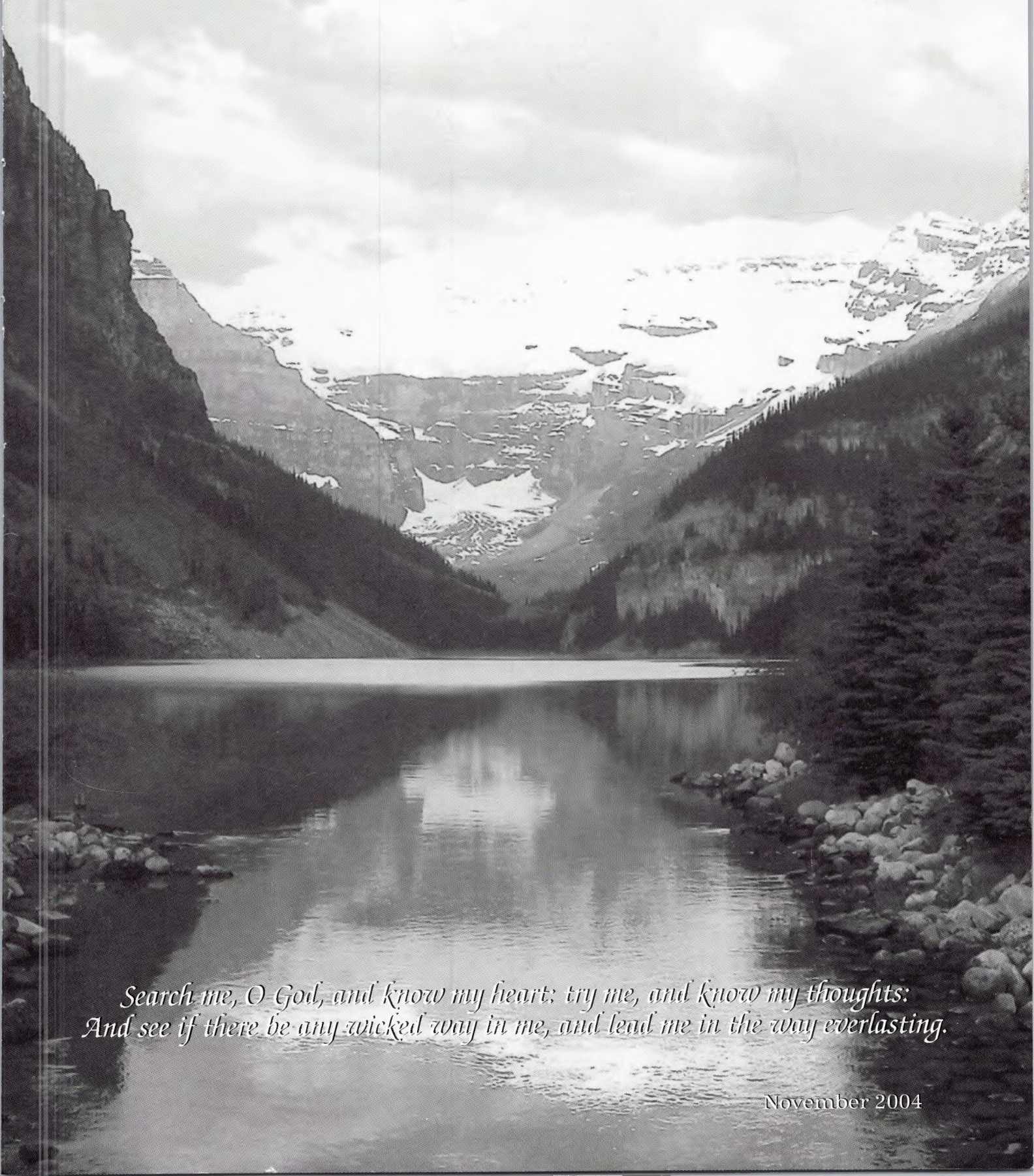


The Silver Lining



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

November 2004

Sermon by Bro. Ken Lawson, Dallas-Fort Worth, TX

Psalm 28, 29 and Titus 2

I don't know what we can say. This scripture (Titus 2) is so clear and so timely and so beneficial, beloved ones. The instruction of Paul to his dear one, Titus. Had to think, as we were reading this scripture, of some experiences in my own life. And please don't - I am the least and I am surely the weakest of the brethren. But we can only speak of our own experiences. We haven't experienced those of others. As we think of God's Word and of His instruction to us through the Apostle Paul's letter to Titus this afternoon, there are benefits, beloved ones, to taking these words seriously. Allowing God, allowing our Savior Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit of God to indwell us. So that these instructions become not grievous but rather become a pleasure and a blessing for us to do.

A number of years ago, I was given the opportunity to apply for an advancement, a promotion. I have talked about this before, so some of you may have heard it. I was selected as one who would be qualified, I guess, for this position.

One of the requirements, before they would award this position to me, was that I meet with - well you go through some psychological surveying and meet with a psychiatrist. There were several skills that they tested. It was a whole day affair. They looked at how you would handle distress, how you would handle your mail, how you would delegate, how you would get things accomplished. They had several ways that they did this kind of role playing. I felt like I was completely inept. They gave you a time period. I don't know, maybe it was 3 or 4 minutes to accomplish a certain task. I never got done. It was beyond my ability.

Then I was able to sit down with this psychiatrist. I don't know that

I had ever visited with a psychiatrist before in my life and I don't know that I have since. But he asked several questions. Several questions relating to past experiences at work. There had been some difficulties at work. You go through these mergers and buy-outs. There are always people who have some difficulties and really face some problems. They were not looking for what the problems were but how individuals dealt with those problems.

God gives His people the grace to accept life if we wait on Him. If we trust Him. He just gives us the ability to accept His will and go on. I related how these difficulties had transpired in my life. When he was done questioning me, he said, "Do you have any questions?" I said, "Yes, I do." And again, please don't look at this as something that I accomplished. It wasn't me. I said to him, "What do you think about the way I answered your questions?" He said, "You have obviously had some trying moments, some difficulties at work. The only thought that comes to me is that you have a patience that is similar to that of Job." And I certainly don't. But what I am getting at is, if we trust the Lord, and if we, as the Apostle encouraged the brothers and the sisters in this chapter to be upright and honest in our dealings, trust the Lord, that He is going to provide for us. Yes there will be difficulties. You think Christ did not have difficulties here in this life?

Those of us who were here last night for Communion read in the gospel of John. Jesus said, if you will serve me, follow me (St. John 12:26). And the next day He went to the cross! And that is not the only place. But we can expect trials in this life. We can expect trials because of our faith. We can expect

trials so that we can show our faith. I believe, beloved ones, that the Word is quite clear, that we can expect trials so that we can prove our faith.

How do we deal with those trials, beloved ones? We are so thankful that we have the Spirit of God to lead us and to direct us. And we can in patience wait for His good and perfect end. It is an important part

Sermon continued on page 47

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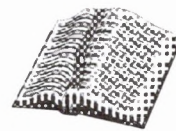
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*"The entrance of thy words
giveth light; it giveth under-
standing unto the simple."
(Ps. 119:130)*

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

November 2004

Songs of Victory

Other than prayer, reading of God's Word, and meditating upon God's Word, perhaps there is no part of worshipping God more important in our faith than singing. Included among the many beautiful hymns we treasure are songs of victory.

God's people have long been encouraged by songs of victory. Moses, in leading the children of Israel out of Egypt to the promised land, led the children of Israel in a song of victory. The children of Israel had feared greatly when the Egyptians pursued after them. They thought they were trapped between the Egyptian army and the Red Sea. But God delivered them out of the hands of the Egyptians. Moses said "...I will sing unto the Lord, for he hath triumphed gloriously;..." (Ex. 15:1). Moses then went on to list in his song many things that the Lord did to deliver the children of Israel from the Egyptians.

After Deborah and Barak led Israel over Jabin and Sisera of Canaan, they sang "Praise ye the Lord for the avenging of Israel, when the people willingly offered themselves" (Jud. 5:2). They also went on to sing about many of the details of what the Lord had done to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Canaanites.

John, while banished on the Isle of Patmos, recorded that he "...heard a voice from heaven, as the voice of many waters ... and they sung as it were a new song before the throne ... which were redeemed from the earth" (Rev. 14:2-3). John also saw at the time of the seven last plagues, "...them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb,..." (Rev. 15:2-3).

We also have the opportunity to sing songs of victory. Godly singing has so many potential applications in our lives beginning at the time our parents sang to us as infants and continuing to comfort

through old age.

Music can awaken an unconverted soul, soothe a broken heart, encourage a weary pilgrim, provide an avenue of thanksgiving, calm a troubled spirit and inspire the faithful to greater faithfulness.

How many of us in our unconverted life were reminded by the words and melody of a hymn that we were undone before our God and condemned eternally if we did not turn to the Lord? "Almost persuaded, harvest is past! Almost persuaded, doom comes at last! Almost cannot avail; almost is but to fail! Sad, sad, that bitter wail, Almost, but lost!" ("Almost Persuaded", Hymns of Zion #212). This is undoubtedly one of the saddest verses in any hymn we sing if unheeded, but it becomes a song of victory when it awakens a soul to repentance.

Undoubtedly most of us who have been children of God for any length of time can recall situations in which we were greatly distressed when a hymn, by the power and grace of God, brought relief. When we sing "He'll lighten the load, And level the road And bear thee on hands of compassion" ("The Best Refuge", Zion's Harp #46) and other hymns of encouragement, our spirits can be lifted by the powerful message and the beautiful melody.

Many hymns tell a story of a successful journey by a pilgrim, who at times in the journey may have been a bit discouraged, yet in keeping sight of the goal, was encouraged to complete the race and gain the victory. "I saw a wayward trav'ler, In tatter'd garments clad, And struggling up the mountain, It seem'd that he was sad; His back was laden heavy, His strength was almost gone, Yet he shouted as he journeyed, Deliverance will come. The songsters in the arbor, That stood beside the way, Attracted his attention, Inviting his delay; His watchword being 'Onward!' He stopped his ears and ran, Still shouting as he journeyed, 'Deliverance will come.' I saw him in the evening, The sun was bending low, He'd overtopped the mountain, And reached the vale below; He saw the golden city, His everlasting home, And shouted loud, 'Hosanna, Deliverance will come!' While gazing on that city,

Just o'er the narrow flood, A band of holy angels Came from the throne of God; They bore him on their pinions, Safe o'er the dashing foam; And joined him in his triumph, - Deliverance had come! Then palms of victory, crowns of glory, Palms of victory I shall bear." ("Deliverance Will Come", Gospel Hymns #225, verses 1,3,4,5).

We often sing songs of praise and thanksgiving to God for his goodness and mercy. Many hymns in our song books are songs of Thanksgiving, providing words and messages more beautiful than most of us could write ourselves. "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" ("All Come and Thank the Lord", Zion's Harp #236).

We can also find calmness for a troubled soul in many hymns. When we sing "Though troubles assail And dangers affright, Though friends should all fail And foes all unite, Yet one thing secures us Whatever betide, This promise assures us: 'The Lord will provide!'" ("The Lord Will Provide", Zion's Harp #86).

Many hymns inspire us to greater faithfulness. "My faith gives joy and sweetest rest, Leads me to heaven and the blest, To Thee, my God and Father. The comfort of mortality Preserve with steadfast faith in me; I'd follow Thee forever. Salvation is the noblest part; Impress this deeply on my heart." ("The Assurance of True Faith", Zion's Harp #102).

Undoubtedly we would all agree that the hymns we sing and the hymnbooks we use should never be considered as a replacement for the Bible nor do we put the importance of these books on equal footing with the Bible. Nothing should ever replace nor equal the holy scriptures, but we can gain much comfort and encouragement from the hymns we sing.



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

Dallas/Fort Worth Church

A group of believers has banded together to form a small church in a large city in northern Texas. 5.2 million residents live in the Dallas/Fort Worth metropolitan area, making it the ninth largest city in the country. With the median age a few years below the national average, and the number of Hispanics at 21.5 percent, DFW is more diverse than many Midwestern cities.

The Metroplex offers much in the way of employment, tourism, and recreational activities. Located in the nation's "Bible Belt," Protestant churches dot the map, many of them Baptist. However, as in any large city, DFW also contains Catholic churches, Jewish synagogues, Muslim mosques, and other religious centers.

Clearly, with a group of only eight people, the Apostolic Christian Church of Dallas/Fort Worth is vastly outnumbered. However, the enormity and diversity of the city offers prime opportunity for outreach, for spreading the Gospel of Christ.

Big city challenges

There are many opportunities to serve, but one must be aware of the dangers in any large city with people of so many different backgrounds. A recent experience taught us we need to depend on the Lord to know when to take the risk of helping in a questionable circumstance.

A very unkempt individual was trying to push his car up a slight incline. Other vehicles were slowing down enough to get around him and then rush on. "We should help him, but this is downtown Fort Worth. Who knows what kind of character

this may be?" We decide to offer help as he says he ran out of gas. The man climbs in the back seat and we search for the nearest gas station. He says it is his friend's car and he has no money. He is working here temporarily in construction.

We find a station, buy some gas and get back to his rusty Corsica. As we finish the task, we say "God bless you" as a last-second, feeble attempt to share the love of Jesus. The response is, "He does bless us, doesn't he?" The man's words resonate through our souls. We pull away and head for home.

A short history

This isn't the first time Apostolic Christians have gathered for services in the Dallas area. In the 1980's, when a number of people were scattered throughout north and central Texas, hotels on the southern edge of the city often served as a meeting place for Sunday services. Because of the lengthy drive, the locations rotated between Houston, the Austin area, and Dallas/Fort Worth. However, by the mid-1990's, when numbers in Dallas and Houston had declined considerably, services in Dallas ceased. Currently, the Central Texas group meets in San Marcos, just south of Austin.

Early in 2003, through God's handiwork, enough people had found new jobs or transferred from other states to resume services in Dallas/Fort Worth. On August 31, 2003, a group of five (with a few visitors added in) met for the first time at a Holiday Inn Express near the DFW airport. Since that day, the group has experienced a net growth of three people and continues to meet each Sunday at the same location. We are thankful to have a local minister, Bro. Ken Lawson, and we greatly appre-

ciate the rotation of visiting ministers twice each month. The presence of the Holy Spirit has been evident in our worship services, and visitors have helped encourage the church during times when growth seems uncertain.

An opportunity

A young, small church. A city of opportunity. It's as if God has opened his arms and said, "Have faith, little flock. I've planted this seed, and if you trust Me and keep your eyes upon My Son, I'll bring the increase." Ephesians 3:20 promises that God is "able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think." And He has.

Through the prayers of loved ones as well as visits from ministers and groups like the students of Kansas State University, the DFW church has been strengthened. Only by the grace of God has this small band of believers been able to retain hope in the future of their church. Perhaps other Apostolic Christians will move to the area; perhaps through reaching out to the community, souls will seek Christ and be added to their ranks; or perhaps... the group will never see numerical growth. Whatever the case, the promise of Ephesians 3:20 – and the entire Word – remains constant. And that's a reason to worship.

Contact information:

Bro. Ken & Sis. Sharon Lawson
(817) 431-0832
Bro. Kyle & Sis. Carrie Byer
(817) 750-1028
Timothy Stoller (817) 759-1549

Meeting location:

Holiday Inn Express
309 St Highway 114
Grapevine, TX 76051



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

Hurricanes Affect Child Sponsorship Countries

...the Lord hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, and the clouds are the dust of his feet.

NAHUM 1:3

This verse was brought to our attention from loved ones in Haiti after hurricane Jeanne had caused much destruction and loss of life on the island this fall. Although most of the devastation was in areas where we do not have students in the Child Sponsorship Program, such disasters affect all families. We must remember to pray for this country which seems to have one problem after another.

The crisis of political unrest in the beginning of 2004, created by the two hundredth anniversary of the country's independence, had just passed when the island was besieged by storms, hurricanes and flooding. More than 1000 people lost their lives and there were epidemics of cholera, typhoid, and malaria. There was also widespread looting and gangs terrorized the population. Yet our Haitian friends can say, "We know God controlled all these storms, and we may not understand fully what His plan is. But we do know that His promise holds true...He is our rock and Refuge."

Hurricane Ivan hammered the southern coast of Jamaica and affected all three of the CCCD campuses that have students in our Child Sponsorship Program. Kingston and Montego Bay received significant damage from wind and rain. Knockpatrick campus that is located on a mountaintop at the south of the island, took the worst blows.

Roofs on a number of buildings were swept away by the force of winds and their contents were saturated by rain. The library, on the top floor of the school, and most of the children's books were destroyed. Classrooms on the upper level were emptied of their contents. Faculty and staff lost bedding, furniture and belongings. The Lord was gracious and spared the lives of all children and staff associated with CCCD. The students had just returned to the campuses for their fall term and remained there during the storm. God's hand of protection kept the children safe and preserved the buildings in which they stayed during the storm. Our Jamaican friends can still say, "Praise God for his mercies in sparing life and injury."

World Relief involvement

Praise goes to our Lord that He set up the Apostolic Christian World Relief organization that is able to assess the needs in these countries. The brotherhood can feel assured that monetary support, supplies, and/or work teams will be sent to the areas of need. The national disaster fund relies on your generosity to be able to respond to such catastrophes in a timely manner. Those who sponsor children should be especially prayerful for them at this time of rebuilding. All of the sponsored children attend schools where they learn the Gospel. Then when the storms of life come they have a foundation to hold them firm. They know who their rock and refuge is in this world and know the hope of heaven in the world to come.

Thank you to new office volunteers

The Child Sponsorship Board would like to take this opportunity

to thank all who were involved in finishing the interior of our new office in Morton, Illinois. It was one of the Illinois World Relief work projects of the summer. We had many volunteers from churches in Illinois and Indiana. We moved in on July 17. Our open house and dedication was held September 19. We praise the Lord for brethren that give cheerfully of their time and resources.

To apply for a student

Please fill out the application below and send to us. A child will be assigned to you and you will be sent further information.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Please check preference:

Haiti Jamaica Mexico
\$21-30/mo \$25/mo \$25/mo

If possible I would prefer:

Boy — Age _____

Girl — Age _____

School (Haiti only)

Trade School Student
(Haiti only)

No Preference

Child Sponsorship Office

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

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

It has been a beautiful harvest season with wonderful weather for enjoying wiener roasts and the spectacular fall colors. The 16 bed group homes have taken pleasure in going on hayrack rides, visiting orchards and farms, and going for the annual cookout, a greatly anticipated event. Our community homes are looking forward to having their fall party at a local park. Music, food and games have been planned for the afternoon. Timber Ridge will be having a fall festival as well. A petting zoo is expected to be the highlight, which will include a llama and a Chinese golden rooster.

This time of year also brings with it "fall cleaning day" for our houses. The CILA Coordinator organizes the tasks for the extra staff who offer to make themselves available to help that day. This year the group will work together at each house to do the extra cleaning and prepare the homes for winter. Residents will help with the added cleaning in their own rooms if they happen to be around that day. A special meal is planned of chili and other favorites for all the staff and residents who will be lending a hand.

The group homes will also be doing extra cleaning with each resident in their rooms. Special thanks go to two residents at Oakwood Estate for spending much of their time cleaning the garage. Maybe you will also be spending extra time to make your home especially clean once again. We should always remember to be

just as diligent in keeping our hearts clean and pure.

DECEMBER birthdays at Timber Ridge, 2125, Veterans Road, Morton, IL 61550: Anna Viens (12/3), Dirk Slonneger (12/5), Bryan Streid (12/8) Christina Otten (12/9), Kelley Sibley (12/13), Delores Wieland (12/15), Philipp Fehr (12/18), Bland Jones (12/18), Anne Carrescia (12/30).

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Lauretta Schafer

Galatians 6:9-10 "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

There is a story about a social worker who saw to it that a child had corrective surgery to allow the child to walk. The child was very grateful. Years later, the social worker asked others what they thought that person was doing now. They suggested teacher, doctor, social worker, etc. The answer was that he was in a penitentiary. The social worker regretfully stated that she helped the child to learn how to walk but did not teach the child where to walk. Have you taught a child where to walk?

There was a man who had spent more than a decade in prison. A prison chaplain faithfully worked with him. Finally, Tom genuinely surrendered to Jesus Christ and

his life was changed. Years later at a banquet given for prison chaplains, Tom thanked his chaplain for not giving up on him. Are you about to give up on someone you think will never change? Don't! Keep at it. There could never be a harvest without sowing of the grain. Instead of giving up on a person, give that person to God. We plant and water, but God gives the increase. He only asks you to be willing and available. He knows what you have to offer—even if it is only a few loaves and fishes.

There are many ways to help children. Adopting a child or fostering a child are two of the most challenging ways. Being in the life of a child regularly such as giving tutoring help, reading help, teaching a child a skill such as baking bread or cookies or building a bird house are other ways to help. Other ways of mentoring are just having a child work beside you as you encourage and teach and share from your own life. Playing board games together, attending a concert together, going out to eat together, and shoveling a neighbor's driveway together are all ways of saying to a child, "You are important to me and I care about you." If in your lifetime you teach only one child where to walk, that would be one.

It has been said that the fastest way to raise a child's self-esteem is to help him master a new skill. It has also been said that teaching an angry child how to help someone else is a gentle way to sooth the pain that anger causes to the child's spirit.

Administrative Update

Gateway Woods would like to welcome Eric L, Peter F, Sarah M, and Maggie D to our campus. We pray that they and their families will benefit from time with Gateway Woods. As we sow seeds of change into these young lives, we trust that the LORD will see fit to bring forth much fruit. It is His work done His way.

Please remember to pray for our Board of Directors as they meet at their annual Planning Retreat in November. This event is both a time of encouragement and challenge for our 11 Board Members. Our Board of Directors consists of willing brothers selected from various churches in the Midwest. They are dedicated to the cause of Gateway Woods and perform their duties faithfully.

During this season of thanks, we at Gateway Woods pause to thank God for His continued provision. We thank God for meeting spiritual, physical, and financial needs in the past year. As we give thanks to God, our thoughts go to His hands and feet on earth – all of you! Without your support in praying, giving, and volunteering, we simply could not minister in the way we do. From the children, staff, and Board of Gateway Woods – Apostolic Christian Children's Home, we say thank you! You are helping turn lives around.

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL
Athens, Alabama
Melissa Slagel**

October has been a month filled

with extraordinary blessings here at the preschool. We had our annual Trike-a-thon this month. With the parents' and children's effort, we raised money to help buy equipment that is not included in our annual budget. The children brought their trikes/bikes and made laps around our "track". It was an exciting day with lots of laughter and big smiles. We thanked the Lord for the great weather and for His big blessings.

The preschool board meeting was at the end of October. We want to say a special thank you to each of the board members for the time you give, and the effort it takes for the preschool and ultimately these children.

The theme this month has been transportation and the color orange. Our Bible stories have been about Moses, Aaron, Joshua and the Israelite people. To see into the minds of 2, 3 and 4 year olds and see just what they really are comprehending, would be fascinating. Sometimes they know more than I thought, and sometimes, well, I wonder just where those minds have been wandering off to. We were having the story one day about Gideon and his army that was up against the Midianites. One of the enemy soldiers had a dream about a loaf of bread that came rolling down a hill and smashed their tent. This symbolized to them that Gideon was going to defeat them. So we asked the question "What did that man see in his dream rolling down a hill?" A bright eyed two year old exclaimed with this gust of enthusiasm "JESUS!" Jesus seems to be the answer to any question that

stumps them ... shouldn't that be true for us, too?

Thank you again to our sponsors and their continued support. It has been a tremendous help to the preschool and has made more of a difference than you can realize! God will bless you! If anyone is interested in becoming a sponsor and donating to the preschool, our address is: 15284 Hastings Rd., Athens, AL 35613.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Louise Hall

We were thankful to our many visitors this month. Ministering Bros. Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT) and Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) were willing servants to come down to bring God's Word to us.

The preschool board meeting was Saturday, October 23. Thank you to all the board members that were able to attend and for your important part you have in the preschool, as well as in our church. Our Elder Bro. Andy Stoller was here for Sunday as well as Elder Bros. Bob Walder (Sis. Gloria, Congerville, IL) and Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH). To those who also traveled with them, we hope you felt as blessed as we did.

Several brothers from Princeville, Tremont and Fairbury traveled down to help with a project at the Tennessee Fellowship Center. A big thank you to all of you for your willing hands and joyful attitudes. God will bless you!

Our prayers go out to Sis. Katherine King and her family. Her grandson, Daniel, was in a motor-

cycle accident. We are thankful he is recovering and we continue to pray for his healing.

Bro. Kerwin Edelman has been put in as our new adult Sunday School teacher. Also, Sis. Sara Edelman will be teaching our Sunday School grades 1-4. Our prayers will continue to be with you as you serve and thank you for being so willing.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr

“And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.”

II Thess. 3:5

Bro. Adam Ebert and Sis. Whitney Gutwein exchanged wedding vows before Elder Bros. Jon Kokanovich and Steve Gutwein (Francesville) on September 26. Their parents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane Ebert and Bro. Nick and Sis. Suzanne Gutwein, all of Phoenix. May God bless their union.

Bro. Leon and Sis. Nancy Baumgartner hosted as Bro. Glen and Sis. Alice Baumgartner celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary at a dinner at The Mt. View Villas on October 17.

Thanks to our beloved ministers, Bro. Art Ingold (Rittman), Bro. Randy Gudeman (Francesville), Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville), Bro. Nate Leman (Denver), Bro. Ken Lawson (Dallas), and Bro. Chris Wuethrich (LaCrosse) for bringing the Word to us during the past month.

We have a long list of people who need our prayers: Bro. John Pulfer, Sis. Geraldine Beyer, Ellen Wiegand, Sis. Heather Thorpe, Dakota Thorpe, Helen Stewart, and Sis. Cindy Langhofer.

We give thanks to God for more of our dear youth repenting, Tyler Knochel (Bro. Herbie and Sis. Laurie), Aubrey and Sally Jean Lindenbeum (Bro. Ron and Sis. Marge).

Bro. Shawn and Sis. Shelly Maurer welcomed baby Benjamin Seth on August 23. His siblings are Nicholas, Mathew and Brianna. Grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Eileen Maurer and Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT
Jane Hodges

The last couple months, the illness of Ray Massner was reported and the need for prayers. The Lord answered those prayers in His own special way. In September, Ray confessed peace with God and man and was baptized in his home by Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich, becoming our brother in Christ. Then on October 1, the Lord took him to his heavenly home to be forever at peace. His memorial service was officiated at our church by Bro. Jim Furrer. Bro. James Emch (Phoenix) concluded the services with memories he had as a young man of coming from Phoenix, about twenty years ago, with others, to help refurbish a building that Ray offered to be used for church services. So thanks to Ray's love and generosity, we used

the building for several years, along with many visiting brethren, especially those from Phoenix and Tucson, who often came to support our small congregation.

We extend our sympathies to Bro. Ray's family and also to Doug and Susan Schmidgall's family. Susan's mother, Naomi Wiese of Independence, IA, passed from this life on October 11 after a brief illness. We pray God will comfort the hearts of these families.

ARIZONA, TUCSON
Lisa Knapp

I neglected to welcome Richelle Meiss (Bro. Jim and Sis. Candy, Phoenix) to our little church. Richelle is attending the University of Arizona here in Tucson and we are thrilled to have her here! We pray God will watch over and protect her as she adjusts to college life and a new city.

Our Sunday School picnic was held October 10. We had the usual games and events and the ever popular bake sale/auction. We raised quite a lot of money (considering our very small numbers) for our Sunday School fund and we are ever thankful and amazed how God can work in this little church. Many thanks to Bro. Brad and Sis. Sandy Bauer for planning this event.

Our weather is decidedly fall-like (by Arizona standards!) and we are loving it. Our mornings are brisk and our evenings lovely and cool. Daytime temperatures are in the high 70's and the low 80's. October is most people's favorite month here in southern Arizona!

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA
Robin Moser

“Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate.”

I Timothy 6:17-18

We were thankful for the visiting ministers that came to Altadena this month; we wish their stay had extended longer. Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO), Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN) and Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS) ministered to us in a Wednesday evening service. These Elder Brothers were traveling to India to encourage the RGGMI believers and assist the leadership there. We were once again reminded of the extreme comforts we enjoy vs. many areas of the world, and of the need for fervent prayer for the persecuted church. May God continue to bless the work there.

Our Altadena Sunday school and younger children hold a special place in our hearts. We are thankful two of our children are rebounding from ailments. Justin Klotzle (Bro. Dave and Sis. Janelle) broke his collarbone this month and is recovering. Cody Moser (Bro. Justin and Sis. Robin) was hospitalized for a staff infection and also is improving.

Thanks be to the Lord for His healing and provision.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Peggy Jevremov

This past month we were blessed to have ministering Bro. Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria, IL) visit and share God's Holy Word with us. May the Lord bless him for his willing service.

We have finished listening to the Conference tapes. How truly blessed we are to have the technology to be able to listen to the Conference, even if we were not able to attend. May we each take to heart what we heard.

With Thanksgiving Day approaching, may we take extra time to count our many blessings and truly thank our God.

All Come and Thank the Lord
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

KITCHENER, ONTARIO
CANADA

Ingrid Fortenbacher

Greetings from Canada. It seems that winter will soon be here as we've needed to turn on the heat. We have been blessed with the wonderful sights of the fall. Words can never capture the awesome beauty of the trees as they turn every shade of color.

We recently finished listening to the Conference tapes. We are so

thankful for the labor of love from our dear Elder brothers.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Mike Baumann (Sis. Florina, Mansfield, OH) and Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI).

COLORADO, DENVER
Ann Gonglach

Now again Thou hast to us a blessing given.

Our handiwork is blest by Thy good Word from heaven.
Thou blessest food and drink, our needs to satisfy.

Therefore, we give Thee thanks;
Our song shall rise on high.
Zion's Harp, #13 v.2

At this season of thanksgiving we have much to be thankful for:

Once again, we were able to listen to the Conference tapes.

Sis. Ruth Pfeiffer recently had hip-replacement surgery and is at home and doing well.

And we have many ministering brothers who are willing to bring us the Word. Recent visitors have been Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Sis. Gloria, Congerville, IL), Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Diane, Rockville, CT) and Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL). Also, Bro. Tim Sauder was here from Leo, IN, and gave us a presentation on Gateway Woods.

CONNECTICUT
ROCKVILLE
Laura Virkler
Amber Reutter

Greetings to all! It has been a blessed and beautiful month. We've been privileged to have many visitors come into our midst

who have been enjoying the autumn foliage. Sometimes we don't always realize what a blessing it is to look out our windows and view God's wonderful creation, especially now as the leaves change their color! We thank each one who has taken the effort to spend some time with us.

"God is our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalm 46:1

This past month, several from our congregation have suffered the loss of loved ones. Our prayers extend to Bro. Ernie Garrow (Marie) as he mourns the passing of his brother, Charles Garrow. Our prayers also reach out to his wife, Sarah; and their children: Debra, Beth and Christopher. Sis. Sally Zahner (Bro. Curt) had her father pass away. Bro. Dave Schlatter (Sis. Margaret) from Bay City, Michigan, will be deeply missed by all extended family. Sis. Joyce Schneider (Bro. Roy) and Bro. Dale Wagenbach (Sis. Mary) had a nephew, James Metzger, from Lester, Iowa, who was killed in an automobile accident this past month. May the Lord provide these dear souls, and their families, a refuge and much strength, as they work through these troubled times.

As we are reminded in Ecclesiastes 3:2, that there is "a time to be born, and a time to die..." We want to keep our growing families in our prayers as well, that the Lord may continue to be magnified within their homes. Benson Derek was born to Bro.

Derek and Sis. Darla Reutter. Older brother Nolan is adjusting well. Bro. John and Sis. Janet Schupbach (Elgin, IA) and Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter rejoice at having another grandchild. We are thankful that the birth went without complications.

We are also thankful that Sis. Gladys Schneider is recovering well from her recent surgery. May the Lord continue to provide for her, and grant her much longsuffering as she awaits full recovery. God's blessings to you all through another month!

Note of Thanks:

Thank you so much for the many cards, gifts, visits and prayers during my hospitalization and recovery of my hip replacement. I am so unworthy of all of your love and beautiful flowers sent by our church. But I am very grateful and thankful. May the Lord bless you all.

The Morey Weiss Family

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Henrietta Meyer**

As I write this article, the trees are starting to turn colors. My drive to work will be very pretty for the next few weeks. I also noticed the landscapers were replacing the summer flowers in my complex with the fall/winter ones (pansies).

This month we welcomed Bro. Jonathon Wales (Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Trent Steidinger (Fairbury, IL) to our congregation.

On Saturday, September 25, we had our annual Church picnic at Cabin John Regional Park. We

were glad our Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA) was able to join us.

This month we were blest with several visiting ministers. They were Bro. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield, OH), Bro. Lenard Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL), Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Everett Gerber (Sis. Nancy, Rockville, CT) and Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH). Other visitors were from Rockville, CT, Mansfield, OH, Fairbury and Champaign, IL, Leo, IN and Philadelphia, PA.

Services are usually held the first, third, fourth and fifth 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. Adam and Sis. Jill Merkle (703) 929-7941 or Bro. Adam and Sis. Liz Hermann (703) 516-4345 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 as well. We would be happy to have an evening of fellowship and/or singing.

**FLORIDA
FORT LAUDERDALE
Renee Mangold**

We were thankful to have with us for a few weeks Bro. Joe Braker (Sis. Shirley) from the Morton, IL-

linois, church. Bro. Joe shared God's Word with us and we enjoyed the chance to fellowship with them again.

We had to cancel church for a second time when another hurricane came through South Florida. Thankfully, this hurricane had even less effect on us than Hurricane Francis and we are thankful that we were spared the tragedy that some of our nearby cities experienced.

We concluded listening to the Conference tapes this month. We are thankful that our Elder brethren continue to guide our church and try to discern God's Word.

For now we are still holding our monthly potluck. It is always an enjoyable evening for fellowship and good food. Soon our winter residents will be arriving and as our church numbers swell, we will again put potluck on hold until next spring.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris Huber on the death of Sis. Doris's aunt, Josephine Gudeman. She will be buried in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Josephine attended the Ft. Lauderdale church for many years and will be missed.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA Carol Koehl

We were once again privileged to partake of Holy Communion with our Lord Jesus Christ. Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Jeff Streitmatter took us back so vividly to the Cross and Christ's suffering and death.

Our October potluck was replaced by a mystery dinner. The food, fellowship, and singing were

wonderful, and we want to thank all those who hosted the evening.

The weekend of October 8-10 found many of us at our annual Lakewood Retreat. We enjoyed being with brethren from N. Ft. Myers, FL, Atlanta, GA, and West Lafayette, IN. It was a very spiritually uplifting weekend. Our appreciation is extended to everyone who contributed to this special weekend.

Sis. Vera Martin and Sis. Linda Sabo are both recovering from bone fractures. We wish for them the blessing of healing from the Lord.

Our winter residents are starting to return, and we want to heartily welcome them back to Sarasota!

GEORGIA, ATLANTA Carol Kaufman

As we pause and think of the many reasons we have to give God thanks, let us remember that He has called us out of this world of sin and darkness, into His marvelous light.

"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."

II Corinthians 6:17-18

Beloved pilgrims, faith's association,
Keep on in striving for the promised land!
Be praying, fighting without hesitation,
For that great harvest day is near

at hand!

Behold the fields; they are soon ripe for harvest;
The fig tree now is putting forth its leaves.

Up, gather in! who slothful is in harvest,
No crown of righteousness from God receives.

Zion's Harp #191 verse 12

We would like to extend our thanks to Bro. Ron Kipfer (Sis. Linda, Bluffton, IN) for coming and sharing God's precious Word with us. We are also thankful for the many visitors that have come this past month; some were able to be in church with us and some were able to be with us during the week. We appreciate your thoughts and prayers. The fellowship is a taste of heaven!

His call we obey
As Abram of old,
Not knowing our way,
But faith makes us bold;
Where'er He shall lead us,
The way He doth guide;
He knows best who rules us;
"The Lord will provide!"

Zion's Harp #86 verse 3

Bro. John Kaufman has obeyed God's calling to move to the Eureka Home. We pray that he will feel God's nearness and soon feel at home. It was truly heartwarming to see each resident and employee with a smile on their face and enjoying the time they spend there. Bro. Ted and Sis. Joyce Hirstein are also obeying God's call to move. They will be moving back to the Peoria area with Caterpillar by January 1, 2005. We can rest assured that God knows best even though it may be hard

for us to understand. Please pray for each one in our congregation as we look to God for help and strength.

Even as some must move away, God brings others to our congregation. We rejoice that Will Olar (Mansfield, OH, Nazarene Church) has felt God's direction to come to Life Chiropractic College. We appreciate his sincerity and fellowship. May he feel God's presence and grace as he seeks Him in repentance.

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

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Sheila McCoy
Doreen Moser

"What is our attitude? Is it one of gratitude or latitude?"

We want to thank Bro. Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN) for presenting a Bible study in

Madison, WI, on "Running a Race". "Let us run with patience the race that is set before us." (Hebrews 12:1) Another verse covered was "Know ye not that they which run a race run all, but one received the prize? So run, that ye may obtain." (I Corinthians 9:24)

Our Bible class served breakfast at the Metro Christian Center in Rockford, IL. Our congregation had a lovely fall Sunday afternoon for our annual wiener roast and hayride. We are grateful for these occasions.

Bro. Dave Jepson did an extensive review on the subject of "Prayer" for our congregation. "A day hemmed in prayer is less likely to unravel."

We had a blessed weekend for Invite-A-Friend and our reunion for those who had moved from Belvidere on October 16-17. Bro. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH) was our visiting minister.

ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Rebekah Kaufmann
Kara Martin

This past month has been a busy one for our church family! Our visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Chuck Sauder (Tremont, IL), and Bros. Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL) and Randall Gasser (Detroit, MI). We are grateful to each one who gave of themselves to be with us and share the Word.

On September 19, Sis. Molly Hodel (Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine) announced her engagement to Bro. Ben Knochel of Taylor, MO.

Bro. Ben's parents are Bro. Eric and Sis. Penny. Also announcing her engagement that day was Sis. Melinda Metz to Bro. Jeremy Knepp of Roanoke, IL. The couple's parents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol Metz and Bro. Bob and Sis. Ann Knepp, both of Roanoke. On October 10, Sis. Kim Young announced her engagement to Bro. Rob Schlipf of Milford, IN. Sis. Kim's parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Rob's parents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy (Milford, IN). We rejoice with each family and pray for God's guidance throughout their engagements and their future marriages.

On October 10, Bro. Adrian Rabe was married to Sis. Melodee Bachtold. Their parents are Bro. Derek and Sis. Julie Rabe and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Bachtold (Forrest, IL). We pray that the Lord will be the Head of their home and lead them through their marriage.

On September 19, Bro. Mark Streitmatter was ordained as our Elder. We thank God for bringing about this new chapter in the life of our church. We had many visitors who joined us for this very important service. We continue to pray for God's love and wisdom to guide Bro. Mark and Sis. Sara in their new roles. We thank each one who has prayed for our church throughout this Elder selection process. May we each continue to rely upon Him.

October 3 was a very moving and special day for the Bloomington church. It was the day for Bro. Everett Hari's last sermon. There were tears and

many memories of the years of service Bro. Everett has given to our church. In the evening there was an Appreciation Dinner and Program for Bro. Everett and Sis. Bev. The evening was filled with singing and memories. We are thankful for the sacrifices of love that Bro. Everett and Sis. Bev and their family have made on behalf of our church. We are most grateful for God's unfailing faithfulness! "...great is Thy faithfulness!" (Lamentations 3:23)

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Steve Endress

We are so thankful to report that our friend, Daniel Ehnle, has seen his lost estate and turned in repentance unto our Lord and Savior. His parents, Bro. Donn and Sis. Tracy, are certainly rejoicing along with the rest of our congregation. We wish Daniel the grace of God.

We are thankful that Tim Ringger is making a good recovery from his recent surgery. He is the son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Karen Ringger.

We were saddened to hear of an accident from which Bro. Rich Gillespie (Sis. Paula) had to be hospitalized and undergo surgery. We are thankful that he has felt well enough to attend church lately and hope that his recovery can be full and complete.

Our prayers are also with Sis. Paula Gillespie's mother, Linda Hoffman, who has spent time in the hospital. We are thankful that she is recovering and feeling better.

A memorial service was held for

Ray Baer who passed away. We offer our sympathy and prayers on behalf of Sis. Janna Lou and their children, Bro. Kerry (Sis. Kelly) of Tremont, Bro. Bob of Sabetha, KS, Sis. Wanda (Bro. John) Kinsinger, Sis. Cyrena, Sis. Kendra, and Renee, and to his brother, Ron (Sis. Deann) Baer, of our congregation.

The fall season is a time of year that always ought to make us thankful. Once again this year, God has blessed the land with abundance and we have enjoyed another year of spiritual freedom. May we, during this Thanksgiving season, reflect upon and thank God for the abundant life He has given us through the sacrifice of His Son. May we sow to the Spirit, that He may reap abundantly from our lives.

ILLINOIS
CHAMPAIGN-URBANA
Karla Kieser

I experienced something last weekend that I never thought I would have to. My department had their annual conference and I was required to present my work on a Sunday morning. Every Sunday we have the choice of whether or not we will go to church and worship but it was a different feeling when I did not have that choice. I came away from that weekend with a renewed appreciation for this country where we have the freedom to worship on Sundays.

Bro. Dennie and Sis. Cheryl Mangers had a wiener roast and hayrack ride at the beginning of October. It was nice to see so many

that worshipped in Champaign in the past return for this annual event. The weather was beautiful and everyone had a lovely time. Bro. Dennie commented that this wiener roast was their 25th! We hope there are many more to come! The Champaign church also had a wedding shower for Bro. Doug Mangers (Denver) and Sis. Kary Ackerman from Morton. Bro. Doug is the eldest son of Bro. Dennie and Sis. Cheryl.

We said farewell this past month to a beloved couple. Bro. Ben and Sis. Wilma Blunier are moving to Eureka and we will miss them dearly. They have been a pillar of this church for many years and we want to thank them for their years of service and fellowship.

We have several new converts! Robert Koch is a student here at the U of I and has been called to repentance. He is the son of Bro. Roger and Sis. Sally from Tremont. Luke Anliker, also a student, has also answered the call. He is the son of Bro. Rod and Sis. Anne from Chicago. We also have a third student repenting! Lanae Knapp, the daughter of Bro. Kirby and Sis. Gwen from Fairbury, has also answered the call. We pray for each of these new converts as they begin this wonderful walk with Christ.

We thank our visiting ministers from this past month. Bros. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Justin Koch (Washington, IL), Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Mark Gerber (Bluffton, IN), and Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN).

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Rachel Meyer

Greetings of love from Chicago. Fall appears to be settling in and the familiar smell of burning wood brings back many memories of my childhood years. For those of us who have lived in the midwest all our lives, the change of seasons is often used as a reference point for our activities, changes in our daily schedule and knowing that soon it is going to be dark by 4:30 p.m.! I believe it is so with our "spiritual seasons". We all have them. Perhaps right now you are experiencing joy. The family of God rejoices with you! Perhaps you are experiencing heartache. The family of God grieves with you. It is biblical to "rejoice with them that do rejoice and weep with them that weep" (Rom. 12:15). For that is what we as a family of God are called to do - no matter who we are, where we live or what situation in which we find ourselves.

Our Chicago family is rejoicing with Luke Anliker and his parents, Bro. Rod and Sis. Anne, as he has begun upon the road of repentance. What a blessing this dear family is to our congregation and we wish much grace for Luke and his family. Our love and prayers are with you.

Our hearts were touched as we witnessed the wedding of Bro. Steve and Sis. Tammy (Zimmerman) Hofstetter. What a joy to have our church filled to overflowing and to see how God works in each one's life. It was a beautiful day and we pray for many years of happiness and blessings on this union. Another union was established on August

28 as Lance Pfeifer, son of Bro. Glen and Sis. Nancy, and Tracy Goebel, daughter of Marlin Goebel and Judy Lynch (Evansville, IN), were united in marriage. We are thankful for both of these dear couples and pray God will continually be their guide.

We were blessed with many visiting ministers this month. Our thanks for their service go to Bros. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), Justin Koch (Washington, IL), John Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Darren Plattner (Champaign, IL), Jim Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) and Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH).

Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Denver, CO) was recently with us to assist Bro. Dale in our Communion Service. Communion is a blessed time and we shared an especially inspiring weekend together. We thank Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb for traveling so far to be with us. May God reward you for your efforts.

Our Sis. Lois Metzger (Bro. Boyd) is recovering from surgery and our Sis. Marge Young is currently hospitalized. We sincerely pray for their recovery and hope they can feel better soon. We thank God that He sees every one of us and knows our pain and hurt - and that we are not alone.

Finally, as I type this I am in a computer lab on campus. I quickly checked my email before I started to type this article. I found I had an email from a loved one and it was signed, "In the love of Christ." Five simple words. One would think five words would not make much of an impact. However, I believe God sent those words - for my heart was burdened and some-

what overwhelmed and afraid. And I was touched. Amidst all of the swirling mad dash around me with due dates looming and time seemingly evaporating, I was reminded of the pure, unadulterated love that Christ has for me. This morning, I sat through four hours of class lecture ... and the above five words hold more meaning to me today than any of the words of class instruction I heard or pages of notes I have taken. Sometimes it's good to be reminded of the simple, yet so profound truths. Jesus Christ loves you.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Susan Waldbeser

Andrea Walder

Now it is accomplished!
My soul He hath healed;
A portion in heaven
to me He hath sealed.
O, may He direct me
through joy and through ill;
I'll never forsake Him,
but follow Him still.

Zion's Harp #209, vs. 5

We were thankful to be able to hear the provings and witness the baptisms of our new brother and sister in Christ, Justin and Jodi Sinn, on the weekend of September 25-26. We thank Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) for being with us for this joyous occasion and allowing himself to be used in the labor of the Lord. We pray that this dear couple might always feel God's nearness and blessings as they strive to live a life consecrated for Him.

Other visiting ministers who were with us this past month were

Bros. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) and Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN). We pray that God will richly bless each of these brothers for their labors of love.

Those in our congregation who have been hospitalized or had physical setbacks recently and need our prayers are Sis. Vi Griener, Sis. Marge Rinkenberger (Bro. Bill) and Sis. Tillie Rudin. We pray that our Comforter will be with each of them and strengthen them according to His will.

Our Sis. Emily Eisenmann passed away on September 22 and we want to hold up in prayer her children, Dean and Sandy Eisenmann, Keith Eisenmann, Merle and Elsie Eisenmann, and Bro. Chuck and Sis. Rita Hodel, and their families. We pray that God will comfort them in this time of sorrow. Our prayers are also with her brothers and sisters, including Sis. LaVerne Kaufmann and Sis. Marcella Markwalder, of our congregation.

Merle and Elsie Eisenmann are thankful to welcome a new granddaughter, Mikyla Lynn. She was born on September 20 to Josh and Kara Haley.

The engagement of Sis. Kim Young (Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb) and Bro. Rob Schlipf (Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy) of Milford, IN, was made known to our congregation on October 10. We wish this couple God's blessings and guidance as they plan for their wedding.

Note of Thanks:

On September 22, our dear

Mom, Emily Eisenmann, passed away peacefully and is at rest in her Saviour's arms. During her last month, she was able to stay in her own home and enjoyed visits, flowers, cards and meals from many dear friends and family. We want to say a special "thank you to all" for these deeds of kindness, as well as all the prayers said on her behalf. May God richly bless each of you.

Merle and Elsie Eisenmann

Bro. Chuck and Sis. Rita Hodel

Keith Eisenmann

Dean and Sandy Eisenmann

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Rachel Schrock

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

John 4:35

As our abundant earthly harvest time draws to a close this year, we are exhorted, more importantly, to keep our spiritual eyes focused on the fields of souls around us. Laboring willingly as He guides, our thanksgiving season and the year ahead will be all the more joyful.

Two souls that are full of joy are Bro. Jim and Sis. Sarah Schrock who recently became one in the Lord. Their parents are our Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri Schrock and Bro. Larry and Sis. Betty Bauman (Goodfield). We rejoice with this couple and pray that they will feel God's nearness and guidance in serving Him as one.

Another thankful family in our congregation is the family of little

Jason Walder (Bro. Ben and Sis. Juanita). Jason recently underwent open heart surgery and is recuperating very well. God be with him and his family as his body heals and his energy increases.

We wish to extend our gratitude to those who visited us for our recent Invite A Friend weekend. We especially are indebted to the visiting ministering brothers who were present, including Bros. Kenny Dietz (Sis. Mardell, Bradford, IL), Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla, LaCrosse, IN), Jerry Wagenbach (Sis. Bonnie, Oakville, IA), Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL) and Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka, IL). Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sis. Linda, Sardis, OH) also joined us for another Sunday. May God bless each of you for laboring willingly on our behalf.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Amy Gasser

Miriam Gasser

O God, beneath Thy guiding hand,
our exiled fathers crossed the sea;
And when they trod the wintry
strand,
with prayer and psalm they wor-
shipped Thee.

Thou heard'st, well-pleased, the
song, the prayer;
Thy blessing came, and still its
pow'r
Shall onward thro' all ages bear
the memory of that holy hour.

Laws, freedom, truth, and faith in
God
came with those exiles o'er the
waves;
And where their pilgrim feet have

trod,
the God they trusted guards their
graves.

And here Thy name, O God of love,

their children's children shall
adore,

Till these eternal hills remove,
and spring adorns the earth no
more.

Worship and Service Hymnal
#521

*O God, Beneath Thy Guiding
Hand*

We appreciated the ministry of
Bro. Garth Steffen (Portland,
OR), who visited Elgin during the
past month.

Spending time in the hospital
were Sis. Jeannette (Bro. Richard)
Kilgus and Sis. Marge (Bro. Bill)
Wewetzer. We hope they have
found God's grace sufficient in
their times of weakness.

Daryl Conro, the step-father of
Sis. Vicki (Bro. Ken)
Kellenberger, passed away on Oc-
tober 13. May God's presence be a
comfort to her and her family.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Cindy Stoller

Lisa Metzger

The past month has brought
several visiting ministers to our
congregation. We thank Elder
Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield,
IL) and Bros. Wayne Wiegand and
Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL), Greg
Rassi (Chicago, IL), Duane Rocke
(Minneapolis, MN), Paul
Zimmerman (Forrest, IL), John
Hartman (Fairbury, IL), and
Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL) for their
service in the Lord's vineyard.

We are very thankful for an-

other soul that has started on the
way of truth. Lindsay Hoerr (Bro.
Mark and Sis. Carolyn) has re-
cently begun her repentance to
salvation. We wish her much grace
and many blessings in her new life
with Christ.

We also rejoice with Bro.
Benjamin Wyss (Bro. Bruce and
Sis. Donna, Goodfield, IL) and Sis.
Laurel Zimmerman (Bro. Mark
and Sis. Cheryl) as they were
united in marriage on October 10.
May God ever be the center of this
union.

We are glad for three new little
babies in our congregation. Silas
William Bradle is fondly wel-
comed home by parents, Bro. Na-
than and Sis. Tammy Bradle, and
excited big sisters, Esther and Na-
omi. Grandparents of Silas are
Bro. Roger and Sis. Ila Bradle and
Bro. Charles and Sis. Karen Sinn.
First-time parents, Bro. Nathan
and Sis. Cheryl Wiegand are
thankful for their new little baby
boy, Reuben Michael. Grandpar-
ents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Lola
Stoller and Dale and Sis. Freidora
Wiegand. Also, first-time parents,
Bro. Chris and Sis. Liz
Schmidgall, are blessed with a pre-
cious little girl, Ellie Jo. Grand-
parents are Bro. Mike and Sis.
Kary Schmidgall and Elder Bro.
Bruce and Sis. Charlene Hohulin
(Goodfield, IL).

Jesus has taken a beautiful bud
Out of our Garden of Love;
Born it away to the City of God
Home of the Angels above.

Full-blooming flowers alone will
not do
Some must be young and ungrown.

So the frail buds He is gathering,
too,
Beautiful gems of His own.

Gathering buds, gathering buds,
Wonderful care will be given.
Jesus is gathering day after day
Buds for the Palace of Heaven.

Our hearts are sorrowing with
Bro. Trent and Sis. Lucy Meiss
and their family as they have
added a beautiful flower to the
Master's bouquet. Little
Benjamin Ray was taken Home to
Heaven before the breath of life
was granted. We pray that God's
tender comfort will fill the empty
arms.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Tammy Hinrichsen

Anna Schmidgall

The Word teaches us that God
wants all men everywhere to re-
pent and be saved. We are thank-
ful that Lanae Knapp (Bro. Kirby
and Sis. Gwen) has answered
God's call to repentance. We pray
for His grace and peace to abound
in her life.

The weekend of September
25-26 was a joyful one for our
church as we heard the testimo-
nies and witnessed the baptisms of
three dear souls. Blake Zehr (Bro.
Quinn and Sis. Joan), Renee
Slagel (Bro. Ray and Sis. Gladys)
and Kelly Hinrichsen (Bro. Keith
and Sis. Tammy) are now our
brother and sisters in Christ. May
God bless them always.

We appreciated the visit of sev-
eral ministering brothers this
month: Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler
(Wolcott, IN), Bro. Ralph Garber
(Morton, IL), Bro. Duane Dill

(Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Al Schambach (Remington, IN), Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA), Bro. Glenn Dill (Tremont, IL), and Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Conger-ville, IL). We are always thankful to hear the Word preached in truth.

Bro. Karl Steidinger, Sis. LaVina Moser and Sis. Vi Moser have spent time in the hospital. May God's healing touch be upon them.

Two lives were joined together as Lori Stoller (Richard and Karen) and Chris Gibbs (Jim and Donna, Los Angeles, CA) were married on September 25. We pray that God will guide them as they make their home in California.

We welcome three baby boys to our church family. Grant Michael was born to Mike and Tracy Fogarty. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Albert and Sis. Karen Steffen and Rod and Kathy Fogarty. He has a big sister, Emma, and big brother, Collin, to cuddle him.

Tyler Vernon was welcomed by Bro. Mark and Sis. Judy Hartman. Timothy, Trevor and Tanner enjoy another little brother to love. Grandparents are Sis. Wilma Walder (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. John and Sis. Rosemary Hartman.

Bro. Derrick and Sis. Joslyn Steidinger are enjoying their first child, Nathan Samuel. Happy grandparents are Dan and Marcia Grosshans and David and Deann Steidinger.

Our lives are a mix of rejoicing and sorrow. Several in our congregation have experienced the loss of

loved ones. Our prayers and sympathy are with Bro. Charles and Sis. Kathy Fehr and family as they mourn the loss of a mother and grandmother, Sis. Janny Schneider (Forrest, IL); Martha Roth in the passing of her brother, Bro. Norval Knapp (Forrest, IL); Bro. Don and Sis. Phyllis Welborn and family in the passing of his mother, Lela Welborn; and Bro. Don and Sis. Sandy Schneider and family who laid to rest her father, Bro. Dave Schlatter (Bay City, MI).

Note of Thanks:

A big thank you to all who remembered me on my 30th birthday. May God bless each one for taking the time to send me a card.

In Christian love,
Sis. Joy Kilgus

ILLINOIS, FORREST
Jill Wenger
Lori Leman

When a Christian dies,
Precious is the prize!
Lasting joys for days of sorrow,
Rest from conflict on the morrow
Follows when he dies.

Hymns of Zion #248

God has called several of His children Home to be with Him, and we pray that He will comfort the families. Bro. Norval Knapp passed away and leaves his wife, Sis. Wilma, and children, Marty Etta Mullen (Dan), Bro. Charles (Sis. Paula, Bloomington, IL), Dale (Barb), Bro. Harlan (Sis. Jean), Art (Valerie), Alvin (Suzanne), and Marge Yoder (Tom).

Sis. Janny Schneider won her

lengthy battle with cancer and went Home to be with the Lord. We pray that God will be with her husband, Bro. Duane, and daughter, Sis. Kathy Fehr (Bro. Charles) of Fairbury.

One of our oldest brothers, Bro. Meredith Ricketts, passed away and leaves his children, Bro. Nick (Sis. Jean), Mary Masters (Pat), Jean Langhofer (Steve) and Bro. Jon (Sis. Cheryl, Washington, IL).

We also extend our sympathy to Bro. Rich and Sis. Marian Rieger as their son, Ron (Diane), passed away.

We pray that God will grant Emily Ricketts (Bro. Brian and Sis. Marie) much grace as she has made a beginning in repentance. May she build on the firm foundation, Jesus Christ.

We welcome two little girls into our church family. Kylie Jo came to bless the home of Bro. Josh, Sis. Molly, Allie, and Jerrett Zimmerman. Her grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Jeanette Zimmerman and Elder Bro. Curt and Sis. Lyla Frank (LaCrosse, IN). Brooke Monet was welcomed into the hearts and lives of Rich and Jeannie Sanders. Her grandparents are Vern and Dorothy Sanders and Bro. Ronnie and Sis. Loida Mueller. May God grant these couples wisdom to raise their children in the fear of Him.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with our young Blake Hall (Bro. Don and Barb) as the cancer returned and his leg needed to be removed. May God continue to be with him and his family as he faces more chemotherapy treatments. Our prayers are also with Carol Turner (Jerry)

as she was in the hospital and faces more surgery. May God continue to provide for both of these loved ones.

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this month. We pray that God will bless Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville, IL), Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), and Bros. Tom Bolliger (Tremont, IL), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) and Steve Baner (Gridley, IL) for their efforts in bringing forth the Word.

As we enter the Thanksgiving season, may we always remember to thank our Heavenly Father for His many blessings, most of all the gift of His Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our sincere thanks for cards, gifts, prayers, and other expressions of love and sympathy offered during Norval's hospitalization and death. May the Lord richly bless all of you.

The Norval Knapp family

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Rita Bauman
Heather Hohulin**

"For I rejoiced greatly, when the brethren came and testified of the truth that is in thee, even as thou walkest in the truth."

III John 1:3

We are thankful for those who came and shared God's Word with us this past month. May God con-

tinue to bless the following for their labors: Elder Bro. Bob Walder (Sis. Gloria, Congerville), Bros. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign), Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Pat, Congerville), and James Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Congerville).

Love, of all gifts is the greatest
Which the spirit does bestow.
Though I had a voice like angels,
Lacking love, I truly know
That I'd be a tinkling cymbal
Or a wretched sounding brass;
For although the sound were present,
Lifeless though this world I'd pass.
Zion's Harp #37

There have been three weddings this past month. Bro. Chad Hillman (Richard and Linda) and Sis. Janel Blunier (Sis. Joyce and the late Bro. Dale, Princeville) were joined in Holy Matrimony on October 3. On October 10, Bro. Benjamin Wyss (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Donna) and Sis. Laurel Zimmerman (Bro. Mark and Sis. Cheryl, Eureka) were united in marriage. On October 17, Sis. Sarah Bauman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Betty) and Bro. Jim Schrock (Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri, Congerville) were married. May these marriages always draw love, strength and direction from God's Word. We wish each dear couple God's blessings as they begin their lives together. We also want to welcome Sis. Janel, and hope that she feels welcome and the love of the Goodfield congregation.

Our dear Sis. Leona Tanner (Bro. Ben) was hospitalized last month. She continues to need our prayers while recovering at home.

Bro. Kurt and Sis. Joan

Plattner rejoice with another precious little boy, Hadley Neil. He is also welcomed home by his big brothers, Reggie, and Toby, and grandparents Bro. Wayne and Sis. Rosemary Wiegand and Bro. Sam and Sis. Pat Plattner.

Ring the bells of Heaven!
There is joy today,
For a soul returning from the wild;

See! The Father meets him,
out upon the way,
Welcoming His weary wand'ring
child.

Tabernacle Hymns #202

We rejoice with Michelle Schwenk (Tim), Maribeth Moens, Shelley Hinrichsen, and Leigh Bowen (Mike) who have been announced for peace and are awaiting baptism. We look forward to hearing their testimony of how God has worked in their lives.

**ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY
Perry A. Klopfenstein**

The wedding of Bro. Ryan Prevo and Sis. Amber Bahr took place in Detroit, Michigan, on October 23. It was a blessed time as many from our Gridley congregation were able to attend this event. She is the daughter of Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev Bahr of Detroit. His parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Barb Prevo, Gridley. We wish this couple the rich blessings of God in this three-fold cord that has been established.

Also, on October 24, Bro. Dennis Rassi was here as a visiting minister to help fill in as Bro. Clark Stoller was alone. We appreciate the fact Bro. Dennis was will-

ing to come, and thank God for the inspiration provided in his preaching remarks.

On October 31, we had two visiting ministers: Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Gary Endress (Bradford, IL). It was a blessing to have these brothers labor among us.

It is a blessing to sit under the sound of the gospel; and to know the message of salvation — with its many promises — is being preached. It is an inspiration for the believer. And it is heartening to know that the friends in attendance can hear the call of God through the preaching brothers. It remains for all of us to continue in prayer for those who are lost, and without God and hope in the world. Such prayers should plead for multitudes of unconverted persons! What a joy it is when souls — here and there — do indeed hear the call of God, and thence repent for their sins and seek, by His grace, to become converted. On October 31 we heard an emphasis on Matthew 18:3: “Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.”

Bro. Sean and Sis. Carla Cornell became the parents of their first child on October 7. It was a boy named Elijah Olen. Grandparents are Bro. Orlan and Sis. Carol Miller, Gridley; Cheryl Cornell of Danville; and Melvin Cornell, Danville. Sis. Anna Marie Reutter, Gridley, is the lone great-grandparent. May the Lord be with this couple as they train up their son in the ways of godliness.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Arianne

Gramm became the parents of Hilary Catherine on October 6. She has an older sibling, Olivia, age 2. Grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Rosie Gramm, and Jim and Sis. Eloise Howell, Gridley. Great-grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Jane Gramm, Sis. Lucille Stoller, Gridley; and Sis. Christine Erkert, Peoria. Thanks be to God for this special gift from Above.

Sis. Martha Stoller has moved to the home in Roanoke. Her address is 1102 W. Randolph, # 14, Roanoke, IL 61561.

Sis. Sonia Endress is recovering from surgery. Sis. Ruth Gramm has had some problems with mobility. We pray the Lord will heal them.

Sympathies are offered to Sis. Wava Kaupp on the loss of her brother, Denny Cooper; and to Sis. Louise Kiefer, whose sister, Sis. Marian Waldbeser, passed away.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Julie Bahr
Christie Zeller**

Ring the Bells of Heaven ... for two more dear souls have repented and been baptized, Heather Funk (Bro. Fred and Sis. Diane) and Morgan Kaiser (Bro. Allen and Sis. Brenda) on October 10. May God continue to lead and guide these dear ones.

Our Family Worship was held October 6 and our Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. brought us the topic “Forgiveness in Relationships”. May we all learn to forgive as Christ forgave.

A new little bundle of joy has blessed the home of our Bro. Tim and Sis. Jessie Mueller, a daugh-

ter, Kailie Renee. May God bless this new little family.

Many loved ones have gone home to be with the Lord. Sis. Betty Moser passed away September 19. She is a sister to our Bro. Bob (Sis. Barb) Moser.

Sis. Donna Martin (Princeville, IL) passed away. She is a sister-in-law to our Sis. Doris (Bill) Michel.

Kathryn Becker passed away September 28 at Restmor. She is a sister to our Bro. Don (Sis. Mavis) Hermann.

Lloyd Fort passed away September 30. He is a brother to our Sis. Doris (Bro. Eldon) Bauman.

Sis. Katherine Hoerr (Peoria, IL) passed away October 3. She is a sister to our Sis. Edna Kahler.

Sis. Mildred Koehl passed away October 16 at the Peoria Skyline Home. She is a sister to our Sis. Ellen Koehl.

May God comfort these dear families in their loss.

Our visiting ministers for the month were Bro. Ted Hirstein (Sis. Joyce, Atlanta, GA), Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Indianapolis, IN), and Bro. Tim Funk, (Sis. Debbie, Peoria, IL). May God bless these dear brothers for their labors of love.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA Lou and Marjean Lonteen

“I will wash mine hands in innocency; so will I compass thine altar, O Lord: that I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works.”

Psalm 26:6, 7

Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke) was our guest minister at our Family Night service on October 6. "Lord, prepare me, to be a Sanctuary for God" was his topic. We were blessed by this special service.

"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving."
Colossians 4:2

Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family are serving in Haiti for three months. They are managing work teams and sharing God's love. They appreciate our prayers.

Sis. Carissa Klopfenstein (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Carol) is teaching in China for a year and would appreciate our prayers.

Bro. Fedi and Sis. Ruth Davidovics and their family have returned to Peoria after a year of working in the Lord's vineyard in Romania. We're thankful for their safe return.

"The father of the righteous shall greatly rejoice: and he that begetteth a wise child shall have joy of him. Thy father and thy mother shall be glad, and she that bare thee shall rejoice."

Proverbs 23:24, 25

Little Ted William was born to Mark and Sis. Pam (Kieser) Fritzenmeier. Sis. Monica, Sis. Sandra and Dustin welcome their new brother into their hearts and home.

Charles Augustus was born to Bro. Steve and Sis. Heidi (Schmidgall) LaFont. Madeline is

happy to have a sweet baby brother. Thankful grandparents include Bro. Steve and Sis. Christine Schmidgall and great-grandfather, Bro. Dale Hunziker, shares the joy with thanksgiving.

"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

Rejoicing with the angels in heaven are Bro. Tim and Sis. Robyn Feucht. Their daughter, Larissa, has made known her desire to walk with the Lord. We pray Larissa will find God's grace to learn obedience to His will as the Holy Spirit works in her heart and life.

"For the Lord shall comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody."

Isaiah 51:3

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Katherine Hoerr who passed away at the Peoria Skylines Home. We especially remember her dear children, Bro. Tom (Sis. Jeanette) Hoerr and Sis. Carol (Bro. Rolland) Scholl and the entire family circle.

Bro. Chris Feucht passed away and his funeral was held on October 20. We extend our sympathy to his entire family. We trust they will feel God's comfort and

strength in their loss.

Sis. Mick Koehl passed away and her funeral was held on October 22 in Morton. Sis. Mick was a resident of the Peoria Skylines. May God be with each of her family and friends as they grieve her loss.

Thankful for continued prayer are: Bro. Bob (Sis. Lorene) Joos, Sis. LouAnn (Jim) Funk, and Sis. Judy (Bro. Dean) Martin.

Note of Thanks:

Thank you and may God bless you for remembering us with prayers, thoughts, and cards during Ken's three weeks of hospitalization and surgery.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Sherry Sauder

"Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms."

Psalms 95:2

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Phyllis Knobloch Crystal Streitmatter

"The Lord is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him."

Exodus 15:2

As Moses and the Children of Israel gave thanks for deliverance from the bondage in Egypt, so let us give thanks for the way of deliverance from the bondage of sin through salvation in Jesus.

Our hearts are saddened at the

sudden death of Sis. Donna Martin (Bro. Ellsworth). Her quiet example will be missed by all of us. Our sympathy goes out to her husband, children and grandchildren, as well as many relatives. Sis. Dorothea Kieser who was residing at Peoria Skylines also passed away recently. She is remembered for her many years as Sunday School teacher in our congregation. Our sympathy and prayers are also with Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette Graham in the death of his brother, John Graham, of Pekin, IL.

Sis. Janel Blunier (Sis. Joyce and the late Bro. Dale) and Bro. Chad Hillman of Goodfield, IL (Richard and Linda) were united in marriage on October 3. Visiting ministering Bros. Wayne Wiegand and Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL) were amongst us that day. We wish this couple the Lord's blessings and guidance as they establish a Christian home.

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

Psalm 127:3

Two precious baby girls were born this past month. Anna Louise joined Bro. Glen and Sis. Audrey Braker and their children on September 21. Grandmother is Sis. Edna Martin. Shayna Elaine was welcomed by Bro. Troy and Sis. June Wagenbach, Kendra and Nolan on September 29. Grandparents are Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine Wagenbach and Bro. Joe and Sis. Marcella Steiner (Tremont, IL).

Our congregation hosted Invite

- a - Friend company on September 19. Bros. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL) and Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA) brought the Word of Life to us and Bro. Brad Eisenmann was with us a few Sundays later. We thank each of our visiting ministers for their labors on our behalf.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Joan Leman

Doris Fischer

We rejoiced to hear the engagement of Sis. Melinda Metz of Bloomington (Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol) and Bro. Jeremy Knepp (Bro. Bob and Sis. Ann). Knepps have more than one engagement to be thankful for. Jodi Knepp (Bro. Bob and Sis. Ann) is making plans to marry Brock Gerber of Goodfield (Bro. Roger and Sis. Trish). On another Sunday morning two more couples announced their engagements: Sis. Angie Hodel (Bro. Brad and Sis. Patty) to Bro. Robey Shuck (Leslie and Diana) of Taylor, MO, and also Sis. Katie Hodel (Bro. Steve and Sis. Joyce) to Bro. Tony Mueller (Bro. Jim and Sis. Jan).

We're grateful for Bro. Wayne Wiegand (Goodfield) and his family joining us for Bible Study in October. Bro. Wayne spoke on the topic "Redeeming the Time," one that's valuable in our busy-paced lives. As he pointed out, time management is not filling our time, it's filling our time with things that are important.

Bro. Scott and Sis. Mandy Yordy find their time filled with a new daughter. Gabrielle Leigh is the baby sister of Brianna and

Chloe, and granddaughter of Bro. Rob and Sis. Gina Luginbuhl and Larry and Edie Yordy.

"Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:"

Isaiah 59:1

We thank God for His mercy extended to recent converts, Heather Rocke (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Eva) and Nathan Hodel (Bro. Brent and Sis. Marge). May God grant them both His grace and wisdom.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Heather Rassi

LaVonne Wagenbach

We want to thank our visiting ministers this month: Bros. Fred Funk (Morton, IL) and Fred Witzig (Indianapolis, IN). We really appreciate the time they spent with us.

Sis. Vi Koch spent time in the hospital and we are thankful she is now back in her home. May we all continue to remember Sis. Vi in our prayers.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Dale Sauder (Sis. Joann) and Sis. Carol Koch (Bro. Dan) on the passing of their sister, Sis. Donna Martin (Bro. Ike), of Princeville, IL. We also remember Bro. Kerry Baer (Sis. Kelly) as his father, Ray Baer, passed away. Kathryn Beutel of our congregation was laid to rest, also. We extend our sympathy to her sisters, Sis. Emma Aberle and Sis. Wilma Aberle (Bro. Emil). Also to Ken Knapp (Jean) whom she raised for

many years.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Barb Banwart
Nancy Knepp**

It is such a comfort in these troubled times to lift up our hearts in faith as our redemption "draweth nigh." We were uplifted in heart and mind as Bro. Dennis Kauffman (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington, IL) brought us an exhortation on prayer for our monthly topical Bible study on September 29.

Invite-a-guest Sunday, October 3, was an inspiration as once again visiting brothers encouraged us. Bro. Ralph Garber (Sis. Lynn, Morton, IL), encouraged us to love one another, including those who may not always think the way we do. Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), explained how our lives can often be a more effective witness when we don't know it than when we are trying to tell someone about Jesus, and Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton, IL) encouraged us to always walk in grace and truth.

Wednesday evenings have been a blessing as we listened to the tapes of the annual Conference. Kirk Streitmatter (son of Bro. Paul and Sis. Jean) is healing well from a broken arm, and Sis. Sue Ruppert is recovering rapidly from elbow surgery.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Jon Ricketts and family in the loss of his father, Bro. Meredith Ricketts of Forrest, and Bro. Makoto Inoue in the loss of his grandmother, Sis. Tamino Inoue,

of Tokyo, Japan.

We were privileged to hear Bro. Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury, IL) bring us the Word on October 10, and to have Bro. Greg Stoller (Sis. Jill, Forrest, IL) lead our topical Bible study on fear and respect for God on October 20.

Thankful that another soul has found the Lord, we rejoiced as Katelyn Fehr (daughter of Dave and Sis. Linda Fehr), was announced for baptism. We look forward to her testimony and baptism on November 20 and 21.

As world events spiral out of control, we can rest in the arms of Jesus without fear, even as a child in his mother's arms, knowing that God, the Creator of all, is still in control.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Amber Steffen
Elizabeth Frauhiger**

"Praying always, with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."

Ephesians 6:18

The Bluffton congregation has had several opportunities to pray for others in the past month. Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz was gone for eighteen days to India for a World Relief mission, and our sincerest prayers went with him as he experienced the battles of the faithful few in that country. We also have been prayerful for Sis. Millie Schladenhauffen who has recently experienced back surgery and will be undergoing more sur-

gery in the near future.

Bro. Bob Reimschisel has returned home from his lengthy stay in the hospital and received a bone marrow transplant. He has been doing well but still has a long way to go in recovery. Bro. Dale Gerber is also in need of prayers as he received a five-bypass heart surgery and is recuperating from that.

It is always encouraging when someone outside of the church sees the wonders of a praying church and feels comfortable to ask for prayers on their behalf. Bro. John Reinhard works with a man named Gary Drill who was recently diagnosed with liver cancer. He has asked for the prayerful support of our church.

Sis. Pat Gerber (Bro. Earl) will be undergoing some back surgery in the near future, and she has asked for the prayers of the church. We are also praying for Sis. Alice Aschliman as she had a heart valve replaced.

We are extending our love and prayers to Sis. Lavon Gerber (Bro. Rex) who is currently in Nevada for cancer treatments for an extended period. Her mother, Sis. Doris Frauhiger, is experiencing declining health, and the family has asked for the prayers of the congregation as well.

Our Sis. Delutha Moser passed from this life into eternity on Friday, October 15. Her family includes Sis. Carolyn Isch (Kenneth) and Patricia Ebach. This dear sister was blessed with several nieces and nephews as well. Our church will be prayerful in days to come for Sis. Delutha's extended family.

The family of Sis. Edith Stultz

has sent out a thank you for all the prayers in the time since the passing of their dear mother. Sis. Justine and David Baumgartner have also extended their sincerest thank you for all the cards, gifts, and mostly the prayers on their behalf.

This month we were blessed with several new births. August 29 was a joyous occasion as Bro. Jim and Sis. Pam Agler introduced their adoptive daughter, Kiahna Grace. Her grandparents are Bro. Alan and Sis. Sheryl Ringger.

September 17 announced the arrival of little Stockton Lee, son of Doug and Kristi Gerber. Bro. Lee and Sis. Jennie Gerber are the excited grandparents of Stockton.

Keegan Parker was born to Rick and Jen Schwartz. Keegan is warmly welcomed by his grandparents, Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Jeni Schwartz.

Rob and Jenny Fosnaugh welcomed little Demery Jade. Her loving grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmon Bertsch.

Reece Allen was born to Bro. Kurt and Sis. Molli Moser. Grandparents of little Reece are Sis. Pat (late Bro. Butch) Moser and Bro. Dave and Sis. Marcene Gilliom.

Finally, Pierre and Kimberly Gerber gave birth to Jackson Drew. Jackson's grandparents are Bro. Leon and Sis. Pat Gerber.

**INDIANA
BLUFFTON NORTH
Tiffani Schladenhauffen
Darren Drayer**

Greetings in the name of our risen Savior. This month we were

thrilled to have two visiting ministers. Bro. Ron Bollier (Sis. Edie, Indianapolis) and Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Phoenix) visited us on October 2.

Both of these brothers shared the joy of three baptisms with us. We witnessed the testimonies and baptisms of Bro. Matt Ringger (Bro. Steve and Sis. Myra Ringger), Bro. Nick Steffen (Bro. Mark and Sis. Lori Steffen) and Bro. Klayton Kershner (Bro. Dan and Sis. Jacki Kershner).

On October 10, our dear Bro. Carroll Gerber (Sis. Louise) announced that he was retiring from the pulpit ministry. He preached his final sermon on Colossians chapter 3, which is the same chapter he preached from when he began his ministry on October 10, 1976. Before sitting down, Bro. Carroll reminded us all of the victory we find in Jesus.

We rejoice with Bro. Blake and Sis. Fawn Gerber on the conversion of their daughter, Taryn. Logan Aschliman has also chosen to follow Jesus. His parents are Bro. Kelly and Sis. Lisa Aschliman. Adrienne Steffen began her repentance, realizing she was lost without a Savior. Her parents are Bro. Tim and Sis. Marlise Steffen.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Rhonda Rupel are thrilled to have a new grandson, Austin Allen. He was born on September 23 to Andy and Veronica Rupel.

On October 1, Reece Allen was born to Bro. Kurt and Sis. Molli Moser. Reece joins two siblings: Kade and Macey. His grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Marcene Gilliom and Sis. Pat Moser and the late Bro. Butch

Moser.

Spending time in the hospital this month were Sis. Lorene Geisel, Bro. Dale Gerber (Sis. Carol), Sis. Marguerite Kipfer, Sis. Dula Pulver. Also spending time in the hospital were Bro. Carroll and Sis. Louise Gerber.

**INDIANA
FRANCESVILLE
Jessica Murray**

Greetings, loved ones, in the name of our Father and Lord Jesus Christ. Our monthly happenings kept our young ones in the Word and song as they traveled and hosted get-togethers.

The High School Sunday School class went to Camp Mack on Sunday, September 26, for a full day of learning, loving, sharing and meeting new friends. We pray that they can store in their hearts all they need to remember when the Lord calls upon them, and that they answer His calling without a doubt.

We had the opportunity to have young groups gather for an afternoon and evening of singing on Saturday, October 2. As many shared their voices in love and spirit, you could feel the peace that was in the room. We pass on our many thanks to those who took the time to come and share. May the Lord richly bless each of you.

What a joy it was to have a full church again as many gathered here for College Weekend on October 15 and 16. They are at such a precious time in their lives right now. As we were reminded of how a butterfly, so graceful and delicate, was once a not so cute cater-

pillar. Just like our lives were ugly and filled with sin until we were patient and waited on the Lord, gave Him our all, and made a change in our lives. Then others can see the Butterfly doing the Lord's work. May the many lessons that were taught over this weekend stay with you as your number one class for the semester.

A special thanks to Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN) for being here to share the Word this month.

Our prayers are with Sis. Mildred Clauss as she is recovering from a fall. May the Lord lend His healing hand. We continue in prayer for those with ongoing illness. May His strength hold you or carry you as you need it.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the many heartfelt cards, messages, monetary gifts, and to those who contributed to our "photo memory album" in celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary. Thank you so much.

God Bless each of you,

*Bro. Otto and Sis. Donna
Wuethrich*

**INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS
Debbie Anliker
Gail Bradford**

Our congregation rejoiced for three young couples this month.

Some in our congregation attended the wedding of Clint Steffen to Emily Lawson. Clint's parents are Bro. Dick and Sis.

Gwen Steffen of Milford, IN. Emily's parents are Danny and Jane Lawson of Thorntown, IN. We rejoice with them and their families.

Delighted parents, Bro. Mark and Sis. Julie Beebe, and daughter Ireland, welcomed son and brother, Easton Alec. Happy grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Sue Beebe of South Bend, IN, Sis. Diane Kellenberger of Morris, MN, and Mark Kellenberger of Asheville, NC.

Little Martin Josiah arrived into the arms of joyful first-time parents, Bro. Joshua and Sis. Keyna Martinez. The baby's grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Lavilla Langhofer of South Bend, IN.

The trustees presented their comprehensive study on possible building and grounds improvements. These brothers work diligently "behind the scenes" to make sure our church home remains comfortable and safe.

We benefited from the teachings of Bro. Ron Kipfer and Bro. Joe Gerber from Bluffton, IN, who spoke on defending the faith.

In their presentation, the brothers stated, "God doesn't call the equipped; he equips the called." This reminds us that, although we are indeed unworthy and frequently feel so, there is much work we can do for the Lord here on earth. We only need to look at the opportunities around us every day.

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

A Beautiful Life

(song in Hymns of Zion)

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

Come souls that are longing for
pleasure,
Our Saviour has pleasures to give;
Come find in His love the rare
treasure,
That makes ev'ry true pleasure
live.

The pleasures of sin are deceiving,
They've nothing for yesterday's
pain,
But hope of tomorrow receiving,
And then, it's tomorrow again.

Hymns of Zion #145 vs. 1 & 2

We rejoice with Caleb Heinold (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie), as he has decided to turn his back on the world and walk with the Lord. We pray that he will feel the prayers and support of the church as he begins his journey.

It is with much sadness that we report that Ben McClanahan was injured when his Humvee came under attack while serving in Iraq. Ben is the grandson of John and Carol Ailes and the son of Drue and Diane McClanahan. Ben has lost his eye and is still recovering from other injuries sustained in the attack. He is currently state-side and is recovering slowly. We ask that you please keep Ben and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

We have had several visiting ministers this past month: Bro. Larry Wenninger (Sis. Joyce; Latty, OH); Bro. Gene Lehman (Sis. Verna; Wolcott, IN); Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth; Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Ron Palitto

(Akron, OH). We are very thankful to have visiting ministers and appreciate the efforts of each one who was willing to share the Word of God with our congregation. May God bless each of you.

INDIANA, LEO
Ethelyn Schlatter
Laura Fischer

We were all united in prayer for Bro. Duane Broquard (Sis. Carol) when we heard he fell from a tree during his employment. Following hospitalization, he returned home with a brace. He can remove the brace when he is in bed, but cannot lay for more than about two hours, so he is up and down. The healing of his collarbone, ribs and vertebra will be a slow recovery. We praise the Lord his life was spared. We continue to pray for Bro. Duane and Sis. Carol for grace and patience.

We pray for healing for Sis. Sandy Bertsch, who is going through tests to find relief and the cause of her constant pain.

We appreciate the wise counsel from the Elders who spoke at the annual church Conference in August. I am in accord with their concern about the church slipping into worldliness (or did we completely leave it?). May God give grace to strive for spiritual food from the Bible. "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (II Peter 1:4)

We welcome Bro. Paul and Sis. Nicole Suvar from Columbus, OH,

who found employment here and will make Leo their church.

October 17 was the wedding day of Bro. Kirk Plattner and Sis. Carrie Kaeb at the Roanoke, IL, church. Bro. Kirk's parents are Elder Bro. James and Sis. Marlene Plattner (Princeville, IL) and Sis. Carrie's parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Patsy Kaeb (Roanoke, IL). We welcome Sis. Carrie to our fellowship and pray God's blessings on their life together.

Our congregation at Leo was small on this day as many attended the wedding. We appreciated the services of Bro. Steven Frauhiger (Sis. Irene, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Gary Tonner (Sis. Diann, Bluffton, IN). We were encouraged by their meditation on Job 27, Romans 3, Psalm 95 and Acts 26. Our attitude is a choice we make. "Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving..." (Psalm 95:2)

Thankful

Thankful for health, Thankful for life,

Thankful for guidance in sorrow and strife.

Thankful for food and ripe golden grain.

For all that is needful our life to sustain.

Thankful for friends who just stand by

Upon whose help we can rely.

Thankful for home with comforts blest,

Where peace abides with love and rest.

Thankful for those who daily impart,

Strength for the journey, cheer for the heart.

Thankful to work in rich moist soil
 Where roses bloom, to compensate

toil.

Thankful to hear the still small voice
 Making our heart in life's sorrows rejoice.

—Bro. Henry Beer

A Thanksgiving Hymn

Lord, on this Thanksgiving Day
 We Thy people meet to pray,
 Thanking Thee for Christ who died,

Who for us was crucified;
 For Salvation full and free.

Thanks, O God, be unto Thee.

—Oswald J. Smith

INDIANA, MILFORD

Paula Haab
Cap Beer

Our congregation had a blessed day on September 19. It was invite - a - couple and we had visitors from Francesville, Wolcott, Bluffton North, Eureka, Bluffton, and South Bend.

Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) encouraged us to love everyone, even those who do not agree on everything. He also empathized that repentance is not an option. Everyone will repent. Blessed are those who do it in this life.

Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) also spoke enthusiastically about the blessings that we have and also the opportunities.

September 26 was Youth Fellowship day at Camp Mack. It brings to memory our late Bro. Elmer Hartter who had the inspiration to start this blessed activity in 1946.

Bro. Doyle Frauhiger had the morning service for us before he helped at Camp Mack. He spoke how wonderful to have faithful

friends.

October 10 was an exciting day for our congregation as we had two engagement announcements. Our Sis. Tricia Wuthrich is engaged to Bro. Ed Lester, Jr. of the Valparaiso congregation. His parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Caroline Lester. Tricia's parents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Linda Wuthrich.

Bro. Rob Schlipf is engaged to Sis. Kim Young who worships at Bloomington. Her parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb Young of Cissna Park, IL.

These couples coming together is the answer to many prayers and we certainly will not stop praying for them now.

Our Bro. Don Beer had back surgery and is now back worshipping with us. We are thankful for a successful operation and hope for a full recovery.

Clint Steffen and Emily Lawson were married on September 28. Mr. and Mrs. Danny Lawson are her parents. They will make Indianapolis their church.

INDIANA, REMINGTON Beth Virkler

Welcoming home their eighth child are Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynnette Bahler. On October 10, Thadd Anthony became baby brother to Bro. Trent, Dave, Luke, Anna, Kayla, Isaac and Leah. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marilyn Bahler and Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold (Ixtilan, Mexico).

Bro. Gary Maibach and Sis. Mary Ann (Smithville, OH) was this month's visiting minister.

We extend special sympathy to

Sis. Arleta Waibel in the loss of her sister – in – law, Sis. Mamie Strahm (Bern, KS), and Bro. Ken Schneider in the loss of his sister – in – law, Sis. Juanita Schneider (Forrest, IL).

Some thoughts on Thanksgiving:

Biblical gratitude keeps life from sagging because there is something underneath life.

Our despondent moods are, for the most part, moods of ingratitude.

If one should give me a dish of sand, and tell me there were particles of iron in it, I might look for them with my eyes and search for them with my clumsy fingers and be unable to detect them; but let me take a magnet and sweep through it and how would it draw to itself the almost invisible particles by the mere power of attraction.

The unthankful heart, like my finger in the sand, discovers no mercies; but let the thankful heart sweep through the day, and as the magnet finds the iron, so it will find, in every hour, some heavenly blessings, only the iron in God's sand is gold!

A thankful heart is not only the greatest virtue, but the parent of all other virtues.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Melisa Gerst Stacey Feller

Our congregation had the opportunity to attend a Gateway Woods family seminar on Foundations of Faith and Foundations for a Godly Marriage. We were re-

minded "if the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" Psalm 11:3. It was a very uplifting day and we spent a considerable amount of time discussing God as Sovereign, Holy, Active, Very faithful and Eternal. Many thanks to Bro. Kent Kloter for his labors on our behalf.

We also appreciated the many visitors over the last month, especially our ministering Bro. Walt Rager and wife, Sis. Sharon, from the Toledo congregation.

Our love and prayers are with our dear Sis. Ernestine Meister and her family in the loss of her niece.

Rejoicing grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe in the birth of their grandson, Easton Beebe (Bro. Mark and Sis. Julie), and Bro. Marty and Sis. Lavilla Langhofer in the birth of their grandson, Martin Martinez (Bro. Joshua and Sis. Keyna).

INDIANA, VALPARAISO Edward Lester

Greetings of love to all once again as we follow that narrow path to eternal happiness!

Have you ever felt more spiritual at certain times than others? Feeling dragged down by this worldly life? There is more to life than good times and bad times. Sometimes Jesus influences your life in little bursts. Other times, the fruits can be experienced all at once. Between those experiences we need to be prayerful and let our faith pull us through. The battle for good and evil. God is reality. Right here, right now. God's time is not the same as our time. That is

how He can be on the cross, in your heart, and working miracles all around us at the same time. Guiding us, loving us. Give Jesus the reins to your heart and see how He can use you.

This month there was an overwhelming support for our Sunday School food drive. Thanks for all the donations. Someone's life will be improved because of your efforts.

Sis. Mindy Ames was hospitalized this month. With God's guiding hand she is home and recovering.

The High School class enjoyed a weekend of fellowship at Camp Mack.

We would like to announce the engagement of Bro. Ed Lester to Sis. Tricia Wuthrich. The loving parents of the new couple are Bro. Ed and Sis. Caroline Lester (Valpo) and Bro. Stanley and Sis. Linda Wuthrich (Milford).

Congratulations!

**INDIANA
WEST LAFAYETTE**

**Diana Houston
Nettie Haab**

We are thankful for our visiting ministers who come willingly to share God's Word with us. This past month they have been Bro. Ron Bollier (Sis. Edie, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Nelson Beer (Sis. Shelby, Milford, IN), Bro. Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy, Champaign, IL), Bro. Alan Schambach (Sis. Sarah, Remington, IN), and Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN).

Sis. Reva (Bro. Leon) Waibel and Sis. Mindy Ames have spent

time in the hospital this past month. We are happy to report they are both doing much better.

Most of our Sunday School children and many from our congregation were privileged to spend a blessed weekend in Florida at the Lakewood Retreat. Thanks to the Florida brethren for all their planning and for including us.

Our thoughts and prayers go with Bro. Lon and Sis. Sarah Vogt as they will be spending the next five months in India.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Heidi Bahler
Lisa Furrer**

Greetings from Wolcott, where God has blessed us with beautiful fall and harvesting weather.

Bro. Dale and Sis. Missy Banwart welcomed Jason Michael into their hearts and home on October 13. Happy sibling helpers are Heidi, Angie, Mark and Luke. Loving grandparents are Bro. Irv and Sis. Shirley Furrer and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene Banwart (Congerville, IL).

Our church project is progressing. After several weeks of destruction, it is nice and encouraging to see construction! We will continue to meet for several months in the WR building. The last Sunday of the month is an "open" Sunday with no service.

**IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden
Heidi Butikofer**

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus

Christ."

Eph. 5:20

My encyclopedia gives this information about Thanksgiving Day. "In 1863 President Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November as a day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father. In 1939 Congress ruled that after 1941 the 4th Thursday in November would be observed as Thanksgiving Day and would be a legal holiday." As a Christian nation, may we give God thanks, not only yearly, but daily, for the abundant blessings showered on us and the many hardships we are spared.

Oh, God...

Oh, God, when I have food,
Help me to remember the hungry.
When I have work, help me
To remember the jobless;
When I have a warm home,
Help me remember the homeless.
When I am without pain,
Help me remember those who suffer,
And remembering, help me
To destroy my complacency
And bestir my compassion.
Make me concerned enough
To help, by word and deed,
Those who cry out
For what I take for granted.

**IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Willia Clark**

"Dear God, Thank You. Dear God, Thank You. Dear God, Thank You," the two-year-old repeated as she knelt for bedtime prayers with her parents. Her only thoughts were praise for the Lord, not asking many requests as we so often do. We as a nation approach

a single day set aside for Thanksgiving, but we should thank Him moment by moment for the many wondrous blessings in our lives.

“Out of the mouths of babes Thou hast perfected praise.”

We have been visited by Bro. Fred Eberhardt of Burlington, Bro. Ben Wysong of Sabetha, and our own Elder Bro. Doug Schock and their families. We are so thankful for God’s Word of encouragement and admonition they shared.

We are glad to have Bro. Tom and Sis. Dawn Moser and their family in our congregation again.

God has sent a new blessing in our congregation, as Duane and Sara Lester have a new daughter in their family. Willa Corrinne, born October 15, joins Anna, 3, and Matthew, nearly 2. She is the granddaughter of Sis. Willa Clark, Don Clark, and Karen and Paul Lester. Our prayer is that she and each little child will learn to love the Lord and do His will.

IOWA, IOWA CITY **Diana Butikofer**

We held our annual College Student Picnic to welcome new and returning college students to the Iowa City and Cedar Rapids area. The same weekend the single sisters had a Sisters’ Retreat and invited Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS) to speak to them Saturday evening about God’s promises. We appreciate his willingness to speak from the pulpit on Sunday as well.

Sis. Diana Butikofer (Bro. Jim)

was a surgical patient this month. We are grateful for her quick recovery and the prayers that were offered.

As we look forward to elections and Thanksgiving in November, this past Sunday’s scripture readings from I Timothy 2:1-4 serve as a good reminder for us.

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

There is no time that we could set for parting,

We who must remain are never ready for such pain.

Even our prayer would be: “Not yet! Not yet, dear God – Another day with us let our beloved stay.”

We must believe, when falls the blow

That, wisely, God has willed it so.

—author unknown

James Metzger, Jr., age 21, was taken from this life on October 17 as a result of a pickup accident. How heavy with sorrow our hearts were this past Sunday morning as we heard the tragic news. Our hearts do ache for his family, Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois; Clint (April), Steve (Annette), Ross (Heather), Molly (Scott), and Sis. Anne; grandparents, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mariann Metzger, as well as his extended family and many dear friends. In a moment in time, all things can change. God’s Word does not change; we can always depend on His grace and promises to help us accept and trust in His will. Funeral services were held on October 20 for this precious soul. Ministering Bros. John Steiner

(Oakville, IA) and Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) were with us for this day.

Our congregation had two baby boys born this past month. Dalton Ray Gerber arrived on October 4. He is the son of Bro. Monte and Sis. Karla. His sisters are Katrina and Shawna. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Erma Gerber, Bro. Dennis and Sis. Ruby Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and great-grandmother is Sis. Emma Gerber. Dalton had to stay a few extra days at the hospital but is home and doing well. On October 14, Bro. Stan and Sis. Sue Warner became the parents of David Edward. His family includes Matt, Maria, Abby, Sarah, Anna and Rachel. His grandparents are Elder Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner and Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger (Silverton, OR). David remains hospitalized at this time and we certainly pray he, too, will be able to come home soon.

Bro. Paul (Sis. Betty) Leuthold, and Bro. Eli (Sis. Alice) Metzger were hospitalized. Both are recovering at home.

We welcome Bro. Seth and Sis. Lori Miller from Smithville, OH. They will be making their home in our area. And we say farewell to Sis. Eunice Knobloch who recently moved to West Bend, IA.

Visiting ministers who came to be with us were Bro. Larry Bahr (Fort Scott, KS), Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Morris, MN), Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) and Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA).

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Sharla Wiegand
Rosalie Wiegand

“For whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.”

Ruth 1:16

We extend a warm welcome to Sis. Megan Kellenberger who became the bride of Bro. Kent Schmidgall on September 19 in Sabetha, KS. This happy couple's parents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Kellenberger and Elder Bro. Jon and Sis. Julie Schmidgall. May they feel God's blessings as they start their new home together.

Ministering Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL) shared the Word of God with us this past month. “But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine.” (Titus 2:1)

God has surely heard the many prayers on behalf of our loved ones in the hospital who are now convalescing.

“The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand.”

Psalms 37:23-24

IOWA
BLOOMFIELD/PULASKI
Barbara Schock

This is the truth and will remain,
 For God each promise doth sustain;
 In trusting Him we feel assured,

Believing in Jehovah's Word.
Zion's Harp #230 vs. 2

This month we were blessed with a visiting minister. Bro. Ralph Garber (Sis. Lynn, Morton, IL) was here for the day on September 19. We thank him for his service as he shared God's Word with us.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Brian Schaer (Don Schaer and Suanne Schaer) as he was shipped to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, before being shipped over to Iraq around Christmas. May God be with him and his battalion as they prepare to serve our country overseas. May God also be with the many others that are already over there.

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 vs. 1

As Thanksgiving approaches, let us all remember to thank our God for all the blessings that we have been blessed with in times past and in times to come. Remember the Pilgrims on the first Thanksgiving, and how much more we have to be thankful for now.

IOWA, WEST BEND
Betty Wirtz
Lori Skoglund

The Breaking Plow
 The breaking plow was often used

By pioneers of old
 To break the rugged, virgin soil,
 And plow the turfy mold.
 The breaking plow was built quite strong
 And cut a furrow wide.
 The shear and mole-board made of steel
 Were tempered, true and tried.
 By means of a similitude
 In verse I would unfold,
 How much some ministers compare
 To breaking plows of old.
 These messengers are fearless
 God's counsel to impart,
 And like a plow make furrows
 Through cold and sinful hearts.
 The plants of pride and self esteem
 Have evil roots you know;
 And when the breaking plow goes through
 They really cease to grow.
 The human heart like dormant seed,
 Is stirred from sinful sleep,
 When God through men proclaims the Word,
 It cuts both wide and deep.

—Bro. Henry Beer

Visiting ministering Bro. Charles Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL) brought words of encouragement for each of us to do our part. Hymns of Zion #46 was quoted: “Hasten gladly to the labor. Consecrate to God your heart. Say this day unto your Saviour – Lord I'll gladly do my part.” We thank him for his willingness to be used.

Jordan Knapp has been announced as having peace and we are looking forward to his testimony and baptism the last weekend in October.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Francis Zaugg in the loss of her sister, Sis. Mamie Strahm,

from Bern, KS.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Eiko Nozawa

On the morning of September 23, we welcomed Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Beverly Bahr from Detroit Church. That was a holiday and the whole congregation spent the day with them. On Sunday (9/26), Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN) announced the retirement of our Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle from being an Elder. May God richly reward Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle for their faithful work for the Lord. Then Bro. Mark Bahr was announced as the new Elder of Shioda Church. May God's sufficient grace be upon him as he serves the living God as our Elder, and may we all be able to glorify God under His rich grace.

On October 3, Sis. Tamino Inoue awoke for the eternal life. Her life was a good example of rejoicing, gratitude and trust in the Lord. Now, heavenly reward is hers. We missed her when she moved to live with Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie Inoue. Now we miss her for a longer period. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family.

We enjoyed visitors on the Lord's Day of October 10: Bro. Randy and Sis. Evie Mogler, Mr. Hisato Inoue, Mr. So Saigusa (Bro. Toru and Sis. Junko Saigusa's oldest), all from the States, and Mr. and Mrs. Kimio Hara and their 2 children. We don't get to see some of them so often, so it was a joyful reunion.

A big typhoon is near us at this moment. We sure have no power against nature's violence. We

humbly ask protection to God, who can calm even the storm.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Jana Klaus

We have many "showers of news" to report this month including showers of joy, some of sorrow and an abundance of earthly rain. Starting with the showers of sorrow, we laid to rest a precious saint, Sis. Tamino Inoue, who passed from this life on Sunday, October 3, at the age of 96 with a sound mind and very much alive in the spirit. She was preceded in death by her husband and one son, and her living children are Elder Bro. Akito (Sis. Marie) Inoue, Sis. Junko (Bro. Toru) Saegusa, Akiko (Toshi-hiko) Kasai, all of Japan, Bro. Hisato Inoue of Bloomington, IL, and 11 grandchildren and one great grandchild. We are definitely sorrowing because we miss her presence, but there is also a mixture of joy because, number one, we believe she is with her Lord whom she loved, and number two, we just cannot help but to have been affected by her in a very positive way that will live on in our hearts. She was in church up to one Sunday before she died. She had still been inviting people to church just a few months before she died. She said a few years ago that she feels the reason the Lord is allowing her to live on is so she can continue to tell others about salvation, including her own dear grandchildren. She loved to read her Bible and often shared in the discussion time during our fellowship meetings. She always sat right up in the front bench of

church, sang her beloved hymns with a strong voice and listened intently to the message. She gave people encouragement—it especially affected me when I saw the joy she received from watching my young children, then telling me what treasures they were, after I was just thinking how much work they were! I am sure every person she knew could tell a story of how she encouraged their life. Bro. Akito often shared about how she affected him in his sermons and probably will continue to do so, with even more reflection and appreciation. She had been living with Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie for the last couple years of her life, but her funeral service was held out at a funeral home in Kofu, Yamanashi, near where she lived most of her life. How blessed the day was as many attended and heard just all that she believed and stood for, including a set of favorite verses of hers: "Rejoice evermore, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (I Thess. 5:16-18) and her plea that no one would have to suffer in hell, but that all would come to the saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. We know she is sorely missed by her family and we send them our prayers and hope of God's comfort.

And next, the many showers of joy. We were blessed with an abundance of visitors, including several ministering brothers, which is a rarity and special treat for us. Elder Bros. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) spent a long weekend with us

on their way to India at the end of September and gave of themselves at the pulpit. Elder Bro. Mark Bahr and his wife, Sis. Bev (Detroit, MI), and Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz who had been in Shioda, came in to Tokyo Sunday evening with Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle to join us for supper. They announced that Bro. Mark would be the new Elder out in Shioda as Bro. Willis recently retired. We pray for the Lord's blessing and continued leading upon Bro. Mark and our dear Shioda church. We have much appreciation for all that Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois have done for both of our churches and can only pray for God's rich blessing upon them for their years of sacrifice and love.

Ministering Bro. Randy and Sis. Evie Mogler (Washington, IL) joined us for services on October 17. Both of them lived and worked with the church here as singles, so they have a good handle on the language and a great love for the people. They had not been back for 14 years and it was such a joy and encouragement to have them with us! We welcome them back anytime! That same afternoon was our Communion service, which Elder Bro. Akito led. It is always a time of bonding more with our Lord and each other. We were also thankful to have Bro. Jason Sanders (Eureka, IL) join us that Sunday and the next as he was here on business with CAT.

And lastly, an abundance of earthly showers as this year a record was set for the number of typhoons in one season. We church people were only affected by many heavy rains and some wind, but in

Western and Southern Japan there was terrible flooding and damage and quite a number of deaths, mainly from landslides. And then, we just heard this past weekend of a very strong earthquake and aftershocks in Nigata Prefecture about 100 miles west of Tokyo. Now there is much damage and many homeless there, but amazingly, praise be to God, deaths were few. He is definitely in control (He kept all riders safe upon a bullet train that derailed at the time of the quake, going at a very fast pace, and the first time for that to happen since they began running in 1964) and we hope that more people will come to realize this through these hardships. He loves them and all of us so much and wishes for our reciprocated love! Pray for hearts to be opened and eyes to see and for comfort upon those in distress.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Sis. Tamino Inoue would like to express our heartfelt appreciation for the love shown to us at the sudden passing of our mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. The prayers, beautiful cards, and memorials helped us to not focus on our sorrow, but reminded us again and again of the blessed hope found in our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. May God bless each of you.

Sis. Junko and Bro. Toru Saegusa and family

Akiko and Toshihiko Kasai and daughters

Hisato Inoue and family

Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie Inoue and family

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

The phone number for Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie Inoue is incorrect in the 2004 Minister's Directory. It should read 0426-79-2002.

**KANSAS, BERN
Sheri Edelman
Sally Strahm**

Thanksgiving Day is arriving again! May we count our blessings every day no matter what the circumstances around us are. We don't know what will happen tomorrow but we do know God loves us and will not forsake us if we stay true and faithful to Him. Isn't that something to be thankful for every day?

On September 26, Bro. Matt and Sis. Helen Edelman were thankful to add a new blessing to their family. Herb Frederick was welcomed home by siblings, Marvin, Dianna, Sheri, Marissa and Natalie. The happy grandparents are Sis. JoAnn (the late Bro. Frederick) Edelman and William and Helen Fehr (Forrest, IL). May God bless this growing family and give them wisdom to raise their little ones according to His Word!

Tabitha Nan Reist and Michael Allen Steiner were married on September 25. David and Marcia Reist as well as Allen and Sara Steiner (New Strawn, KS) are the happy parents. Sis. Mavis Meyer is the maternal grandmother. We wish them God's blessings on their marriage!

We had two hospital patients this month. Sis. Mavis Meyer had hip surgery and Bro. Bill Berg (Sis.

Mary) had shoulder surgery. May God continue to heal them completely if it could be His will.

Sis. Mamie Strahm (Bro. Alpha) passed out of this life and into eternity very suddenly on October 1. She was such a good example to all of us by having a good attitude, helping those in need and caring for her family and friends. We already miss her but know she is in a better place free of sorrow and cares. Our sympathy is extended to her children: Sis. Ada (Bro. Don) Plattner of the Sabetha, KS congregation, Dean (Jan) and Rod (Cynthia) of Sabetha; Bro. Curt (Sis. Ellen), Bro. Ed (Sis. Ramona), Bro. Kyle (Sis. Peggy), Bro. Mike (Sis. Diane) and Bro. Brad (Sis. Michelle); her sister, Sis. Lucy Rokey; as well as the rest of her siblings and many grandchildren.

Another dear sister in Christ that we laid to rest on October 17 is Sis. Lila Rokey (Bro. Joe). She always had such a kind smile! We will miss her but have confidence that she too has won the great reward! We extend our sympathy to her children and their families: Bro. Joe (Sis. Kathy), Bro. Morris (Sis. Arlinda), Sis. Marilyn (Bro. Jay) Kellenberger from Sabetha congregation, Sis. Margaret (John) Hundley, Sis. Carol (Greg), and Bro. Mike (Sis. Sue) as well as Bro. Harlan Stoller and Leon Stoller who were siblings.

The Bern and Sabetha churches had a farewell singing for Bro. Brent and Sis. Brianna Strahm as they plan to relocate to Portland, OR. Our prayers go with them as they assemble with the brethren there. We hope they

come back and visit us often!

A warm welcome is extended to Bro. Eugene and Sis. Marilyn Fetter as they have moved from Toledo, Ohio. They are Sis. Edie (Bro. Richard) Strahm's parents. May they feel the blessings of God as they make Bern their home church.

Our annual fall church picnic was in Albany on October 10. It was a beautiful fall evening. We enjoyed the fellowship with one another and then singing hymns around the fire.

We had several visiting ministers this past month. Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Sis. Peg, Goodfield, IL), Bro. Pat Zaugg (Sis. Julie, West Bend, IA) and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS) all served us well. Thank you for your efforts on our behalf!

Beginning December 1, we will have midweek services once again. Sabetha will be the hosting church that evening. May we do our best "not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together!"

Note of Thanks:

We want to express our heartfelt thanks for the many deeds of love and kindness shown us during the passing of our dear wife and mother. The prayers, cards, food, flowers, and memorials were sincerely appreciated. May God bless you all. We sorrow in her passing, but rejoice in her victory.

The Family of Mamie Strahm

**KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Ethel Smith**

Greetings in the precious name

of Jesus. May we look for the beauty of the Lord in our fellow man and surroundings.

Our dear Bro. Harold's condition has continued to weaken. He and his wife, Sis. Wanda, have not been able to assemble with us for some time. Sis. Wanda and their family so faithfully care for his needs. One of the daughters, Jan Byler (Tom), a registered nurse, is able to help with the technical part of the care. Bro. Harold and Sis. Wanda's absence creates a deep void in our assembly.

Sis. Kathryn Banwart (Bro. Raymond) was hospitalized recently for hip replacement and is currently home in rehabilitation therapy. She is doing well. Sis. Ruth Bahr (Bro. Jim) had arthroscopic knee surgery and is also doing very well. We ask for your prayers for all of these dear ones.

Our family recently experienced the loss of our very dear brother, Ray Massner, who passed away October 1, in Prescott, AZ. All five of his sisters were able to spend time with him during the last days of his life and this is so precious to us. Ministering Bro. Jim Furrer, and his wife, Sis. Rowena, so faithfully visited with him over the past months and years. Ray acknowledged the need of his Saviour, Jesus Christ, and had a desire to be baptized. I was thankful to be able to witness his baptism and see the joy on Ray's face. He is survived by his wife, Ilse, of the home; a daughter, Connie (Fish Haven, Idaho); Sis. Pearl Miller (Sabetha, KS); Sis. Lillian (Lyle) Fischer and myself of Ft. Scott, KS; Sis. Emma Hoerr (Robert) and Sis. Ruth Hoerr (Louis),

both of Taylor, MO.

Our visiting ministers for the past month were Bro. Clint Schmidt (Sis Magdalena, Winthrop, MN), Bro. Arnold Gerst (Sis. Marjorie, Taylor, MO), Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL). One of the ministers said if someone told you it was going to rain and you said you believed him, you would close the windows. If someone ask you if you believed in Jesus and you said you did, "Do you follow Him?"

All God's laws are God's loves.

KANSAS, KIOWA
Jenny Stewart

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:"

Ephesians 5:20

We have so many blessings to be thankful for during this Thanksgiving season. All of the freedoms we enjoy for example just by living in this land.

We received a blessing this month when the young brothers and friends came for their camping trip. Not only did we enjoy the wonderful singing, but also the great fellowship.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Richard Guthrie and his family as he was diagnosed with cancer. He is now in remission and feeling better. Also our continued prayers are with Bethany Hamilton (Sis. Sandra).

As the Christmas season is nearing, just remember to take time for Jesus because He is the

reason we are celebrating.

KANSAS
LAMONT-GRIDLEY
Eileen Bahr

We were blessed with three ministers for our invite - a - guest weekend: Bros. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Dale Wulf and Gene Metzger (Lester, IA). Bro. Gene summed up his message with "Watch and Pray." Some sixty-five years ago I can remember singing that song almost every Sunday in the Elgin, IL, Sunday School; may we keep our lamps trimmed and burning clear and bright.

Having found peace with God and man, Kasha Kraft (Bro. Doug and Sis. Judy) will give her testimony October 30.

KANSAS, SABETHA
Dawn Strahm
Jeanelle Plattner

On the weekend of September 25-26, we spent a blessed time with our company that was here for the all church invite-a-guest weekend. Among the visitors were Bro. Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) and his wife, Sis. Louise. We were thankful to have Bro. Carroll share God's Word with us on Sunday.

May the grace of our Lord comfort Sis. Ada Plattner (Bro. Don) and the rest of the family in the sudden passing of her mother, Sis. Mamie Strahm (Bro. Alpha), of Bern, KS.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank everyone for the cards, prayers, memo-

rials and deeds of kindness extended to our family during the loss of our mother and grandmother, Sis. Mamie Strahm, of the Bern congregation. May the Lord bless each of you.

Don and Ada Plattner

Brian and Jeanelle Plattner

Brandon and Rhoda Plattner

Sis. Lila Rokey (Bro. Joe) of Bern recently passed away also. Heartfelt sympathy is extended to her daughter, Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger (Bro. Jay), and their family as well.

Our prayers continue to be with Bro. Brian and Sis. Jeanelle Plattner's family as they face each new day in dealing with the rare disease of their infant son, Reid. Reid's body is unable to break down protein, so regulating his diet is still a constant challenge.

Note of Thanks:

Many thanks to our special church family for all the love shown to us since the birth and hospitalization of our little boy, Reid. We appreciate all the food, notes of encouragement, gifts, and especially the prayers of everyone. May God bless you all for your kindness and generosity.

Brian, Jeanelle, Blake, Kortney, and Reid Plattner

Other hospital patients this month include Sis. Ruth Hertzell (Bro. Frank) and Sis. Irene Lehman (Bro. Andy). We pray for them the Lord's healing powers as they deal with their infirmities.

**KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY
Dixie Zeltwanger**

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

1 John 1:7

Greetings of love from the beautiful campus of Kansas State University! Fall is such an exciting time as classes begin and everyone is getting back together to reflect on their summer and focus on the new school year. It is really exciting to have almost everyone back again this year and we are thankful for each new student. We want to welcome Ryan Grimm (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Nita, Sabetha), Sis. Tifini Bahr (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Janice, Kiowa), Jason Kaeb (Bro. Paul and Sis. Joan, Bern), Tara Rokey (Bro. Joe and Sis. Kathy, Bern), Whitney Wilson (Lee and Laurie, Bern), Morgan Wenger (Bro. Mark and Sis. Julie, Sabetha).

We have two students away on internships this semester and while we are thankful they have the opportunity to do this, we look forward to their return. Bro. Jonathon Wales is interning with Senator Sam Brownback and is currently in Washington D.C. and Clint Meyer (Bro. Steven and Sis. Kaye, Bern) is in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, doing an intern at Rockwell Collins.

We started the year off with our annual fall picnic on September 1 and we are so grateful for the support from families and friends that

come. Thanks to all of you who made the effort. Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern) had the first Wednesday evening church services and we are always thankful and appreciate the work he does for our group. September 17 was our first Bible study and we appreciated hearing Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger of Goodfield, IL. He asked five very important and thought provoking questions to focus our minds on our heavenly goal and how we can help each other attain it. A special thanks to Bro. Jaye and Sis. Peg for giving of themselves and traveling out here.

As I look over the schedule for the year filled with church services, Bible studies and singings, it causes me to rejoice and thank God for the opportunity to be here. Our prayer is that we can let the light of Christ shine through us as we daily walk around campus, and that others might come to Him. If any of you are interested in attending activities or have questions, please contact Bro. Heath Coborn at 309-369-6844.

**KANSAS, WICHITA
Emma Miller**

Wichita congregation hosted an "Invite a Friend" weekend in late September. That seems so long ago, but as I recall again that pleasant experience, I am warmed not only with memories of my own houseguests but also with the opportunity to meet other long time acquaintances. I am reminded of the hymn "Christian Friendship" # 91 in Hymns of Zion. Bro. Ron and Sis. Lois Allenbach were

among those present. We appreciated Bro. Ron's ministry on Sunday.

Contrary to my comments last month concerning Sis. Nellie Lambert's activities, there has been a change. She has had to limit her activities since she cannot trust her balance in crowds or in unfamiliar settings. While she no longer assembles with us in person, we know she is with us in spirit. Also, I am happy to report that Sis. Ann Greiner is able to return to her volunteer work.

We seem to be rushing head on toward the holiday season. Sometimes I am overwhelmed by the commitments I make. My mother used to quote from some lines, "Slow me down Lord." I cannot remember the rest but the message is clear. "Lord, help me to limit myself to those activities that glorify Thee."

**KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON
Barb Huber
Betty Baltic**

Once again this past month we have been blessed with many visitors. We appreciate each one of you.

On September 26, ministering Bros. Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucille) and Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Lisa) both from Eureka, IL, and their families, along with several other families came to share the Word of God in truth and in purity. Your efforts were our joy and blessing.

Invite a Friend Weekend was October 3. Ministering Bros. Mike Baumann (Sis. Florina, Mansfield, OH) and Robert Pflederer (Sis. Eleanor, Morton,

IL) brought forth the Word to us. Also a supper and singing at Bro. Lester Huber's was enjoyed with visitors from Bloomington, Cissna Park and Champaign, IL; Indianapolis, IN; and Mansfield, OH.

We rejoice to welcome Bro. Scott Germann (Bro. Doug and Sis. Rebecca) into the brotherhood as many were able to hear the testimony and witness the baptism on October 16 and 17. Elder Bros. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH) and Tom Stock (Sis. Karol, Cissna Park, IL), along with ministering Bros. Robert Beebe (Sis. Sue, South Bend, IN), Ted Luginbuhl (Sis. Stephanie, Smithville, OH), Steven Pamer (Sis. Arliss, Akron, OH), Jim Vierling (Sis. Linda, Eureka, IL) and retired ministering Bro. Walter Steffen (Sis. Dorothy, Milford, IN) were all present. Visitors from 21 churches were able to be with us on this special weekend. We are so thankful for the encouragement and blessings that we experienced at this time.

We extend a welcome to you to visit us in Lexington any time. Please contact Bro. Lester Huber (859-745-2541), Bro. Doug Germann (859-224-8710), Bro. Jan Neukomm (859-273-8574) or Bro. Dan Baltic (812-218-8140).

MEXICO, IXTLAN

Christian greetings from Ixtlan, Mexico.

"Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at his footstool; for he is holy."

Psalm 99:5

The group of believers in Morelia are glad each time that brethren come to share God's Word with them. On September 2, we said farewell to Sis. Pauli Angelito who has now moved to Magdalena, Sonora, to help in God's work there.

"The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore."

Psalm 121:8

We rejoice with Bro. Efrain and Sis. Ana Cabrera who were blessed with a little girl named Liliana. She was born on September 12. Her grandparents are Salvador and Sis. Guadalupe Cabrera and Marcelino and Sis. Leticia Campos. May the Lord show them the way in which to guide this little one in His fear.

"Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see (fear) when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of the drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit."

Jeremiah 17:7-8

Oh, that we might trust so as to receive God's promises in every aspect of our lives.

VBS 2004 was very well attended as this was the first time in Ixtlan that the attendance exceeded 200 children and young people. A number of these young people have continued to come to

the youth meeting on Saturday evenings as well as attend SS on Sundays. This was the first year that Ixtlan didn't have visitors from the U.S. or Tecate to assist with VBS. Morelia also had excellent attendance with over 40 attending. The first week of August two of the Sisters traveled to Acapulco and held VBS in two different villages and there again received excellent attendance from the children and young people with over 100 attending. Thus the 3 VBS's drew over 340 souls that had the opportunity to hear a part of God's Word.

July also included the visit of Dr. Loren Schrenk and his team of eye specialists who once again made a major contribution to this community and the surrounding communities as they performed 10 operations to help people improve their sight. Praise be to God who gives to men different gifts for the spiritual growth of His body.

Our granddaughters, Amy (11) and Amber (10), returned to the U.S. in August and it is always sad to see them leave. They are learning Spanish from their Spanish readers and also their Mexican playmates. This summer they were able to see a volcano, waterfall, and a national park which are 2.5 hours from Ixtlan. They also enjoyed very much the opportunity to ride horses on that vacation and almost daily helped with taking care of the two horses we still have here in Ixtlan.

Recently an envoy of the local priest has gone from house to house in some of the surrounding villages asking persons to sign a pledge saying they will not attend

the "other" church in Ixtlan. The "Festival de San Francisco de Asis" in Ixtlan just ended. It is an annual festival that attracts 80 busloads of persons from Mexico and many people who now live in the U.S. It brings to mind the experience Moses encountered when he returned from Mount Sinai and found the people of Israel in idol worship and having a festival of immorality. We are reminded to preach the Word in season and out of season, and that the power unto salvation is in the Word.

Pray that God's Word will be preached in truth and in spirit and His Word will not return void.

*Yours in Christ,
Marshall & Janice*

MICHIGAN, ALTO
Terri Huber
Rose Watson

Our congregation was blessed with witnessing three dear souls being baptized this month. We were all rejoicing with the angels, and may God bless them all as they forsake their old life and begin their new walk with Him. They are Megan Pardo (Jack and Sis. Laura), Melissa Blough (Bro. Martin and Sis. Michele), and Sheryl Huber (Bro. Ryan and Sis. Terri). Thanks to visiting Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman and Sis. Kathy (Roanoke, IL) for being here for the weekend and helping with their services.

Our Sunday School had their annual Sunday School picnic this month. They had a wonderful afternoon with a bountiful turnout. Thanks to all the students, par-

ents and teachers who planned, served and participated.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Sis. Pat Schlatter (Bro. Ott) and Bro. Wes Daniels (Sis. Sue) who both underwent surgery and are now home recovering. Also, Sis. Loretta Steffen (Elder Bro. Aaron) is home recovering from an injury. May God continue to be with you all and keep your spirits high.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Sarah Knochel
Janelle Ramseyer

We rejoice with three dear souls as they have made their covenant with God in the waters of baptism. Bro. Andreas Schlatter (Bro. Jay and Sis. Carola), Sis. Christina Jackson (Bro. Don and Sis. Tina) and Sis. Kim Wackerle (Bro. Tom) were taken into the fold on the weekend of October 9-10. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) and our Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) with us for that weekend.

What a joy 'twill be when I wake to see
Him for whom my heart is burning!
Nevermore to sigh, nevermore to die –
For that day my heart is yearning.

I'll exchange my cross for a starry crown,
Where the gates swing outward never;
At His feet I'll lay ev'ry burden down,
And with Jesus reign forever.
Hymns of Zion #173

Our hearts were saddened in the passing of two brothers from our congregation; yet, we are thankful that they were able to exchange their cross for a starry crown.

Bro. Dave Schlatter passed away on October 11. May the Holy Comforter be with his dear wife, Sis. Margaret, and his children, Sis. Sally Zahner (Bro. Curt, Rockville, CT), Thomas (Sandra), Sis. Sandra Schneider (Bro. Donald, Fairbury, IL), Sis. Cheryl Schmidt (Mike), Bro. Ken (Sis. Pam), Sis. Bethany Knochel (Bro. Dana, Detroit, MI), Bro. Alan (Vicki), and his daughter – in – law, Sis. Sharon Schlatter. He will be missed by his grandchildren and great – grandchildren.

Bro. Glen Ruegsegger, Sr. entered into his eternal rest on Sunday, October 17. Our prayers are with his family. They include his wife, Sis. Margaret, and his children, Bro. Glenn, Jr. (Sis. Maria), Anita Hine (Tom), Clinton (Sherry), Sis. Winifred Gorney (John), Kathleen Wernli (David, Emporia, KS), Paul (Diane), and Bro. Lee (Sis. Alice, Congerville, IL). We also want to remember his siblings, Sis. Eleanor Munsel and Bro. Frederick and Sis. Marilyn Ruegsegger, his grandchildren and great – grandchildren.

May strength be given to Jennifer and Michelle Curtis (Laurel and Jim), and Sis. Esther Waibel as they have required physician care in this past month. Sis. Esther is currently in a nursing home receiving physical therapy and we look forward to when she can return to her own home.

Sis. Maureen Weiss (Bob) was blessed with two new grandchildren in August. Jessica and Will McElrath and big sister, Saylor, welcome little Carter into their home. Also, their son, Aaron, Roxanne and older brother Ethan, welcome Emily into their lives. Thankful great – grandparents are Bro. Floyd and Sis. Marion Knochel.

As we near the day that our nation sets aside for “Thanksgiving”, may we be thankful to the only One who gives us strength and grace for the trials of life. May we also be thankful for the blessings of peace and happiness that we find in Christ Jesus.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Krista Wieland

Jamie Bahr

We are thankful to everyone who prayed for our Elder Bro. Mark Bahr on his recent trip to fellowship and counsel with the brethren in India and Japan, and we are very thankful for his safe return back to us.

We are thankful to Bay City for hosting Michigan Youth Day for our young people this month.

We wish to remember those who have been hospitalized this month. They are Sis. Marie Sabados, Tatten Strassheim (Bro. Eric and Sis. Jodi), and Bro. John Orcsik (Sis. Eszter). Our prayers are with them and will continue to be.

We want to extend our sympathy to Bro. Dana and Sis. Beth Knochel and their family in the death of Beth’s father, Bro. Dave Schlatter (Sis. Margaret, Bay

City). Bro. Dave is also Sis. Jennifer Schrock’s grandfather (Bro. Troy), and we are remembering their family in prayer as well. We also want to remember Sis. Barb Johnson in our thoughts and prayers as her brother, Ray Baer, has passed away.

We want to welcome Zach Bauman and Kyler Hanzie, as they have moved here from Rittman, Ohio, to attend college at the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit. We are glad to have you!

Our visiting ministers this month have been Bro. Howard Plattner (Sis. Kristen, Alto, MI), and Bro. Virgil Kaeb (Sis. Sue Ellen, Sarasota, FL). We appreciate their service to our congregation.

MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS

LaRae Dill

Fall brings a variety of outdoor activities. Sunday School students and families enjoyed an afternoon at Cleary Lake with a picnic, hiking, biking, playing games, and singing. We’re glad to see Adam and Rachel (Luthi) Bjerketvedt back for fall classes at the University of Minnesota. It was exciting for our congregation to hear of Adam and Rachel’s repentance. God’s blessings to you both. Rachel’s sister, Renee, and husband Matt Konz, are welcome additions to our congregation this fall as well. They were married in July and are now living nearby in Owatonna, MN. Welcome! Also good news was to hear that Rick Tibury will be staying in the area, as his internship at IBM became a

permanent position.

Ministers visiting our congregation were Bro. Fred Eberhart (Sis. Kathy, Burlington, IA), and Elder Bros. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City, MO) and Leroy Messner (Sis. Joanne, Winthrop, MN).

Our sympathy is extended to the Tilbury family. Bro. Jim’s father, Larry Tilbury, passed away recently. We can recall Larry and his wife visiting our congregation with Bro. Jim and Sis. Deb and family on occasion.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Katie Koehl

Heidi Nohl

We were blessed to have visiting ministering Bro. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH). May God bless him for his willing service.

July 17 was the day of Renee Luthi and Matt Kontz’s wedding. Their parents are Bro. Aldean and Sis. Charlotte Luthi. We wish them God’s richest blessings as they begin their life together.

Morgan Lynn was born to Dave and Fonda Nelson. Welcoming her are her grandparents, Bro. Arnie and Sis. Sharon Koehl. We wish them God’s richest blessings. Bro. Doug and Sis. Amber Nohl welcomed Lewis Alan into their home. Also enjoying the new baby is big sister, Crystal, and grandparents, Bro. Larry and Sis. Bonnie Nohl and Bro. Todd and Sis. Beth Stuber (Tremont, IL).

Our thoughts and prayers are with our Sis. Sophie Nohl as she has undergone surgery. We pray that God will provide His healing to her.

We rejoice as souls have answered the call to repentance. They are Adam and Rachel (Luthi) Bjerketvedt, Stephanie Schaefer (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Denise) and Katie Jones (Bro. Shane and Sis. Ruth). Our prayers are with them as they begin this work in their lives.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Ginny Stoll
Rachel Steiner

We were blessed to have Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN) come and minister unto us this past month.

Bro. Ernest and Sis. Marcelle Dapper celebrated their 50th anniversary. We wish them God's richest blessings.

Our prayers and thoughts are extended for the healing of Ann Lind (Dan), Sis. Sue Sward, Michael Stoll (Bro. Ed and Sis. Ginny), Marc Messner (Tina) and Sis. Geraldine Messner (Bro. Harold).

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Becky Marti
Wendy Braker

We were privileged to have Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) here for the Youth Fellowship weekend. Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht also served us in the ministry this past month. We are thankful for the Word that was brought forth and pray God will bless these brothers for their willingness to serve.

Andy and Misty and Cooper Marti welcomed a little girl, Drew Cheney, into their hearts on September 23. Thankful grandpar-

ents are Fred Marti and Sis. Carol Marti. Great – grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Corrine Marti and Bro. Leonard and Sis. Bonnie Braker.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Krista Banwart

The joy of knowing a mother's love is often mixed with pain when God calls her Home. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Joyce Martin in the passing of her mother, Sis. Donna Martin, of Princeville. Though she will be greatly missed as her passing was so sudden, it is a blessing that she did not have to suffer.

We continue to enjoy visitors in St. Louis among which was the Morton Bible Class. We thank them for making the effort to come down and share their youthful enthusiasm. Visiting ministers this past month included: Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL), Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL), Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL) and Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Sis. Elaine, Burlington, IA).

May we be thankful this time of year ... and at all times.

True Thanksgiving

To be thankful is to know ... God's promises are real

And believe that they are true ... no matter how I feel.

To be thankful is to know that step-by-step He leads the way

And He will give me strength enough to make it through today.

To be thankful is appreciating all that God has planned

Even when the ways He works are hard to understand.

To be thankful is to realize that

He sees what I don't see

And with a love that's unsurpassed, He is loving me.

A thankful heart's surrendered, and simply free to serve

The One who bought the freedom it knows it does not deserve.

So fill my life with thankfulness and help me stand amazed

In the presence of the One, who is worthy to be praised!

NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG

Hope Graves

Our congregation enjoyed having Elder Bros. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) and Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) bring forth the Word to us on the weekend of September 26. May the Lord richly bless their labors for Him.

We have had two hospital patients this past month. Our prayers extend to Sis. Bernice Hirschey and Sheila Virkler, as they both recover from surgery.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

Esther and Christina Steidl, daughters of Bro. Don and Sis. Nan Steidl, have received peace with God and each looks forward to giving their testimony and being baptized.

Bro. Robert Graf has been at home recuperating from having fallen on an uneven sidewalk getting a dislocated shoulder. We pray for his recovery.

Sis. Kathy Graf (Bro. Carl) was hospitalized and she is back to our Nursing Home where she has

been residing.

Our Akron congregation welcomed a nice group of single Brothers and Sisters for the weekend. We were happy to have them and hope it was a blessing for all.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Nancy Banks

In the last two months, our little congregation has had several visiting ministers. We appreciate our company so much. Ministering Bros. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), Art Ingold (Rittman, OH) and Ben Manz (Junction, OH) were with us to help spread God's precious Word.

Our annual College Welcome Day was held September 19 and Elder Bro. Bill and Sis. Emily Schlatter (Junction, OH) joined us for the day. It is an enjoyable opportunity to meet our new and returning students and their families. However, this year, we had to also use our picnic as a farewell for Bro. Paul and Sis. Nicole Suvar as they relocate to the Fort Wayne, IN, area for job opportunities for Bro. Paul after his graduation from Ohio State. We will miss this young couple and pray that God will bless them richly as they begin this new phase of their life.

We would like to congratulate Travis Banks (Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy) and Summer Stoller (Bro. Mark and Sis. Shirley, Latty, OH) on their recent engagement.

Note of Thanks:

Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy Banks would like to thank the

many loving brothers and sisters for their prayers, phone calls, visits and notes of encouragement during these last few months of Bro. Larry's hospitalization. We are thankful for our precious Father's healing mercies and the loving support we have received from our church family. May the Lord richly bless you for the love extended to our family during this difficult time.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Cindy Schlatter

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

Psalm 127:3

Twin boys came to bless the home of David and Faith Siefker. Zephaniah and Zebedee's siblings are Zach, Zoe, and Zion.

First-time parents, Bro. Chad and Sis. Loral Manz, are thankful for healthy little Carter Benjamin, who was born on October 11. Carter's grandparents are Bro. Les and Sis. Karen Manz and Bro. Ray and Sis. Corrine Schlatter.

We were blessed to have several ministering brothers visit us. Many thanks go to Bro. Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH), Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH) and Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL). May God continue to be with you and bless you each one.

Thus united and in concord
Let us walk the path of life;
Hand in hand O may love bind us
For each other's welfare strive.

Zion's Harp #237

Bro. Greg Manz (Bro. Paul and Sis. Sandra) and Sis. Julie Klopfenstein (Bro. Keith and Sis. JoAnne) were united in marriage on October 3 in Latty, OH. We trust God will walk with them as they walk the pathway of life together. Welcome to Junction, Sis. Julie!

Our Bro. Maburn Hale went to be with his Lord on October 5. Because of failing health he wasn't able to attend church for some time, but our congregation will still miss him, especially those who often took time to visit him in Van Crest Nursing Home where he resided.

We thank our Heavenly Father for being with Sis. Cheryl Manz (Bro. Don and Sis. Connie) during her recent surgery. We will continue to remember you in our prayers, Sis. Cheryl, as you go through this recovery period.

OHIO, LATTY

Bonny Wenninger Amanda Steffen

A baby boy, Drake Rudolph, was born to Denny and Beth Wenninger on October 7. We rejoice with them and wish them God's blessings. Drake's grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine Wenninger, and Norman and Gail Hebert of Connersville, IN.

On October 3, Bro. Greg Manz and Sis. Julie Klopfenstein were united in marriage. Their parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Sandra Manz (Junction) and Bro. Keith and Sis. JoAnne Klopfenstein. May God bless this new couple as they now serve Him as one.

Our hearts go out to Sis. Esther and Sis. Sally Stoller as they have laid their husband and father to rest. Ken Stoller passed away on September 21. We pray that they will continue to feel God's arms of comfort and our love and prayers for them.

Visiting ministers who shared God's Word this past month were Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH), Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH), Elder Bro. Mark Masters and Bro. Fred Domka, both of Mansfield, OH. We thank each one for their service to us.

We rejoice with Melissa Greutman and her family as she has found peace with God and man. Our prayers are with Melissa as she continues her walk with the Lord.

Those who have spent time in the hospital this past month include Bro. Bill Evans, retired Elder Bro. Ray Sinn, and Sis. Lillian Eisenmann. May God bless them with His healing power. Our prayers remain with Sis. Lillian as she continues her battle with cancer.

We failed to mention in our September column that Bro. Harold and Sis. Katherine Emch were formerly of the Milford, IN, congregation. Once again we welcome Sis. Katherine as she now assembles with us as Bro. Harold resides in a nursing home in Archbold.

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Esther Baumann

Bro. Jared Keever (Clair and Sis. Bev) and Sis. Abigail Ramsey

(Bro. Ed and Sis. Laura) were united in marriage on October 17. We are thankful for all who gathered together to share this joyous occasion with us. May Bro. Jared and Sis. Abbey continue to rely on God's guidance as they begin their life together as one.

On October 9-10, our church enjoyed the fellowship of many who came for our Invite-a-Friend Weekend. We especially thank ministers, Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Mike Ursu (Sis. Barb, Kitchener, ON Canada) for their unselfish service.

Bro. Bill Brake (Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH) also served us in the ministry this past month. We thank him for allowing himself to be used by God.

Hospital patients this past month include Elmer "Bud" Sauder and Sis. Zuzanna Pfeiffer (Bro. John). May God continue to heal them according to His will.

"Know ye that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations."

Psalms 100:3-5

In this Thanksgiving season AND throughout the year may we be thankful trusting our Lord is in control.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Laurel Indermuhle
Anne Widmer

"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who 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

Isn't it wonderful to know that our God is a faithful God and no matter what trials or tribulations come our way, there is someone else who has overcome it before us and God will not leave us alone in our struggles. He is faithful to see us through them! What a comfort it is to know that He is always by our side and loves us far more than we could ever imagine or hope for.

This month in Rittman we have been blessed with three new babies in our congregation. On September 16, Rhianna Irene was born to Randy and Sis. Julie Call. Her big sister and brother, Rainey and Riley, are surely thankful for their new little sibling and will no doubt love her to pieces. Rhianna's grandparents are Sis. Nancy Bauman and Ray and Janice Call. Also, Doug and Kelly Hanzie welcome home their third little boy on September 30. Jay Daniel has joined Jacob and Jed in the Hanzie home. His grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane Gasser and Ron and Bev Hanzie. Garret, Madeline and Mackenzie now have a little brother in their

home. Gavin Alexander was born on October 1 to Myra and Brian Ball. Gavin's grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Norene Miller and Joyce Patterson.

This month we were fortunate to have Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL) with us to share the Word. We are thankful for each one of our visiting ministers who comes to visit us. We are thankful to all of the brethren who are willing to stand before us week after week and teach us the Word as led by the Holy Spirit.

OHIO, SARDIS
Jami Hartzler
Terry Zollinger

"God is our refuge and our strength, a very present help in trouble."

Psalm 46:1

Our loved ones that spent time in the hospital are Kati Miller (Steve), Sis. Cyndi Figel (Bro. Andy), and John Brake (Sis. Almeda). Thankfully, all are at home recovering by the Lord's healing hand.

"But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing."

II Thess. 3:13

What a blessing to have shepherds to bring the Living Word. Visiting ministers assembling with us were Bro. Joe Dotterer (Sis. Rose, Smithville, OH), Bro. Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Lamar, MO) and Bro. Neal Widmer (Sis. Kris, West Lafayette, IN). Please continue to pray for our ministering brethren and may they be

blessed for their efforts.

"Saying, Amen: Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honour, and power, and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen."

Revelation 7:12

With thankfulness, we are glad for the safe arrival of Caydi Raine Figel. Her parents are Bro. Andy and Sis. Cyndi and siblings are Alysha and Baylee. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Paula Figel and Sis. Janette Blough (Smithville, OH). Great-grandma is Sis. Clara Hartzler (Rittman, OH).

The holidays are once again amongst us. May we remember to count our blessings and be thankful for all the Lord provides in material and spiritual things.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Alyssa Miller
Rachel Maibach

"Now it is accomplished, I'm no longer mine. Lord I will forever and always be Thine." This is the hymn and prayer of two dear souls in our congregation this month. On October 3, we welcomed Bro. Matt Saurer (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue) and Sis. Kori Bauman (Bro. Vic and Sis. Brenda) into the fold. We were thankful to hear two testimonies of faith and greet our new brother and sister. We are thankful that Elder Bro. Dave Graf (Sis. Barb, Akron, OH) was able to assist Elder Bro. Andy in the service of the Lord. Also, Bros. John Grimm (Sis. Julie, Columbus, OH) and Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH) were present

to minister unto us.

Another new life has begun this past month. Sis. Janette Blough welcomes a new granddaughter, Cayde Raine. Bro. Andy and Sis. Cyndi Figel (Sardis, OH) are the thankful parents.

Hospitalized this month, Sis. Mildred Hartzler needs our prayers. We are thankful to see a dear sister holding fast to the truth in the sunset years of her life.

We rejoice with our friend, Holly Stoller (Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla), as she professes peace with God and man and awaits baptism. We are thankful for God's work in your life, Holly, and wish you His nearness as you prepare for baptism!

Praise to God, immortal praise,
 For the love that crowns our days;
 Bounteous source of ev'ry joy,
 Let Thy praise our tongues employ.

For the blessings of the field,
 For the store the gardens yield,
 For the joy which harvest brings,
 Grateful praises now we sing.
 These, Great God, to Thee we owe,
 Source whence all our blessings flow;

And for these our souls shall raise
 Grateful vows and solemn praise.

—Anna L. Barbauld

As harvest season is upon us, we wish to remember and honor our Creator for all He has done and the many ways He has blessed us in the past year. May each one feel a rich measure of His love, and may it inspire a deep thankfulness in our hearts.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Rebecca Beard
Teresa Rywalski

“And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.”

Luke 17:5

The Lord provided us with Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH) and Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis, OH) to proclaim His Word when our own ministers were both gone on the same weekend. May God bless them for their willingness to serve.

There are friendships that we
 cherish
 In our daily walk of life
 Friends with whom we meet and
 labor
 In our earthly toil and strife.
 Friends among the aged and
 youthful
 Friends that live from us apart
 Friends of higher rank and station
 Find a place within my heart.

Hymns of Zion #91

Many eyes were tearful as we said goodbye to Bro. Gene and Sis. Marilyn Fetter as they have moved to Bern, Kansas, to be near their daughter and son-in-law, Bro. Richard and Sis. Edie Strahm. We pray the tie of Christian friendship will not be broken by the miles and that God will be ever near them.

We are thankful for the many visitors young and old this past month. Among them were Bro. Dwight Stoller (Sis. Lori, Latty, OH) and Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH). It is a blessing to know that God's Word is still the same today as it was in years past.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Louisa Gallup

We finished listening to the Conference tapes recently. It is a real blessing to be able to sit together and listen to these tapes, especially since not every one had the opportunity to travel and attend the Conference itself. We are grateful to those who took part in copying and distributing these tapes to us.

The engagement of Sol Jones and Jamie Martin (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Lori) was made known. Sol is the son of Andrew and Lois Jones of Tonasket, WA. Congratulations to this young couple. May the Lord bless and guide them as they take this new step in life. They are planning to wed this summer in Oregon and establish their home in Tonasket, WA.

We thank Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty) for ministering unto us recently and giving us an exhortation on Communion. We appreciate the reminders to help us prepare for Communion Service, which is planned for November 14, Lord willing. Other visiting ministering brethren who blessed us with their service this past month were Bros. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judie) and Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michele) from Silverton.

OREGON, SILVERTON
Kelsey Walder

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb in his reward.”

Psalms 127:3

Two couples have been blessed with the addition of precious little bundles of joy this month. Bro. Marvin and Sis. Lana Kuenzi welcomed home Kirsten Leanna on October 8. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Rod and Sis. Arlene Grimm from Sabetha, KS, and Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary Kuenzi. Little Arlen Christopher was welcomed into the hearts and home of Bro. Christopher and Sis. Mary Kuenzi on October 17. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Betty Metz and Bro. Lynn and Sis. Marilyn Kuenzi. May God bless each of these dear couples as they seek His wisdom to raise their families.

Our thoughts and sympathy are with Bro. Lee and Sis. Janet Kuenzi and family in the loss of their stillborn grandson. Benjamin Ray Meiss, son of Bro. Trent and Sis. Lucy Meiss from Eureka, IL, was born into the arms of Jesus on October 13. His siblings are Amelia, Serena, Cade, and Natalie. We pray that God will provide for the needs of this family in their loss.

In the hospital this month was our friend, Oscar Bolliger (Tina), for a heart valve replacement. We are thankful that he is home now and doing well. Also our friend, Ron Lichty (Ginge), had out patient surgery on his ankle. We are thankful he is recovering well, and hope his time on crutches goes quickly for him.

We were thankful to have visiting with us Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy) from Portland, OR. May God bless him for his labors of service.

We wish to extend a loving wel-

come into our Silverton congregation to Bro. Dick and Sis. Jan Gudeman, who were originally from our congregation in Bloomington, IL.

**PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA**

**Nathan and
MaryElizabeth Gasser**

We had the privilege this month of sharing with our nearby Washington, DC congregation the joy of an engagement announcement for Bro. Joe Bohart and Sis. Holly Barton (Detroit, MI). We rejoice with the DC congregation, and wish Bro. Joe and Sis. Holly God's richest blessings in the months to come, and the years ahead.

This month we had an opportunity to gather and listen to the 2004 Conference tapes. We appreciate the counsel and the efforts of our dear Elder brothers, and pray that the Lord would continue to bless them and their families, and guide their leadership of our faith.

Finally, we were thankful for the many visitors who stopped by Philadelphia during their trips, including visiting ministering Bro. Everett Gerber (Sis. Nancy) from Rockville, CT. We certainly appreciate each and every one of you and hope that you will come back again!

**TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE
Mike and Monica Fritz**

We are so thankful to the Lord for the encouragement we have received from His Word recently, and for our visiting ministering brothers who have shared with us.

The Word has been shared to us this past month by our Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN), and Bros. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL), Dave Obergefel (Sis. Kathy, Peoria, IL), and Ron Steiner (Sis. Ruth, Rittman, OH). We have also been blessed by the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Chicago, Cissna Park, Forrest, Morton and Peoria, IL; Bluffton North and Francesville, IN; Oakville, IA; and Akron, Junction 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: Princeville, IL (11/21), Goodfield, IL (12/5), Sarasota, FL (12/12), and Elgin, IL (12/19). We do not have a visiting minister scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend (11/28), Christmas weekend (12/26), or New Years weekend (1/2). If you are planning to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Even on the Sundays when no visiting minister is scheduled, there may be local brethren gathering to listen to a taped sermon. We also usually meet on Wednesday evenings for a song service and would welcome any midweek visitors. Contacts are Bro. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder, (615) 373-8928; Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz, (615) 952-9933; and Sis. Gwen Leuthold, (615) 662-2946.

**TEXAS, SAN MARCOS
Amy Ringger**

We pray God's blessings on the marriage of our friend Dale

Kaisner (Bro. Leon and Sis. Eunice, Peoria) who married Paula Clark on October 16.

We appreciated our ministers this month who were Bros. Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis), Tom Troxel (Sis. Luann, La-Crosse), Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville), Dale Moore (Sis. Cheryl, Elgin, IA), and Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha). Visitors were from Taylor, and Peoria.

We look forward to hosting visiting ministers from the following churches in December: Oakville (5), Taylor (12), Rittman (19). No services are currently scheduled for Christmas Day, but if you are in the area, call to inquire. We extend a hearty welcome to anyone 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.

Our congregation continues to meet for services at the Quality Inn in San Marcos, TX. San Marcos is located on IH-35, approximately 20 minutes south of Austin or about 50 minutes north of downtown San Antonio. Take Exit #206; the hotel is on the southbound frontage road.

**TEXAS, ZAPATA
Mary Plattner**

We are thankful to have ministering Bro. Tom Schrenk (Sis. Joan) back in Zapata for the win-

ter season. They make their home in Zapata during the fall and winter months and we appreciate his service while here.

Erica Nohl (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Joyce) is traveling to Omaha, NE, for a consult on the possibility of having surgical work done that would allow her to stand. She is excited about the possibility of being able to stand like other children. She and her family certainly appreciate the prayers on her behalf.

We appreciate all our winter residents and visitors that are returning and are looking forward to a blessed winter season.

VERMONT, NORWICH

**Debra Crary
Areli Reutter**

This month church services in Norwich, VT, were held on October 10 with over 100 attendees. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Phila-

delphia, PA), and retired Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Kansas City, MO). We appreciate their service to us from the pulpit. We also enjoyed a number of other visitors from Bluffton, IN, Croghan, NY, Philadelphia, PA, Forrest, IL, Smithville, OH, and Rockville, CT.

The foliage here has been gorgeous. This past weekend we enjoyed both a physical and spiritual view: Everything was beautiful, full of color and splendor — just like the fellowship of many brothers, sisters and friends of Christ. Both remain the power and perfect work of our Lord. The church was full of believers of our great God.

We are thankful for all who come to be with us and invite any who have travel plans in the northeast to come worship with us on the second Sunday of each month. We begin our services promptly at 10:15 am. For infor-

mation or directions, please contact Morey Weiss at (802) 295-5981 or Bro. Kirby Reutter at (802) 295-1869. It is important to note that the address listed in the new “minister’s book” is incorrect. The correct address is: 344 Main Street, Norwich, Vermont 05055.

We are so thankful that the Lord has blessed Morey Weiss with a speedy recovery. A token of his appreciation follows below.

Note of Thanks:

Thank you so much for the many cards, gifts, visits and prayers during my hospitalization and recovery of my hip replacement. I am so unworthy of all of your love and beautiful flowers sent by our church. But I am very grateful and thankful. May the Lord bless you all.

The Morey Weiss family



CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2004/2005

All volunteers should contact the project coordinator. Should you not be able to contact the coordinator, for Haiti direct your inquiry to Bro. Tom Hitz, Ph. 734-454-9229, Fax 1-734-454-9259 or E-mail thitzhome@juno.com. For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Kevin Sauder, Ph./Fax 309-263-4036 or E-mail kjs@a5.com.

HAITI					
ORG.	DATE	AREA	COORDINATOR	PROJECT	CAPACITY
MEBSH	Dec. 2-10, '04	Les Cayes	Ted Habegger	Grade School	11
MEBSH	Jan. 6-14, '05	Les Cayes	Ron Palitto	Grade School	11
MEBSH	Jan. 13-21, '05	Les Cayes	Dean Pashak	Grade School	9
AWA-T	Jan. 20-28, '05	Les Cayes	Troy Stuber	Water Aid	5
AWA-FRW	Jan. 20-28, '05	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4
AWA-B	Jan. 20-28, '05	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
SEED	Feb. 17-25, '05	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	9
Palm Grove	Feb. 18-26, '05	Puit Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11
SEED	Mar. 10-18, '04	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	11
MEBSH	Mar. 17-25, '05	Les Cayes	Rich Bertschi	Grade School	9
Palm Grove	Mar. 18-26, '05	Puit Sales	Mike Reinhard	Grade School	11
AWA-FRW	May 5-13, '05	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4
AWA-T	May 5-13, '05	Les Cayes	Troy Stuber	Water Aid	5
AWA-B	May 5-13, '05	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
JAMAICA					
CCCD	January 1-8, 2005	Montego Bay	Greg Herman	Deaf School	40
CCCD	March 19-26, 2005	Kingston	Gridley BC - Roger Stoller	Deaf School	50
CCCD	May 20-28, 2005	Deaf Village	Warren Kloter	Work Place	40

COORDINATOR	PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL
Jon Zeller	309-266-9009		
Ron Palitto	330-336-5373		
Bob Beebe	574-291-2158	574-299-8173	rbeebe@surfpure.com
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	734-454-9259	thitzhome@juno.com
Phil Isabel	219-261-3541	219-261-2885	
Dean Pashak	989-662-7685	989-662-7685	dwpashak@charter.net
Bill Rager	419-263-2989		
Kevin Sauder	309-263-4036	309-263-4036	kjs@a5.com
Rich Bertschi	309-467-6110		lemangm@mtco.com
Ted Habegger	260-694-6765		th@parlorcity.com
Mike Reinhard	248-477-2287	248-427-0396	mreinhard@msn.com
Troy Stuber	309-925-2603		tstuber@highstream.net
Rick Wuethrich	219-567-9488	219-567-2542	topnotch@home.ffi.com
Greg (Beth) Herman	309-243-5610		gberman@juno.com
Warren Kloter	309-208-2785		wkloter@myexcel.com
Roger Stoller	309-747-3228	309-747-2566	rstoller@dtnspeed.net

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



ALTERNATE HOUSEPARENTS NEEDED

Gateway Woods has appreciated the Lord's blessing of being fully staffed with Houseparents.

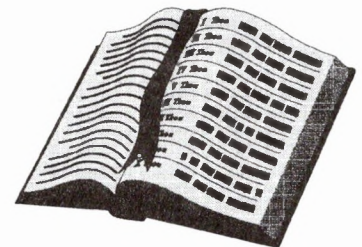
At this time, however, we are experiencing a staff opening. Bro. Clint and Sis. Bethany Plattner are planning to leave Gateway Woods in the near future. This offers an opportunity for a couple, directed of the Lord, to come to work in a full-time on going ministry at Gateway Woods. This position offers competitive wages and benefits and a close relationship with brothers and sisters whose hearts and lives are dedicated to a common mission with an eternal reward. If you feel the call to explore these possibilities, please call one of the brothers listed below.

Ed Graf
Residential Program Director
PO Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
1-888-443-4283
ed.graf@gatewaywoods.org

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

If anyone is serving in our Armed Forces that would appreciate receiving a printed sermon, please send their name and address or email address to:

Printed Sermons
6082 N. 2800 East Rd.
Forrest, IL 61741
or phone (815) 657-8798



BOOK STORE NOTICE: NEW ITEMS

Light From The Word Vol. 5 & 6 are now available. Please order your copies to update your Sunday School Curriculum Binders.

Apostolic Christian Publications Bookstore will **NO LONGER** be open on the first Saturday of each month.

The regular store hours are Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

The address is 805 West Cruger, Eureka, IL 61530 and the phone number is 309-467-3611.

U.S.A. BOARD WORK PROJECTS

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

Kansas: Paul Kaeb
Phone: 785-284-3261
Cell: 785-547-5269
E-mail: paulkaeb@ksiconveyors.com

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

Illinois: Marvin Sauder
Phone: 309-925-4171
Fax: 309-925-2409
Cell: 309-241-8171
E-mail: mmksblf@dpc.net

Indiana: Gerry Waibel
Phone/Fax: 219-279-2582
E-mail: glwaibel@hotmail.com

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



Sermon continued from page 2

of our walk as a godly person, as a Christian, that we be honest and upright. And people notice it. We don't have to make a big deal out of it. We don't have to say, well I am going to tell you the truth because they expect the truth from us. And they appreciate it. Both those who we work for and those who we work with and perhaps even those who work for us, appreciate that honesty and that forthrightness. This was one of the encouragements that Paul gave to Titus. It is good for us, beloved ones, it is good for us. It has benefits in this life. It has benefits after this life.

The Apostle wrote that we be sober minded (Titus 2:6). I think he said that more than once here. That we be sober minded. To the "...aged men be sober, grave, temperate..." Titus 2:2. To the "Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded." Titus 2:6. What does that mean, to be sober? Does that mean we can never smile? That we walk around with a long face? What does it mean, that we should be sober? What was the Apostle encouraging Titus and the believers there who were with him? I am not sure that I can explain it. Perhaps Brother Jeff can do a better job of it when I sit down here. But to me it seems that sober would be to be one who knows where he is going. To know what life is about. And then to be about it. To ever be mindful of our high calling. To ever and always be mindful of what Jesus would have us to do. Of what the Holy Spirit is speaking to us in our hearts. How we should walk. The way that we should go.

Sometimes it takes a smile. Sometimes it takes a little humor to get someone's attention. I think that can be part of being sober. Maybe I am wrong. Exhortation to be sober. Let's think of that as be-

ing ever mindful of how the Lord would have us to walk.

He wrote, God's grace for all men. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men," Titus 2:11. That grace has appeared through Christ Jesus. "Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live (and here is that word again) soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world," Titus 2:12. As an unbeliever, we looked at these writings, we looked at these scriptures and we thought, it is an impossibility. What kind of life would that be? We look back and we see how foolish we were. Because the real blessings of this life are submission to our God and to our Lord and Savior.

Sometimes we step out of line. We are not perfect. Sometimes we make mistakes. Sometimes we are so weak that we become involved to some extent in some of these ungodly and worldly lusts. We are so thankful that when that happens, that God convicts us. The Holy Spirit convicts us. We can turn to Him in repentance and ask forgiveness.

He says, "Looking for that blessed hope..." Titus 2:13. Looking for that blessed hope... What is our hope? What is your hope? What is my hope? I would hope that all of our hopes would be that we can someday stand before our great God and our Savior Jesus Christ. And we can hear those blessed words, enter thou into the - how does it say? - enter thou into the peace of the Lord (St. Matthew 25:21). Enter into heaven! His eternal realm.

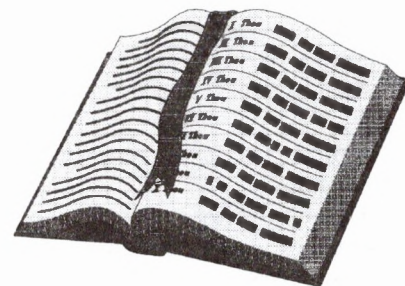
"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing..." Titus 2:13. Are we waiting for Him to appear? Are we waiting for Him to appear? We see the events of our day and it just naturally comes to our mind, well this must be it. This

must be the end times. The Lord must be coming again! Does it make us apprehensive or fearful or are we looking for His return, beloved ones? By His grace, we can be looking for His return.

He concludes the chapter. He was speaking to Titus, a minister. He said, "These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no man despise thee." Titus 2:15. Those words are for each and every one of us, loved ones. These things speak and exhort. May they be a part of our life. That which comes forth from our hearts as He has placed within us the love of God and the Holy Spirit to lead us and to direct us.

These things speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority. There are times. Rebuke is kind of a strong word, in my thinking anyway. But there may be a time when we need to rebuke. There may be a time when we need to say that the end of such belief, the end of such walk is destruction. Rebuke with all authority.

And beloved ones, let no man despise thee. There are those who despise our very walk of life. Does it have an affect on us? We are afraid to say that it does sometimes. The Apostle exhorted, let no man despise thee. Be not ashamed to carry His banner — the banner of Jesus Christ.



- NOTICE -**Repair and Distribution of
Worn Bibles &
Bible Story Books**

Presently we are not taking Hymns of Zion due to our large inventory and not enough requests for hymnals. Please get your books to us or the Goodfield World Relief Center.

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

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

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



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
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.

**Apostolic Christian
Counseling Services**

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

877-370-9988 (toll free)

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

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

BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

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

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

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

To order, contact,

Apostolic Christian Church
Bible Distribution
PO Box 30
1254 S. Main Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
Phone and Fax 260/824-5587
E-mail: bibledist@parlorcity.com

Mexico Work Teams 2005

Location	Date	Project	Coordinator	Phone	E-mail
Magdalena	Dec. 27-Jan. 3, 2005	Construction	Tom Schifferer	847-695-7510	tomandkathy@schifferer.com
Agua Prieta	Dec. 27-Jan. 3, 2005	Construction	Don Jackson	989-662-4286	dontinafam5@truevine.net
Magdalena	January 1-8, 2005	Construction	Jon Eide	765-427-4874	jeide@purdue.edu
Magdalena	Mid January	Construction	Max Burnham	620-343-5394	
Magdalena	February 12-19, 2005	Construction	Jerry Rauch	260-824-2387	healthyyourself@adamswells.com
Magdalena	February 21-28, 2005	Construction	Scott Hills	860-429-3790	lulabelle3@juno.com
Agua Prieta or Juarez	March 5-12, 2005	Construction	Bryan Meyer	260-565-3738	bmeyer@ringr.com
Agua Prieta	March 12-19, 2005	Construction	Bob Meyer	260-824-3236	bobmeyer@adamswells.com
Magdalena	March 12-19, 2005	Construction	Arlan Miller	309-747-2683	seek_truth@yahoo.com
Rio Bravo	March 12-19, 2005	Construction	Jim Barth	309-367-2098	barthlings6@juno.com
Magdalena	March 19-26, 2005	Construction	Bruce Aschliman	260-824-5160	aschlimanb@yahoo.com
Agua Prieta	March 19-26, 2005	Construction	Denis Fry	260-824-3055	fry.d@mchsi.com
Rio Bravo	March 19-26, 2005	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439	dafiechter@parlorcity.com
Magdalena	March 26-April 2, 2005	Construction	Pete Aberle	309-925-5969	dpabfrms@hotmail.com
Rio Bravo	March 26-April 2, 2005	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439	dafiechter@parlorcity.com
Juarez/Copper Canyon	March 17-24, 2005	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrmann	309-385-1082	cherylh@mtco.com
Magdalena	June 11-18, 2005	Construction	Andy Bauman	309-965-2174	arbauman@juno.com
Magdalena	June 11-18, 2005	Construction	Joe Sprunger	317-770-7351	joes@sullivan-corp.com
Rio Bravo	June 11-18, 2005	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439	dafiechter@parlorcity.com
Magdalena	July 2-9, 2005	Construction	Brian Ricketts	815-657-8308	brickett24@hotmail.com
Rio Bravo	July 9-16, 2005	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439	dafiechter@parlorcity.com
Juarez	September 14-21, 2005	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrmann	309-385-1082	cherylh@mtco.com

If anyone is interested in teaching health/first aid/medical/fire/EMT/dental skills in Magdalena, Imuris, or Ixtlan, contact Sis. Cheryl Herrmann.





The following is the beginning of a series of beliefs and practices of the church with the Scriptural basis shown. These are included in a booklet distributed by Apostolic Christian Publishing, Eureka, IL.

By: Bro. Perry Klopfenstein

DOCTRINE	
Repentance	Matthew 3:2, 3:8, 4:17, 9:13 Mark 1:15, 6:12 Luke 3:8, 13:3,5 Acts 2:38, 3:19, 17:30, 20:21, 26:20 Romans 2:4 II Corinthians 7:9-10 Hebrews 6:1 II Peter 3:9
Conversion	Matthew 13:15, 18:3 Mark 4:12 Luke 22:32 Acts 3:19, 28:27
Confession of Sins	Nehemiah 9:2 Proverbs 28:13 Matthew 3:6 Mark 1:5 Acts 19:18 James 5:16 I John 1:9
Restitution	Matthew 5:23-24 Luke 19:8 Exodus 22:1 II Samuel 12:6
Peace With God and Man	Mark 9:50 John 16:33 Romans 5:1, 12:18 Colossians 3:15 Hebrews 12:14
Baptism	Matthew 3:13-17, 28:19 Mark 1:4, 1:9-11, 16:16 Luke 3:21 John 1:29-33, 3:22, 3:26 Acts 2:38, 2:41, 8:12, 8:16, 8:38
Self-Examination Before Communion	I Corinthians 10:21, 11:27-29
Holy Communion	Matthew 26:26-29 Mark 14:22-25 Luke 22:14-20 I Corinthians 11:23-26

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

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"Check With The Other Person"

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

My own tendency to do what I think I should do, without checking with the other person, prompts my writing of this article. One scripture verse which applies is Philippians 2:4, "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."

Where we are most apt to make a mistake in regard to checking with the other person, is when we are with a close friend or a member of our own family. If we are traveling with a car full of friends or family members, we are more inclined to ask, "When do you want to stop to eat?" or "Is it all right for me to stop on the way home to take care of some business?" If it is only our spouse or close friend who is riding with us, we assume that it is all right with them, which may not be the case. Other people have their own needs, health-wise and time-wise.

Another verse which applies to this topic is I Peter 3:8, "Finally,....love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous." As a matter of courtesy, we should con-

sider what effect our actions might have on others. Others may suffer because we fail to check with them about what we want to do, or think we should do.

It can be argued that you will never be a strong leader if you are always checking with the other person, or persons, about what you feel you should do. However, the captain of the Titanic should have checked with his first mate before giving the order, "Full steam ahead." The unsinkable Titanic proved to be sinkable. Evidently, he didn't check with his first mate, or else he just didn't listen to him. It can also be argued that strong leaders can be people who listen and are willing to take advice, and I believe that is what is taught in the following scripture. Philippians 2:3 "In lowliness of mind, let each esteem other better than themselves."

There are two benefits of checking with the other person. One is a confirmation that it is a good thing to do, that it is not a

mistake. The other benefit is that it is a check on the convenience of the other person, whether your action will bring misery to the other person or whether it will bring comfort and satisfaction, a good feeling. I know that feelings are not important when they contradict what the Bible says, but they are very important when they do not contradict what the Bible says.

We have a tendency to do our own thing. Yet we like for others to communicate with us in a loving manner when they are doing things which affect us. Matthew 7:12 reads, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets." I don't know about you, but I like it when someone asks me about my convenience and my convictions on the matter, before action is taken. Henceforth, I will try to check with the other person.

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*And why take ye thought for raiment?
Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:
And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*

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IL Seq:4684 C98 PK407
ADAM BARRONE
212 S CORNELL CIR
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