diverse European immigrant community.

Two miles from church is North America's largest year round farmer's market, where locals go weekly to buy produce and maple syrup, fresh bread and meat and other items while tourists peruse the many crafts and country accents. From church, the spectacular Niagara Falls is a two-hour drive southeast and Toronto, a major international center, is an hour's drive to the east.

### History

The Kitchener church first started holding worship services in July 1981 in the home of Wladimir and Margaret Fortenbacher. These brethren, who hail from Europe, came from our sister-church in Kitchener (Nazarean brethren). Visiting ministers would travel many miles from our various American churches to conduct worship services once a month. Brethren met on the other Sundays to listen to previously recorded sermons from among our churches. As more souls began attending, visiting ministers began to hold services twice a month. Many of our ministers continued to lend themselves in conducting worship services for the local brethren and friends. This visiting minister schedule continues to be a blessing to us (Hebrews 6:10).

On Labor Day weekend of 1989, about 30 brethren from Kansas were expected. This spawned a search for a more permanent place to worship and facilitate larger groups. A small

stone church was found for that weekend. Rental arrangements were then made for a 2-year period. As there were no facilities available, services were held only in the mornings. Three church weddings were conducted in the old church.

In September of 1995, an old schoolhouse became available and we were able to rent it for morning/afternoon Sunday services and Saturday evening hymn sings. At this point, attendance continued to grow and mid-week worship services were added. It was at this location that Bro. Mike Ursu was appointed to serve in the ministry on June 13, 1998. Our last worship service in the schoolhouse was held on May 16, 1999.

### New edifice

Having reviewed our need, the North American Building Committee of our Mission Committee facilitated site visits, building plans and majority funding for a new permanent place of worship. Ground-breaking for the new church location was in October of 1998. Without the help of the Lord, this project would not have been possible. Many willing brethren and friends spent countless hours volunteering at the church job site. Local brethren, retired brothers from the sister-church, and dedicated brethren from our various churches in America traveled many miles to greatly assist in the work (1 Chronicles 28:21).

The first worship services were held in the new building on May 19, 1999. The church dedication was held on October 5, 1999. Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Mark Bahr shared the work of the day. At the new church location, the first wedding was conducted in February

of 2000 and the first baptism was held on July 30, 2000.

### Description

The 3.5 acre site of the new church is located at the eastern part of the small town of Heidleberg. Spruce trees line the driveway up to the 5,600 sq. ft. red brick church building. The sanctuary seats 120, and along with the fellowship and dining areas, meets our needs quite well.

We have been blessed abundantly with children, and currently have more children than adults. We now conduct three Sunday school classes by using the classrooms in the morning and afternoon, during worship services. Once a month, we hold a Sunday evening church hymn sing or a potluck/hymn sing in a family home. On alternate visiting minister weekends, we have a Saturday evening church hymn sing.

### Area opportunities

The area has two major universities, the home offices of several corporations as well as three large insurance companies. Jobs are available for those with skilled trades. Should the Lord's leading be evident, we encourage brethren to visit with our Elder Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and consider supporting our local church by relocating to this area.

### Invitation

We welcome you to worship and fellowship with us, and we entreat your prayers, as we seek to walk in love (John 15:12); to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ (2 Pet. 3:18); and to follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another (Rom.14:19). All thanks and praise be to God.



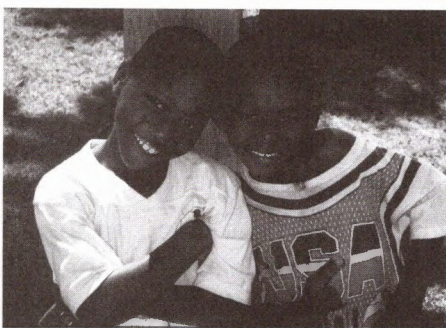


APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

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

## You Can Answer a Needy Child's Prayer

The classroom is filled with students singing praises to the Lord. As we listen closely, we recognize many of the melodies that we sing in our own congregations. Next we witness student after student, from the smallest pre-schooler to the older 6th graders, stand to recite passages from the Bible. We see smiles and shy glances and much enthusiasm to show us what they are learning.



This describes one of the schools with which the Apostolic Christian Child Sponsorship Program is affiliated. This particular school is situated near the southern coast of Haiti with the ocean waves heard in the background. Students walk as much as an hour to reach a similar neighboring school that sits on a high hill with a steep grade.

These schools, although crowded with sometimes 6 grades in one room, are bright and cheery with sunlight streaming through the windows. However, some of its sister schools are located in the city with dark classrooms and children packed together on benches. Even in these difficult circumstances the Word of God is being taught to them, and they also sing and recite memory verses. Along with the Bible being

taught in all of the schools, the children also learn reading and writing, mathematics, history, and languages.

It is a wonderful opportunity for the children fortunate enough to be able to attend these church affiliated schools. The Apostolic Christian Child Sponsorship Program is under the umbrella of the National World Relief Committee. It is a vehicle for members and friends of the Apostolic Christian Churches to share a small portion of their blessings to pay for tuition for these children to attend school. The Child Sponsorship Program is affiliated with schools in Haiti, Jamaica, and Mexico. These schools all offer the children a Christian education where they learn about Jesus.

We have many children in our files that are in need of sponsors now. For the future, we see no end in sight of the number of students that need support from caring brethren. Although the program has grown to around 600 children and 80 schools, the need remains. The cost to sponsor a child is \$25 per month for a Mexican or Jamaican student and \$21 per month for a Haitian student.

The students participating in the program are some of the poorest of the poor from these economically distressed countries. Sponsorship donations help to pay for school uniforms, books and supplies, teacher salaries and, in some cases, help for the family. The Jamaican children are all deaf students and come from all areas of the island. Your sponsorship would allow them to live on the campus and receive food and housing, as well as a Christian education and the means to learn sign language. They will be able to communicate on a meaningful basis for the first time in their lives.



To apply for a student to sponsor at this time, please fill out the following and send to the address below. A student will be assigned to you and you will be sent further information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please check preference:

Haiti

Jamaica

Mexico

If possible I would prefer:

Boy Age \_\_\_\_\_

Girl Age \_\_\_\_\_

No Preference

### Child Sponsorship Office contact information:

ACWR Child Sponsorship  
PO Box 36  
Morton, IL 61550  
Phone: 309-266-6080  
e-mail: acwr@mtco.com



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

"For I was a hungered, and ye gave me meat; I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and you took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying Lord, when saw we thee an hungered, and fed thee? Or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came to thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." *Matthew 25:35-40*

Every day we work at our jobs, help our friends, support our communities, love our church, pray for others in need, etc. Do you realize that you are doing those actions unto the Lord? God desires that we "work heartily as to the Lord, and not unto men." We are the recipients of many of the actions of our church such as praying, donations, board members, volunteers, friendships with our people, game night, putting on a roof or painting a house, coming for hymn singings, inviting us to your house. These actions are done because of your commitment to God first of all, then your commitment to us. Our people have enjoyed the wiener roasts and drives to see the beautiful leaves. We have also enjoyed watching the harvest as we travel to work every day.

After many years of service our Director of Nursing has announced her plans to retire next summer.

We are thankful for the many years of faithful service. There is a notice in the back of this Silver Lining. This position requires a Registered Nurse. We appreciate each of you taking time to consider this and to encourage others to consider this. If this is not a position for you or someone you know, we still covet your prayers that God would raise someone up to serve in this role.

Resident birthdays in DECEMBER:

Timber Ridge, 2125 Veterans Road, Morton, IL 61550: Anna Viens (12/3), Dirk Slonneger (12/5), Bryan Streid (12/8), Christina Otten (12/9), Delores Wieland (12/15), Philipp Fehr (12/18), Bland Jones (12/18), Anne Carrescia (12/30).

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

**Judy Gehring**

Have you ever seen a mother wren dive at someone because they came into her territory? There is an account of a gentleman who placed a number of wren houses around the yard and was always happy when his feathered tenants returned each year to raise their families. One of his birdhouses was made with a hinged cover so that the gentleman could lift the top and look into the nest.

One day the gentleman approached the new family that had just hatched, but not without first receiving a severe scolding from Mother Wren. Disregarding her warning, the gentleman was just about to lift the lid when this furious little mother flew full speed right down on top of his head!

Do we as Christian caregivers and parents have that much concern for our children? Are we diligent in protecting them from the evil that could bring them spiritual injury? Are we teaching them about the threats of the world, the flesh, and the devil? Do we know their friends? Do we monitor the radio programs they listen too, or the books they read?

Our children need our attention, guidance, and care. May God help us all to guard them from spiritual harms. The character of your children tomorrow depends on what you put into their hearts today.

With Thanksgiving on the horizon, we at Gateway Woods would like to offer a brief list of what we are thankful for: God's financial provision throughout 2003, safety for our staff and residents, high census numbers in all of our programs, a dedicated and loyal staff, wonderful supporters among the Apostolic Christian brotherhood, a new Adoption Services program, and most importantly, the Holy Spirit, who has guided us throughout 2003. We would also like to take this opportunity to say thank-you on behalf of the hundreds of children and families we have served this past year. No doubt words cannot express their thankfulness to you, our supporters, for providing us with the prayerful and financial support we need to work with them in their time of crisis or family breakdown. Without you, we could not provide the services that so many families desperately need. Your support is making a difference – and for that, we thank the Lord.



We want to welcome Ben and Mollie to our campus in Indiana. We pray that God will touch their hearts and bring about change in their lives. Our residential campus is currently at its maximum capacity.

We would like to welcome Sis. Jenny Rufener (Smithville, OH) to our staff as a Caseworker in the Foster Care and Adoption programs. We are thankful that she has answered the Lord's call! We are also thankful that Bro. Bruce and Sis. Heather Drayer (Bluffton North, IN) have accepted the position of Alternate Houseparents. Please lift them and their children up in prayer.

Be looking for the winter edition of The Gate Post coming out in November/December. May God richly bless you and your loved ones as we celebrate Thanksgiving in 2003!

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

Greetings! We are starting to see the first tints of color in the leaves and quite a few of them have already fallen to the ground. The days are gorgeous and we couldn't ask for another sign that God's work is all around us.

We have been learning about transportation this month as well as letters, numbers, shapes and colors. The children are improving every day and it is fun to see them grow.

The children had fun on our field trip to Tate Farms this month. They pet animals, went through a hay maze, took a hay ride, picked pumpkins and cotton, made a project and had a picnic. They had a

wonderful time but were ready for nap by the time we returned to the school.

The staff and children would like to thank Bro. Tom and Sis. Joan for their time and service here at the preschool. They have put in many hours here over the years and we are all sad to see them leave. We wish them God's blessings as they move to Indiana.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS  
Louise Hall**

We rejoice with Sis. Kat King as she welcomes a new grandson into this world. Gabriel David King was born to her son and daughter-in-law, Don and Molly King, on September 23. Gabriel has two brothers, Mike and Patrick.

Bro. Ed Haggenmaker was in the hospital this month for another heart surgery. We hope and pray that this will be the last time that he has to have this surgery.

This month we have had visitors from Mansfield, OH; and Morris, MN. We appreciate every visitor that comes and we want to thank them for their effort.

Our Sunday School children and several couples from church traveled to Florida for a weekend of camping, fellowship and fun with the Florida churches and several other churches. They had a wonderful time and we were thankful that God granted them traveling mercies.

The Athens congregation would like to thank Bro. Tom and Sis. Joan Schrenk for over 20 years of service and dedication to both the preschool and to the church. We are very sad to see them go, but we wish them well as they go to Zapata, TX, for the winter and then on to their

new home in Indiana.

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**ARIZONA, PHOENIX  
Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"Independent Spirit" was Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann's Conference topic which he shared with us on September 20. We appreciated his and Sis. Judy's visit. A potluck preceded the church service.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marie Kieser on the death of her aunt, Sis. Josephine Rehklau, of Toledo, OH. We extend our sympathy to Bro. Clarence and Sis. Gerry Beyer on her nephew, Gene Fankhauser's death in Lamont, KS.

Bro. Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton North, IN) was our visiting minister on September 28.

Bro. Jim Laukhuf had eye surgery on October 3.

Our dear Sis. Ruth Baer passed away October 2. Funeral service was on October 5, with Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich officiating. Internment was at the church cemetery in Morton, IL, on October 7. May God be with her sisters who survive, Helen Stewart, Carolyn Seigle, Bernice Rudin, and several nieces and a nephew. Our beloved Sis. Ruth was so well loved, her memory will endure forever.

Todd and Heidi Klopfenstein welcomed their first baby, Josh Ryan, on October 6. His grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Lou Ann Klopfenstein and Bro. Jon and Sis. Nancy Kokanovich. Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith Freed and Mary Ella Klopfenstein are his great-grandparents.

We Mountain View Villa residents enjoyed our first brunch October 15. We truly felt God's presence in the beautiful commu-



nity center and look forward to sharing this blessing with our home folks and winter visitors. May our dear Lord watch over all of us in these insecure times.

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## ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

### Jane Hodges

On October 12, we had many visitors from Phoenix and Tucson who came to a camp in Prescott for a couple days of Christian fellowship and Bible study and then on Sunday worshipped with us. The visiting ministers that weekend were Bros. Jay Knapp (Sis. Lisa) and Brad Bauer (Sis. Sandy) from Tucson. We hope all of the visitors gained a blessing, and also know how much our congregation appreciated their attendance.

Friday, October 17, was the wedding day of Laura Schambach (Bro. Ed and Sis. Gayle) and Jim Coughlin (Jim and Kathy). May they always look to God for direction and strength and may He richly bless their lives together.

On October 19, after enjoying a fellowship dinner together, the Memorandum was presented to us by our Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy) and Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Sis. Loretta, Alto, MI). We are very thankful for their willingness to serve us and for their love and concern for each of our souls.

Other visiting ministers in the last couple months included Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL), and Bros. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH) and Allen Stoller (Sis. Susan, Bluffton, IN). May God richly bless all of them for serving us.

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## ARIZONA, TUCSON

### Lisa Knapp

It is with much joy and excitement that I announce the birth of Emma Claire Bauer, born September 23. She is the second child of Doug and Young Bauer; big brother Noah is having fun with his little sister. Grateful grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Gloria Bauer. Emma is grandchild #14, but the excitement of a new baby never seems to fade. We are continually amazed and thankful for the healthy babies God has blessed our little church with. We pray that He will continue to bless Doug and Young's family in the days ahead.

We had another successful Sunday School Picnic on October 5. The weather was a little warm but quite pleasant in the shade. We watched the children break the piñata and play water balloon games and young and old alike enjoyed the bake sale/auction. We thank the Sunday School for sponsoring this favorite annual event. We are already looking forward to next year.

We are having an unusually warm week as the temperatures are in the high 90's. Summer seems to want to make one last visit before we all breathe a sigh of relief. We had actually dipped into the 80's for awhile. The weatherman says we should start to go down in temperature next week once and for all! Our mornings and evenings are wonderfully cool.

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## CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

### Robin Moser

"Be of good courage and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord." Psalms 31:24

I was reminded of the hope that we can have in the Lord when I heard the news that my grandfather, Bro. Walter Geyer (Sis. Hazel, Peoria, IL), passed away October 11. We can focus on how great our reunion will be one day with all the redeemed who have died before. Funerals are also a good time to reflect on the faithful examples that others have set for us.

Our congregation is always thankful for visiting ministers that come to assist in sharing the Word. This month's visitors included: Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Sis. Loretta) and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL).

We are grateful that Sis. Mary (Bro. Bill) Witzig returned from the hospital after a brief visit. Health is not a gift to be taken lightly.

On a joyous note, our Altadena congregation shared an engagement shower with Bro. Shannon Stahl (Belvidere, IL) and Sis. Jill Bauer (Princeville, IL) on October 12. Our prayers are with them as they look to the Lord for preparation.

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## CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

### Peggy Jevremov

This past month we were blessed to have visiting ministers. They were Bro. Herb Knochel (Sis. Laurie, Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Jeff Luthi (Sis. Shirley, Altadena, CA). We pray the Lord will richly bless them and their families for their willingness to come and serve us.

As our thoughts turn to Thanksgiving Day, we surely have so much for which to thank our



great God and Father in Heaven. May each of us set aside some quiet time to look into our lives and recognize all that we have been given from above and thank Him for each one individually. It will help us to fully realize what a blessed people we are.

We sing our heartfelt thanks,  
Thy truth and love adoring.  
For guidance and for light,  
Thy Spirit we're imploring.  
Our hearts we offer Thee  
For life and every day,  
That with Thy grace we tread  
The straight and narrow way.  
*Zion's Harp #13, vs. 4*

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**CANADA  
KITCHENER, ONTARIO  
Ingrid Fortenbacher**

In Canada, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the second Monday in October. Unlike the American tradition of remembering Pilgrims and settling in the New World, Canadians give thanks for a successful harvest. The harvest season falls earlier in Canada compared to the United States due to the simple fact that Canada is further north. Parliament announced that on the second Monday in October that Thanksgiving would be "a day of general thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed."

Although it is fitting that we do set aside a special time to give thanks, we are reminded in I Thessalonians 5:18, "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

We are ever so thankful for our visiting ministers this past month. They were Bro. Ron Palitto (Sis.

Lynell, Akron, OH), Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Sis. Judy, Forrest, IL), Bro. John Jackson (Sis. Peggy, Bay City, MI) and Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI).

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**COLORADO, DENVER  
Ann Gonglach**

*Being Thankful*

God is love and kindness to us all  
below;  
On the just and unjust sendeth  
rain and snow.  
Let us e'er be thankful for His love  
to us.  
He's so kind and faithful, giving  
blessings thus.  
Let us ask the Saviour, as we kneel  
to pray,  
Help us to be thankful more and  
more each day.  
Thankful in the morning, thankful  
noon and night;  
Thankful for the raindrops, thank-  
ful for the light.  
*—author unknown*

We are thankful that Jacob  
Leman (Elder Bro. Mike and Sis.  
Deb) is repenting.

On September 20, 27 and 28 we  
were privileged to be able to once  
again listen to the Conference  
tapes.

Recently, Sis. Elizabeth  
Sheafer's life on this earth was  
ended. She was 99 years old. Sis.  
Elizabeth was from the Bluffton,  
IN, congregation and moved to Col-  
orado to be near her daughter. We  
were able to visit and sing to her  
many times at the nursing home  
where she lived in Colorado  
Springs. Our sympathies are with  
her daughter, Jane Golden, and her  
granddaughters, Betty Gran and  
Cathy Levy.

We welcome Bro. Branden and

Sis. Amy Knapp who have moved  
here from the Bloomington, IL,  
congregation.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Heather  
Katanic, with their children, Emily  
and Kaden, have moved to Ohio  
and will be attending the church in  
Rittman. They will be greatly  
missed.

"For this cause I bow my knees  
unto the Father of our Lord Jesus  
Christ, of whom the whole family  
in heaven and earth is named, that  
he would grant you, according to  
the riches of his glory, to be  
strengthened with might by his  
Spirit in the inner man; that Christ  
may dwell in your hearts by faith;  
that ye, being rooted and grounded  
in love, may be able to comprehend  
with all saints what is the breadth,  
and length, and depth, and height;  
and to know the love of Christ,  
which passeth knowledge, that ye  
might be filled with all the fulness  
of God."

*Ephesians 3:14-19*

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**CONNECTICUT  
ROCKVILLE  
Amber Reutter  
Laura Virkler**

Greetings dear brethren! The  
autumn leaves are beautiful now  
with radiant colors that brighten  
our landscape here along the East  
Coast. As the wind blows, it is a re-  
markable sight to see the helpless  
leaves being swept along. Some-  
times they float gracefully, twirl-  
ing and looping. Other times they  
dive to the ground or get caught up  
in roots or other obstructions along  
the way. This is just like our spiri-  
tual walk of life. We are swept along  
helplessly by the power of God. Oft  
times we do not understand where



we are going or what our purpose is in life. Sometimes, things go smoothly and other times we are caught up in the frustrations and stresses of life. Although we may be helpless and dependent upon God's grace, we are not hopeless. As our congregation had been so graciously reminded this month, that all things work together for our good. If we keep this in mind, our fears and anxieties will diminish and wane away.

We thank all of those who made the effort to make our congregation a part of their vacation this Columbus Day weekend. We certainly enjoyed the fellowship as we communed one with another. May you each one always feel welcome to come again. Also visiting us this past month was Bro. Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO) and Bro. Randy Mogler (Sis. Evie, Washington, IL). May the Lord continue to bless these dear brothers as they serve our congregations through their ministry. We certainly appreciated their presence.

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward."

*Psalm 127:3*

Our congregation has been blessed with yet a few more beautiful children. Lydia Jane was born to Bro. Peter and Sis. Jill Welti. Her siblings are Taylor, Christian and Noah. Grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Mary Kloter and Donald and Marilyn Welti. Also born a few months ago was Max Vernon Kupferschmid to his parents, Neal and Jennifer. He has a sister, Sophie. His grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Ellen

Kupferschmid and Peter and Rejane Denisky. We rejoice with these growing families and trust the Lord will continue to provide the necessary physical, emotional and spiritual support. We also rejoice with Bro. Michael and Sis. Joy Zahner as they welcome their son, Austin, home after spending about 2 ½ months in the hospital. Our prayers have certainly been answered as he has made gradual improvements. It would be deeply appreciated if we continue to keep this family in our thoughts and prayers.

Word of Life, Thou dost enlighten,  
And thy warmth and love we feel.  
Sinners in Thee read their portion:  
Heaven's joys it does reveal.  
Sinners by the Word are wakened  
From their sleep; they stand dismayed  
Yet the penitent finds mercy;  
Thus his sorrow is repaid.  
*Zion's Harp #176*

It is always refreshing when we see the evidence of the moving of the Holy Spirit within the lives of our friends. Our hearts are moved as our friend, Tanya Campbell (David), seeks out repentance and embarks on a journey for her heavenly goal. May we keep her in our prayers, and provide her much support, as she makes these steps of faith.

With grateful hearts we thank the Lord for a blessed month.

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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WASHINGTON  
Henrietta Meyer**

"Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him

and bless his name."

*Psalm 100:4*

This month our visiting ministers were Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL), Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN), Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Sis. Michelle, Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Sis. Peg, Goodfield, IL).

Other visitors this month were from Philadelphia, PA; Akron, OH; Francesville, IN; and Elgin, IL. We are always thankful for those who include us in their travel plans.

With many of our congregation traveling for Christmas and Bro. Adam Hermann and Sis. Elizabeth Meister's wedding, we will not be holding services on December 28.

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.

If you are in town on a Sunday that services are not scheduled, please call, too. We sometimes gather for a tape or other fellowship and would welcome you.



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**FLORIDA  
FORT LAUDERDALE  
Renee Mangold**

We were thankful to have visiting Bro. Dwight Stoller (Sis. Lori, Latty, OH) share God's Word with us this past month. Also, we were grateful and our hearts were warmed by the fact that Bro. Joe Braker (Sis. Shirley, Morton, IL) stepped out of retirement in the ministry to help out our congregation by ministering to us during the time that they were visiting Florida this past month.

We bid farewell to Sis. Ethel Rambeau who has moved back to the Midwest (Detroit) to be nearer to her children and their families. We pray God will keep watch over her and bless her in her move.

Bro. Roger Sauder (Sis. Judy) recently returned from a week in Haiti where they are continuing with their efforts in World Relief. We pray that God will bless His servants that are called to the mission field and pray for those that are still there for extended periods of time.

Our congregation recently completed listening to the Elder Conference tapes. It's encouraging to hear the words of our Elders as they strive to discern God's Word and understand how we can apply it to our lives.

Sis. Delores Van Norman was in the hospital and has not returned home to recover. We pray that God will continue to heal her and that she will have a speedy recovery.

Welcome back to Sis. Helen Luginbuhl who has returned from her summer in Connecticut.

We would appreciate any ministers planning a trip to Ft. Lauderdale

to contact Bro. Roger Sauder (954) 584-0947. We are on a visiting minister rotation and this would be helpful in our scheduling.

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**FLORIDA  
NORTH FORT MYERS  
Mary Masters**

We enjoyed a blessed weekend of fellowship and learning more of God's Word and will for our lives at the annual Lakewood Retreat October 11-12. Our speaker this year was Bro. Fred Witzig from our Indianapolis congregation. He and his dear wife, Sis. Nancy, allowed themselves to be used by God and we benefited greatly from their sacrifice of time. On Sunday, the worship service was led by Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and we want to thank him and his wife, Sis. Judy, for their willingness to give of their time.

Our theme for this weekend was "How to be salt and light in the world." (Matt. 5:13-15)

We were also reminded that what we get out of worship services is largely dependent on the attitude of the hearer. It takes discipline to corral the mind to be attentive to what the Holy Spirit is bringing through faithful servants. Perhaps an appropriate prayer for each of us before a sermon, would be that God would take our thoughts captive in obedience to Jesus Christ (II Cor. 10:5).

Another thought that was gleaned from the messages was that our spiritual lives takes maintenance as illustrated by the observation of seeing the beautiful perennial flower garden maintained by a couple that were beyond 90 years of age. Some years later

the same garden was observed after the death of the wife and the moving of the husband to a nursing facility, that the weeds had grown to the point of obscuring the beauty of the flowers. So it goes, if we don't tend our hearts with the "hoe" of God's Word and direction of the Holy Spirit, our spiritual beauty will also be obscured by the weeds of sin and disobedience. We were reminded that true character is what we do when no one is looking.

We once again entreat prayers for Alice Myer who remains in the hospital following a lengthy illness. Also, John Furrer is still struggling with serious health concerns. Currently, he is at a facility located at Tampa, but hopefully will be transferred to a facility at Fort Myers very soon.

Our congregation is beginning to increase in numbers for the season and we were overjoyed to experience the strong blending of harmony in our hymn service. We went to the nursing home once again to sing for Bro. Rolland Keller and the residents there. It was such a blessing to see these dear ones singing along with us these familiar hymns that visibly stirred memories within their hearts.

We enjoyed a wonderful time of food and fellowship at the new home of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rhea Steffen this month also.

Sis. Rhea's mother, Mrs. Simmons, passed away. We want to extend our deepest sympathy to their family.

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**FLORIDA, SARASOTA  
Carol Koehl**  
Our Florida churches always



look forward to Lakewood Retreat at Brooksville, FL, usually the middle of October. Bro. Fred Witzig (Indianapolis, IN) was our guest speaker this year. We also appreciated having our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bros. Ted Hirstein and Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA), Neil Widmer (West Lafayette, IN), and Mike Moore (Athens, AL). A number of young friends and members from West Lafayette made this gathering even more of a blessing.

We wish to also thank Bro. James Emch (Phoenix, AZ) for bringing us the Word in September.

Sis. Katalin Fodor (Bro. Laszlo) spent time in the hospital this past month.

We are thankful to see our winter residents begin to return to Sarasota. Among the first ones to arrive are newlyweds, Bro. Howard and Sis. Helen (Hermann) Zobrist (Goodfield and Morton, IL). We want to wish them God's richest blessings.

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

On October 4, our congregation took the time to observe Communion. As always at this time it is so-bering to remember what Christ commanded us to do in remembrance of Him and the sacrifice of His body and blood. As we as a body of believers remembered this time, our hearts were uplifted of why Christ did it and that because of that sacrifice the separation between us and God was bridged. Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein and retired Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN) administered

the service and we appreciate the time that was taken to be with us.

We also appreciate the visiting ministers who visited us in the last month. They include Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Diane, Rockville, CT), Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL) and Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH). We were blessed by their presence and may God bless them for their efforts.

We look forward to visitors who stop in for worship, especially coming closer to wintertime and all those who go to Florida for the winter. The church is located off I-85 south of the Atlanta airport on exit 64 in Fairburn, GA. Once off the exit go west four miles and the church will be on the left. 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, or Bro. Tom Waldbeser 770-463-4788.

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### **ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE** **Sheila McCoy**

"Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you."

*I Corinthians 1:6*

We were blessed to hear two testimonies this month. Brenda Resh (Matt) shared her conversion and faith in Christ. We also heard the testimony of Josh Steffen (Bro. Dean and Sis. Carol) and witnessed his baptism. We are grateful for Sis. Brenda and Bro. Josh. Our Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Bro. Chuck Kellenberger were present for this wonderful occasion.

In one of the testimonies, it was

brought out that the individual felt trapped by Satan in the same way a child holds a lightning bug tightly in his hand. Yet a ray of light could be glimpsed at times through Satan's clenched fist by this person. We are so thankful that Jesus, our Saviour, is a "light unto our path."

Seeds of goodness we are sowing  
In the hearts of man today.  
Bless it, Lord, that it may prosper,  
And bear fruit for harvest day.

*Hymns of Zion*

The Moser's again hosted the annual harvest gathering. These times of fellowship for our youth and adults are so special.

Another pleasant event for our congregation was Invite-a-Friend weekend on October 18-19. It was good to have so many visitors for our dinner and singing. We were happy to have ministering Bros. Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL), Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL) and Alan Schambach (Remington, IN).

We are holding mid-week services once a month in the Milwaukee area. A ministering brother from Elgin plans to be in attendance in October.

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### **ILLINOIS** **BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL** **Rebekah Kaufmann** **Kara Martin**

This past month we have had several visiting ministers. Elder Bros. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL), Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), and Bro. Mark Gerber (Bluffton, IN) all came to share the Word with us. We truly appreciate their willingness to be



used.

On October 12, Bro. Brett and Sis. Jen Heiniger became the proud parents of a new little girl, Ethne Joy. Her thankful grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Kayleen Heiniger and Bro. Tim and Sis. Cathy Hohulin (Roanoke, IL). May the Lord continue to bless her new life and give Bro. Brett and Sis. Jen wisdom for this new chapter in their lives.

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### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

#### Steve Endress

The changing of the seasons is a good reminder to us of the brevity of life. Where there is a birth in the Spring, we have come to expect the death in the Fall. Many plants spend a good amount of their time and energy producing seed to ensure life in the future. Likewise, we realize that life is very short and should also lay up treasures in Heaven, that we might have life in eternity.

We appreciated having Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH) with us to bring us the Word of Truth.

We are thankful to report that our Sis. Janelle Endress (Bro. Gary and Sis. Evelyn) became engaged to Bro. Doug Brewer (Sis. Kathy Brewer) from Peoria. May we remember them in our prayers as they prepare for the precious, life-long union of marriage.

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### ILLINOIS CHAMPAIGN-URBANA

#### Karla Kieser

It is most certainly a beautiful time of the year! We have been enjoying our beautiful fall foliage that has been complimented by wonderful weather. We enjoyed our an-

nual Fall Picnic on September 24 and then Bro. Dennie and Sis. Cheryl Mangers hosted their annual fall wiener roast over Columbus Day weekend and many past and current Champaign church attendees were able to come. We all enjoyed roasting hot dogs and marshmallows, going on a hay rack ride and lots of visiting with each other. We sincerely appreciate Bro. Dennie's and Sis. Cheryl's efforts in putting this on every year.

We are very sorry to see a beloved couple leave the area. Bro. Matt Ginzl recently graduated from the University of Illinois with his PhD and he and his wife, Sis. Christine, have moved to the Reno, Nevada area where Bro. Matt has accepted a post-doctoral appointment. Sis. Christine has also found employment there as a nurse at a local hospital. We will miss them greatly!

There was one surprise hospital patient this month. Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart had to have an emergency appendectomy one Sunday and Bro. Brian Waibel delivered both services that day.

We are overjoyed to greet another of our university students as a new Sister in Christ. Sis. Rachel Schlatter gave her testimony and was baptized on Oct. 4-5 in Forrest. She is a sophomore in engineering.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL). We thank these ministers for their love and efforts in bringing forth God's Word.

### ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

#### Rachel Meyer

As I write this, fall is in the air and I am reminded how time flies. I'm sure you feel the same and we all wonder, "Where did the time go?" One of Chicago's annual fall activities is the Sunday School Wiener Roast. Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy Schlatter host this every year. Many who went as Sunday School children are now married and taking their families. The wiener roast this year was enjoyed by all and we thank Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy for continuing this tradition.

We had four visiting ministers this month who came as a result of our "Invite a Friend/Couple" weekend. With us were Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis, OH), Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL) and Bro. Wayne Laubscher (Sis. Gloria, Cissna Park, IL). Many took a boat ride the evening before, and it was quite astonishing to see the lights of the Chicago skyscrapers from the view off the water.

Bro. Rick and I wish to thank all of you for the sympathy you extended at the passing of my grandmother, Sis. Marie Laubscher (late Bro. Ben, Cissna Park, IL). Even in sadness, there is joy because we believe she has passed over to the other side, where all is peace, joy and happiness.

Our neighbors next door and down the street have two girls who are in first grade. Rick told me the other day that the doorbell rang and there stood Erryn and Devon, with a piece of paper they had colored and drawn for us. However, he said they weren't able to stick



around because, as they said, "We have to take papers to more old people." The perspective of life ... doesn't it really depend through who's eyes we are looking? And as for perspective – isn't a godly perspective the most important?

Love and blessings to each and every one. Let's try to keep godly eyesight.

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### **ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**

**Susan Waldbeser**

**Denise Walder**

On Sunday, September 28, our Bible Class students hosted Fairbury and Champaign Bible Classes for the day. We thank Bros. Dan Koch, Jr. (Tremont, IL) and Tom Troxel (LaCrosse, IN) for spending the day with our young people. May God bless each one involved in the day of making new friends and rekindling old friendships.

We were saddened at the death of two faithful and loving sisters in our congregation. Sis. Margaret Rudin went to her eternal Home after suffering many afflictions of the body. Also, Sis. Marie Laubscher laid down her cross for a crown. Although both sisters have been in the nursing home for several years, we thought of them often and will miss them in our congregation. We extend our sympathy to the families of both of these dear ones.

We also send our sympathy to Bro. Ken and Sis. Myrna Weerts on the death of his father, Harvey Weerts.

Our prayers are with Sis. Joann Maul and Bro. Gerald Rudin and their families on the sudden death of their sister-in-law, Linda Rudin, of Texas. May God comfort each

one as they go through this time of loss.

We have had some grandparents in our congregation this past month that have been blessed with precious babies to hold. Bro. Arlyn and Sis. LaNae Rudin welcomed Rachel Grace, born to Bro. Brent and Sis. Erica Blume of Wolcott, IN, on September 24. Olivia Lynette was welcomed by Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon Walder on October 3. Her parents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Amber Wiegand of Congerville. Sis. Kate Young welcomed Kaeley Raegan on October 6. Bro. Nathan and Sis. Stephanie Young of Kansas City, MO, are her parents. Grace Farney also welcomed a new granddaughter, Mariah Grace, on October 9. Her parents are Chuck and Frannie Farney.

Our prayers are with Bro. Clarence Maul, Sis. Em Eisenmann and Sis. Elsie Ehman as they have spent time in the hospital. May God grant healing to each one.

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### **ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**

**Arlene Banwart**

Recently in a sermon we heard the word amuse literally means to not meditate. Most of the "amusement places" of this world are places where we can't very well think on God's Word.

Visiting ministers we appreciated this month were Elder Bros. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL), Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) and Bros. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA), Dale Banwart (Wolcott, IN), Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL) and Gary Endress (Bradford, IL).

Our Sis. Hallie Schieber became the bride of Bro. Wade Wettstein on September 28. We pray God's blessings on them as they establish their home and serve the Lord together. Their parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Mary Schieber and Bro. Jake and Sis. Mary Wettstein (Eureka, IL).

Welcoming two new granddaughters were Bro. Vernon and Sis. Judy Wettstein. Annalies Mae was born to Brian and Shannon Wettstein of Charlotte, NC. To our congregation we welcome Ashley Rae, born to Tony and Rachel Nohl. Ashley's sisters are Alexis and Alison and brother is Jared. Paternal grandparents are Melvin and Elaine Hartter of Eureka and Steve and Valerie Nohl of Tremont.

We rejoice with Bro. Curt and Sis. Amber Wiegand in the birth of Olivia Lynette born October 3. Also thankfully welcoming her are grandparents, Bro. Rick and Sis. Sue Wiegand and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon Walder (Cissna Park, IL). May God grant all of these parents wisdom in raising their children. Psalm 149:2 says, "Children are an heritage of the Lord." They were God's – a gift to us.

We welcome to Congerville church Sis. Abbie Schupbach, formerly of Elgin, IA. She came to our area to work at the Home for the Handicapped (Oakwood).

My father, Bro. Paul Tanner, of Eureka ended his earthly life. We are thankful for God's mercies and the outpouring of love of the brethren. Yesterday as I looked on some of his papers, I found he had requested "Count Your Many Blessings" be sung at his funeral. We had forgotten that, but it is so good for us living to do every day.



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

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA) and Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL). We appreciate their coming to bring forth the Word.

We rejoice with Jaclyn Kellenberger (Bro. Ken and Sis. Vicki), Brently Schambach (Bro. Don and Sis. Leann) and Jenean Schambach (Bro. Tom and Sis. Connie) who have found peace and are awaiting baptism.

We gather together to ask the  
 Lord's blessing;  
 He chastens and hastens His will  
 to make known;  
 The wicked oppressing now cease  
 from distressing,  
 Sing praises to His name; He for-  
 gets not His own.

Beside us to guide us, our God  
 with us joining,  
 Ordaining, maintaining His king-  
 dom divine;  
 So from the beginning the fight we  
 were winning  
 Thou, Lord, wast at our side, all  
 glory be Thine!

We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader  
 triumphant,  
 And pray that Thou still our De-  
 fender wilt be.  
 Let Thy congregation escape tribu-  
 lation;  
 Thy Name be ever praised! O Lord,  
 make us free!

*Worship and Service*  
*Hymnal #517*

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

Our dear Sis. Alvina Rocke was called Home September 27. She

was very devoted to teaching Sunday School and taught for many years. Sis. Alvina was 99 ½ years old. We extend our sympathy to her brothers, Bro. Ray (Sis. Louise) and Bro. Harry of Eureka, and Bro. Orval (Sis. Doris) of Sarasota, FL; one foster sister, Sis. Viola Hermann of Peoria; and sister-in-law, Sis. Pauline Rocke, of Eureka.

Bro. Willis Stoller became ill quite suddenly and passed away October 1. We will miss him and his friendly, thoughtful nature. We will miss his cheerful "hello neighbor" greeting. We extend our sympathy to his family, three sons, Robert (Sheila) of Branson, MO, George (Nyla) of Brownton, MN, and Bro. Tom (Sis. Edie) of Eureka; and two daughters, Sis. Pat (Bro. Marvin) of Leo, IN, and Betty Kinder (William) of Summerton, SC. Also surviving are two brothers, Bro. Melvin (Sis. Marjorie) of Eureka and Bro. Vernon (Sis. Wilma) of Burlington, IA; and one sister, Sis. Stella Zimmerman, of Morton.

Again the death angel came to take one of our loved ones home. Bro. Paul Tanner was called Home on October 5. Bro. Paul lost his beloved helpmate, Sis. Sara, 12 years ago. We are thankful God saw fit to relieve him of his earthly cares and sufferings. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his family. We certainly feel the loss of our aged brethren as they were strong pillars of our faith and withstood many tests. We look forward to a blessed reunion.

Three couples were united in marriage recently. Bro. Wade Wettstein (Bro. Jake and Sis. Mary) and Sis. Hallie Schieber

(Bro. Mike and Sis. Mary) of Congerville were married as one in the Lord on September 28.

Shannon Zimmerman of Peoria and Brian Tuffentsamer of Marquette Heights were united in marriage October 11. Their parents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Janet Zimmerman and Lynn Tuffentsamer, Marquette Heights and Rick Tuffentsamer, Leander, TX.

Julie Rocke (Bro. Curt and Sis. Beth) of Atlanta, GA, and Nicholas D'amico, also of Atlanta, were married October 18. We wish each of these couples God's richest blessings as they begin their married life together as one.

We are always thankful when brothers are willing to come and share the Word with us. Visiting ministers recently were Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Tim Zimmerman (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Bro. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR). We are thankful it worked out for Bro. Ed and his wife, Sis. Judy, to stay for the weekend of our provings and baptisms.

October 18-19 was a very blessed weekend as we were privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of four dear souls. We are thankful for Sis. Sheila Blunier (Bro. Ted and Sis. Donna), Bro. Adam Garber (Ray and Sue), Bro. Matthew Gerber (Bro. Neil and Sis. Leesa), and Bro. Jeremy Knecht (Elder Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandy) that they are now a child of God and our sister and brother in faith. May we always keep God close to us so that we will hear when His Holy Spirit speaks to us in that still, small voice as each of the converts testified of. We were thankful to have Elder Bro.



Charles Sauder (Tremont, IL), and Bros. Craig Martin (Princeville, IL), Floyd Frieden (Elgin, IA) and Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR) with us. May God bless each one.

Those requiring medical treatment recently were Sis. Clara Lou Blunier (Bro. Lewis), Sis. Jane Stoller (Bro. Jim), Sis. Becky Bauman (Glen), Sis. Livy Blunier (Bro. Kurt) and Bro. Bill Sanders (Sis. Sue). We pray that each one will have a good recovery.

*Notes of Thanks:*

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks for all the deeds of love and kindness shown to Bro. Willis Stoller during his stay at the nursing home and since his passing away. May God richly bless each of you.

*The Willis Stoller family*

The family of Paul Tanner wishes to express heartfelt thanks for the visits, prayers, and love shown him during his years at the Nursing Home, and for the kind expressions of sympathy since his passing.

*Paul Tanner family*

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

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

*Luke 15:10*

We rejoice with Duane Kafer as he has answered the tender call of our Saviour and turns his whole life over to Him in repentance. Our

prayers are of thanksgiving and also for healing as Duane had been in the hospital with a stroke and now is in rehabilitation. We also pray for his dear wife, Pat, as she is faithfully by his side with encouragement and love.

Our congregation has had several others in the hospital this past month. Paul Hoffman, Bro. Dave Kaeb, Ardella Zimmerman, Sis. Anna Lou Van Antwerp, Sis. Edna Stoller and Bro. Duane Kilgus have all spent time in the hospital. We pray that each of these loved ones may feel God's nearness and His healing touch.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Marquerite Lorch celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on October 19. In today's world, that is truly something to celebrate! Their commitment to each other and, most importantly, to their God is certainly what has helped this dear couple achieve this milestone.

Little Connor Roy was born September 25 to Bro. Ted and Sis. Sara Steidinger. He is being enjoyed at home by big brothers, Mclane, Tyrel, Clem and big sister, Sharla. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Suzanne Bahler and Don and Alice Steidinger. What a joy to have a new little miracle in the home again!

God's Word tells us that we will have both joy and sorrow while we live here on earth. Our sympathies go out to the family of our dear friend, Elizabeth McLain. She was the sister of our Bro. Dave (Mary) Kaeb, Bro. Alf Kaeb (Bay City, MI) and many nieces and nephews. Elizabeth had been a resident of Fairview Haven. Anyone that knew her said that she was always so sweet and pleasant. Her smile

will be missed by everyone who knew her. We also extend sympathies to our Sis. Cinda (Ivan) Fehr and her family on the loss of her mother, Sis. Carolyn Zimmerman (Forrest, IL). Sis. Carolyn will be missed by all who knew her. She truly was an excellent example to each of us. May God put His loving arms around each of you and help you carry this load of grief.

This past month we were blessed to have several visiting ministers. They were Bros. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Walter Herrmann (Princeville, IL), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) and Edward Knecht (Silverton, OR). May God bless each of these brothers and their families for their labors.

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**ILLINOIS, FORREST**  
**Linda Anliker**  
**Lori Dotterer**

October 4-5 was a blessed weekend as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of four dear souls. Our new brothers and sisters in faith are Bro. Ben Mueller (Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida), Sis. Rachel Schlatter (Sis. Sherri), Sis. Katie Steidinger (Bro. Glen and Sis. Holly) and Bro. Tyler Zimmerman (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Nancy). We thank Elder Bros. Jay Luthi (Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Bros. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Brian Huber (Francesville, IN), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), and Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL) for sharing in this precious time.

We were happy to hear of two engagements in this month. Bro. Clint Strahm (Bern, KS) and Sis. Kristi Bachtold felt God's leading



and are making plans for a November wedding. Their parents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen Strahm (Bern, KS) and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Bachtold. Also believing God has directed their lives, Bro. Trent Johnson (Bro. Harry and Sis. Til) and Sis. Jennifer Kerrins' (Darren and Peggy) engagement was made known. May they continue to look to God to guide them as they make wedding plans.

We bid farewell to Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol Metz as they moved to the Roanoke, IL, area and will attend church there. We will miss them but trust they will come "home" often.

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Sarah Mueller, along with Clarissa and Travis, welcome Preston Riley into their family circle. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida Mueller and Bro. Ed and Sis. Renee Wenger.

Those spending time in the hospital have been Sis. Emma Ifft (Bro. Elmer), Sis. Mattie Kaeb (Bro. Nick), Blake Hall (Bro. Donald and Barb), Bro. Ron Mueller (Sis. Loida), Reuben Metz and Bro. Al Zimmerman. May God grant His healing powers to each one.

*Gathering Flowers For  
The Master's Bouquet*

Death is an angel sent down from  
above  
Sent for the buds and the flowers  
we love  
Truly tis so for in heaven's own  
way  
Each soul is a flower in the Mas-  
ter's bouquet.

Gathering flowers for the Master's  
bouquet  
Beautiful flowers that will never  
decay

Gathered by the angels and carried  
away  
Forever to bloom in the Master's  
bouquet.

Loved ones are passing each day  
and each hour.

Passing away as the life of a flower  
But every bloom and each blossom  
someday

Will bloom as a flower in the Mas-  
ter's bouquet.

A flower in the Master's bouquet is our "special" friend Dougi Steffen. He passed from this life to eternity September 20 at Timber Ridge (Home for the Handicapped). Our prayers are with his parents, Bro. Richard and Sis. Lou Ida Steffen, and sister, Sis. Bethany and Bro. Kent Edelman and family. We thank Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) for taking part in the funeral service.

Our hearts are very sad because of the death of Sis. Carolyn Zimmerman, who lost her life in a car accident. We extend our prayers and heartfelt sympathy to her husband, Bro. Al, and children, Sis. Shelly and Bro. Ray Steidinger, Sis. Cinda and Bro. Ivan Fehr (Fairbury, IL), Sis. Holly and Bro. Glen Steidinger, and Bro. Kent and Sis. Paulette Zimmerman and families. She was a sister of Velda (Gary) Fite, Judy (Bob) Zimmerman, Donald Leman and Bro. Howard (Sis. Gloria) Leman. We appreciate Elder Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) taking part in the funeral service which was Sunday, October 19. May God's comforting Spirit be ever near these loved ones.

We thank Bros. Joe Dotterer (Smithville, OH), Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH), Art Mueller

(Belvidere, IL) and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) for visiting and lending themselves in service of our Lord the day of Sis. Carolyn Zimmerman's funeral.

*Notes of Thanks:*

Our hearts are deeply touched by the many loving thoughts, prayers, gifts, flowers, food, phone calls, and expressions of sympathy extended to us during the loss of our son, brother and uncle, Douglas Steffen. We also appreciate beyond measure the many deeds of kindness shown to us throughout his lifetime. We cannot find words to express our gratitude but God alone can truly bless you.

*Bro. Richard and Sis. Lou Ida Steffen*

*Bro. Kent and Sis. Bethany Edelman and family*

I wish to thank each one for the beautiful cards I received for my 80th birthday. It was a joy to open each one and read the message. May God richly bless you.

*Bro. Leroy Koehl*

**ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD**

**Heather Hohulin**

**Rita Bauman**

We were blessed with five visiting ministers this past month. They were Elder Bros. Everett Hari (Sis. Beverly, Bloomington, IL), Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL), and Bros. Brian Huber, (Sis. Jackie, Francesville, IN), Jim Vierling (Sis. Linda, Eureka, IL), and Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL). We appreciated their labors and pray that God will be their Rewarder.

Many prayers have been uttered



for our Sis. Barb Wiegand (Bro. Ron), Dean Zimmerman (Sis. Inge), and Sis. Jan Wiegand (Bro. Roy). May they feel His nearness during their recovery. May we continue to lift them up in prayer.

Our congregation had the opportunity to witness the testimony and baptism of two dear souls on October 4 - 5. They are Sis. Jenny Royer (Jason), and Bro. Caleb Wyss (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Donna). May the Lord guide and direct this new sister and brother as they follow Him.

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Bro. Paul Tanner (Eureka) as he has gone to his eternal rest. We pray that God will comfort Sis. Minnie Grusy and Bro. Ben (Sis. Leona) Tanner in the loss of their brother.

Bro. Dan Wiegand (Bro. Larry and Sis. Lori) and Sis. Kayla Joos (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Deb) were united in marriage in Morris, MN, on October 12. What a privilege it is to witness the vows of those who are committed to the Lord, as well as to each other. We welcome Sis. Kayla to the Goodfield congregation and hope that she can soon feel at home.

Bro. Ron and Sis. Cassandra Wiegand are thrilled to have Mya Lynn join their family circle. She was born on October 15. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Karen Wiegand and Tom and Sandra Beckom.

*Note of Thanks:*

We would like to thank everyone for their love, prayers, deeds of kindness, and expressions of sympathy extended to us during the loss of my loving husband, father, and grandfather.

*Sis. Minnie Grusy and Family*

**ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY  
Perry Klopfenstein**

Over the years some of the best advice given to converts is to read and pray every day. If adhered to they can make progress in their quest to know God. The same advice is good for each of us.

Recently, in a sermon a minister alluded to these two methods of communing with God — reading and praying. As we read the Bible, God speaks to us. As we pray, we speak to Him.

In an earthly sense, we as fathers feel a sense of loss if our children do not communicate much with us. We can potentially feel a distance from them although it doesn't affect our love toward them. Or, if we give counsel and they don't listen it doesn't necessarily please us.

The same thing relates to our communication(s) with our Heavenly father. If we don't read the Bible very much, we aren't listening to God as we should. And if we don't pray regularly, we aren't talking to God in a beneficial way.

Much the same when we talk, smile to, and engage ourselves with our friends and acquaintances — and feel a corresponding warmth and satisfaction — so much the more when we communicate often with God through reading the Bible and praying. The simple advice of reading and praying (daily) will strengthen our ongoing union with the Lord.

Willis Aupperle has been ill and we pray for his total recovery. Also, Bro. Mike Butikofer has continuing health struggles. Bro. Louis

Kieser was in the hospital. Bro. Bill Romersberger had knee surgery. Sis. Heidi Kiefer also had surgery. We pray for the sick — that they can be healed according to God's will.

On October 19 we enjoyed the ministering of Bros. Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL). It is always a joy to hear visiting ministers. God is gracious to us as they open Scriptures and preach from the text God chooses. Together with their message, the singing of sacred songs and the utterances of sincere prayers, we can leave the sanctuary refreshed. And then a time of fellowship with fellow-believers also helps to strengthen us. God is to be praised for this.

Our sympathies are accorded to Sisters Anna Marie Reutter and Lucille Wagner over the passing of their sister in Cissna Park; also to Sis. Lucille Stoller, who lost her sister, also of Cissna Park. Likewise, we offer our condolences to Sisters Vi McKinley and Alice Rose Gilmore for the passing of their sister, Sis. Carolyn Aeschleman, formerly of Roanoke, IL.

On Wednesday evening, October 15, Bro. Clark Stoller made a topical Bible presentation on "Elijah," and it was interesting to learn more about this devout man of God in the Old Testament.

**ILLINOIS, MORTON  
Julie Bahr  
Christie Zeller**

We were very happy to witness the marriage of Bro. Howard Zobrist and Sis. Helen Hermann on September 17. May the Lord richly bless this dear couple.



Bro. Jeff and Sis. Abby Kaufman are the proud parents of a baby boy, Jeffrey Layne. He was welcomed home by big sister, Ava Marie.

Doug Steffen from our Linden Estates Home passed away September 20. He attended Sunday School here in Morton.

Bro. Reuben Schweigert (Tremont, IL) passed away. He is a brother to our Sis. Pearl (Bro. Eli) Rassi.

Sis. Caroline Grimm passed away September 29 at Restmor. She is the mother of our Sis. Jody (Bro. Ken) Baum.

Bro. Willis Stoller (Eureka, IL) passed away. He is a brother to our Sis. Stella Zimmerman.

Sis. Ruth Baer (Phoenix, AZ) passed away. She lived here for many years and a graveside service was held here October 7.

Bro. Walt Geyer passed away October 12. He is a brother-in-law to our Sis. Eunice Wuthrich. May our gracious and loving Heavenly Father comfort these dear families at this difficult time.

Our Family Worship was held October 1 by our Bro. Jon Zeller. His topic was "And be ye thankful" from Psalm 100 and Romans 1:21-22 and Col. 3:12-17. "Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him."

Our visiting minister this month was Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Sis. Charlene, Goodfield, IL). May God bless him for his efforts.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

A special thanks to everyone for their cards, flowers, food, gifts, phone calls, and especially all the love and prayers offered for me dur-

ing my hospital stay and convalescence. Also, thanks so much for my birthday cards. Your kindness was deeply appreciated. May God bless each one of you.

*Sis. Millie Zimmerman*

### **ILLINOIS, PEORIA Lou and Marjean Lonteen**

"Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee."

"Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us."

"God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him."

*Psalm 67:5, 6, 7*

*Thank ye the Lord!  
Give thanks to the Lord,  
For He is gracious,  
His mercy it endureth evermore.*

We were blessed with God's inspiration through these visiting ministers: Bro. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Bill Waibel (Bay City, MI). Bro. Dennis Kauffmann (Bloomington) served us on Family Night with the topic: "The Family and the Church." Bro. Dave Obergfel shared his inspiration at our topical Bible study on "Prayer". We believe these servants of the Word will receive their blessed rewards and we express our deepest thanks.

*Bless ye the Lord,  
O bless ye the Lord,  
My soul, remember  
His goodness and His gifts  
bestowed on thee.*

The Lord has called and they have come repenting:

Katie Hofstetter (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Karen), Rosie Nelson (Bro. Breck and Sis. Jane), and Sarah Reinhard (Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan). God bless you with the Holy Spirit's leading.

*His is the pow'r,  
Almighty is God!  
He ruleth wisely, He manifests  
His favor ev'ry day.*

Bro. Doug Brewer (Sis. Kathleen) was engaged to Sis. Janel Endress (Bro. Gary and Sis. Evelyn, Bradford). May God be ever present in your plans for a future life together in Him.

We were blessed by hymns of praise by "Hearts of Praise" (Morton quartet) at our Hymn Sing in October. Thank you dear sisters for sharing the gift of music in the form of worship and thanksgiving. We were inspired with the glory of the Lord.

What a blessing, a dear little baby girl, Willow Grace, belongs to Bro. Billy and Sis. Jenny (Honegger) Schick. Willow was born on August 21.

*Worship the Lord,  
O worship the Lord!  
With sacred rev'rence  
Respectfully we speak  
His holy name.*

The Lord called Bro. Walter Geyer to his eternal home on October 11. His funeral was held on October 14. Our congregation wishes to express sincere sympathy to his wife, Sis. Hazel, and to the dear family circle: Bro. Roger and Sis. Melanie Geyer, Bro. Dale and Sis. Barb Geyer, and Wally and Bonnie Geyer (Tremont); one daughter, Sis. Karen and Bro. Rick



Kellenberger (Fort Scott, KS); one brother, Bro. Norman and Sis. Eleanor Geyer (Morton); and 17 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren are included in this family circle. We pray the Comforter is very near to each of your hearts.

Special prayer requests include: Sis. Velma Hoerr (surgery), Bro. Bob Plattner (broken hip), Sis. Ida Schwenk (hip surgery), and Sis. Frances Wiegand.

Sing to the Lord, yes, sing to the Lord!

In joyful chorus For graciously He hears our song of praise.  
He hears our song of praise.  
He hears our song of praise.

*Psalms of Praise,  
Hymns of Zion hymnal*

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power: For thou hast created all things, And for thy pleasure they are And were created."

*Revelation 3:11*

*Note of Thanks:*

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who supported us recently in our loss. The outpouring of love you showed was such an encouragement. We so appreciate your gifts of love and especially your prayers; we feel blessed to have such friends and family. May God keep you all in His loving care.

*Sis. Hazel Geyer and family*

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**ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**  
**Phyllis Knobloch**  
**Crystal Streitmatter**

"O praise the Lord, all ye na-

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

*Psalms 117*

The question was recently raised: What is one thing that God cannot give Himself? Thanks and Praise and Blessing from His children. May we offer our thanks and praise through prayer, song and by living a life of obedience to His Word.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Sis. Betty and Bro. Lyle Stahl in the passing of her father, Bro. Paul Tanner, who was residing in the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home. He will also be missed by his many grandchildren; several are part of our Princeville congregation. "He that overcometh shall inherit all things and I will be his God, and he shall be my son." (Rev. 21:7). When we reflect upon the faithful lives of many of our older brothers and sisters, it gives us courage to continue to persevere to the end.

Bro. Andy Klaus (Tokyo, Japan) and Bro. Ned Stoller (Alto, MI) brought forth the Word of Life to us this past month. Their visits were inspiring and appreciated by our assembly.

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them."

*Eccles. 12:1*

We rejoice with Heidi Schick (Bro. Stan and Sis. Margie) as she has made known her desire to re-

pent and become converted. The miracle of conversion in a humble heart is manifestation of God's great love and mercy toward mankind!

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**ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**

**Joan Leman**  
**Jenell Hodel**

"The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly."

*Psalms 118:15*

We are rejoicing with three young men and their families as they have given their testimony to the church of how God has worked in their lives and were baptized on October 12. They are Bro. Jake Fischer (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Annette) and Bros. Josh and Cody Maher (Bro. Dan and Sis. Kim). May they feel God's Holy Spirit continue to lead and direct them throughout their lives.

We were able to witness the marriage of Sis. Rachel Selof of South Bend (Richard and Joyce) to Bro. Joseph Leman (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Karen) on October 5. Our love and prayers are with this couple as they begin their life together in the Lord.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Cathy Hohulin are thankful for their first grandchild, Ethne Joy Heiniger. She was born on October 12 to Bro. Brett and Sis. Jen (Bloomington).

Our prayers were with Bro. Gaylord Blunier as he spent time in the hospital this past month. May he continue to feel healing from above.

We appreciate the Brothers who



come to share God's Word with us. Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend), Bro. Wayne Lehman (South Bend), Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott), Bro. Erik Givens (Princeville) and Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley) who assisted with testimonies and baptisms. May these Brothers feel our love and prayers as they serve God through their ministry.

We also were thankful to have Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. speak to us at our monthly Bible Study on depression. May God bless him for his efforts of love.

#### *Note of Thanks*

Thank you so much for cards, prayers and gifts sent to me on my 101st birthday. It was so much appreciated. May God bless you.

*Sis. Ann Hangartner*

### **ILLINOIS, TREMONT**

**Heather Rassi**

**LaVonne Wagenbach**

We were blessed this month to have Bro. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL) share the Word with us. We appreciate our brothers and their willingness to serve in the ministry.

Our prayers are with Jon Hangartner (Kim) who is in the hospital and seriously ill at this time. May they feel the power of the many prayers offered in their behalf. Jon is the son of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Melba Hangartner.

We remember the family of Bro. Reuben Schweigert who went to his reward. May they find comfort in knowing that he is now at rest with the Lord. His family includes Sis. Lydia Rassi (Bro. Arnold), Sis. Elizabeth Sauder (Bro. Robert),

Clifford (Roberta), Willard (Della) of Tremont, IL; Sis. Pearl Rassi (Bro. Eli) of Morton, IL; and Virginia Frietsch (George) of St. Louis, MO.

Several families were blessed with precious babies. On September 4, Erik, Carla and big sister, Makiah Yamada welcomed Kason Tegg. Grandparents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Mary Jane Leuthold and George and Dawn Yamada.

Bro. Shawn and Sis. Sarah Lennington were blessed with Emma Elizabeth on September 21. Excited brothers are Dakota and Isaac. Her grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Dorothy Meister, Tyler and Cheryl Lennington of Tremont and Bro. Mike and Paula Hartman of Congerville.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Colleen Moser welcomed Noah Daniel on September 23. His siblings include Anna and Aden. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Barb Moser (Morton, IL) and Bro. Alvin and Sis. Carol Beutel.

Brock Thomas Byrd was born on September 28 to Matt and Marlise Byrd of Roanoke. Big sister, Natalie, welcomed him home. Happy grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Helen Michel and Bro. Jim and Sis. Leota Byrd (Roanoke, IL).

First-time parents are Bro. Landon and Sis. Teresa Rowell. They were blessed with Benjamin Ryan on October 8. Bro. Fred and Sis. Jeannette Beutel and Bro. John and Sis. Nelda Rowell (Burlington, IA) are his grandparents.

We extend a warm welcome to Dirk, Erika, Tabitha, Melinda, and Christopher Koch as they are now assembling with us. We feel blessed to have them as part of our church

family.

### **ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**

**Marcia Koch**

**Dianne Wyss**

We are enjoying the privilege of listening to the Conference tapes. The advice and admonitions are such a blessing of our fellowship. We appreciate our Elder brothers' cares and concerns for their flocks.

We thank our visiting ministering brothers, Bro. Steve Sauder (Sis. Mary, Tremont, IL), Bro. Alan Schambach (Sis. Sarah, Remington, IN) and Bro. Ralph Garber (Sis. Lynn, Morton, IL).

Congratulations to Bro. Steve and Sis. Susie Jones on the birth of their son, Ethan Edward. Welcoming him into their hearts and home are Bobby, Caleb, Zachary, Jessie and Isaac.

Sis. Sue Ruppert has spent time in the hospital this month. Young Jonathan Thames (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Brenda) fractured his leg and is now getting around with a little pair of crutches. A week after Jonathan's accident, his father, Bro. Jeff, suffered an accident fracturing both legs and ankles. Our prayers are with Bro. Jeff and Sis. Brenda during this time of healing.

We rejoice with our Bro. Phil Wagenbach who is currently attending our Philadelphia church, as he was engaged for marriage to Sis. Sarah Lanz from Rockville, CT. Their parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Marie Wagenbach and Bro. Sherman and Sis. JoAnne Lanz from Rockville. May the Lord richly bless them.

*Attention:* A ladies blue suede trench coat size 10, brand Gallery,



was left in Washington church after ACYF.

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

We were thankful to welcome four new sisters into the fold on October 12. We were privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of Sisters Jamy Fiechter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Jenny), Hannah Kaehr (Bro. Jon and Sis. Juli), Holly Fiechter (Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie), and Breona Sinn (Bro. Dave and Sis. Joleen).

We would like to thank Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North) for assisting Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz with testimonies and baptisms. We are thankful for his willingness to share the Word with us.

On September 23, God welcomed another child Home as Sis. Marie Drayer slipped from her earthly home into eternity. We mourn with her dear husband, Bro. Herman, and her children, Sis. Donna Vega (Bro. Lemuel), Bro. Jerry Drayer (Sis. Lois), Bro. Herman Drayer (Sis. Julie), Bro. Denny Drayer (Sis. Jan), and Bro. Rocky Giltner (Sis. Melinda). Also grieving the death of their sister are: Sis. Irene Reinhard, Sis. Alice Aschliman, Sis. Mildred Neuenschwander (Bro. Bill), Bro. Dale Fiechter (Sis. Doris), Sis. Doris Neuenschwander (Bro. Chuck), Sis. Lillian Bertsch (Bro. Walter), Bro. John Fiechter (Sis. Shirley) and Bro. Gerald Fiechter (Sis. Eunice). Sis. Irene also leaves behind many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Bro. Ray Ringger joined his

Heavenly Father on October 5 leaving behind his beloved wife, Sis. Vi. Bro. Dave Ringger (Sis. Maxine), Gary Ringger (Rosetta), Bro. Tim Ringger (Sis. Marlene), Sis. Jan Sutter (Bro. Bob), Sis. Judy Isch (Bro. Hubert), and Bro. Alan Ringger (Sis. Sheryl) mourn the loss of their father. Bro. Ray also left many brothers and sisters behind: Bro. Al Ringger (Sis. Colleen), Bro. Bill Ringger (Sis. Marge), Bro. George Ringger (Sis. Evelyn), retired Elder Bro. Orville Ringger, Bro. Sib Ringger (Sis. Violet), Sis. Ida Aschliman (Bro. Bob), Sis. Mary Frauhiger and Sis. Lillian Yergler (Bro. Richard). We are prayerful for these dear families and their extended families.

Sis. Elizabeth Schaeffer also passed away this month in Colorado. Although the miles separated us in the latter years of her life, we know that we will meet again when we reach the Heavenly shore.

We rejoice with Danny Bertsch (Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmon) as he has heeded the call of the Lord and humbled himself in repentance. Our love and prayers are with him as he makes this life changing experience.

We are prayerful for several dear ones who have been hospitalized recently. We hope that these loved ones have felt God's hand in their lives as they battle various illnesses and surgeries: Jenny Reinhard (Bro. Larry and Sis. Deb), Austin Gerber (Bro. Dean and Sis. Jaci), Gabriel Fiechter (Bro. Ryan and Sis. Darla) and retired Elder Bro. Orville Ringger.

Bro. Ryan and Sis. Bethany Donaghy welcomed a daughter, Kinsey Ann, on September 17. Kinsey joins big brother, Kyler, at

home. Her happy grandparents are Bro. Terry and Sis. Jean Neuenschwander.

We rejoice with Bro. Phillip and Sis. Aimee Stoller in the birth of their first son, Aiden Allen, on September 18. His thankful grandparents are Bro. Allen and Sis. Susan Stoller and Bro. Bob and Sis. Ann Meyer (Bluffton North).

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

*Phil. 4:7*

We regret that we accidentally omitted the engagement of Bro. Grayson Reinhard (Bro. Doyle and Sis. Jan) and Sis. Tara Steiner (Bro. Mark and Sis. Deb, Rittman, OH) last month. We wish them God's richest blessings as they plan their life together.

We also rejoice with Bro. Brian Steffen (Bro. Allen and Sis. Arlene) and Sis. Jessie Steffen (Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen) as they have announced their engagement and have set a January wedding date. We pray that God will lead these couples closer together and closer to Him as they prepare for a lifetime marriage.

Please make a note that there are church cookbooks for sale with all proceeds going to World Relief. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Sis. Lyn Steffen at 260-824-8234.

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

Greetings from Bluffton North.



The two Bluffton churches hosted College Weekend on October 18-19 with the theme of "Fellowship". Elder Bro. Phil Stettner related how important the baton passing is in a relay race. Likewise, it is important to prepare our younger generation for the time when the baton of leadership of our church is passed on to them. It was a very uplifting and encouraging weekend for those that came. We were thankful Bro. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy) also stayed to deliver God's Word to us on Sunday.

The wedding of Tricia Mock (Sis. Carol) and Gregory Biehl was on September 27. May God's blessings be on their marriage.

We have abundant baby blessings to report this month. New parents, Bro. Phillip and Sis. Aimee Stoller, were blessed with precious Adin Allen, born September 18. His delighted grandparents are Bro. Allen and Sis. Susan Stoller (Bluffton) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Ann Meyer.

October 13 was the day Simon William was born to Bro. Cameron and Sis. Jenni Fry. Welcoming him home was brother Corbyn and grandparents Bro. Denis and Sis. Deb Fry (Bluffton) and Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene Frauhiger.

A daughter, Emily Brooke, joined the home of Bro. Aaron and Sis. Jaila Taylor and brothers, Avery and Joseph. She was also born October 13. Bro. Neal and Sis. Karen Gerber are the happy grandparents.

Bro. Rod and Sis. Rochelle Gerber delivered a son, Luke Duane, on October 11. Our church is praying for the family, including brother Jonathan and grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Carolyn

Gerber and Bro. Stan and Sis. Cindy Geisel, since little Luke has some severe health problems. May God give the exact amount of grace and strength to these loved ones to help them through this difficult time.

Our hearts continue to remember Sis. Becky Bertsch (Bro. Lonnie) and their sons as she continues her battle with cancer. May they feel our daily prayers and our love.

Bro. Jim Geisel is also very sick in the hospital with many health ailments. What a time for needed prayer in our congregation.

We'll never say good-by in heav'n,  
We'll never say good-by,  
For in that land of joy and song,  
We'll never say good-by.

*Hymns of Zion #122*

Bro. Jerry (Sis. Lois) Drayer and Bro. Dennis (Sis. Jan) Drayer and their families said good-by to their mother, Sis. Marie.

Bro. Dave (Sis. Cathy) Bussel also said good-by to his mother, Helen.

Bro. Sylvan (Sis. Vi) and Bro. Al (Sis. Colleen) Ringger said a final farewell to their brother, Bro. Ray Ringger.

Bro. Walt Aeschliman and Sis. Vi Ringger (Bro. Sylvan) also parted with their brother, Bro. Ervin Aeschliman.

What a joyful reunion it will be when loved ones are reunited in heaven someday.

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### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Jessica Murray

My daughter just started school in August and she is daily counting, spelling, writing and doing her al-

phabet. I'm ever so grateful for her eager desire to learn, and while doing daily devotions with my children I ran across the ABC's of Salvation. The ABC's of Salvation simply explain the basics of turning our lives to the Lord. Admit that you are a sinner and turn to the Lord in repentance. Believe that Jesus died on the cross for you and that he is your Lord and Master. Confess your sinfulness to God and man, turn from it, and live a converted life in the Lord. This convicted me to be more like a child and to be eager in my learning and studying my ABC's daily and out loud with my children.

We had reason to rejoice last month as we had two precious babies brought into the world. Bro. Aaron and Sis. Julie Zeller were blessed with their first child on September 26. Lydia Joy is being shown love by her grandparents, Bro. Eric and Sis. Ginny Zeller (Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. John and Sis. Bev Huber. May the Lord continue to bless you and your family circle.

Tess, Alisha, and Mark Gutwein were given a little brother on September 26, also. Bro. Jan and Sis. Val Gutwein welcomed Derek Alan to their family. Grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Maxine Gutwein and Bro. Ben and Sis. Miriam Metz. May there be great joy in your home as the Lord blesses your family.

May our prayers be with those in the hospital this past month. Bro. Walter Culp (Sis. Valera) had a heart attack and is now home recovering. Sis. Carol Gutwein (Bro. Phil) had surgery on her feet and is getting along pretty well at this time. Sis. Evelyn Pelsy (Bro.



Vernon) also spent some time in the hospital. May the Lord be with you as you continue to gain strength.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Mary Gutwein as her sister was taken to her place of rest. May the Lord and our prayers comfort you and your family as you go through this loss in your life.

We want to welcome Sis. Eldora Bonges to our church. Eldora comes from Cissna Park and is living in the duplexes. She is also a sister to Sis. Emilie Anliker. We are glad to have you here and we wish you the Lord's blessings.

Bro. Elmer and Sis. Emilie Anliker are now living at Parkview Haven. Their new address is 101 Constitution Dr., Room 103, Francesville. May you be happy with the many people that are at Parkview. We are blessed to have a great place to live.

Thank you to our visiting ministers this past month: Bros. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL) and Steve Frauhiger (Sis. Irene, Bluffton North, IN). May you be greatly rewarded for your sharing and the many blessings that come with it.

*Note of Thanks:*

We wish to express our sincere thanks to our church family far and near who remembered me on my 91st birthday with cards, visits, phone calls, food and especially your prayers, and also during the time Emilie spent in the hospital.

*Bro. Elmer and Sis. Emilie Anliker*

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**INDIANA  
INDIANAPOLIS  
Sandy Lichtle  
Gail Bradford**

Our congregation felt God's protection as three healthy babies were born this month.

Little Parker Henry arrived on September 18 to first-time parents, Bro. Joel and Sis. Tricia Zeller. Delighted grandparents are Bro. Eric and Sis. Ginny Zeller of Indianapolis, and Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson of Dallas, Texas.

Bro. Aaron and Sis. Julie Zeller welcomed their first child, Lydia Joy, born on September 26. Her happy grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Bev Huber of Francesville, and Bro. Eric and Sis. Ginny Zeller of Indianapolis.

Baby boy Caden Kent was born on October 13 to Bro. Corey and Sis. Erika Gerber. His little sister, Allison, and grandparents, Bro. Russell and Sis. Suzie Gerber of Bluffton and Bro. Bert and Sis. Karen Aeschliman, welcomed him home.

Our friend, Heather Wuethrich, daughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Lyn Wuethrich, celebrated her wedding to Michael Rowe, son of Gene and Kay Rowe, on October 11. They will make their home in Indianapolis. We wish them God's blessings as they start their life together.

Freshmen attending Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, are Bro. Carson Gerber from Bluffton, Austin Klopfenstein from Leo, and Blake Guingrich from Indianapolis.

Life brings challenges and some of our loved ones experienced these recently.

Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart is recovering from emergency surgery.

Bro. Jeff Thames suffered an accident returning home from a two-day seminar presented to our congregation. We are praying that our dear Bro. Eric Zeller, his wife Sis. Ginny, and their family will gather strength as he undergoes chemotherapy treatment. All these brothers give abundantly of their time and gifts to the work of the church, and we pray that they will feel God's strength in the days ahead.

We thank Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue) for bringing the Word to us. We appreciate our visiting ministers, and those churches that hear our ministers as they themselves travel from time to time. God's Word is constant no matter who brings it forth.

"The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him."

*Psalm 28:7*

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

All the way my Saviour leads me;  
O the fullness of His love!  
Perfect rest to me is promised  
In my Father's house above;  
*Hymn of Zion #21*

We are thankful that Sis. Kayla Heinold could testify of the fullness of Christ's love and give a promise to strive for that Heavenly goal! Sis. Kayla was baptized on Sunday, October 12. We pray that she continues to feel God's nearness. Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH) and Bro. Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City,



IA) were here to share in this special weekend.

Other visiting ministers this month were Bros. Mike Rinckenberger (Sis. Pat, Congerville, IL), Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH) and Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb, Remington, IN). We thank all of our ministering brothers for sharing God's Word with us this past month. May God richly bless each one for their efforts.

Sis. Dorothy Stewart (Bro. Doyne) spent some time in the hospital this month. She is doing very well and we are thankful to have her assembling with us once again.

Elder Bro. Curt and Sis. Lyla Frank celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary with a surprise singing on Saturday, October 18. God has truly blessed them through the years. May He continue to grant them many more blessings as they continue their walk of life together!

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### INDIANA, LEO Ethelyn Schlatter

A group of our young group attended Camp Mack.

We rejoiced in God's blessings Sunday, October 12, at our annual wiener roast and minister appreciation evening. Following singing, memories of Bro. Marvin Stieglitz were expressed and thanks to Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz, Bro. Brace Wieland and Bro. Steve Stieglitz. A token of appreciation was presented to them from the congregation.

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men."

*Titus 2:11*

On Wednesday evening, October 8, Bro. Art Gramm expressed his life of faith as he was interviewed by Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz for our monthly topical Bible Study. Psalm 71 was read as a tribute to age.

Memorial services were held October 17 for Sis. Helen Zimmer, 91, who passed away at The Cedars on October 13. She will be missed by many friends and especially her daughter, Diane (Mark) Souder, and son, Dennis (Debbie) Zimmer, of Clifton Park, NY. Also surviving are five grandchildren. Her husband, Bro. George, preceded her in death in 1995. Our prayers for comfort in the Lord are extended to the family.

We appreciated our visiting ministers this month, including Bro. James Ramseyer (Sis. Marlene, Bay City, MI) and Elder Bro. James Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL). We pray for the Lord's blessing on them.

Some thoughts shared: "it is easier to live our life by our religion or how we think than to live by truth"; "Jesus expects us to crucify self every day, take up our cross day by day". He gave His life for us.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Bruce (Sis. Laoretta) Schafer in the death of his brother from Casa Grande, AZ.

Count your garden by the flowers,  
Never by the leaves that fall,  
Count your days by golden hours,  
Don't remember clouds at all,  
Count your nights by stars, not  
shadows,  
Count your years with smiles, not  
tears,  
Count your blessings, not your  
troubles,

Count your age by friends, not  
years.

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

*Psalm 103:2*

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### INDIANA, MILFORD Paula Haab Cap Beer

It is a beautiful time of year here in northern Indiana. We have to remind ourselves to worship our Great God instead of the wonderful things He has created.

A baby boy, Reese David, was born to Bro. Vince and Sis. Tessa Schlatter. Reese has a brother, Parker. His grandparents are Lee and Carolyn Schambach and Bro. Gus and Sis. Leann Schlatter. Also, Bro. Nelson and Sis. Shelby Beer have a new grandson, Carson Christopher, born to Bro. Chris and Sis. Rachel Laukhuf. Bro. Darrin and Sis. Monica Price have their first child, a baby girl named Alayna Marie. Her grandparents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Jane Price and Bro. Dick and Sis. Gwen Steffen.

Bro. Glen Price spent a few days in the hospital but is recovering at home. Bro. Glen usually sits in the same spot in church. It was disappointing to see his pew empty. We hope he is soon back with us. Bro. Lee Beer is gradually recovering from back surgery. We pray for their complete recovery.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Ben Manz, Scott Schafer, and John Grimm.

Our young people had an enjoyable day at the Youth Fellowship Day held at Camp Mack. We remember that our late Bro. Elmer



Hartter started this blessed meeting back in 1947. It has been a blessing as it continues every year. On this day Bro. Ken Wuethrich spent the morning service with us at our church. We are grateful that our visiting ministers show us enough love to share the Word with us.

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### INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Beth Virkler  
Rochelle Ward**

“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*

A special thank you to Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) for ministering the Word to us. We appreciated the message conveyed in the spirit of love.

Bros. Tim Sauder and Jeff Schumacher from the Leo congregation presented us with a special information session about the programs offered through Gateway Woods. Thank you, Brothers, for your dedication and desire to help those in need.

As we are rapidly approaching the Thanksgiving season, I have to think that so often we take each day for granted and aren't thankful enough. We have been blessed so much physically with homes, food, clothing, but even more than that we have been blessed with grace by a loving Heavenly Father. Without His infinite grace we would have no hope. Our earthly blessings will pass away, but our spiritual blessings can last forever if we have a belief in the grace of Christ.

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### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Samantha Gramm  
Kara Beebe**

O God of wisdom, life and love,  
Thine is the blessed plan  
In holy bonds of love to join The  
twain, created man.

These souls betrothed before Thee  
stand; Thy blessing we implore;  
Unite Thou them in heart and  
hand, And guide them ever-  
more.

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

May they with holy lives adorn  
Thy doctrines, Lord, and be  
Amid life's sunshine and its storm  
True witnesses for Thee.

And when Thou, Lord, shalt come  
again To gather home Thine  
own,  
May they, with duty nobly done,  
Be blessed before Thy throne.  
*Hymns of Zion #286*

Many of our congregation were in Roanoke, IL, on October 5 to witness the marriage of Bro. Joseph Leman (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Karen, Roanoke, IL) to Rachel Selof (Richard and Joyce Selof, Chicago, IL). Also on October 25, David Beebe and Jenna Lynch were united in marriage. Parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe and Jim and Sue Lynch of South Bend. The hymn above states our desire for these two couples so well, I don't think I can add anything more.

We were thankful to have Bro. Joe Gerst (Sis. Connie, Iowa City, IA) and their family here to wor-

ship with us. We pray that the Lord will bless him mightily for his efforts on our behalf.

We also rejoice that our convert Ben Lehman (Bro. Don and Sis. Jill) has found peace with God and man and stands ready for baptism. We continue to pray that the Lord will grant him the necessary grace as now Satan would desire to destroy this wonderful peace. May we be thankful that “....greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.” (I John 4:4)

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### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

**Lois Bucher**

Our Sunday school reconvened the first Sunday after Labor Day. New teachers are Bro. Tim Bucher and Sis. Cindy Susdorf. We want to thank those brothers and sisters who teach our children. It is an awesome responsibility and we certainly appreciate their efforts.

We have been listening to the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference on Wednesday evenings. The talks have been very enlightening and full of good teachings.

Joyce Ames (Bro. Tim Ames) was recently hospitalized. We pray for a quick recovery.

A ministering brother wrote this poem long ago. He often wrote verses when he went to Church on Sunday morning early to turn up the heat and wait for others to arrive.

If times are hard and you feel blue,  
Think of others weeping, too.  
Just because your trials are many,  
Do not think others haven't any.  
Life is made up of smiles and tears,  
Joys and sorrows mixed with fears.  
And though to us it seems  
one-sided,



Troubles are pretty well divided.  
And those who travel fortunes  
road,  
Sometimes carry the biggest load.

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**INDIANA  
WEST LAFAYETTE  
Diana Houston  
Nettie Haab**

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

*Psalm 127:3*

Two precious newborn babies are bringing joy to many. Lydia Joy arrived September 26 to bless the home of first-time parents, Bro. Aaron and Sis. Julie Zeller. On October 13, Caden Kent Gerber became part of the family of Bro. Corey, Sis. Erika and big sister, Allison. Lydia's grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Bev Huber of Francesville, IN, and Bro. Eric and Sis. Ginny Zeller of Indianapolis, IN; and Caden's are Bro. Bert and Sis. Karen Aeschliman of Indianapolis and Bro. Russell and Sis. Susie Gerber of Bluffton, IN.

Many friends and family helped Bro. Les Meister celebrate his 90th birthday this past month. Bro. Les has been making his home with his son and daughter-in-law, Bro. Dick and Sis. Sharon, for the past year and a half since moving here from Fort Myers, FL.

Our Sunday School Bible class and others from our congregation flew to Florida for a weekend in October to be with the Florida, Atlanta, GA, and the Athens, AL, churches at their yearly retreat. It was a wonderful weekend of blessed fellowship and we wish to thank all who helped make this possible. We also praise God for His

traveling mercies in keeping everyone safe.

We appreciate our visiting ministers who come so willingly. They have been Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb, Remington, IN), Elder Bro. John Laukhuf (Sis. Marcia, Latty, OH), Bro. Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL), Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis Sue, Francesville, IN), Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), Bro. John Reinhard (Sis. Pam, Bluffton, IN), and Bro. Ron Bollier (Sis Edie, Indianapolis, IN).

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**INDIANA, WOLCOTT  
Luann Gerber  
Heidi Bahler**

Our church rejoices with Sis. Nancy Scott (Mike) as we received the good news that her father, John Furrer (North Fort Myers, FL), is following the way of the cross that leads Home.

Duane Kyburz took Tara Ware as his bride on August 14, and we wish them God's love and guidance in their marriage. His parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Kyburz.

Bro. Brent, Sis. Erica and Dustin Blume have been blessed by the arrival of Rachel Grace on September 24! Grandparents are Bro. Arlen and Sis. LaNae Rudin (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynell Blume.

Our high school students and a number of teachers participated in the annual Camp Mack day the last Sunday in September. The message, “putting on the armor of God,” helped exercise our minds amidst a chilly, rainy day!

We give our love and sympathy to Bro. Dale and Sis. Missy Banwart and their children on the

death of his grandfather, Bro. Paul Tanner, from Eureka, IL.

During the peak of harvest season, the chance of accidents runs high for the busy farmers. We're very thankful Jake Bahler escaped his combine safely when it suddenly caught on fire around him!

Let all things now living a song of  
thanksgiving  
To God the Creator triumphantly  
raise,  
Who fashioned and made us, pro-  
tected and stayed us,  
Who guideth us on to the end of  
our days.

His banners are o'er us, His light  
goes before us,  
A pillar of fire shining forth in the  
night,  
'til shadows have vanished and  
darkness is banished,  
as forward we travel from light  
into light.

*“Let All Things  
Now Living”, vs. 1*

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**IOWA, ELGIN  
Gloria Frieden  
Heidi Butikofer**

For the most wonderful redemp-  
tion,  
For the atonement of our wrong,  
For thy most gracious invitation,  
And for thy Word with promise  
strong  
Yea, for the comfort of Thy Word,  
Our hearts bring thanks to Thee,  
O Lord!

*Zion's Harp #75*

We have so many blessings to be thankful for, but we are taught in God's Word to give thanks always for all things. May God help us to see our struggles and trials as ground for spiritual growth and be thankful for them, too!



Bro. Scott and Sis. Leona Fehr have a new little blessing to be thankful for. Joshua Scott was born October 7. Along with his siblings, Kari, Sarah and Jacob, his grandparents, Bro. Melvin and Sis. Glenna Jean Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Gene Schmidt (Winthrop), are thankful also!

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

Time passes quickly, and life seems but a vapor. We see those who have lived many years in the service of the Lord, and then go to meet our Father in Heaven. Our sympathy is extended to the family of Bro. Albert Wuthrich of Pulaski, in the loss of their father and grandfather. Bro. Albert was dear to us, as the grandfather of our Sis. Laura Funk (Bro. Brad), and especially as he was a minister to several of us as we were growing up in the Pulaski congregation. Even as we share their sorrow, we know there is joy in anticipating a reunion in Heaven.

We rejoice with Jason Smith as he has given his life to the Lord and begins a new walk. We wish him God's richest blessings, and know that he will find joy in meeting each day with the spirit of the Lord.

We were blessed by the visits of ministering Bros. Fred Eberhardt of Burlington and Jim Kaeb of Bern, and their families. We are so thankful for their service to us.

As we see the glory of God's handiwork in the splendor of autumn leaves, and watch the harvest of golden grain, one has to marvel at the physical plan God had when He created the world. How much greater is the spiritual plan He has

for us! And we must wonder, Is the time of harvest near? And if it is, will the seed of God's Word be multiplied through me, as each kernel of grain has been multiplied many times over at harvest?

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**IOWA, IOWA CITY**  
**Diana Butikofer**

We will miss Sis. Dawn Massner as she leaves our area. Sis. Dawn is moving to Springfield, IL, and will attend the Tremont church. We send our appreciation, love and prayers with her.

We are thankful for the brothers who are willing to speak from the pulpit. Our visitors this month were Bros. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA), Dale Frank (Sis. Tina, Oakville, IA) and Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka, IL). We appreciate each brother's willingness to travel here and lend themselves to the work of expounding on God's message.

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**IOWA, LESTER**  
**Dawn Knobloch**  
**Dawn Metzger**

On September 13, Troy and Gwen Metzger were united in marriage at Sabetha, KS. They will be making their home in our area. Troy is the son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte and Gwen's parents are Bro. Doug and Sis. Jeryl Grimm of Sabetha. We are also very thankful that these two souls have turned their back on the world and are seeking their salvation through repentance and conversion.

It was a wonderful weekend on September 20-21 as we listened to the proving service and witnessed the baptisms of Bro. Dustin and Sis. Michelle Knobloch. Elder Bro.

Art Nohl (Morris, MN) was with us for this most serious event.

"And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him."

*Hebrews 5:9*

Doug Van't Hof (Sis. Lisa) and Jessica Moser (Bro. Wes and Sis. Esther) have heeded the call of repentance. We trust that our new converts will bow down in total surrender to let Christ perform a regenerating process within their hearts.

We witnessed the wedding vows of Sis. Rachel and Bro. Cory Leman on October 5. They are the children of Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene Messner and Bro. Dale and Sis. Lezlee Leman (West Bend, IA). We rejoice with this couple and their families. Visiting ministers for this special day were Bros. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA), Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS), Beirne Messner (Morris, MN), Pat Zaugg and Darin Fehr (West Bend, IA).

"Heal me, O Lord, and I shall be healed; save me, and I shall be saved: for thou art my praise."

*Jeremiah 17:14*

Loved ones spending time in the hospital this past month were Erica Meyer (Bro. Merlin and Sis. Marilyn), Katrina Gerber (Bro. Monte and Sis. Karla), Laurie Knobloch (Bro. Curt) and Bro. Jake Wulf (Sis. Alice).

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

*Philippians 4:6*



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**IOWA, OAKVILLE**  
**Sharla Wiegand**  
**Rosalie Wiegand**

Greetings of love to all! This month has blessed us with a couple of visiting ministers. It is our custom that if there is only one visiting minister, he is encouraged to preach both services. We are thankful that these Brothers were willing to do that.

Ministering Bro. Chris Wuethrich (LaCrosse, IN) and family came to Oakville to spend time with his relatives. It was a truly Spirit-filled weekend! The Scripture reminded us that when Jesus was crucified, there also died two thieves with two different attitudes. One thief tried to save his physical life but lost his soul, while the other was willing to lose his life, knowing he deserved to die, and he gained eternal life. We rejoice with several new converts who are willing to give up their earthly-minded lives to gain that eternal reward.

Ministering Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA) also worshipped with us when he came to visit his mother-in-law, Sis. Verna Rocke, who is battling cancer. In the sermon it was mentioned about "See them who their harps suspending on the weeping willow tree. Lacking zeal, Thy pardon spurning, they could not rejoice in Thee." (Hymns of Zion #1) Are we hanging our harps on a weeping willow tree? Or can we rejoice and thank God even in the midst of trouble and sorrow?

We pray that Sis. Luella Anliker can continue to rejoice and thank God even though her beloved help-mate of nearly 68 years, Bro. Rich-

ard Anliker, was called to his Heavenly Home. His firm handshake relayed his firm faith and we will miss both! We extend sympathy to his son, Jim (Lavonne) Anliker, of Phoenix, AZ; and daughters, Shirley (Tom) Lankford of Burlington, IA, Sharon Baird of Oakville, IA, and Joyce (Ed) Korf of Burlington, IA.

Our Bro. Carroll Berres (the late Sis. Ruthie Kuntz Berres) has also completed his earthly race. We rejoice that he was able to come to the Lord even at an older age (81) and he served his God faithfully for seven years. Bro. Carroll always appreciated it when we came and sang at the nursing home where he resided. He leaves behind two sisters who live in Wisconsin.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Stefanie Stoller are thankful for the safe arrival of Chelise Renae on October 15. This happened to be the same day as the 105th birthday of her great-grandmother, Sis. Anna Marti, of Eureka, IL. Chelise's excited big sisters are Torri and Noelle and her pleased grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Patty Stoller and Bro. Ervin and Sis. Teresa Marti. We see the full cycle of life - from birth to death - and the time seems so short between the two. Will our Lord be satisfied with what we have done with that time?

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

"In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

*1 Thessalonians 5:18*

As the Thanksgiving season approaches, we reflect back on all we are thankful for the past year. This past month we've enjoyed many blessings and have many reasons to be thankful. On September 20 we were blessed when two precious souls shared their testimonies about how God has worked in their lives. We welcomed Sis. Barbara Schock (Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara) and Sis. Boni Wettstein (Bro. Jon and Sis. Rita) as they were brought into the fold and pray they will continue to grow in His grace as they take their place in the body of Christ.

A heartfelt thanks goes out to the following ministers and their wives who shared God's Word with us last month: Elder Bros. Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Oakville, IA) and Charles Sauder (Sis. Miriam, Tremont, IL) and Bros. Tom Schambach (Sis. Connie, Elgin IL), Brad Funk (Sis. Laura, Garden Grove, IA), Roy Koehl (Sis. Jenell, Morris, MN), Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA), Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL) and Gene Metzger (Sis. Dolores, Lester, IA).

We also want to thank Bro. Lloyd Wettstein (Sis. Carol) and Sis. Lana Joos (Bro. Eugene) for the time they spent teaching our Sunday School children. Our prayers are with Bro. Roger Wuthrich (Sis. DeAnn) and Sis. Christy Wiegand (Bro. Daryl) as they begin their terms.

"Moreover there are workmen with thee in abundance, hewers and workers of stone and timber, and all manner of cunning men for every manner of work. Of the gold, the silver, and the brass, and the iron there is no number. Arise



therefore and be doing, and the Lord be with thee."

*I Chronicles 22:15-16*

Today we probably would not use the word "cunning" to describe workmen. "Craftsmen", or perhaps "laborers together with several ability" would aptly describe those who have come to help us on our new church building. Some have come with certain skills that are needed in particular areas and times of construction. Others brought willing hands that were able to be put to the labor wherever needed. All brought.... "A mind to work" (Neh. 4:6) as well as "the love of God, shed abroad in their hearts" (Romans 5:5).

As for the silver and gold and brass etc. we understand that Solomon's temple was richly adorned with these treasures. We also have treasures akin to gold, silver, brass and precious stones, although it is of a different sort. It is the memories of laboring together with those from near and far, beholding their "cunning" or craftsmanship, and the fellowship we enjoyed.

The Sunday School wing is drywalled and painted. The assembly is drywalled and heating is being completed. Even grass was able to be seeded on the outside. More work is yet at hand, but we know the Lord is with the labor and will provide.

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

Our congregation is appreciative of the ministering brothers that traveled to spend time here: Bros. Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda,

Winthrop, MN) and Wes Moser (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA)

Charles Wirtz (Sis. Trela) is thankful to have found peace and is awaiting baptism.

Bro. Cory Leman (Bro. Dale and Sis. Lezlee) and Sis. Rachel Messner (Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene) of Lester, IA, were united in faith and love in Holy Matrimony on October 5 in Lester, IA. Michael Schneider (Bro. Gary and Sis. Sue) and Breann Messner (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Audrey) traveled to the Little Brown Church in Nashua, IA, to exchange their vows in marriage on October 11. May both couples be true and faithful to each other for all their days.

After a lengthy stay in a special care unit in Des Moines, IA, for Sis. Twila Massner, she and Bro. Darin were especially thankful for the safe arrival of Aaron Jay on October 16. Due to his premature birth, he will remain hospitalized for some time. His grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Marlene Banwart and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gayle Massner.

Sis. Judy Schmidt (Bro. Jerry), Sis. Lucille Schmidt (Bro. Dwaine), Sis. Eula Mogler (Bro. Art) and Sis. Nima Fehr all experienced short hospital stays. We pray that God will grant a complete recovery to these loved ones, if it is His will.

Lydia (Wirtz) Edwards, widow of the late Russell Edwards, passed away on September 27 at the age of 88 years. She had been in the West Bend Care Center for 4 ½ years. She is survived by nine children: Janet (Wayne) Webster, Gary Edwards, Nancy (Ken) Finnegan, Donna (Gene) Nims, Sandra Martin, Dale Edwards, Diane Feldpauch, Susan (Ron)

Carstensen, Marvin (Juline) Edwards; 32 grandchildren, 49 great-grandchildren and one sister, Adeline (Ellsworth) Spencer. She was preceded in death by three sisters and five brothers, among them were Sis. Celina Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) and Bros. Fred, Edwin and Verner of our congregation.

We appreciate ministering Bro. Darren Fehr taking time to prepare the following timely message:

*Harvest Surprise of Empty Pods*

Harvest. A time of anticipation. It brings with it a time of reward and perhaps even some slight disappointment. After much preparation of the soil and toil in planting and cultivation, the farmer resigns to the fact that he's done all that can be done. Only the Creator of all the earth can add the increase.

As the Harvest approaches, much speculation is given to the potential yield of the crop. Inspection of the plant and fruit it will bear offers hope that this will indeed be a bountiful crop. The anticipation grows as the Harvest begins, wondering "How well will it do?" And then the truth is known. Will we be surprised?

And indeed, this year we were surprised. Combines roamed the soybean fields looking for fruit that simply wasn't there. What seemed to be ample counts of pods for producing good yields actually produced very little. Without the presence of the essential water, the yield was but only a few small beans - and in many cases nothing but empty pods.

How closely this correlates to the spiritual walk of life we lead where we find ourselves "Planted"



in the faith of our Lord. We are given the opportunity to "grow" in this precious faith as we await the "harvest" of souls. But what will be found in the lives of those who have been given the "seed" of faith? Will He who harvests find the "fruit" He so longingly desires? Do we immerse ourselves in the living "water" that we so desperately need? Our Lord adds the increase to all those who come to Him seeking this "water of life" and abides in Him.

The Harvest approaches and with it the truth shall be known. Counting the pods will not expose the truth. We are reminded that we shall be known by our fruit. As our pod is opened, will we be surprised at what is found? Will He find fruit, or will it be but an empty pod?

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### **JAPAN, TOKYO** **Marie Inoue**

The summer season has come to a close and autumn is now approaching as we enjoy scenery and fruits connected with the fall season. The Klaus family could return safely home again after a blessed 3 month stay in the Midwest. They reported that friendly families extended much kindness to their children — especially the combine rides in the harvest fields. It was very pleasant to have Sis. Melody Klaus (Washington, IL) with us for several Sundays as she accompanied the Klaus family back to Japan for a 2 week visit.

It was inspiring to read the printed sermon in last month's issue of this publication where the elder brother mentioned that when new churches are begun they are formed from the riven side of Christ as typified in God forming

Eve out of the side of Adam, a bride for him; and the church a bride for Christ whenever a church is formed throughout the world. After that there needs to be a nurturing. Especially when brethren are the only believers in their family, they often face pressures that test and try their faith. Several in our assembly have faced this in the past month. How we need the prayers of those we love.

Later on this month we received a memory booklet made this year by our Detroit church. Again we could see evidence of a church formed from the riven side of Jesus, starting with just 2 or 3 brethren and now to a sizeable church, showing tremendous love and hospitality as the years have gone by to those who have lived there. We are indeed a blessed fellowship. All praise and honor goes to our wonderful Lord.

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

As Thanksgiving approaches, may we be thankful for all that God has provided for us. We need to have a thankful heart each day and not only on Thanksgiving Day.

Our hearts are also thankful and rejoicing when the Lord leads two souls together to become one in Him. The engagement of Bro. Clinton Strahm and Sis. Kristi Bachtold was made known on September 21. Parents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen Strahm and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Bachtold (Forrest, IL).

We rejoice with our converts, Bethany Strahm (Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Verona) and Derek Kaeb (Bro.

Jim and Sis. Diane) who have found peace.

Bro. Larry and Sis. Jill Meyer are thankful Brenna Jean arrived safely on October 14. Brenna has two brothers, Kyle and Trenton, to welcome her home. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeanne Meyer and Bro. John and Sis. Jeanne Dotterer (Eureka, IL).

Ted Strahm (Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Verona) and Sarah Borowski of Lenexa, KS (Joel Borowski and Lorraine Borowski, Decorah, IA) have announced their engagement. We wish Ted and Sarah God's blessings and guidance as they make their wedding plans.

The visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), and Bros. Larry Bahr (Sis. Julie, Fort Scott, KS), Randy Mogler (Sis. Evie, Washington, IL), and Roger Aberle (Sis. Lavonne, Sabetha, KS). Thank you, brothers, for your labors of love.

Kyle Meyer (Bro. Larry and Sis. Jill) was in the hospital as a surgical patient. We pray he'll be up and playing again soon.

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

Over several Wednesday evenings we have heard the informative Elder Conference tapes. The exhortations and encouragements give each one much to think about.

Serving on the pulpit this month were Bros. Ben Wysong (Sis. Janice, Sabetha, KS), Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City, MO) and David Marquart (Sis. Lori, Taylor, MO). Their coming is appreciated.

We extend sympathizing



thoughts to Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen Kellenberger and to their children for the passing of Sis. Karen's father, Walter Geyer, of Peoria, IL.

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**KANSAS  
LAMONT-GRIDLEY  
Eileen Bahr**

Ever wonder "why?" two events are scheduled for the same time you have no control over and nothing special is going on for months? September 21 we missed ministering Bro. Larry Bahr and Sis. Julie and family (Fort Scott, KS) when they came for our invite-a-guest weekend. We were in Elgin, IL, for my 55th high school class reunion; it hadn't worked out for me to attend since my graduation! In a class of 400, there were 128 deceased. Eccles. 3 tells us "to every thing there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven."

"...a time to be born..."

September 25, Zane Alvin Edelman joined the family of Bro. Victor, Sis. Hope and big brothers, Layke and Sage. Grandparents are Bro. Albert and Sis. Mara Jean Edelman and Ed and Mary Lawton.

Grandparents, Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene Metzger received the message October 2 that Landon James Metzger joined Bro. Cory and Sis. Jodi Metzger's family in Wichita.

The Lord topped the ending of our perfect weather day Sunday School picnic at the farm home of Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane Isch with a magnificent sunset.

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

With thankful hearts, we as a church family welcome Bro. Jerry Meeks (Sis. Christy), Sis. Brooke Huber (Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharlyn), and Sis. Megan Kellenberger (Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa) into our precious brotherhood. What a blessing it was for all of us to hear the testimonies and witness the baptism of these three dear souls. May they each feel God's leading hand as they walk the path of life with Him. A special thank you to Elder Bros. Mike Leman (Denver, CO), Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), and John Lehman (Bern, KS) for helping in this important work for the Lord.

Other visiting ministers this past month included: Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bro. Randy Mogler (Washington, IL), Bro. Darrel Stoller, Bro. Galen Rokey, Bro. Edwin Strahm (Bern, KS). Many thanks to these brothers for their labors on the pulpit.

Jake Martin Beyer brings much joy to the family of Bro. Klint and Sis. Kara Beyer. Jake is welcomed home by big brothers, Wyatt and Kody. Grandparents are Bro. Rod and Sis. Arlene Grimm, Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen Beyer, and great-grandmothers, Sis. Lois Grimm, and Sis. Jeanette Huber.

Sis. Leona Grimm has been hospitalized. May we remember her in our prayers.

September 27-28 was our annual Fall Invited-Guest weekend. We're thankful that those from near and far could gather for a weekend of fellowship. Many thanks to the host families, Bro.

Wayne and Sis. Jean Wenger, Bro. Tom and Sis. Carrie Strahm, Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharlyn Huber, and Bro. Kent and Sis. Molly Grimm, for making this a special weekend.

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**KANSAS, WICHITA  
Emma Miller**

When I arrived at church Sunday morning, October 28, the first thing I noticed was the fact that we had some out-of-county license tags in the parking lot. I entered the church in expectation of who our guests were. What a blessing to see Bro. Ron and Sis. Lois Allenbach from the Kiowa congregation and our Elder Bro. Jay Luthi. Immediately, I anticipated the blessings that would come from these brothers' ministry. We thank them for letting themselves be used in the Lord's work and we are indebted to their local congregations for sharing them with us. Then, on Sunday, October 12, we had another double blessing. Bro. Dwight and Sis. Lori Stoller (Latty, OH) and Bro. Brandon and Sis. Maria Emch (Kansas City, MO) shared the pulpit duties. I had never met these brothers, but again, I was not disappointed. The same God directed their words to meet our needs and we praise Him for bringing these brothers into our midst.

Bro. Max Reimschisel and Sis. Judy also have had a double blessing. On Friday, October 3, Landon James Metzger was born to their daughter, Sis. Jodi and Bro. Cory Metzger. The following week, Elle Joy was born to their son, Mark and Lynette Reimschisel. Little Landon is the ninth addition to the preschooler group in our congrega-



tion and the eighth boy in the group. His other grandparents are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene Metzger (Lamont-Gridley, KS).

Saturday, October 11, was set aside for a work day to do some housekeeping chores in the church building and the grounds. Thank you to all the willing hands who worked on this endeavor.

Our landscape is exceptionally beautiful this fall. We have had ample moisture and mild temperatures so the plants have had the opportunity to develop their potential for color. As I travel through the country on my way to church, I noticed several trees covered with an intense red vine. Obviously, the vine has enrobed the tree and killed the life in it. While all the foliage was green, the encroacher did not show up, but now the fiery red looks out of place in the orange tones of the trees. There is a lesson here for those who would moralize and compare.

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### KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON Glenda Neukomm

“There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through Him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.”

*John 1:6-8*

Jesus said that we who know Him as Saviour and Lord are lights in this sin-darkened world (Matt.5:14-16). We are reflections of Christ, who is “the true Light” (John 1:9). As John the Baptist was a “witness of the Light” and

pointed people to Jesus, so can we. Our faithful walk of obedience to Him is a beacon of God’s love and truth. Our lives and words are beams of warm light piercing the cold darkness of this world. We are like a porch light late at night, drawing unbelievers to Jesus, assuring them that someone loves them and waits to welcome them home. As many of us have family, friends, neighbors and/or co-workers still in darkness, may we keep praying for them and find ways to draw their attention to the Lord.

Saturday evening, November 1, we enjoyed a potluck and the memorandum was read and shared with us. Elder Bros. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville) and Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman) were here to carry out this important responsibility. We felt very blest by the Lord as they presented the inspired Word of God to us on Sunday. May the Lord bless their many efforts put forth toward our small flock.

We pray the Lord will richly bless our visiting ministers for the past month. They were Bros. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago), Robert Beebe (Sis. Sue, South Bend), Ted Luginbuhl (Sis. Stephanie, Smithville), Wayne Lehman (South Bend), and Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis).

As the Thanksgiving Holiday approaches, Psalms 22:4 comes to mind. “Our fathers trusted in thee: they trusted, and thou didst deliver them.” We have been so blest in our country and have much to thank the Lord for especially at this special time.

We extend a welcome to you to visit us in Lexington. Please con-

tact Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541 or Bro. Jan Neukomm (859) 273-8574.

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### MEXICO, IXTLAN Claudia Gonzalez

“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

*Philippians 1:6*

We are thankful for God’s promises in our lives. Our prayer is that the Lord may perform the good work He has begun in us until the day of Christ.

*Meet Bro. Javier Gonzalez:*

My name is Javier Gonzalez and I am 53 years old. I first knew about the church when I met the minister who was outside his house pulling weeds. I liked to visit with him but he didn’t speak to me about the Bible at first. Then he invited me in to his house and we began studying the Bible together. Little by little I began to understand that the Bible was the Word of God.

At times my daughters (Rosario, Claudia, and Gloria) would ask me if I enjoyed going and studying the Bible and I told them “yes” because I had a tendency to forget some things. Afterwards, they began to come and also liked the church and then later, my wife (Bertha) came too. They all became converted and I stayed behind, but I always had the hope of some day repenting and being baptized. I had to learn that the Word warns that we are not to put off our salvation and then I could begin to take the steps to become a faithful witness for God.



One day when I was making a two-hour trip to Guadalajara with Bro. Marshall, I told him how I would sit in church and look at all the believers and would wonder what was lacking in my life. He told me that I didn't have the seal of the Holy Spirit. Since I had some cows, I could picture a herd of cattle and when the owner came to check on them and saw one that was not branded, it was pulled out and excluded from the others in the herd. That understanding was a turning point for me and I finally turned myself over completely to the Lord. I was baptized on October 27, 2002.

I am here now serving the Lord and believe that all I am able to do in the Lord's work is for the purpose that I can be joyful when God calls me into His presence. I believe He will make His face to shine upon me and that He will give me a home where He is. Now the things of this life and all that displeases the Lord are left behind and I am no longer in bondage to Satan. This "work" of obeying the Lord is how I can show my gratitude for the blood that Jesus shed for my sins.

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### **MICHIGAN, ALTO**

**Rose Watson  
Terri Huber**

We are, as always, thankful for the visiting ministers who feed us. Bro. Tom Schrenk (Sis. Joan, Athens, AL) and Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Ruth, Wolcott, IN) came in October.

We often pray for the doctors who treat us to be blessed with wisdom and skill. This was the case when Sis. Melva (Bro. Joe) Oesch had surgery earlier this month, and also for the professionals that are

called upon to diagnose and treat Leonard Blough, son of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Ella Louise. Remembering also Penny Couch and Ramona Humphreys in their illness and uncertainty, it is our desire that these individuals and their families can be given much needed strength, encouragement and faith and that they can feel our prayers.

It is exciting to congratulate two sets of first-time parents! Mercedes Lee was born to Ryan and Summer Stephen. Her grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Penny Erismann. The newest member of the Schutte family is baby Brendan Derry. His parents, Jared and Nellie, are glad to have this precious bundle. It is such a joy when God entrusts us with little ones to raise here on earth. "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he shall not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

We express our condolences to Jon and Danielle Eickhoff at the death of Jon's father, James; and to Sis. Gretl Schlatter on the passing of her grandfather, Bro. Loren Stoller (Latty, OH). May God give them the comfort that is needed in this time of sadness.

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### **MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**

**Sarah Knochel  
Janelle Ramseyer**

"...The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest."

*Luke 10:2*

Even as we are in the earthly harvest time, may we lift up in

prayer each one who has set forth to be a laborer for Christ.

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

*Psalms 127:3*

Several from our congregation have had the joy of grandchildren and great-grandchildren added to their families this past month. Taya Joy was born to Kent and Jodi Andrezewski. Grandparents are Norm and Sis. Linda Andrezewski. Great-grandfather is Bro. Robert Knochel. Bro. Bob also is rejoicing in the birth of a great-grandson, Reese David, born to Bro. Vince and Sis. Tessa Schlatter (Milford, IN). Sis. Della Erismann is rejoicing in her first great-grandchild. Little Mercedes was born to Ryan and Summer (Erismann) Stephen. We also rejoice with Bro. Dean and Sis. Connie Pashak in the birth of another grandson. Cole Thomas was born to Deanna and Tom Hennessy. May the Lord be with each parents, grandparents and great-grandparents as they interact with these new and special blessings from above.

We sympathize with Bro. Alph and Sis. Hermine Kaeb as they mourn the loss of his sister, Elizabeth McLain (Fairbury, IL).

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

*Matthew 5:16*

We wish to thank Elder Bros. Aaron Steffen (Sis. Loretta, Alto, MI) and Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH) for their exhortation on the Memorandum. Our con-



gregation was both reminded and encouraged by the exhortation given unto us. We truly need to let the world see the Father living and working in us. Our heartfelt thanks to both of these brothers for their time and efforts. May the Lord richly reward them for their service to us.

Several from our congregation have been sick and/or hospitalized in the past month. Our prayers are with Sis. Esther Meister, Sis. Loretta (Bro. Windsor) Mosher, Bro. Fred Ruegsegger (Sis. Marilyn), Clyde Wackerle, Sis. Florence Wieland and Girard (Sis. Diana) Jacobs. May the Lord continue to restore their health. Sis. Loretta has been moved into the Carriage House Nursing Home. Our prayers continue to go out to her and her family.

Now thank we all our God  
With heart, and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom the world rejoices,  
Who from our mother's arms  
Has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love  
And still is ours today.

*Zion's Harp #236*

As our nation sets aside Thanksgiving day to thank the Lord for our earthly blessings, may we each one set aside time to praise God for fulfilling all of our spiritual needs throughout the year. May God be with each one.

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## MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Krista Wieland  
Jamie Bahr**

We would like to thank all that contributed time, effort and clothing to our second Annual Clothing

Drive and Car Wash. It is always a blessing when the church can come together as co-laborers for our Lord. The annual fall church picnic was also this month and was enjoyed by all. Thank you to those who organized the event.

We witnessed the testimonies and baptisms of two young souls the weekend of October 4. They were Bro. Brice Gasser (Bro. Randy and Sis. Sue) and Sis. Kristen Hitz (Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy). Also giving her testimony was Sis. Mira Matejin. What an opportunity for us to be reminded of the awesomeness of our Lord and Saviour.

Thank you to our many visiting ministers: Bros. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH), Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Lamar, MO), Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN), Greg Stieglitz (Sis. Lisa, Indianapolis, IN), Howard Plattner (Sis. Kristen, Alto, MI), Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN) and Elder Bros. Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN) and Mike Leman (Sis. Deb, Denver, CO). Bro. Walter Rager (Sis. Sharon, Toledo, OH) was the visiting minister at Woodhaven.

Recovering from surgery this month are Bro. Hartzell Kaisner (Sis. Mary), Sis. Bev Bahr (Elder Bro. Mark), and Bonnie Jermo. Sis. Rose Wieland is at home following hospitalization.

Congratulations to new parents, Jerry and Tiffany Kondraciuk. Alayna Jane was born on October 10. Her grandparents are Mark and Joy Wieland and Anna Kondraciuk. May God bless this new addition to the family!

## MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS Diane Stewart

Our hearts are saddened yet we rejoice that Sis. Rachael Kent, after a long and courageous battle with cancer, has gained her reward and gone Home to be with the Lord. Sis. Rachael approached life with zest in whatever she did, from teaching Sunday School to caring for her family. She knew that the same God who had a purpose for her life would now provide for her family in her absence. Survivors include Rachael's husband, Darci; children, Brooke, Macey, Tanner and Logan; parents, Bro. Dick and Sis. MaryLou Schmidt; brothers, Darren (Sis. Jan), Bro. Clint (Sis. Magdalena), Cory (Nikki) and Benjamin; grandparents, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hazel Schmidt. May God richly comfort this family and all who were touched by Sis. Rachael's life.

Visiting ministers have been Elder Bros. Joe Stoller (Sis. Emily, Princeville, IL), Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL) and Leroy Messner (Sis. JoAnn, Winthrop, MN). Also sharing the Word with us were Bros. Wayne Wiegand (Sis. Rosemary, Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Clint Schmidt (Sis. Magdalena, Winthrop, MN). We thank these brothers for their diligence in the Lord's service.

Some pearls of wisdom gleaned from services were: Are we living for the Lord? Are we giving our talents to the Lord? Are we giving of our earthly abundance generously and joyfully? Ask and God will give us a mouth to speak with wisdom; And remember, the best is yet to come.

Jamie Pelzel (Jodie) has passed



the internal medicine boards, thus achieving another goal in his medical career. God bless his work. September 24 was the birthday of their daughter, Eleanor Jane. Lucy and Jack are excited to help mom and dad with baby Ellie.

We were recently privileged to see slides and hear of churches in Eastern Europe. Let's remember to pray for them, give abundantly and be thankful for our freedoms in this country.

"And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming."

*I John 2:28*

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### **MINNESOTA, MORRIS**

**Katie Koehl**

**Cheryl Messner**

The engagement of Bro. Tom Koehl and Sis. Patricia Manz (Junction, OH) was made known. May they continue to seek God's guidance as they plan their wedding. Parents are Bro. Russel and Sis. Vera Manz and Bro. Karl and Sis. Marilyn Koehl.

Mitch Fehr and Abby Ekren exchanged marriage vows on September 27. We wish them God's blessings as they establish their home. Parents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy Fehr and Vance and Kim Gullickson and Mark Ekren.

We pray for God's healing touch on those with illnesses. They include Sis. Edna Zeltwanger (Bro. Kenny), Cathy Joos (Jerry), Sis. Mabel Schmidgall, Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Sis. Vila), Harold Luthi (Bernice) and Bro. Richard Schmidgall (Sis. Corrine).

Bro. Dan Wiegand (Goodfield, IL) and Sis. Kayla Joos were united in marriage on October 12. Parents are Bro. Harv and Sis. Debra Joos and Bro. Larry and Sis. Lori Wiegand. We will miss Sis. Kayla but we trust that Bro. Dan and she will be a blessing to the Goodfield congregation.

Visiting ministers included Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin and Bro. Jeff Grimm, both from Goodfield, IL. We appreciated their exhortations.

My life, my love I give to Thee,  
Thou Lamb of God who died for  
me;

Oh, may I ever faithful be,  
My Saviour and my God.

*Hymns of Zion #30, vs. 1*

We rejoice with Susie Nohl who has found grace to repent. Through His Spirit and Word, may God grant abundant love and understanding to her. Parents are Bro. DeWayne and Sis. Janice Nohl.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Heidi Wulf are very thankful for their first-born baby, precious Megan Lyn, born on October 11. May they seek Heavenly wisdom in their new role as parents. Grandparents are Bro. Beirne and Sis. Joyce Messner and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy Wulf.

"Two lasting gifts we owe our children are roots and wings."

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### **MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**

**Marilyn Messner**

**Ginny Stoll**

Visiting ministers were Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae, Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Bill Emch (Sis. Susan, Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Bro. Steve Frauhiger (Sis. Irene, Bluffton North, IN). We are grate-

ful they were willing to make the effort to assemble with us and share God's Word.

Our Annual Pork Chop supper was a great success again. What a blessing to gather from far and near and fellowship together.

Sis. Carol Ann Messner is happy to welcome a new granddaughter, Eleanor Jane. Siblings are Lucy and Jack. Parents are Jamie and Jodi Pelzel. May God bless this special family.

Medical patients were Sis. Julia Messner and Bro. Harold (Sis. Gerry) Messner. May God bless them with strength and healing.

*Note of Thanks:*

Bro. Harold Messner wishes to thank everyone for their prayers and kind concern.

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### **MISSOURI, LAMAR**

**Becky Marti**

**Wendy Braker**

We welcome Doug Strahm to our congregation as he is employed in our area. He has moved here from Bern, KS.

We extend our appreciation to Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Glen Braker (Princeville, IL) for lending themselves in God's service. May the Lord bless them.

Our prayers have been with Sis. Bonnie Braker (Bro. Leonard) and Bro. Ray Luthi (Sis. Violet) as they have spent time in the hospital this past month.

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### **MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS**

**Betsy Schrenk**

We welcome Sis. Joyce Martin back to our fellowship in St. Louis. She works for Boeing, and had lived



here before relocating to the Phoenix area three years ago. Our little church is blessed to have her assemble with us once more.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Dale Banwart (Sis. Missy, Wolcott, IN), Greg Stoller (Sis. Jill, Forrest, IL) and Fred Eberhardt (Sis. Kathy, Burlington, IA). We thank them for their willingness to serve God and our congregation.

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### MISSOURI, TAYLOR Susan Haerr

This month was our annual Sunday School fall cookout at the farm of Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis Knapp. Thank you to our host and hostess as well as all the teachers and their spouses for making that special memory possible for the kids.

We have had a number of people that have spent time in the hospital or required medical treatment in the last month. Among them are Vernon Huber (Sis. Judy), Clinton Sutter (Bro. Steve and Sis. Deb), Bro. Arnie Gerst (Sis. Marj) and Barb Plank. We hope that each of you will experience complete healing.

Congratulations to first-time parents, Mark and Lisa Wiegand. Lucas Scott Wiegand was born on October 17. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joann Wiegand. Maternal grandparents are Junior and Ruthann Scott. May God bless you and your precious new son.

Thank you, Bro. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL), for using the gift of ministry that God has given you to bless us this past month. It was wonderful to have you here. Please come again soon.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Sis. Clara Yackley and her family at the passing of her brother, Bro. Paul Tanner, Eureka, IL. May God comfort you as you remember him.

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### NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

We certainly felt the Holy Spirit amongst us as we partook of Holy Communion on Sunday afternoon, October 5. We are thankful to Elder Bro. Marvin Leman and his wife (Bradford, IL) for being with us for the weekend and to the Lord for so vividly portraying His life and then death upon Calvary's cross. May we always keep the Lord's suffering and death foremost in our minds so that we may daily feel the debt of service we owe Him. When we think of what He so lovingly sacrificed for us, we should not murmur or complain about the few things He asks us to sacrifice for Him. Following the blessed spiritual meal of Communion, we were able to share a dinner together and then gather together in the Sunday School room for a singing that evening.

Our prayers go out to Linda (Timothy) Arnette, Bro. Ronald (Sis. Eleanor) Herzig and Benjamin Herzig in the death of their mother, Gertrude Herzig, who passed from this life on September 30. A funeral dinner was held in the church basement on Saturday, October 4. May the family each find solace and comfort in the only One who knows and can provide for each of our needs.

We were richly blessed to see the church benches filled over the in-

vite weekend of October 11-12. We shared a potluck dinner together on Saturday evening, followed by an exhortation on the history of the Apostolic Christian Church by Bro. Perry Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL). How wonderful to be at the site of the first church of our faith and listen to the faith of our fathers and the obstacles they did overcome to bring us the heritage we have today. May we strive daily to preserve the faith for those that come after us. We were thankful to also have ministering Bro. Jerry Isch (Philadelphia, PA) and his family with us for the weekend and appreciate his willingness to share from the Book of Life with us. May the Lord bless each one for being in our midst over the weekend.

Our prayers go out to Sis. Polly Farney who will be undergoing surgery in the near future and pray that she may be strengthened daily by those prayers and the love we have for her. We also extend our prayers to Bro. Kenny Farney, Polly Peebles, and Sis. Linda Graves who have been hospitalized as well as to Heather Greenwood who met with accident at college. May each feel the Lord watching over them in all things and be encouraged to know that prayers have been extended heavenward on their behalf.

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### OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

Daniel Pamer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Arliss) gave his testimony and was baptized and added to the fold of the children of God on October 12. We rejoice with Bro. Daniel and may he always be close to the Lord, rejoicing in his salvation.



Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH), a great-uncle of Bro. Daniel, assisted with the testimony and baptism. Also present were ministering Bros. Bill Brake (Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH), Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH) and Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH).

On Sundays previously we had enjoyed visiting Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (Sis. Marian, San Diego, CA) and Bro. Mark Steiner (Sis. Sue, Smithville, OH).

Sis. Dianna and Eugene Bako will be having a 40th wedding anniversary on December 1, as they were married December 1, 1963. Congratulations to them.

Sis. Janice Graf (Bro. John) was hospitalized for a broken hip. We hope her recovery will be speedy.

Sis. Geraldine O'Brien has moved back to Connecticut and gives her new address: 156 Spring Street, Windsor Locks, CT 06096. Phone is 860-623-0719; e-mail is [geraldineobrien@msn.com](mailto:geraldineobrien@msn.com).

#### *Note of Thanks:*

The family of Dave Burr wishes to express our gratitude and appreciation for all of the many prayers and support during a very long hospital stay and Dave's unexpected passing. We feel God's love and encouragement from those around us. May God bless each and every one of you for all of your many acts of kindness during our loss.

With love and friendship,

*Dave's brother and sister, Philip and Jeannie*

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

Ministers visiting with us this month were Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH). We are thankful for those who willingly share God's Word with us.

Our World Relief meetings have begun again and a large crowd gathered to help package soup mix. Not only can we lend a helping hand to those in need, but we can enjoy the fellowship and blessings of working together.

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

It was a blessing to have several visiting ministers this month. We want to thank Bro. Brandon Plattner (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Bro. Tom Schrenk (Athens, AL), and Bro. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH) for sharing God's Word with us. We trust God to richly bless you.

Sis. Patricia Manz (Bro. Russell and Sis. Vera) and Bro. Tom Koehl (Bro. Karl and Sis. Marilyn) of Morris, MN, made their engagement known to us on September 28. We wish them God's continued grace and nearness as they make plans for their future lives together.

Bro. Bud Manz (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty) had surgery this past month. We are thankful God's healing hand has been with him and he is assembling with us again.

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

When a Christian dies precious is the prize!

Lasting joys for days of sorrow,  
Rest from conflict on the morrow  
Follows when he dies...

When a Christian dies his grief buried lies.

All distress and tribulation  
In death's slumber find cessation.  
When a Christian dies His grief buried lies...

A Christian's demise breaks all earthly ties.

When the night of death is over  
Spring eternal he'll discover.

When a Christian dies glorious dawn will rise.

*Hymns of Zion #248*

What a comfort it is to know that our retired Elder Bro. Loren Stoller has gone to his eternal Home to be forever with the Lord. He leaves behind six daughters: Sis. Jean, Sis. Becky (Tim) Schlatter, Sis. Kay (Roger) Miller, Jill (John) Zimmerman, Patricia (Terry) Offerle, and Lynette (Robert) Stewart. We extend our sympathy and prayers to Bro. Loren's family.

On September 24, little Carson Christopher was welcomed into the hearts and home of Bro. Chris and Sis. Rachel Laukhuf and their daughter Gracie. May the Lord be with them as they strive to raise him to know the Lord. Grandparents are Elder Bro. John and Sis. Marcia Laukhuf and Bro. Nelson and Sis. Shelby Beer (Milford, IN).

Our prayers are with Bro. Ralph Stoller as he spent some time in the hospital. Now that he has returned



home, we are thankful that he is doing better.

"...Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." We want to thank Bros. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH), Ron Koehl (Sis. Carol, Sarasota, FL) and Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL) for visiting our congregation and ministering God's Word to us this month. May God bless them for their labors.

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### OHIO, MANSFIELD

#### John and Marci Pfeiffer

We welcome Louise Heckel who has moved from North Fort Myers, FL. Please accept our apology for not making this known earlier. Her new address and phone number: 354 Gatewood Apt. 4, Mansfield, OH 44907; (419) 756-7955.

Naomi Lynn was born to Bro. Henry and Sis. Diane Pfeiffer on September 18. Austin, Ezekiel and Autumn are glad to have a baby sister. Her grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Becky Sauder (Columbus, OH) and Bro. John and Sis. Zuzanna Pfeiffer.

We thank Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) for bringing us God's Word this past month. May God richly bless them.

Cole and Kyle went home with their parents after living with Bro. Chad and Sis. Tami Griffey for 6 ½ months. We pray that God will continue to watch over Cole and Kyle and richly bless Bro. Chad and Sis. Tami for all their love shown to them.

Connie Boliantz (Bro. Doug), Sis. Betty Beer and Sis. Sophie Sabo needed hospital care last month. We will continue to pray for

all of them.

Lead me through the vale of shadows,

Bear me o'er life's fitful sea;  
Then the gate of life eternal,  
May I enter, Lord, with Thee.

*Hymns of Zion #223*

Bro. Bill Sabo went Home to be with the Lord on October 10. May our Father in Heaven comfort his wife, Sis. Sophie, and their children, Janice (Fred) Mohr, Jacqueline (Dave) Wagner, Dean (Linda), and Paula (Dave) Keiper.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

We, the family of Courtney Sauder, want to first praise our Lord for the healing of our daughter. Our Lord shows much mercy. We want to thank you all for your prayers and generous gifts to help our family. We are thankful for such a loving, supportive faith. We pray a blessing for you all.

In Christian Love,  
*The Greg Sauder family*

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### OHIO, RITTMAN

#### Laurel Indermuhle Anna Schar

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit in me."

*Psalms 51:10*

With joy we report that another soul, David Gasser (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Lois), has begun his repentance!

The world says, "Show me and I'll believe."

Christ says, "Believe me and I'll show you."

—*Treasured Thoughts by*  
*Barb Mullet*

September 28 was the day Bro. Shawn Acker (Boyd and Barb) and Sis. Judy Hartzler (Elder Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie) were united in marriage. We are thankful to have another godly home established. Ben Emch (Erich Emch and Jennifer Emch) and Kara Gasser (Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane) were wed on October 3. We wish them many blessed years together.

Our appreciation to Elder Bros. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) and Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH) as well as Bros. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH) and Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH) for their service to our congregation.

Many loved ones were hospitalized this past month and we hope for continued healing where needed. They were: Michele (Rich) Holcomb, Sis. Mary Jane (Bro. Andy) Winkler, Bro. George Riegenbach, Bro. Ralph Weber, Sis. Martha Walder, Bro. Vernon (Sis. Elizabeth) Landis, Tom (Dana) Dysinger and Sis. Martha (Bro. Henry) Dotterer (who at the time of this writing is in the hospital).

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### OHIO, SARDIS

#### Terry Zollinger

"But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises."

*Hebrews 8:6*

We were privileged to have two visiting ministers who were Bros.



Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) and Matthew Rassi (Chicago, IL). We appreciate the Word that was given by the brethren and ask the Lord to bless them for their work in the name of the Lord.

Each day I have a daily calendar where I tear off each page every morning. Often it has encouraging notes and verses to help me each day. I recently read this to ease the tribulation I went through. "At the end of each day, before turning down the covers, I turn all my problems over to the Holy Spirit. I'm grateful he stays up late to handle them. Then I lie down, secure in the knowledge that broken things become blessed things if I let Christ do the mending!" (Barbara Johnson). The verse that went with this is "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33)

God was surely watching over Craig Zollinger (Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry) a couple weeks ago when he had an ATV accident and had to be "life-flighted" to WVU Hospital. He spent only one night in the hospital and is now recuperating at home. The Lord is merciful and we are thankful for His protection and blessing.

Prayers are also for Sis. Paula Figel (Bro. John) as she had a test done at the hospital this past week. May God answer our prayers that the doctors have the knowledge to know what the diagnosis is for Sis. Paula.

"Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the east, and are

come to worship him."

*Matthew 2:2*

The busy holiday season is upon us again. May we remember the real reason for Christmas that Jesus was born in a humble stable and most of all may we remember that He died on the cruel cross for our sins.

*Note of Thanks:*

We would like to thank all who said prayers, sent cards and called. May the Lord bless you for your kindness.

*Bro. Gary, Sis. Terry and Craig Zollinger*

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## OHIO, SMITHVILLE

**Ruth Gasser**

**Alyssa Miller**

At a singing on September 23, we bid farewell to our Sis. Jenny Rufener (Bro. John and Sis. Janice) who has felt God's leading to serve at Gateway Woods in Leo, IN. We hope she will come back "home" to visit us often! In the meantime, it is a blessing to trust that God is omnipresent and can meet each of our needs, no matter where we are located.

Gathering together to fellowship is a wonderful privilege that we enjoy in our faith. The Smithville church held its annual Pig Roast the first weekend in October.

We are thankful that God's protecting hand was over our friend, Dee Smith, as he was injured in a farm accident and spent some time in the hospital this past month. Also, Bro. Myron Weber (Sis. Darlene) is happy to be back home again after his recent hospitaliza-

tion. We hope these loved ones will feel God's nearness as they heal.

On September 27, Bryan Emch (Bro. Craig and Sis. Gale) exchanged wedding vows with Kristine Hough. Bob Sax and Stephanie Hofacre (Bro. Steve and Sis. Jollene) were also married this month. As they face their future lives together, we pray that God will bless them with His guidance and direction.

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## OHIO, TOLEDO

**Rebecca Beard**

**Dee Beard**

We had our annual invite a friend weekend in October. What a blessing it is to meet and greet loved ones we have known and those we have just met. Our hearts are always full after a weekend of fellowship.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Mike Leman (Denver, CO) and ministering Bros. Art Ingold (Rittman, OH) and Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI). May they be blessed for their willingness to serve our congregation.

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Colette Harmon (Bro. Howard). Our love and prayers go out to her and her family.

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## OREGON, PORTLAND

**Louisa Gallup**

We had a farewell singing recently for Bro. John and Sis. Wanda Kinsinger and their three children, James, Jesse and Joy. Their presence will be greatly missed here in our small congregation. Even though it was only about four years ago that they moved



here from Illinois, we have many memories of all the times of fellowship and activities we did together. They are planning to live near Bradford, IL. We are sure the Bradford congregation will welcome them warmly. May the Lord bless them and keep them safe. Hopefully, some of us can visit there at one time or another and vice versa.

We thank all who came to worship with us this past month. Special thanks to the following ministering brethren: Bros. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judie), Don Sinn (Sis. Linda), Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michele) and Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty), all from Silverton, OR.

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### **OREGON, SILVERTON** **Kelsey Walder**

“...suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”

*Matt 19:14*

Our congregation has been blessed with the arrival of three new infants. We rejoice with Bro. Jim and Sis. Tresa Zollinger in the birth of their son, Niles James, on September 16. Also welcoming him is his older sister, Brianna, and brothers, Carson and Collin. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger and Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda Kuenzi, all of Silverton. Arriving several weeks early was little Cheyanne Rose to Bro. Bill and Sis. Kris Luthi on October 14. Our thoughts and prayers are with them as Cheyanne remains in the hospital and Sis. Kris had a longer stay. Eager to have a their new little sister home with them are Aaron, Brooke, Zayne, Weston,

Quintin, Wade, Sterling, Colton, and Warren. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Violet Luthi of Lamar, MO, and Bro. Rich and Sis. Rosa Lee Kuenzi from Silverton. Also welcoming a new daughter are Bro. Jason and Sis. Colette Snook. Their daughter, Jade Kathryn, was born on October 15. Her older sisters are: Shalyse, Kiara, Kyra, and Elisha. Grandparents are Vance and Sis. Liz Snook from Silverton, and Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy Fehr from West Bend, IA. Each of these families have our heartfelt prayers as they seek to raise their children to know the Lord and His ways.

We rejoice that our friend Tresa Dettwyler (Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene) has found the precious gift of peace with God. She will be remembered in our prayers as she prepares for baptism.

In the hospital this month was Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Sis. Bess). Our prayers are with him throughout his painful and slow rehabilitation. We are thankful he has been able to reassemble with us.

We were thankful to have visiting with us Elder Bro. Dave Graf (Sis. Barbara) from Akron, OH. May the Lord continue to be with him and all the Elders who labor to be the watchmen on the wall.

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

The Lord continues to provide abundantly for our spiritual needs through the ministry of our visiting brothers: Bros. Earl Beery (Sis. Suzie, Rittman, OH), Ralph Garber (Sis. Lynn, Morton, IL), Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria, IL), and Kim Sutter (Sis. Vonette, Taylor, MO), Elder Bro. Phil

Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN) and retired Bro. Jim Hoerr (Sis. Virginia, Peoria, IL). We have also been strengthened by the fellowship with brethren and friends visiting from Congerville, Eureka and Peoria, IL; Bluffton and Leo, IN; Oakville, IA; Bern, KS; Taylor, MO; and Latty 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: Sarasota, FL (11/23); Goodfield, IL (12/7); and Latty, OH (12/14). We do not have a visiting minister scheduled for the Sunday after Thanksgiving, 11/30, or for the two Sundays around Christmas (12/21 and 12/28). If you are planning to worship with us, even when there is no minister scheduled, please call ahead to confirm our schedule, as some of us may be here listening to a taped service. We also usually meet on Wednesday evenings for a song service. Contacts are Bro. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928, Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz (615) 952-9933, and Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 662-2946.

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### **TEXAS** **DALLAS/FORT WORTH** **Carrie Beyer**

Now thank we all our God  
With heart, and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom the world rejoices,  
Who from our mother's arms  
Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.

*Zion's Harp #236*



During the Thanksgiving season, it's not uncommon to remember these lines written by Martin Rinkart. However, our songs of praise can never adequately extol our Father for His "countless gifts of love"! Far beyond material blessings, the most beautiful gift of love God gave was His beloved Son, through whom mankind may receive grace unto salvation!

Our congregation enjoyed hosting visitors from San Marcos this past month. We appreciate all guests and extend a warm invitation to anyone living near or traveling through the area to visit our church. 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

The cows got into the garden two weeks ago and ate our fall green bean plants right when they were full of blooms. It was discouraging after our hopes of a large crop because our spring crop had failed, and it is too late to replant till next spring. "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick..." (Prov. 13:12). We know the loss of our small garden crop is a little thing. We'll get over it, but it reminds us that when we get to heaven there will be no heartache. That's quite something to be thankful about, especially when we see those around us dealing with sorrow and pain... "but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life." Let's be thankful!

We thank these Brothers and their wives for their ministry and fellowship this month: Dennis Kaufmann (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington), Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington), Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria), and Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL). We were also blessed with visitors

from Princeville twice this month.

We look forward to hosting visiting ministers from the following churches in December: Chicago (7), Princeville (14), and Minneapolis (21). As of this writing, no services are scheduled for December 28.

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. See the ministers' book for contact information. Please make note of a new cell phone number for Bro. Dale and Sis. Amy Ringger. (512-923-7463)

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.





*Sermon continued from page 2*

reformed? Have we come to that point in our lives?

What we experienced last night with the testimony of our loved one, as it is in each of our lives who have been born again, and as our custom is in our church to witness the testimony of the conversion process - what has God worked in our lives? It is a beautiful opportunity for the church. It takes every one of us back to that moment of beginning. When it was just as in the book of Genesis chapter 1, "In the beginning God created..." (Genesis 1:1). We must all come to that beginning again when we allow God to create in us a new heart and a right spirit.

So the scripture says, "Thus saith the Lord ...that formed thee from the womb..." (Isaiah 44:24). Brother Gene read and as the Lord provided so beautifully in the exhortation, we are reminded of the second coming, of the Lord coming again, in the morning hour service. The tremendous, the tremendous importance, the absolute importance of you and me as individuals being prepared. To know that our name is written in the Lamb's book of life, in so much that if our name is not written in the book, the Lord's book, that we cannot enter into heaven (Revelation 21:27). That is the scripture.

We want to experience and now we have in the New Testament scripture, exhortations to help all of us. Certainly anyone who has yet to know Jesus Christ as Lord and as Savior, come back to Isaiah 44. Actually we could go to many Isaiah scriptures, couldn't we? We could go to the beautiful Isaiah scripture that gives us such a beautiful starting point when we begin to seriously evaluate where we stand with almighty God.

In the last chapter it says simply - this is the Lord's words, "...but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word." (Isaiah 66:2). So if we do not know, if the testimony in our heart is not that my redeemer liveth, as Job was able to testify of old (Job 19:25), then let's humbly entreat God to lead us.

It is little different than it was when

Peter was walking on the water. He was in faith walking toward the Lord upon the water and then he began to sink. In that moment, we don't read a paragraph of what Peter asked for. It is simply, Lord help, "...Lord, save me." (St. Matthew 14:30).

In humility we will touch the heart of God. We will begin that opportunity. We will provide God the opportunity to begin reforming us. To create in us a heart and a mind that loves the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let's now go to this beautiful New Testament second scripture reading. We have exhortation that is good for every one of us. Particularly, we might look at this and say, it seems like there is special preparation there, special exhortation for brethren. Loved ones who have been walking with the Lord. They know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. They know Jesus Christ as the Apostle Paul prayed and expressed he wanted to know the Lord. He wanted to know His resurrection, but he also wanted to know His crucifixion. He wanted to know the crucified Lord.

When we acknowledge that many are the times it takes a lot of grace for us to learn to know the crucified Lord, yet as we look at verses such as this, it says simply the Apostle Paul was coming back, not once, perhaps not twice. It says, "This is the third time I am coming to you..." (II Corinthians 13:1).

Remember in the New Testament when Jesus Christ left that beautiful parable about the fig tree? (St. Luke 13:6-9) They came upon the fig tree, the husbandman, and there was no fruit. The initial thought was "...cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?" (St. Luke 13:7). And the scripture says simply, no, there is additional time needed. But with that time comes a responsibility.

It says "...A certain man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none." (St. Luke 13:6). Are we today, bearing fruit? Brethren, brothers and sisters to the Lord Jesus Christ, are we fruit bearing? So shall ye be my disciples, saith the Lord. (St. John 15:8)

This scripture says, "Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, Behold, these three years I come seeking

fruit on this fig tree, and find none: cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?" (St. Luke 13:7). And he that had the fig tree planted said, "...Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it.: And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down." (St. Luke 13:8,9). Where are we in that time frame? Has the Lord entreated us once? Twice? Three times? Are we walking but by the mercy of God today?

This scripture says, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith..." (II Corinthians 13:5). Examine yourselves. That is such a probing type of word. We understand quite readily, we understand the concept of examination. We grow up with the examination process: preparation, moment of evaluation, then results. We understand, all of us, we have all gone through it, we understand the predictability associated with preparation. It is exactly the way God means it for us. There is not a moment in the thought process of God, as we learn to know the mind of God in the Word, where He intends to deceive us. Rather He prepares us as a father does his children.

Scripture says the Apostle Paul was exhorting that we as spiritual fathers and mothers, if we could use that context, want to exhort and to charge and to comfort those that are our children, as a father would. That is exactly the way God wants to work with us. He wants us to be prepared.

So this afternoon hour is another day of grace, an afternoon, a moment in our busy lives when we can honestly, just as these words say, we can come honestly before God and say, "Lord please show me what I need to do in my life." Just as every convert at one moment, comes to that moment of truth.

There is another example in scripture. We speak to it as the story of the prodigal son. (St. Luke 15:11-32) A young man that we read, asked for his inheritance and went and spent it with riotous living. In his desperation of vanity and emptiness in his life, there is a little verse in that chapter that says something that is very powerful for us today. It says, "...he came to himself..."

*Sermon continued next page*



*Sermon continued from page 43*

(St. Luke 15:17) and said I must go home. I must return.

The same scripture exhortation that we read in Isaiah 44, return oh Israel. (44:22) Return. And by faith we want to be the Israel of God. By faith we want to be the promised seed of Abraham. There are moments in our lives for us to realize that, that we must return.

So this scripture says, "Examine yourselves..." (II Corinthians 13:5). Exactly what the prodigal son began to do. He came to himself and said I must return. He came back to his father and he said something that to this day, when we say it in truth and humility, touches the heart of the father. "...Father, I have sinned ...and am no more worthy..." (St. Luke 15:21). But please have mercy upon me.

When we feel that in our heart, when that is spoken in truth and humility, the heart of God deals with us as it dealt with people of old when they sought God in repentance. God says I love you and I will show you the way. The way will often be revealed to us when we begin to examine ourselves, whether we be in the faith. Whether we be in the faith.

We know this is important because we go later in scripture, back in the book of Jude and there is an exhortation that is intended to inspire every one of us. It says, "...earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." (Jude 1:3). Earnestly contend for the faith. We are walking, we are living, we are part of a spiritual battle today, brethren. We know that. We experience it every day. And lest we have the spiritual mind, lest we compete, lest we are armed with the armor of God, we are unprepared.

To make spiritual discernments, the scripture says we need the spiritual mind. One of the ways to develop the spiritual mind is to do just what the scripture says. We read it so beautifully in that twelfth chapter of Romans. It says simply, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Romans 12:2). Have we been transformed by the

grace of almighty God?

The scripture says simply, we are saved by grace through faith (Ephesians 2:8). We certainly began with that faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, His death, the shedding of His blood and His resurrection. We believe in the hope of eternal life.

But there is grace required also. There is the initial grace that enables us to make the beginning and there is grace that enables us to walk victoriously. We are saved by grace through faith.

So when we examine ourselves, whether we be in the faith, that could be a beginning point in us in our lives or for loved ones who have walked perhaps weeks or months or years or decades, it can be a moment when we draw nigh to God again. We have again renewed within our lives a new spirit and a clean heart. Because there is a need for that, lest we be reprobates. It is a word that is used a few different times in scripture.

Remember back in the book of Ecclesiastes, the word vexed is used numerous times? (Ecclesiastes 1:14,17, 2:11,17,22,26, 4:4,6,16, 6:9) The vanities of life can vex our lives. There was the time Lot, we read in the New Testament, was living in the midst of evil and the scripture says living there vexed his life. (II Peter 2:7,8)

Reprobate can work somewhat like that. There are degrees within the Word, apparently, according to scripture. There is the reprobate stage when we are somewhat frustrating the grace of God. We are just walking contrary and we are frustrating the grace of God. That reprobate state, if not corrected, can progress further down that same path of the Word. We can actually get to a point to where we are essentially cast off and no longer accepted by the Lord Himself. We want so much to avoid that.

Thus within the same Word that says examine yourself, where are we today within the eye of faith and the Word? Lest we become reprobate. So let's do that brethren. Let's seriously, honestly, humbly inquire, how is it with our soul today, if it is, as we were reading in the morning hour, if today were to be that day when God calls us home. So

whether the Lord returns or whether our time expires here upon earth, after that, the judgment. We examine ourselves today. We judge ourselves today that we be prepared and unashamed when we stand before the Lord.

The seventh verse says, "Now I pray to God that ye do no evil..." (II Corinthians 13:7). Think about the simplicity, the directness of that verse. I pray to God that ye do no evil. When is the last time you have earnestly, on your knees, prayed for a loved one that they do no evil? When is the last time that you entreated almighty God that today, Lord, keep me from evil?

We go through life and we make many, many decisions. Some of them seemingly smaller decisions, some of them great decisions. When we have large decisions to make, often we will slow down and we will take more time. Today is one of those days, too. Here the Apostle said I pray to God that ye do no evil.

When we take time to entreat God for direction in our decision making process, if we are on the wrong track, we will feel a conviction with that. God will give us an opportunity to maybe have a need in our heart to seek counsel. Maybe the opportunity will simply be a few moments of conviction that says, this doesn't seem right. Don't plow through that moment of hesitation. Rather take a moment and ask the Lord to further reveal truth. Because when we walk in truth, when we make decisions that are aligned with the Word, we will have a peace that also is in accordance with the instruction in the Word.

So it says, "Now I pray to God that ye do no evil; not that we should appear approved, but that ye should do that which is honest..." (II Corinthians 13:7). But that ye should do that which is honest. It is hard to differentiate, to separate honesty from integrity. Similar words. We would acknowledge them not exact, but very similar. We have beautiful exhortations in the Word encouraging us to have honesty, have integrity actually operating in our lives.

We read in the Psalms and Proverbs, the psalmist so often was able to express to us living words that today, they impact our lives, if we incorporate them



into our lives..

Notice this little verse in the Psalms. It simply says, "Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee." (Psalm 25:21). Let integrity and uprightness preserve me; for I wait on thee. Then there is a little verse later in Proverbs that gives us a similar exhortation. That we are to walk in our integrity. (Proverbs 20:7) So we as parents wanting to leave an example, a legacy of truth and faith for those that come after us that we love, let's walk in our integrity.

Here that was a part of the exhortation of the Apostle Paul to people he loved. Walk honestly. So that we can come down to verse eleven that says simply, "Finally, brethren..." (II Corinthians 13:11). Finally brethren. The scripture over and over again does this. We will have an exhortation, a scripture

of beautiful words. Then there is a summary. This is somewhat that kind of a verse.

"...Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you." (II Corinthians 13:11). Be of one mind, be of good comfort and live in peace. "Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them," (Psalm 119:165). "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee..." (Isaiah 26:3). Just beautiful exhortations meant to give us direction and to encourage and to exhort us on to drawing near to the example of Christ.

Now there is a little verse here that just seems to be all by itself but it is in the scripture five times. "Greet one another with an holy kiss." (II Corinthians 13:12). One of the living, powerful evidences beloved, that by the grace of

God, may we be able to continue to live the faith of our fathers. When we love as Christ loved, it is very natural. It comes from a heart of brotherly love. Brother to brother, sister to sister we greet with a holy kiss. Within that greeting is many things. It is an instant leveling. We meet as brother to brother, sister to sister. We esteem one another higher than ourselves. Inherent within that greeting of love is a wish, an acknowledgement for the blessings of the Lord. An acknowledgement that we share a brotherhood, a kinship that is built on the shed blood of Jesus Christ. Let us never forget that. Let us always honor it. That it can be as it is in verse fourteen, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen." (II Corinthians 13:14).



## 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  
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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 & helpers  
(11/17 - 11/21)

*Volunteers should contact:*

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

### Building Committee Chairman:

Bro. Roger Musselman  
Home: (641) 664-3485  
E-mail: [nancylmu@netins.net](mailto: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](mailto:paulkaeb@ksiconveyors.com)

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

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

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

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

## OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AS DIRECTOR OF NURSING

Apostolic Christian Timber Ridge is the original facility of the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped. We serve 96 people with developmental disabilities and have 185 employees.

The Director of Nursing (DON) is retiring and we are looking for a committed, caring registered nurse (RN) to take this position. The DON is responsible for overseeing the nursing staff and the nursing services of our residents. We have an involved population with a wide variety of needs. This makes the job interesting and challenging. There are opportunities for learning and creativity.

Experience with people having disabilities and with supervision is preferred. More importantly this position requires a Christian commitment and a desire to serve. The position provides excellent benefits and a competitive salary.

We ask that each of you pray that God would raise up a qualified person. If you are qualified, we encourage you to consider this in prayer. If you are interested in the position or would just like to get more information, please contact Bro. Ron Messner at the above address or phone. We would like to know of all interested candidates as soon as possible but no later than January 1, 2004.



## CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2003 & 2004

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

HAITI					
ORG.	DATE	AREA	COORDINATOR	PROJECT	CAPACITY
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		<a href="mailto:jzeller@mtco.com">jzeller@mtco.com</a>
Derek Sauder	309-925-7502		<a href="mailto:Sauder_Derek_A@cat.com">Sauder_Derek_A@cat.com</a>
Jay Maibach	330-939-5234		<a href="mailto:jmmaibach@valkyrie.net">jmmaibach@valkyrie.net</a>
Bob Beebe	574-291-2158	574-299-8173	<a href="mailto:rbeebe@surfpure.com">rbeebe@surfpure.com</a>
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	734-454-9259	<a href="mailto:thitzhome@juno.com">thitzhome@juno.com</a>
Phil Isabel	219-261-3541	219-261-2885	
Greg (Beth) Herman	309-243-5610		<a href="mailto:gbherman@juno.com">gbherman@juno.com</a>
Craig Emch	330-939-4591	330-939-4591	
Terry Miller	IL Phone: 309-696-7804	FL Phone & Fax: 941-485-4302	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	<a href="mailto:ksss@dpc.net">ksss@dpc.net</a>
Rich Bertschi	309-467-6110		<a href="mailto:lemangm@mtco.com">lemangm@mtco.com</a>
Ted Habegger	260-694-6765		<a href="mailto:th@parlorcity.com">th@parlorcity.com</a>
Mike Reinhard	248-477-2287	248-427-0396	<a href="mailto:mlreinhard@msn.com">mlreinhard@msn.com</a>

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

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



**- NOTICE -**

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*We have so many requests for Sunday School material. Please send us your children's used VBS workbooks except grades 1 & 2 as they do not have Bible stories included.*

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  
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(309) 448-2416



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

**Haiti Coordinator  
Position**

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

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

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

**Apostolic Christian  
Counseling Services**

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

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**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.

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**Bible Distribution**  
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Phone and Fax 260/824-5587  
E-mail: [bibledist@parlorcity.com](mailto:bibledist@parlorcity.com)



## Mexico Work Teams 2004

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Project</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>	<u>Phone &amp; (e-mail)</u>
Imuris	January 3-10, 2004	Construction	Joel Virkler	765-743-4947 <a href="mailto:jvirkler@purdue.edu">jvirkler@purdue.edu</a>
			Jeff Moser	765-743-2243 <a href="mailto:jmmoser@purdue.edu">jmmoser@purdue.edu</a>
Juarez	March 6-13, 2004	Construction	Kurt Ifer	206-824-2829 <a href="mailto:k.ifer@mchsi.com">k.ifer@mchsi.com</a>
Agua Prieta	March 6-13, 2004	Construction	Wayne Lehman	574-773-4373 <a href="mailto:socks@bnin.net">socks@bnin.net</a>
Agua Prieta	March 13-20, 2004	Construction	Wayne Lehman	574-773-4373 <a href="mailto:socks@bnin.net">socks@bnin.net</a>
Rio Bravo	March 13-20, 2004	Construction	Jim Barth	309-367-2098 <a href="mailto:Barthlings6@juno.com">Barthlings6@juno.com</a>
Juarez	March 20-27, 2004	Construction	Bruce Aschliman	260-824-5160 <a href="mailto:aschlimanb@yahoo.com">aschlimanb@yahoo.com</a>
Agua Prieta	March 20-27, 2004	Construction	Denis Fry	260-824-3055 <a href="mailto:fry.d@mchsi.com">fry.d@mchsi.com</a>
Rio Bravo	March 20-27, 2004	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439 <a href="mailto:dafiechter@parlorcity.com">dafiechter@parlorcity.com</a>
Rio Bravo	April 10-17, 2004	Construction	Jim Rieker	309-693-1721 <a href="mailto:JRieker@SBCGlobal.net">JRieker@SBCGlobal.net</a>
Juarez	April 14-21, 2004	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrman	309-385-1082 <a href="mailto:cherylh@mtco.com">cherylh@mtco.com</a>
Rio Bravo	June 19-26, 2004	Construction	Joe Zimmerman	309-263-0254
Rio Bravo	July 3-10, 2004	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439 <a href="mailto:dafiechter@parlorcity.com">dafiechter@parlorcity.com</a>
Rio Bravo	July 10-17, 2004	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439 <a href="mailto:dafiechter@parlorcity.com">dafiechter@parlorcity.com</a>
Juarez	October	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrman	309-385-1082 <a href="mailto:cherylh@mtco.com">cherylh@mtco.com</a>

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





*This concludes the series entitled "My Father's Conversion", the account of how J. Andrew Braun came into the faith in Switzerland.*

### **A Petition**

Later on my father, together with Bro. Michael Reuter, one of the converts and a well to do and highly respected citizen of Schweinfurt brought a petition written by Bro. S. H. Froehlich before the King asking to be tolerated in the continuance of this work.

At the Royal Palace they were met by a Chamberlain who after he had ascertained the nature of their mission asked them whether they were of royal birth to which they answered in the negative. This Chamberlain's reply was, "We have strict orders not to allow any person to meet His Majesty the King unless they are of royal descent." However, he directed them through a number of stairways and hallways to where they would find another Chamberlain who was stationed at the King's door. He said this Chamberlain would receive their petition and forward the same to the King.

After having thus delivered their petition they returned home. It was not until a long,

long time after this when a reply came from the King, but alas it was a very unkind one. It read as follows:

"Maximilian II, by the Grace of God, King of Bavaria, has the pleasure of commanding that this new sect shall be combated with all the stringency of the law." From that time on, things went from bad to worse in such a degree that it became almost intolerable.

### **A Harsh Decree**

One of the things that happened was that my father was called before the Judge who was instructed to prevail upon him to sign a paper binding himself not to hold any more religious meetings. This Judge tried with all earnestness to have my father sign this paper but my father replied, "If you demand that I shall leave the land of my nativity, that I can do. If you demand that I shall go on the executioner's scaffold, that I can also do. But, I cannot promise not to hold any more religious meetings.

To this the Judge said, "There is nothing which demands your leaving the country nor is there anything which would demand death, but if you hold a religious meeting, you will be fined, and for every succeeding religious

meeting that you hold you will be fined, and in this way you will be brought from one arrest and hearing unto another and thereby blight the entire career of your life.

### **Froehlich's Reply**

In this predicament my father wrote all of this to Bro. Froehlich asking him for advice to which Bro. S.H. Froehlich replied, "Because he says there is nothing demanding your leaving the country, there is also nothing demanding your being put to death, but if you hold a religious meeting you will be fined, and if you hold a religious meeting again you will be fined again, and thereby you will blight the entire career of your life, and it is your duty to rescue your life of faith for the Lord; therefore, my advice is that you emigrate to America.

### **To America**

My father very much disliked leaving Bavaria or to emigrating to America, and battling the decree of the King in his heart, he became so heavily depressed that he said it is written (recompense them sevenfold). Now said he, "If the Royal house of Bavaria shall

...continued on page 51



## REMEMBERING

...continued from page 50

suffer sevenfold, the present pains of my heart, it will never bear under it," and in a few days after this the King of Bavaria was reported to have become insane, and as I understand from that time on several of the Bavarian Kings went insane." I heard my father say that he believed if Bavaria would have tolerated the truth of progress, the Bavarian Royal House would have been saved from this terrible judgment.

Nearly the entire Company shortly after this emigrated to America and were on the ocean 48 days. After they arrived in America, they settled in Illinois where after the first year and within ten days my sister (then a little over a year old) and my grandmothers from both sides of the house died from ague and fever, and many of the new arrivals were stricken by this malady, but nearly all survived.

It is with a heartfelt wish that this account of the marvelous ways in which the Lord calls souls from darkness to His wonderful light and from the bondage of sin unto the liberty of the Children of God may be of interest and an assistance unto salvation to such who read it. I commend, therefore, the within lines to his offsprings and others and unto the hand of the Lord. (written by S. J. Braun)

*By: Bro. Perry A. Klopfenstein*

Next Issue:

**Information on updating  
"Marching to Zion"**

# The Light Of Hope

## From Across The Ocean

### 希望の光

#### "Our Heart Condition"

*Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan*

Several weeks ago, I opened the Bible to Mark, chapter 10 and read from verse 17-22. It is the story of the rich young ruler who had kept all the commandments but couldn't quite get himself to sell all that he had and give it to the poor, nor did he take up the cross and follow Christ.

This was certainly a very admirable young man. He had lived a very clean and wholesome life, and since he was rich, he was no doubt in the upper class in society. Those people are usually hard workers and good managers.

My conclusion is that outwardly he was perfect, but inwardly, there was something lacking. There was something lacking in his heart condition. His value system was flawed, he failed to realize what is the most important.

Had the young man told Christ that he would be glad to comply with His instructions, Christ might well have told him to keep his wealth for the time being and use it to create more wealth with which to help others. Certainly this story is in the Bible to teach us not to put too much emphasis on the outward things only. The heart condition is not always easily seen but it is very important.

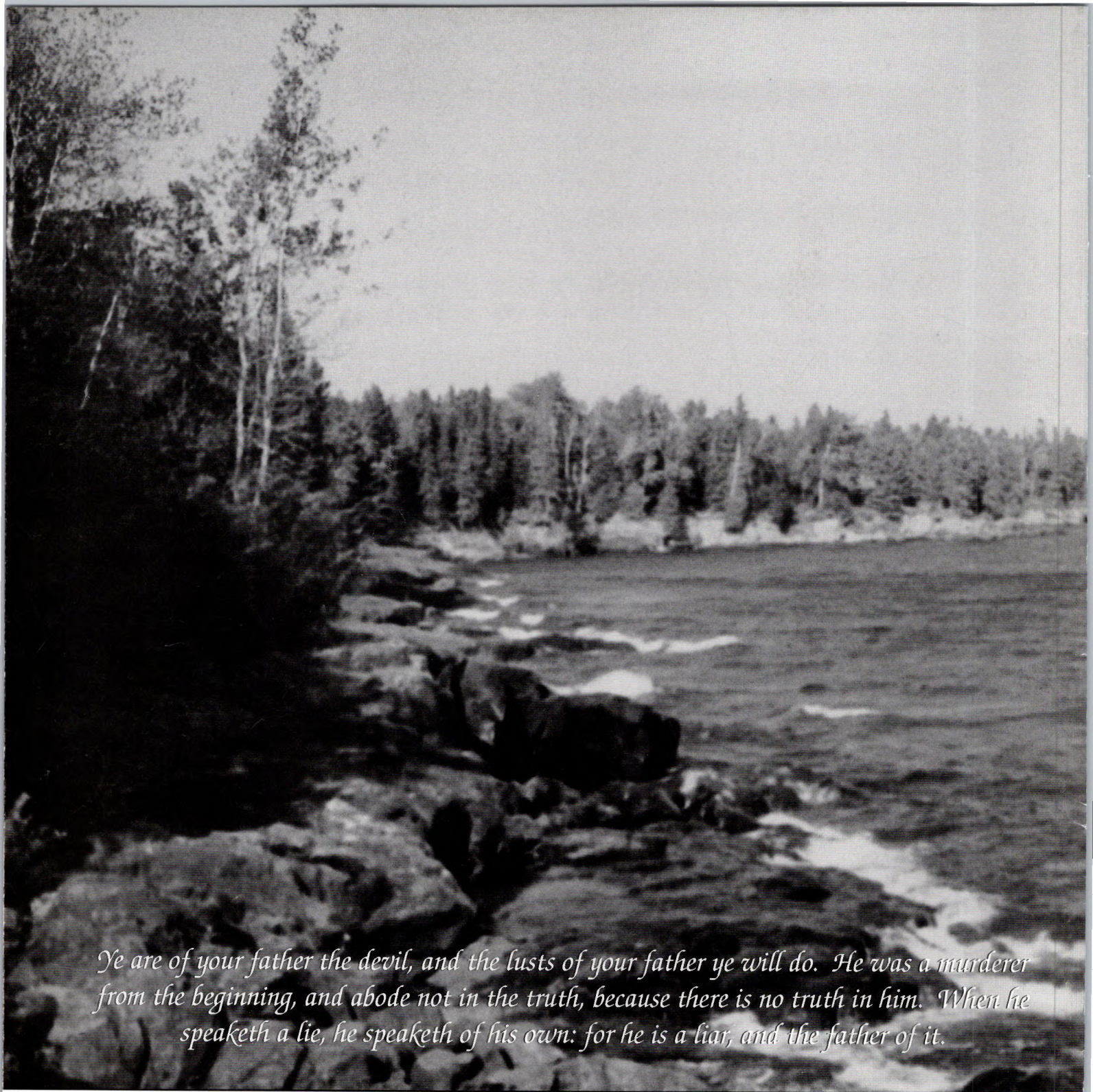
The Amish people put much emphasis on the outward appearance. I understand that they wear overalls to church and consider it to be too worldly to own an automobile. I greatly admire them for their will-

ingness to be different in a society which tries to compel you to be like everyone else. In our own church, we feel that we should dress up, if possible, to worship the Lord. In our minds, to dress up indicates that we feel the worship service is very important and we should honor God by wearing our better clothes. Neither we nor the Amish should overlook the importance of the heart condition.

The Lord said to Samuel as recorded in I Samuel 16:7, "Man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." As far as we can control our outward appearance, it is good to do so in accordance with Biblical teachings concerning hair, dress, etc. Our willingness to obey indicates a good and desirable heart condition. But we must not forget the importance of the invisible. How is our heart condition? Do we have our value system in order? Do we live as if we know what is really important in life? Let's try to remember, if Christ tells us to do something, it is to our advantage to do it. We lose, if we don't have the right heart condition.

The word "heart" has two meanings: the organ in your body that pumps the blood, and your "mind", the seat of your thought process. In this article, it is the latter meaning that we are concerned with. What do you think about "people" compared with "things"? Let's love people much more than we love things, and be thankful.





*Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*

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