

The background of the entire page is a photograph of a sunset over a large body of water. The sun is a bright yellow-orange orb in the upper left quadrant, casting a shimmering path of light across the water's surface. The sky is a gradient of orange and red, with several birds in flight. In the distance, a range of low mountains is visible against the horizon.

The Silver Lining

*And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.
Genesis 1:2, 3*

November 2005

Sermon by Bro. Jim Kaeb, Bern, KS
Isaiah 24 and Philippians 2

Isaiah saw a vision of the future. He saw an earth that was shaken. He saw people of kingdoms lowered in pits. He saw an eternal Father and he saw Jesus Christ giving a different kingdom than a political kingdom of the world. He saw Jesus Christ giving the kingdom of the inner man, the inner heart. (Isaiah 24) We are here to worship that eternal Father. It is a great reminder that no matter what you are looking to in material things will crumble, will diminish, will fade away.

It says in II Timothy, in the last days men's hearts will become unthankful (II Timothy 3:2). We just celebrated Thanksgiving last Thursday. Daniel, when he went - the decree was just signed, Darius signed a decree that anyone who would pray to the living God would be thrown in the lion's den in thirty days, what did Daniel do? - he went home and he opened his windows and he knelt down on his knees and he thanked God (Daniel 6:10).

So can we with our heart today say Thank Thee, Lord, that this earth is not our home. Thank Thee, Lord, that all that we have, the houses, the homes, our jobs, our farms, our occupations, our children, our helpmate will be separated. But Jesus Christ, Lord of Lords, King of Kings will live forever. We believe in faith that by grace we can be saved to live also forever.

That is the second chapter (Philippians 2) that Paul was writing, as he was penning these. If I err not, I think he was in prison at the time. In the third chapter, he goes on and he warns them. "Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe." Philippians 3:1. He goes on and warnings against legalism that was coming into the Philippian church.

He starts out in chapter one, to live is Christ, to die is gain. (Philippians 1:21). There was an exhortation to stand firm. To stand firm. To the brothers at the Philippian church and to us as brothers and sisters of the Lord Jesus Christ. He starts out, to keep the mind of Christ and to stand firm. Be firmly grounded. Now that is

an exhortation to me and to all of us to stay firmly grounded in the mind of Christ. In other words, what he is saying is our minds at times can drift back to a political kingdom. To a materialistic thinking.

God is a Spirit and we worship Him in Spirit and in truth. So as we worship Him, we go to the mind of Christ. What was the mind of Christ? "...any fellowship of the Spirit...Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind." Philippians 2:1,2. How can we come together in the perfect mind? We come together in the perfect mind of Christ.

Then he gives us the illustration, as he tells us what to be like, now he tells us what the mind of Christ is. "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory..." Philippians 2:3. Strife is disputing. It is not to be done. Let nothing be done through disputing. Through strife. That's me against you. You against me. You against someone else. Someone else against...that's strife. Christ eliminated that in the gospel message.

And vainglory. Thinking that you are something, thinking you are qualified to admonish, to correct. In vainglory to glorify anything materialistic, anything of this earth. Because remember? Christ's kingdom is not of this earth. So nothing done through vainglory. To glorify man.

"...but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than ourselves." Philippians 2:3. That is a reverence and a respect that we allow. As he goes on, "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." Philippians 2:4. We try to think in the minds of others. Why are they doing what they are doing?

Sometimes when things go very well for you, you are non-sympathetic to someone else, lest you have gone through it yourself. Then a widow can understand and sympathize with another widow. A widower can sympathize with another widower. Someone who has gone through the separation. Of a husband and wife trying to do their best in raising their children and

none of them are close to God. And another couple who has prayed fervently and has had that same situation where none of their children are at church. None of their children are close to God. But the understanding and the thinking and the lowliness of mind that we esteem others higher than ourselves, in any situation. That we don't elevate ourself to thinking, that hasn't happened to me. It has happened to them

Sermon continued on page 45

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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 2005

Satan is Real III

The past two articles dealt with some of the names, characteristics, purposes and tactics of Satan. This concluding article will focus on Satan's ultimate defeat and some scriptural instruction on how we can avoid a fate similar to Satan's.

With all of the temporary power that Satan seems to have, with all of the tactics he has refined and since mankind does not understand God's timing, one could become a bit discouraged in the battle against Satan. As we observe the world, it appears that Satan has already won significant victories. What does the Bible tell us about Satan's ultimate end? Will he ever be totally defeated?

A child of God can take courage from the record and from the promises in the Bible. Although Satan's ultimate fate has not yet been applied, he has been sentenced and he has been defeated many times!

The entire life of Jesus was a defeat for Satan. He tried to destroy Jesus as an infant. Through a series of miracles, Joseph was instructed to take steps that prevented Satan's evil work from being carried out by the hand of Herod. Satan tried desperately to make Jesus yield to temptation. After forty days and nights of fasting, Jesus was sorely tried in a variety of ways.

The Son of God refused to provide for His own physical needs in a manner that would have seemed reasonable - turn available stones into much needed bread. He refused to tempt God by doing something foolish (casting Himself off of the pinnacle of the temple) to see if God would intervene to keep Him from hurting Himself. He refused to give Himself power in an earthly sense by accepting all the kingdoms of the world from Satan - who had no authority to give them to Jesus. In each case Satan was defeated.

In what was undoubtedly the greatest temptation of all, Jesus pleaded with God that if it would be possible that He could avoid the need to go to the cross and suffer the cruelest death imaginable - crucifixion for sins He did not commit.

He prayed desperately for a way out, but added "...O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done" (Mt. 26:42). How precious are the words "Thy will be done"!

Every time a child of God suffers martyrdom, Satan has been defeated! Every time a sinner comes under the conviction of sin and answers God's call to repent and be converted, Satan is defeated. Every time a child of God closes his eyes in death, a victory over Satan has been won! Think of the many times that by the grace of God a victory is won and Satan is put to an open shame.

What is Satan's ultimate fate? Total and final defeat! While we probably do not fully grasp the complete meaning of all that is written in the book of Revelation, we do know that an angel will lay "...hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and (bind) him a thousand years,..." (Rev. 20:2). After that "...Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations..." (Rev. 20:7-8). Finally, "...the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (Rev. 20:10). The final defeat of Satan is promised and God will keep His promise.

Mankind can avoid the ultimate defeat that Satan must face. Even though we are in a spiritual warfare, we are not left to the power of Satan. We have been given great armor and many weapons to help us in our battle. Also, we have been promised Divine protection to lead us to victory.

Armor is a habit worn for protection. There are numerous opportunities for us to put on the armor of God. We are cautioned to seek full protection, not just partial protection. "Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Eph. 6:11). We can be a little more specific in our armor bearing: "But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for a helmet, the hope of salvation" (I Th. 5:8). We can find complete armor "By the word of truth, by the power of God, by

the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,..." (II Cor. 6:7).

Armor is primarily used for defense. Weapons are instruments of offense. As David approached Goliath he said "...Thou camest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield; but I come to thee in the name of the Lord of hosts, ...whom thou hast defied" (I Sam. 17:45). Paul reminded us that "...the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword..." (He. 4:12) and that we should use "...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God" (Eph. 6:17). Jesus taught us the power of prayer, especially in what is referred to as the Lord's Prayer (Mt. 6:9-15). Undoubtedly, the most powerful of all weapons is demonstrated by those who "...overcame him by the blood of the Lamb..." (Re. 12:11).

Throughout the scripture we are promised Divine protection. "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him..." (II Chr. 16:9). "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them" (Ps. 34:7). Jesus perhaps put it most clearly when He reminded His followers of the trials they would endure because of their service to Him. We may suffer persecution, trials and temptations "But there shall not a hair of your head perish" (Lk. 21:18).

It is not possible to include nor understand every detail about the reality of Satan, but this we can do: We can know that Satan is real, that he has significant (but limited) power, that his goal for us is eternal condemnation, that he has numerous tactics that he will use against us and that he will ultimately be eternally defeated. Most importantly, we can know that we are not doomed to fail because God "...gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN Mission Committee

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

The Word of Life

Distribution of the Scriptures is one of the greatest joys we have as Christians. "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple" (Psalms 19:7) Yet, the placement of the Word is just one step in the process of delivering truth to a troubled world.

Regular shipments of Bibles are received at the Bluffton Bible Distribution center. It is a blessing to use a forklift and place a pallet of Bibles on the shelf. It is even more of a blessing to see the people who receive these Bibles. Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

Opportunities in Mexico

On a visit to Mexico in January 2004, a work team member was privileged to visit several churches that had been given Bibles by our distribution program. The Bibles had been put to good use and were greatly appreciated. They were also given some Bible storybooks and Spanish Hymnals. One young man refused a storybook offered him because he already had one. His honesty was inspiring. A young lady teaching music to the children in an orphanage was very thankful for the hymnals. Although Mexico is different in many ways from the U.S., the sins clawing at their youth are very similar to any area in our own country.

Many of our brethren distribute Bibles in truck stops, college campuses, gas stations, restaurants, and offices. Some Bibles have a phone number in them that seeking souls may call for help. Brothers who have spoken with people and

handed them a Bible believe their efforts will be blessed. For a few dollars we can carry a Bible with us to be ready to share if we find a need. It is a joy to share hope with others. These people need our prayers. "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men...." (Galatians 6:10).

Ministry to prisons

Berean Bible Study is a large part of the Bible distribution program. Bibles are being sent to prisoners in at least 35 states, and they are encouraged to complete 50 Bible lessons. Completion of the many lessons results in a large grading project. At times, sisters gathering for sewing projects have volunteered to grade them. Single groups and others have also helped with this major effort. Those in prison as well as all who assist in even the simplest tasks, if they are done with a willing heart, receive blessings. "For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not" (2 Corinthians 8:12).

Sowing the Seed

Faithfulness in daily devotions is very important to our families, churches and the communities we live in. In this day of electronic intrusion and busyness all may be at risk. We want to be sure the Word is available to our children and loved ones, as well as others. We can always sow in the fields of the world, but we need to understand and consider that the most important thing we can do for our children is to hold the world at bay and teach them the Scriptures. The same Scripture quoted above regarding doing good

unto all men says, "...especially unto them that are of the household of faith" (Galatians 6:10).

Study Bibles, concordances, Bible dictionaries, Bible storybooks, Bible tapes, large print Bibles, small white Bibles and large family Bibles are also available. Every Silver Lining has the address, phone and fax number and e-mail address of the Bible Distribution center. Please call us with questions and orders.

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him" (Psalms 126:6).

Jesus wept for His people. We cannot sow the seed without weeping. At times we may feel discouragement when it seems that the world fails to respond to our work. We can take comfort in the knowledge that while we bring the Scriptures to people, it is the work of the Holy Spirit to change their heart. After a farmer labors long and spends a lot of money there is nothing but bare dirt behind him. He may wonder if there will be any fruit. As the tiny plants begin to grow he is greatly encouraged.

Oil in our lamps

We who have had the blessing of being taught about saving grace need to keep our light burning. The continued faithfulness of our Brotherhood is greatly appreciated. There could be no Bible Distribution without your giving and your prayers. Each prayerful, exemplary life is the most effective distribution of the Word.

"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it" (Psalms 68:11).



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

Good News for Maria

In this article we are focusing on the Child Sponsorship opportunities at the school in Granjas, Juarez, Mexico. In Mexico, children are also sponsored from ICCD in Rio Bravo, Casa Vida y Esperanza in Magdalena and the Ixtlan school outreach. Future articles will highlight students from other sponsorship areas.

Maria is one of four children who, along with their parents, live in a very small house in the colonia called Granjas. Times are tough for this family of six. Maria's dad struggles to find work and works odd jobs to provide food for his family. Her mother stays home and cares for her and her siblings. Their home is made up of one room that acts as the kitchen, family room and bedroom. They have a stove and a sink. Maria and her brother and sisters lay on blankets on the dirt floor. They are thankful for good weather because when it rains, it leaks through their cardboard roof.

They have been worshipping at the community center near their home. Apostolic Christian work teams built this center. It is a nice building that is large enough to hold many people for church services. They heard about this center from their neighbors and decided to go. They love the singing and the sermons of how Jesus gave his life for them. Maria's parents have become Christians and appreciate the teaching in their local church.

A new home

One day, their minister visited Maria and her family and surprised them with good news. He told them that Christians from the United States

come and help build new houses for members of his church. He told them that in a few months, they would be coming to start working on their new house. Maria's family could not believe their ears. They cried as they thanked the Lord for such wonderful news. They couldn't believe that they would have a house with a real floor, a real roof, inside walls and plumbing. Their God is so good.



Children in School

An opportunity to learn

They also learned of the school at Granjas. Maria could be sponsored by American Christians who would pay for her education. In addition, she would be provided with two uniforms and a hot lunch would be served to her at the school. Maria and her brother and sister would be able to go together if they would each have a sponsor. The school teaches children from kindergarten to sixth grade. How exciting this would be for Maria! She sees the school children walk by in their blue uniforms and wants to go to this school. Representatives from Child Sponsorship will seek to find a sponsor for this family.

Maria and her family have lived through many tough times as have their friends and extended family. Through Christ, they have the op-

portunity for salvation, fellowship with brothers and sisters in faith, and a new home and school. They feel so blessed, and talk of their Lord and Savior to all those they come into contact with.

The Child Sponsorship and Mexico Committees thank you for your willingness to be involved in these wonderful opportunities. May we all feel God's love as we work together to spread the good news of Jesus.

To apply for a student

The cost to support a student is \$21-\$25 per month. To apply for a student to sponsor please fill out the following. A student will be assigned to you and you will be sent further information.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Please check preference:

- Haiti Jamaica Mexico
 Guatemala Wherever

If possible I would prefer:

- Boy - Age _____
 Girl - Age _____
 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 COUNSELING SERVICES

“Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counselors there is safety.”

Proverbs 11:14

Mentoring: For many years, the counselors at ACCS have provided information, guidance, and mentoring to individuals interested in going into the mental health field. Because getting an education and working in this field can be challenging to one's Christian faith at times, it is not a field for everyone. In addition, it is unwise to go into the field without prayerful consideration and adequate support. Therefore, our goal is to offer guidance and encouragement, while promoting spiritual safety and accountability, to members and friends of the church who are interested in getting an education in the mental health field. The frequency of contacts we have with individuals ranges from one-time phone calls (or visits to the ACCS office) to long-term mentoring relationships that proceed over a number of years. Individuals interested in mentoring with an ACCS counselor should contact ACCS 877-370-9988 or e-mail us at info@accounseling.org.

Please Help Us Create Our Directory: We are interested in identifying all members and friends who (1) are working (or who have previously worked) in a mental health field, (2) are currently in college working on a degree in a mental health field, or (3) are seriously considering going into any of the following mental health-related fields:

- * Social Work
- * Guidance Counseling and/or School-based Counseling
- * Counseling (all types of professional mental health counselors)
- * Psychiatric Nursing
- * Psychology

Our goal is to facilitate fellowship, encouragement, and networking so that we can all glorify God in our work and remain true and faithful to the Word. A related project, currently being developed by ACCS, is the online Mental Health Forum. The Forum will allow mentoring, networking, and encouragement to occur online in a way that connects members and friends who are in the mental health field across the country. More information about this project will be coming over the next few months. If you or someone you know is currently in, or has interest in going into, one of the above mental health related fields, please call ACCS at 877-370-9988 or e-mail us at info@accounseling.org.

Staff Update: In February 2005, Sis. Mickey Schumm joined our staff as Office Manager. Her roles include supporting the clinical staff in various areas including scheduling, project and database management, coordinating mailings, and maintaining resources. Sis. Barb Kaiser continues to carry out the accounting responsibilities. Because our office is now staffed full-time, we are able to answer phone calls to our office (877-370-9988) Monday through Friday during normal business hours.

Each of our counselors participates in on-site counseling, consultations, mentoring, and education.

Consistent with our counseling philosophy, we are staffed with professional counselors who are trained in the mental health field. Currently, we have four clinical staff members. Bro. Ron Messner serves as the ACCS Administrator and as a part time counselor. He works with adult clients and specializes in marriage and family counseling and in situations where mental health issues become intertwined in spiritual issues. Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. serves as the ACCS Clinical Director. He works primarily with adults and specializes in dealing with depression, anxiety (ex. panic attacks, obsessive-compulsive disorder), and premarital counseling. Bro. Craig Stickling works at ACCS part time and specializes in working with children, adolescents, and their families. Common issues he treats include trauma and loss, parent training, and ADHD. The newest addition to the ACCS clinical staff is Sis. Erica Stoller who started with us in June of 2005. She is available, full time, to help meet the needs of teenage and adult women who are dealing with issues such as emotional eating, body image problems, eating disorders, depression, anxiety, self-worth problems, and relationship issues. More information about our services is available through our website at www.accounseling.org.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Thanksgiving – what do you have to be thankful for? Is it wealth, fame and fortune? Of course, there are many other things that we are thankful for. Our people are very thankful for Jesus. They enjoy go-

ing to church with family, having a Bible Study with staff or volunteers, singing hymns, and listening to songs on the radio. Our people are very thankful for their families and the time that they spend with them. Some of our people are able to see their families every week; then there are some who only are able to see their families at the holiday time. They do enjoy all the phone calls, emails and letters from families. Our people are very thankful for a home to live in and people to take care of them. They do enjoy playing games, listening to stories, getting pampered, going on outings, etc. It is so heart-warming to see a staff member and resident sitting outside laughing and giggling. We know that there are greater things to be thankful for such as Jesus as our Saviour, family, home where you are loved, and friends that care about you. "We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you." (Colossians 1:3).

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), Bland Jones (12/18), Philipp Fehr (12/18), Anne Carrescia (12/30).

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

Jason Kilgus

We are thankful that God continues to use Gateway Woods to serve many troubled children and families. We currently have 19 residents on campus. Two of these residents are children of teen moms in

our pregnant teen program. Next month when another baby is due we will have reached our capacity. Praise God for continually providing us with new children whose lives can be changed through Him.

Our Foster Care program, which places troubled children into Christian homes in Northeast Indiana, currently has 18 foster children. If you live in Indiana and are interested in foster parenting, please contact Bro. Bill Baumgartner at 260-627-2159.

In addition, Gateway Woods has been involved in the adoption of almost 45 children since it was first in the past four years. We are thankful to God for the opportunities that we have to help bring families together. Please pray for three families who are just now in China seeking adoption.

Bro. Joe Gerber is spending a month overseas in both Germany and South Africa. Please pray for his safety and that God can use him wherever he goes.

We are thankful that Bro. Adam and Sis. Katie Reinbeck, who have recently arrived from Tremont, have finished their training. They will begin work in our West House. God continues to amaze us by providing willing and able employees.

Bro. Kevin Fiechter reminds us that "God is for everybody." It doesn't matter who you are or where you live, God loves you. Bro. Kevin is currently serving 9 families and 12 kids in our Home-Based Services program.

Bro. Kent Kloter of Gateway Woods Family Services is teaching the 3-part "Growing Godly Men" here in Leo. A number of our resident teen boys are being taught and challenged from the Word to be the man, husband and father God

wants them to become.

Plans are complete for our 4th campus group home and it is our hope to build in 2006. Please remember this big project during the special collection in your church during the next few months. We are trusting in God's provision to meet our needs through His people. May He guide and bless you!

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

There is coolness in the air reminding us that fall has arrived! I have been telling the children to watch the trees because soon God will change those green leaves into all different, beautiful colors. One day a 4 year old said with such enthusiasm, "I saw some leaves changing colors." I was thrilled to see that they really had been paying attention. So I said, "Wow, what color were they?" With eyes so big and bright, "BLUE!" Now I really wish I could have seen that tree. The innocent mind of a child daily brings a smile to our faces.

Our enrollment has grown tremendously in the past month! It is amazing and so exciting! We had been praying for the Lord to bring us more children, knowing that ultimately they come from Him. Then in His perfect timing they began to come and ...come and...come. In two weeks we had 6 new students. They still continue to come as we sit in awe! Our enrollment has nearly doubled since the start of the school year. I find myself thinking "where are they coming from?" and a little voice softly reminds me "from Me." We serve an awesome God! It was almost humorous to have our

prayer change from "please bless us with more children" to "please give us the strength!" It is so wonderful and we thank all of you who have been praying for us. All of the monetary support has been incredible, too; God bless you all.

With our growth we now have a need for a teacher with a degree and/or experience in preschool or elementary education. It is an amazing opportunity for a single or married person who would be willing to relocate and teach small children. You can also be a great support to the Athens church. Please prayerfully consider and allow the Lord to work. If you feel the His hand nudging you, contact Bro. Mike Moore by phone (256) 729-0620; email ALM@aol.com; or his address is 8653 Beechwood Rd. Athens, AL 35611.

The semi-annual preschool board meeting was this month. We are grateful for each board member for their time, love, and concern on behalf of the preschool. We want to extend a very special thank you to Bro. Bill Schlatter for all of his years of service for us. His term on the national education committee has come to an end. He has made numerous trips to Athens over the years and we appreciate all he has done. May the Lord bless him!

ALABAMA, ATHENS Louise Hall

We have had times of joy and times of sorrow in our congregation over the past month. We rejoice with Bro. David Art as he gave his testimony to the church and is now a brother in the faith. We welcome him and are thankful God has blessed us with growth in our small congregation.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Don and Sis. Ruby Ross on the passing of her brother, Jessie Massey. To Sis. Doris Moore and her family as well, on the passing of her sister-in-law, Emma Barnett. Our prayers and sympathy to Bro. Kerwin and Sis. Sara Edelman and their family, on the death of Bro. Kerwin's grandmother. We trust in the Lord for His ultimate healing and comfort.

We thank our visiting ministers, Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Wallace Ramsier (Mansfield, OH), for traveling down to have services with us.

The preschool board meeting was held this month. All of the board members were here and we were blessed to have several of the visiting Elders and ministers stay for our Sunday services. Elder Bros. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH), Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL), Doug Schock (Sis. Clara, Bloomfield, IA), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), and ministering Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH) all took a part and we thank them for their efforts. Thank you also to all of you who traveled along.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:"

II Timothy 4:6-7

The above scripture surely relates to our dear Sis. Geraldine

Beyer's sudden death September 23. Sis. Gerry told her husband, Bro. Clarence, she did not feel well and as soon as she sat down in a chair she went to heaven. What a reward to our dear sister! Bro. Clarence and Sis. Gerry were in Lamont, KS, visiting relatives when Sis. Gerry passed away. Funeral services were held in Lamont-Gridley and her interment was in Gridley. A memorial service was held in Phoenix on October 23.

Our Phoenix church extends its heartfelt sympathy to the family of our Bro. Joe Dotterer in his recent passing. We appreciated their fellowship for many years in Phoenix.

We welcome newlyweds, Bro. Seth and Sis. Brandy Beer, into our Phoenix Church family. They are the children of Bro. Steve and Sis. Connie Beer (Leo) and Bro. Jon and Sis. Wendy Schwab (Wolcott). They arrived in July, and their new address is: 6980 E. Sahuaro Dr. #1088, Scottsdale, AZ 85254.

Our thanks to visiting ministers, Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis), Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North), and Bro. Ken Lawson (Dallas).

Thanks to the Altadena Church for hosting our youth group. It is gratifying to hear our dear youth's words of appreciation for the fellowship.

Congratulations to Bro. Glen and Sis. Alice Baumgartner on their 56th wedding anniversary.

Congratulations to Rick Freed and Jennifer Thwing on their wedding September 24. His parents are Bro. Allen and Sis. Edith Freed.

Your prayers are greatly appreciated for our homebound, Bro. Floyd and Sis. Clara Banwart. Also for Dakota Thorpe who underwent more surgery, and Fredric Hoerr

who suffered two broken arms.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT
Jane Hodges

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”

James 1:17

Our government has set aside a day of Thanksgiving in November that we celebrate yearly, but as believers, our hearts should always be overflowing with thankfulness, especially for His plan of salvation and our redemption.

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

Ephesians 5:20

On September 28, Brooklyn Grace, was born to first-time parents, April and Jason Kaufman. Brooklyn became the sixth granddaughter of Bro. Jim and Sis. Rowena Furrer. We are thankful for her safe arrival and pray the Lord will bless her and her parents.

Bro. Henry Volz and Bro. Ed Schambach Sr. were both hospitalized in the last month. Bro. Henry is back at Prescott Samaritan Village and Bro. Ed has returned home, but is still undergoing tests. We pray that God will give them grace and strength for each day and returning health according to His will.

ARIZONA, TUCSON
Lisa Knapp

We enjoyed our annual Sunday School picnic yesterday at Udall

Park. We also very much enjoyed the weather with temperatures in the high 80's. We are starting to notice our mornings and evenings getting almost cool enough for a sweater! This is big time news here in Tucson. Along with the beautiful weather, we loved watching the children play silly games, break the pinata and enjoy God's beautiful creation for an afternoon. We always enjoy the bake sale and auction that follows and manage to raise quite a bit of money for some worthy cause along with our fun. We also take home some really nice goodies! God richly blessed our little church yesterday and we thank Him for that blessing.

Not much else to report; we are looking forward to cooler days and all the wonderful things that fall brings, even to our desert climate.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA
Robin Moser

“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die...”

Ecclesiastes 3:1,2

Our congregation experienced multiple seasons this month. Sis. Margaret Kinsinger (Retired Elder Bro. Carl, dec.) passed away peacefully on October 14, receiving the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. She had been longing to go home and leaves a legacy of faith. Sis. Margaret and former Elder Bro. Carl were among the original members of the Altadena congregation. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Carl, and leaves behind two children: son, Douglas (and Lori) Kinsinger, and daugh-

ter, LaVonne McCarthy, and several grandchildren.

We also mourned with Sis. Marilyn Graf (Bro. Virgil) over the loss of her father, Bro. Joe Dotterer (Sis. LaVina, Eureka, IL), who went to be with the Lord on September 19. We know that he will be sorely missed, but shares a similar victory.

Our church rejoices with Bob Jackson (Debra) as he has found peace with God and man and plans to join his daughter, Jazmyn, in giving testimonies Thanksgiving weekend. It is moving to watch the transformation of a heart as the Lord molds each one of us.

Justin and I would like to report the birth of a son, Garrett Clive, born on October 5. He is welcomed by big brother Cody. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Doug and Sis. Carol Moser (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen Kellenberger (Fort Scott, KS).

Several visiting ministers were willing to assist with the ministry in Altadena. This month's visitors included: Bro. Herb Knochel (Sis. Laurie, Phoenix, AZ), Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Sis. Lillian, San Diego, CA), Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (Sis. Marian, San Diego, CA) and Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Phoenix, AZ). May God bless each one for their ministry to us.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO
Peggy Jevremov

We are thankful for our visitors this past month. We especially want to thank Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman) for his willingness to minister unto us. We pray the Lord will be his rich Rewarder.

Our thoughts and prayers con-

tinue to be with Bro. Rory Strahm, Sis. Juliana Topolchanyi, and Bro. Tibor Bozzay, Sr., who have not been able to assemble with us for an extended period of time.

The harvest season has arrived and the fruits of the earth are being garnered in. It makes us think about our spiritual harvest...what will it be?

What Shall The Harvest Be?

Sowing the seed by the daylight
fair,

Sowing the seed by the noonday
glare,

Sowing the seed by the fading
light,

Sowing the seed in the solemn
night;

Oh, what shall the harvest be?

Oh, what shall the harvest be?

Chorus:

Sown in the darkness or sown in
the light,

Sown in our weakness or sown in
our might,

Gathered in time or eternity,

Sure, ah, sure will the harvest be!

Gospel Hymns #662

KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA

Johanna Fortenbacher

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."

Proverbs 11:30

Greetings from Kitchener. We were blessed with a beautiful autumn, being warmed by His goodness.

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield, OH) and Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI). We sincerely appreciate your coming to

share the true Word with us.

COLORADO, DENVER

Ann Gonglach

"Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness. They drop upon the pastures of the wilderness: and the little hills rejoice on every side. The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered over with corn; they shout for joy, they also sing."

Psalms 65:11-13

Let us also shout and sing for joy in thanksgiving to our Lord for His goodness and many blessings.

It was a blessing to be able to listen to the "tapes" from this year's Conference in Morris, MN. We're thankful for the reminders and encouragements from our Elder brethren.

It was a blessing to have Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL) bring forth the Word on October 2.

It is a blessing that the Lord is still calling the lost to Himself and that Kris Braun is repenting.

It was a blessing to be able to travel to Bern, Kansas, for a church wedding. Not having been raised in our church, I appreciate the simple, faith-based weddings that take place in our church. How different they are compared with the types of weddings to which I'm accustomed! The following Wednesday evening, we discussed love at Bible study. Love is not something we get, but something we give. What a difference this concept is compared with the way the world views love and marriage. We can know what love is and we can love because God first loved us and showed us what it is.

This Thanksgiving Day, and every day, let's remember to count our blessings.

CONNECTICUT ROCKVILLE

**Laura Virkler
Amber Reutter**

Our congregation has experienced both sorrow and great joy this past month. It is through these difficult moments and times of rejoicing that we grow to appreciate one another and feel the strength of the Brotherhood. Our dear Bro. Clarence Mangold (Sis. Martha) was laid to rest this past month. It was his greatest desire to be with his Lord. We pray that the Lord will continue to be with his wife and family. He leaves his children, Sis. Nancy (Bro. Scott) Zahner, Mary (John) Evans, Bro. Ed (Sis. Terry), Luann (Bro. Mike) Hoffman, Sis. Dorothy (Bro. Stephen) Viens, and Pam (Gary) Trinqué; his sisters, Sis. Claris (Bro. Harry) Isch and Sis. Melba Mangold, and his brother, Willis; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Our hearts mourn for the loss of Warren Skinner, 17, as he was tragically killed in a recent car accident. His death has had a tremendous impact on our congregation and community as well. We pray that the Lord will be with his parents, Sis. Sherry and Everett Skinner, and siblings, Everett Jr., Christopher, and Lauren; his grandparents, Bro. Ed and Sis. Alma Luginbuhl and William and Pat Skinner; as well as many aunts, uncles and cousins, as they try to sort through their emotions, and by God's grace, move forward in life. We are thankful for Lauren's recovery from her injuries in this accident. How often we are reminded

that there is so much that we are not in control of. May we be so thankful that God does promise comfort in time of great need. "He'll lighten the load, And level the road, And bear thee on hands of compassion." (ZH #46)

Our congregation has been richly blessed with many new converts. Our prayers extend to Nathan Luginbuhl (Bro. Rick and Sis. Sue), Joshua Bahler (Bro. Steve and Sis. Lori), Rachel Eleiott (Richard and Sis. Joanne), Suzy LaPlante (Bro. Leo and Sis. Sherri), Andrew Goric (Bro. Bob and Sis. Lynette), Audrey Lanz (Bro. Barry and Karen), AnnaMarie Hoffman (Bro. Steve and Sis. Joan), and Ashlee Hunt (Kenneth and Sis. Karen), as they humble themselves before our Lord. In amidst of such tragedy, our new converts provide us a measure of spiritual strength, and an added assurance that the Lord continues to work among us.

"Now of our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts..."

II Thess. 2:16-17

How thankful we are that the Lord knows our each and every need. May we continue to strive after His will that we may have the blessing of His comfort, guidance, and strength.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

"And he changes the times and the seasons."

Daniel 2:21

It seems like as soon as the calendar was turned to October, it got cooler (and wetter) around here. As I write this, the leaves are turning, but we still have more green.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA), Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington-Normal, IL). When Bro. Ron was here he had a Bible Study on Conflict in the Middle East. Other visitors this month were from Rittman and Akron, OH; and Silverton, OR.

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. Liz Hermann (703) 212-7339 or Sis. Henrietta Meyer (703) 904-8301 for assistance and to let us know how many to expect for Sunday services. If you would like to get together on Saturday evening, please let us know that as well. We would be happy to have an evening of fellowship and/or singing.

**FLORIDA
FORT LAUDERDALE
Renee Mangold**

As their visit comes to an end, we bid a fond farewell to Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley Braker. We want to thank Bro. Joe for helping on the

pulpit while they were here. We appreciate Sis. Shirley, too, for all that she did while she was here. May God bless them both.

Another goodbye to Sis. Carol Nussbaum (Fairbury, IL). We really enjoyed having Sis. Carol with us while she helped Sis. Doris Huber during her recovery. We'll look forward to the next time she visits.

We had our monthly potluck at the beach club. As always, delicious food and great fellowship were enjoyed by all who attended.

We have resumed our Wednesday evening singing services at 7:30 p.m., which were briefly suspended during the summer.

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Robin Wiegand**

Greetings, faithful brothers and sisters. We are excited to announce two births. On September 1, Lily Elizabeth Koehl was born to Bro. Mark and Sis. Tricia Koehl. Liberty Joy Hodel was born September 30 to Bro. Dustin and Sis. Mandy Hodel (Roanoke). Both of these little girls are precious granddaughters of Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Koehl.

Sis. Suellen Kaeb underwent surgery for removal of a bone spur from her shoulder. It will be a long recovery and she and Bro. Virgil will appreciate our prayers.

We are saddened to bid farewell to Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Melissa Miller and their three sons who are moving to Ohio. They will be attending our church in Mansfield. We pray for the Lord's blessings upon them.

Our annual get together at Lakewood Retreat was a success once again. Many thanks to the

West Lafayette group for making the effort to share in the fellowship with us. We had the great blessing of having Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN) as our main speaker. It was a spiritually uplifting weekend. May the Lord be with you all.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA

**Kevin Kipfer
Benjamin Stoller**

“O sing unto the LORD a new song: sing unto the LORD, all the earth. Sing unto the LORD, bless his name; shew forth his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people.”

Psalm 96:1-3

It's been a good month down here in the south. We had a wonderful weekend when Bro. John and Sis. Mary Brewer shared the testimonies of how God has worked and is working in their lives. We also rejoiced at their baptism. It was great to have Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), and Bro. Ted Hirstein (Sis. Joyce and son Troy, Morton, IL) down for the weekend as well. Bro. Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam, Latty, OH) and part of his family also took the time to visit us this month.

Adding to our fantastic month was the testimony and baptism of Will Olar in the Mansfield, Ohio, Nazarene church. We are excited to have Will's smiling face back down here and going to school.

The good news just keeps coming, too. Bro. Bud and Sis. Billie Klopfenstein have moved to the Atlanta area. Also, Bro. Rich and Sis. LaNae Aberle have relocated here

as well. They are glad to be closer to their children, and it's a joy to have them worshipping with us and very beneficial as we glean from their knowledge and wisdom.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Sheila McCoy
Doreen Moser**

“While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.”

Genesis 8:22

Our congregation was able to gather together at the park for our annual fall picnic after church. In October we were invited to the Moser's for a yearly harvest gathering. We are grateful that we can share the blessings of gathering with one another.

David and Sis. Sheila McCoy are the joyous grandparents of Emma Fay Maly born on August 29. Her parents are Bob and Alisha and her big brother is Rylan.

We continue to study the Old Testament, reading in Samuel, Chronicles and Psalms this month. We appreciate Bro. Shannon Stahl's time and effort with our Bible studies.

Shayna Mueller and Gene Sommers were united in marriage in Estes Park, CO, on October 8 with a reception in Wisconsin the following Saturday. Shayna's parents are Bro. Art and Sis. Marlene. We wish them God's blessings.

I'd like to share the following poem from the Apostolic Christian Church E-mail site:

My Father's way may twist and turn,

My heart may throb and ache,
But in my soul I'm glad I know
He maketh no mistake.

My cherished plans may go astray,
My hopes may fade away,
But still I'll trust my Lord to lead
For He doth know the way.

Tho' night be dark and it may
seem
That day will never break,
I'll pin my faith, my all in Him,
He maketh no mistake.

There's so much now I cannot see,
My eyesight's far too dim,
But come what may, I'll simply
trust
And leave it all to Him.

For by and by the mist will lift,
And plain it all He'll make.
Through all the way, tho' dark to
me,
He made not one mistake.

ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

**Kara Martin
Ann Nussbaum**

We had a blessed time October 8-9 with the testimonies and baptisms of three young men. Clark Kaeb (Bro. Dave and Sis. Brenda), Dustin Huber (Bro. Dave and Sis. Debbie), and Matt Schieler (Bro. Darl and Sis. Cindy) all professed their faith in God and His Son Jesus Christ and acknowledged the working of the Holy Spirit in their lives. We were privileged to have Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley), Bro. Fred Witzig and Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN), and Bro. Mark Gerber (Bluffton, IN) share our pulpit that weekend. On a bittersweet note, we also said farewell to the Darl Schieler family, as

they have recently moved to Indianapolis. We feel a profound sense of loss at their leaving, but we know God will use them in their new church family.

Baby Eli Andrew Lehman is now home from Columbia and with his parents, Bro. Steve and Sis. Danae Lehman, and his brother Isaac. Eli was born November 4, 2004. Eli's grandparents are Bro. Nate and Sis. Yvonne Leman (Denver, CO) and Doug and Cathy Dallas.

Joshua Kaufmann is now a big brother to a new sister, Darci Jean Kaufmann, born September 24 to Bro. Matthew and Sis. Rebekah Kaufmann. Grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Bonnie Kaufmann and Hisato and the late Sis. Kathie Jean Inoue.

The engagement of Sis. Bethany Wiegand (Bro. John and Sis. Mary, Roanoke) and Bro. Jeff Knobloch (Bro. William and Sis. Eleanor, Lester, IA) was announced September 18. We wish this young couple God's blessings as they prepare for their October 30 wedding.

We are thankful to Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton) for leading us in a two-part Wednesday night Bible study entitled "How to Study the Bible." We pray that we may continue to study and grow more deeply in God's Word.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD **Steve Endress**

We enjoyed having several visiting ministers with us this month. Bros. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Mark Zimmerman (Eureka, IL), and Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL) all labored on our behalf.

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Elizabeth Endress are thankful that God has

blessed them with another healthy baby boy. Andrew John was born on September 20 and is welcomed home by Matthew, Sarah, and Laura. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Ev Endress and Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein (Gridley, IL).

Our prayers and sympathy are with Sis. Marilyn Slutz (Bro. Richard) at the passing of her brother, Craig Maurer, of Marquette Heights, IL. May the Lord grant her strength and comfort during this time of sorrow.

Our prayers are with Joel Stahl, son of Bro. Wendell and Sis. Linda, who had a farming accident and had to be hospitalized. We believe Joel will be able to make a full recovery for which we are very thankful.

During this Thanksgiving season, let us not only thank God for the many and bountiful blessings we enjoy, but let us also be thankful for the trials and hardships He allows us to experience. As we read many times throughout the Holy Scriptures, it is through these times that we prove our faithfulness, draw close to God, and learn to surrender all.

ILLINOIS **CHAMPAIGN-URBANA** **Karla Kieser**

Greetings from Champaign-Urbana! We are enjoying the fall weather, which has been very pleasant lately. This time of year usually means lots of cookouts and we did enjoy two this past month! Bro. Denny and Sis. Cheryl Mangers held their annual wiener roast at the beginning of the month complete with a hayrack ride and lots of caramel apples. They have been holding this annual cookout for al-

most 30 years and every year former Champaign-ites are able to come. It is always a joy to see faces of the past and fellowship with them once again. Bro. Jim and Sis. Beth Walder also hosted the church for a cookout at their place a few weeks later. We thank both families for their willingness to host such nice gatherings. We always have a nice time!

The college group hosted College Weekend October 15-16. The topic this year was "Relationships". We are always hopeful that our tiny church will have enough room for these big events and God certainly provided.

Elder Bro. Ron Messner, Bro. Ken Wuethrich, Elder Bro. Tim Funk, Bro. Dewayne Dill and Bro. Ted Witzig Jr. had the duty of preparing talks on the subject. We thank our visiting ministers from the past month, Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Cissna Park), and ministering Bros. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis), Al Schambach (Remington), Virgil Metzger (Chicago), Curt Rassi (Tremont), and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington).

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO **Rachel Meyer**

Greetings of love from Chicago. We praise God for His love and protection through another month. Our prayers are with those in our country and around the world who have been devastated by hurricanes, earthquakes and mudslides. We are once again reminded that God is truly in control of this world.

Blessed with a new baby boy are Bro. Matthew and Sis. Bridget Rassi. Philemon Andrew is welcomed home by Carl, Manna, Emmaus and Quartus. May God

bless this dear family.

We welcome Sis. Tereasa Fry, who has moved from Remington, IN, to Chicago for employment. It is a joy to have her with us and we look forward to fellowshiping with Sis. Tereasa.

Our prayers are with Sis. Judy Snyder as she recovers from surgery. We wish her a comfortable recovery and pray she can feel God's love and comfort along with ours.

We are sad to be saying farewell to Sis. Phyllis Anderson who is moving to Phoenix, AZ. Sis. Phyllis has been in Chicago for many years and always has a smile and encouraging word. She will be missed. May God go with her as she makes this change.

Several weeks ago I was driving on the interstate. I was familiar with the routes, exits, etc. and knew where I was going. I noticed that there were four lanes in which I could be driving. Each of the four lanes, however, took the driver to a different interstate – so you had to know exactly where you needed to be. If a driver was in the wrong lane and didn't have time to switch, he would be sent driving off in a totally different direction than he wished. In our spiritual lives, there may be times we find ourselves in the wrong "lane". We may know we need to make a change or go in a different direction, but somehow we find ourselves stuck. That's where God comes in. U-turns are always allowed and we can stop in our tracks and decide to turn God's way. He is the one who can take our lives and change our direction and focus. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Prov. 3:4-5). This

is a promise from God and reminds us He is the best navigator for our lives.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Pam Walder
Andrea Walder

We were thankful to have the opportunity to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of our new brother in faith, Bro. Lyle Young (Frances), on September 25. We welcome Bro. Lyle into our brotherhood and pray that God will be near to him all the days of his life. We thank Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) for being with us to help with the evening.

Other visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Dan Moser (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Francesville, IN). We thank them for their labors on our behalf and pray that God will bless them and their families.

Our Bro. Norman Maul passed away on October 11 and we wish to extend our sympathy to his children and their families, Bro. Bill and Sis. Wanda Maul and family, Mike and Sis. Kathy Maul and family, and Ralph and Helen Edelman and family, as well as his brother, Bro. Clarence Maul. May our Comforter be near to them during this time of sorrow.

Our prayers are with Bro. Gerald Rudin (Sis. Joan) as he has recently undergone surgery. May God strengthen him and grant him a swift recovery.

We rejoice with Bro. Justin and Sis. Jodi Sinn as they welcome little Kenton Drew into their hearts and home. Kenton was born October 16 and is also welcomed home by his brother, Carson. Kenton's grandparents are Bro. Gerald and Sis.

Joan Rudin and Loren and Nita Sinn. Bro. Les and Sis. Arlene Stock are also happy to welcome a new granddaughter, Olivia Kamdon Mitchell. Olivia was born on September 20 and is the daughter of Kurt and Donna Mitchell of Champaign.

On Sunday, September 18, our Sunday School students were able to host the annual Senior Citizens Meal. It was a blessing for the young and old to be able to spend time together.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Rachel Schrock

"The Lord is my shepherd; No want I'll suffer..." (Zion's Harp #212). Thankful for the Shepherd's guidance, Bro. Jared Schieber (Bro. Mike and Sis. Mary) recently announced his engagement to Sis. Angie Schmidgall (Bro. Randy and Sis. Cindy) of Goodfield. A December 4 wedding is being planned.

Little Shawn Remmert is no longer in want for parents. His adoption by Kent and Sis. Crystal Remmert was finalized on September 19. We rejoice that this process is now completed for this dear family!

Allowing the Lord to truly shepherd his heart now causes us to rejoice with Vic Rinkenberger (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pat) who recently began repenting. May he feel the Lord's divine guidance as he begins upon the pathway towards Heaven.

We were not in want of visitors on Sunday, October 2, our fall "Invite – a – Guest day. We have also enjoyed visiting ministers this past month, including Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL) and Bro. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA).

We sincerely thank them for their efforts on our behalf.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Amy Gasser
Miriam Gasser

Come, ye thankful people, come,
Raise the song of harvest home:
All is safely gathered in,
Ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, doth provide
For our wants to be supplied:
Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest home.

*#518, Worship and Service
Hymnal*

On the weekend of September 24 - 25, we appreciated having Elder Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR) here to assist with the testimony and baptism of Sis. Amanda Martin (Bro. Dave and Sis. Jean). What a joy to welcome her into the fold as our sister in the Lord! In early October, Bro. Alan Schambach (Remington, IN) also visited Elgin and provided a blessing through his ministry.

Listening to the recordings of the Brotherhood Conference took the place of our regular mid-week services from September 14 - October 6. It was encouraging to hear the Elders' deliberations on various aspects of our Christian walk and to sense the brothers' unified concern for our spiritual welfare.

May all who are suffering be comforted by Jesus' words "My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." II Cor. 12:9

We are sorry that Sis. Louise Steffen was hospitalized again and pray that her discomfort will soon be alleviated.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Cindy Stoller
Lisa Metzger

There are several from our congregation who have undergone medical treatment recently. Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Vi Leman (Bro. Vernon), Bro. Earl Zimmerman (Sis. Elsie), Sis. Carol Zobrist (Bro. Gene), Bro. Melvin Stoller, Bro. Richard Frank, and Sis. Melba Mangold. May God be near these loved ones and grant healing in His time.

Our prayers and sympathy are with those who have experienced the loss of loved ones recently. Sis. Eileen Blunier (Bro. Duane) has lost her father, Bro. Bob Hohulin, of Roanoke. Bro. Bruce (Sis. Marge) Leman's father, Bro. Wilmer Leman (Eureka), has passed on to his eternal reward. Sis. Melba Mangold's brother, Bro. Clarence Mangold (Rockville, CT), has also passed away. May God be near and provide comfort to all who are grieving.

We are thankful for the birth of two healthy babies. Bro. Jake and Sis. T. Anne Wiegand welcome home Ella Jean. Siblings are Anna, Emma, and Sara. Grandparents are Dale and Sis. Freidora Wiegand and Bro. Craig and Sis. Trudy Rudin (Forrest, IL). Also, Roy Alvin was born to Bro. Dean and Sis. Becki Martin. He is welcomed home by Hannah, Charity and Amos. His grandparents are Roland and Sis. Deloris Martin and Bro. Les and Sis. Ruth Martin.

Bro. Matt and Sis. Nancy Rocke and their children, Jennifer, Jessica, James and Jodi, have relocated from Detroit, MI, to our area. We are thankful to have them back again.

We are so happy to hear that Bro. Tim and Sis. Donna Carr's son, Jason and his wife, Jill, are repenting. Even though they are living in far away California, we know God will hear and answer prayer, and provide the needed grace each day. We continue to keep them in our prayers.

We enjoyed a weekend of provings and baptisms as we welcomed Bro. Jonathan Leman (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy) and Sis. Traci Hoerr (Bro. Mark and Sis. Carolyn) into the Body of Christ. We wish them much grace in their continued walk with the Lord.

Several visiting ministers were present for our special weekend, including Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Bros. Bill Dotterer (Lamar, MO), Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL), and Wayne Wiegand (Goodfield, IL). Also joining us this month were Bros. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA) and Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA). We appreciate these brothers for laboring on our behalf, and pray that God will bless them.

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Lila Fehr
Anna Schmidgall

"Call and cry ye watchmen, boldly..." (Zion's Harp #112). On September 17, our congregation enjoyed an evening of singing on behalf of our retired Elder Bro. Art Bahler and Sis. Suzanne. May God richly bless them for their years of service and labors among us.

"When a Christian dies, Precious is the prize..." (Hymns of Zion #248). Sis. LaVina Moser passed away on September 16. We extend our prayers and sympathy to the many nephews and nieces in our

congregation. Sis. LaVina is fondly remembered for her many years as a Sunday School teacher where she tirelessly brought forth the Old, Old Story to the little children.

We also remember in prayer Troy and Sis. Annette Hale and family as they mourn the passing of Troy's grandfather, Bill Bartlett, who resided at Fairview Haven.

"The voice that breathed o'er Eden, that earliest wedding day..." (Hymns of Zion #196). Bro. Walter Edelman Jr. and Sis. Janelle Steidinger were joined together in marriage on October 2. We pray for God's guidance and nearness always. Their parents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Rosie Edelman and Bro. Randy and Sis. Dawn Steidinger.

"Word which God has spoken, Word of peaceful token, Gospel of the Lord..." (Zion's Harp #97). We were thankful for our visiting ministers: Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Bro. Kent Getz (Elgin, IA), and Bro. Nate Wieland (Goodfield, IL). May the Lord continue to give our ministering brothers the strength and desire to share His Word.

"Jesus loves me, this I know..." (Hymns of Zion #176). Jaythan and Kyra Gadberry welcome their first child, MaKayla Lynn. Thankful grandparents are Robert and Cherie Kaisner and Gloria Gadberry. May God give them direction as they raise their little girl.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Jill Wenger
Lori Leman**

"Our love shall not diminish, nor fade nor wane away..." We rejoice with our Bro. Bryan Aberle and Sis. Lisa Dotterer as they were united in marriage on September 25. Their

parents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Laverne Aberle and Sis. Kathy and the late Bro. Wendell Dotterer. We wish them God's richest blessings as they walk life's path hand in hand.

We extend our sympathy to those in our congregation who have laid a dear one to rest. Our prayers are with Bro. Ronnie Mueller (Sis. Loida) and Sis. Donna Edelman (Bro. Levi) as their mother, Edna Mueller, passed away. She has many grandchildren and great-grandchildren in our congregation and we pray that God will comfort each one. Also, Sis. Dawn Stork (Bro. Paul) said farewell to her grandmother, Lucille Stephen. May God be very near these families in the days ahead.

We have several new births in our congregation this month. Cole Taylor Zimmerman was born to Stephen Zimmerman and Casey Taylor. His grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta Zimmerman. Eric and Rita Eisenmann and big sister, Emma, are thankful for the safe arrival of their twins, Clayton John and Callista Marie. Their thankful grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Bev Eisenmann and Bro. Neil and Sis. Linda Schmidgall (Morris, MN). Rita spent some time in the hospital prior to the births, but we are thankful that everyone is home and doing well now. May God be with each of these families and bless them.

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this month. We thank our Bro. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT), Bro. Joe Dotterer (Smithville, OH), Bro. Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL) and Bro. Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN)

for being willing to be used in His service. May they always feel God's Spirit and direction.

Note of Thanks:

I want to thank everyone who remembered me on my 90th birthday. The warm thoughts and good wishes, whether they came by telephone calls, cards, letters, or personal visits, were deeply appreciated.

I especially want to thank my family for the birthday celebration Saturday evening at the Fellowship Hall. Having my children, grandchildren, great - grandchildren, many friends and cousins, and all of my nieces and nephews present was a special treat.

May the Lord love and bless each one.

Dorothy Bachtold

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Amber Grimm
Rita Bauman**

We wish to thank Bros. Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Fairbury, IL), Glenn Dill (Sis. Marilyn, Tremont, IL), and Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL) who brought forth His Word last month. May God bless you for your willingness.

"Repent ye therefore and be converted that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord:"

Acts 3:19

We were thankful to hear that Teri Hinrichsen (Bro. Mike and Sis. Gerri) has found peace and is awaiting to give her testimony and then be baptized. May you continue to look to God for grace daily to help

you through.

We rejoice with Jeremy and Joni Zacha, who are first - time parents and have received a blessing from God. A son, Wyatt James, was born to them on October 26. He is welcomed home by his grandparents, Bro. Gary and Sis. Connie Allen, and Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki Martin, Eureka, IL.

Hospital patients this past month have been Sis. Barb Wiegand (Bro. Ron). We are thankful that she is able to assemble with us again. Also hospitalized is Sis. Carolyn Ott (Bro. Don). May she feel the prayers of the brethren as she experiences God's healing power.

"Count Your Blessings" (Hymns of Zion #116).

We have so many things to be thankful for, but yet we take our blessings for granted. As we approach this Thanksgiving season, may we take time to think on our blessings and then a little more time to thank our Giver.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Perry A. Klopfenstein

"Life is short — Eternity is not."

The above sign was posted on a roadside and is quite instructive. Those living in the flesh are focusing on this short life, to the exclusion of that long and endless eternity. How unwise. The true believer, however, has a proper focus — to follow the Lord and reach that eternal destination. The fact that eternity is never-ending ought to give impetus for everyone to obtain the proper focus, yet there is an enemy that lurks and deceives many.

Because of the grave consequences associated with an eternity spent in hell, it is imperative for all

ministers to sound the warning, and to appeal for sinners to repent. May we all be praying that the call to repentance, and holy living, will continue on. As the Holy Spirit prompts our ministers, we are blessed with their messages. Let us continue to pray for them.

After living 103 years, Sis. Lillian B. Witzig passed away on October 24 at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home where she had resided for many years. Her husband of 66 years, Bro. Alphai "Alph" Witzig, preceded her in death on December 9, 2000. She is survived by three sons: Eldon Witzig, Roanoke, Duane Witzig, Shirley, and Bro. Bruce Witzig, Peoria, Illinois; and by 13 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren. Although many in this generation of the church would likely not remember Sis. Lillian, there are many of us who do. She was a humble sister devoted to the welfare of her husband and children — and she had a warmth for everyone who greeted her. She always had a kindly, appreciative greeting for all those who visited her at the Eureka Home.

Health concerns continue to be manifested. Sis. Mary Stoller is recovering from shoulder replacement surgery. Bro. Don Gramm is recovering from knee replacement surgery. We pray for God's healing hand to grant a complete recovery in these health concerns.

One of our most noteworthy earthly treasures is good health. As one surveys the society, and the church, it is evident that many people are affected by varying stages of declining health, and the symptoms are wide-ranging. Yet, whatever state we find ourselves in, we are to be content. God is still in heaven and knows our every need

— and He has promised never to leave or forsake us, if we remain true to Him.

Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) was here for a Wednesday evening Topical Bible Presentation on the subject of "end times". Retired Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) was a visiting minister on Sunday, October 23. We are thankful to God for the willingness of these brothers to lend themselves to the Lord's work.

We offer our sympathies to Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marjorie Witzig regarding the passing of their son-in-law, Bro. Eric Zeller, 57, of Indianapolis, IN. May God grant this entire family much comfort in the days ahead.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Julie Bahr

Christie Zeller

We have been listening to the Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings this month. We are thankful to God for our Elder brothers; for their wisdom, knowledge and kind instruction for our churches.

Our Bible Class had the Bloomington Bible Class for the day on October 2. Bro. Jeff Thames (Sis. Brenda, Washington, IL) brought us God's Holy Word and spoke on the Ten Commandments. May God bless him for his labors of love.

Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marsha, Washington, IL) brought us our Family Worship on October 5. His topic was the Story of Gideon. May God bless him for his willingness to serve.

Sis. Della Koch passed away October 13, at Restmor Nursing Home. She was 94.

Sis. Viola Herman (Bro. Clarence, Peoria, IL) passed away October 13 at the Peoria Apostolic Christian Nursing Home. She is the stepmother to our Sis. Barb (Bro. Ed) Kaiser and our Sis. Esther (Bro. Mark) Stephens. May God comfort these dear families.

Bro. Tim Roecker (Sis. Diane, Peoria, IL) was our other visiting minister for the month. May God continue to bless him for his kindness and love.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Lou and Marjean Lonteen

Peoria church installed a new Elder on Sunday, September 18. Bro. Timothy Funk was ordained the fourth resident Elder of the Peoria Church congregation. Assisting Retiring Elder Brother Charles Hemmer with the ordination were Elder Bros. Ron Messner (Washington), Earl Ringger (Gridley), and Charles Sauder (Tremont).

Ministering Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton) and the singing group "Psalm 100" blessed our area on the weekend of September 24-25. They spoke and sang at the Skylines, Peoria County Jail, and at our Peoria church. We appreciate your visits.

We appreciated Bro. Steve Sauder's (Sis. Mary) Family Night service he shared with our congregation on October 5. We were inspired.

Engagement announcements: Sis. Bethany Kummer (Bro. Chris and Sis. Patty) to Bro. Josh Hoerr (Bro. Bob and Sis. Myrna); and Erin Zimmerman and Darin Christian. Erin is the granddaughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr.

The Lord has called and these

souls have answered the call to come to him repenting and seeking His will for their lives. They are: Ali Ginzler (Bro. Geoff and Sis. Angie), Matt Knobloch (Bro. Lori and Sis. Pat), Jeff David (Jim and Sis. Nanette), and Beth Miller (Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty). We rejoice with these converts and remember them in our prayers.

New Babies: Bro. Hans and Sis. Mandy (Schwenk) Schmidgall had a little boy, Caden Erich on September 10.

Tate William was born on September 18 to Bro. Billy and Sis. Jenny (Honegger) Schick. Willow welcomes home her brother.

On October 5, Isaac Steven Ober was born to Bro. Ken and Sis. Stephanie (Pflederer) Ober. Grandparents are: Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Pam Ober and Bro. Steve and Sis. Barb Pflederer (Tremont). Kenny welcomes his new little brother.

Special prayer requests: Bro. Jim Hoerr, Bro. Bob Joos, Sis. Dorothy Meier, Shelby Metzger, and Bro. Wayne Wieland appreciate your prayers for God's healing hand in their lives.

Two precious souls from our congregation went home to be with the Lord on the same day, October 1. They are: Bro. Ivan Thomas (May) and Retired Elder Bro. Roy Sauder. We are saddened by their absence, yet we know they spent a lifetime preparing for this great journey to their eternal home.

Bro. Ivan leaves his wife, May, and one son and three daughters, along with his beloved grandchildren.

Bro. Roy's wife, Sis. Gertrude, preceded Bro. Roy in death. He leaves his sons, Bro. Ken and Sis. Sherry and Bro. Steven and Sis.

Vicki (Sarasota, FL), along with grandchildren.

On October 13, Sis. Viola Herman went home to be with the Lord. She leaves her husband, Bro. Clarence. We extend heartfelt sympathy to each and every one in their losses. May God surround you with His love.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Roy L. Sauder wishes to give thanks for all the prayers and support given to Dad and our family through the years. May God bless you all. Your visits, prayers, cards, flowers, food, and memorial contributions are among the kind, thoughtful acts of love we so deeply appreciate. Jesus, we thank Thee for providing hope and peaceful eternal rest for all who stay true to Thy teachings and continue to love and follow Thee.

"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men."

Philippians 2:5-7

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Kara Blunier Vera Baer

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

Ephesians 5:20

Thanksgiving time helps us remember to give thanks to God but even then do we give Him thanks for everything?

Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), were here to bring us God's precious Word on October 2. The following week, Bro. Fred Witzig (Indianapolis, IN) visited our congregation. May God grant them and all of our ministers grace to bring His message to us.

Bro. Art and Sis. Joy Baurer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary October 10. Wishing them and their family God's nearness as they have life together to serve Him.

September 26 brought happiness of an additional child into two families. Kyle and Jill Eisenbarth named their son Jay Ronald. He is welcomed home by his older brother, Collin. Maternal grandparents are Marvin and Sharon Eberle of our congregation. On the same day, Bro. Chris and Sis. Carol Steidinger, along with their children, Tagen and Taryn, were thankful for the birth of Torianna Marie. Her grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Diana Streitmatter, Princeville, and Bro. Donald Steidinger, Fairbury, IL, and Sis. Alice Steidinger, Bloomington, IL.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Gladys (Bro. Nick) Knobloch as her brother, Ralph Hornback, passed away. He lived in Avon, IL

Do not put off till tomorrow
your repentance, come today!
For to wait will bring you sorrow,
only grief comes from delay.

Zion's Harp # 52

We are thankful Jerod Hanson has been able to answer God's calling. May he seek God's grace to build a firm foundation. His parents are Steve and Miriam Hanson.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank everyone for all the support and kindness shown at the time of our mother's passing. Thanks to all those who visited her at the home and for all the prayers, cards and generosity of so many. These acts will never be forgotten. God bless you all.

The family of Mabel Schafer

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE Doris Fischer Dee Fehr

"There is a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God."

Psalm 46:4

Two souls have recently wended their way home to that river and city of which the Psalmist spoke. Sis. Leona Pfister passed away on September 21. She is survived by six sisters and one brother: Sis. Pearl (Bro. Robert) Miller, Sis. Mabelle (Bro. Grant) Rauhaus, Sis. Irma Luginbuhl, Sis. Anna Pfister, Sis. Lois Pfister, Sis. Dorothy Pfister, and Bro. Marvin (Sis. Ila) Pfister. Our prayers are also with the family of Bro. Curt Sauder, who was called home on September 26. Surviving him are his wife, Sis. Luella; one daughter, Sis Pat Sauder; two sons, Les (Cindy) Sauder and Bruce (Rita) Sauder; one sister, Sis. Mabel (Bro. Dick) Getz; one brother, Bro. John (Sis. Esther) Sauder; and two stepdaughters, Sandra Osman and Cynthia (David) Lee.

As we pay our last respects to Sis. Leona and to Bro. Curt, we welcome a precious new soul to this earth. Bro. Dustin and Sis. Mandy Hodel became parents with the birth of

Liberty Joy on September 30. Liberty is Bro. Brad and Sis. Patti Hodel's first grandchild, as well as a granddaughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Koehl (Sarasota, FL).

We thank Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield) for assembling with us and delivering the message of the Gospel. At our September Family Worship, Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton) spoke on the topic of prayer. It's always good to be reminded of the importance of communicating with God. "The less we pray, the less we will desire to pray." Let us always strive to keep the line of communication with God open and flowing.

At our October Family Worship, Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton) imparted how children's Sunday School songs tell the story of salvation. Oh, that each one of us could accept the truths of the Bible with the simple faith of a child!

On October 3, we received a special blessing as the quartet, Psalm 100, from Bluffton, blended their voices in harmony and praise to God. "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord come before his presence with singing." We appreciate their willingness to make the effort to be with us for a blessed evening.

Quite a few from Roanoke attended the wedding of Bro. Chris Wuthrich and Sis. Janelle Sinn, which was held in Kansas City on October 9. Their parents are Sis. Valerie Wuthrich, Bill Wuthrich, and Sis. Carol and John Sinn (Ft. Scott, KS). We rejoice with Sis. Bethany Wiegand (Bro. John and Sis. Mary) and Bro. Jeff Knobloch (Taylor, MO) as their engagement was recently announced. Jeff's parents are Bro. William and Sis. Eleanor Knobloch (Lester, IA).

At the time of this writing, Sis. Edna (Bro. Harold) Roth is confined to the hospital. Our prayer for her and her family is that they may feel the Lord's strengthening presence ever near them.

Note of Thanks:

With sincere appreciation, we want to thank all our loved ones for their many acts of kindness, flowers, cards, and especially prayers during the illness and passing of our dear sister and aunt, Leona. We are grateful, and may God bless you all.

The family of Leona Pfister

We would like to thank our family and friends for the prayers, visits, food, cards, calls, flowers, and gifts. We appreciated all the kindness we received in our husband and father's passing.

The Curtis Sauder family

I want to thank the ministers and everyone for your prayers, visits, food and phone calls and all acts of kindness shown to me during my recent illness. A special thanks to doctors, nurses and all who cared for me. May God richly bless you all.

Carol Schwab

ILLINOIS, TREMONT
Teresa Rowell
Sheri Allen

We have been listening to the Conference tapes. Let us each use what we hear to draw us closer to the Lord.

Thanksgiving is quickly approaching. May we use this time to count our blessings. We all have so much to be thankful for.

We were blessed to have had two visiting ministers this month. We

are thankful that Bro. Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA) and Bro. John Rowell (Burlington, IA) were willing to come and labor in our midst.

We have had several hospital patients. They are Connor and Cole Wagenbach (Bro. Daniel and Sis. Jeanne), Bethany Tomasian (Bro. Simon III and Sis. Lori Wagenbach), Kasi Crumbo (Bro. Mark and Sis. Colleen Moser) and Sis. Wilma Pulfer (Bro. Les). We are thankful for the Lord's healing for each of these loved ones.

We rejoice with three families as they have been blessed with new additions. Bro. Derek and Sis. Leann Sauder, and big sister Lexi, are thankful for the safe arrival of little Wesley Earl on October 1. Wesley's grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Mary Sauder and Bro. Stan and Sis. Lola Stoller (Eureka, IL). Bro. John and Sis. Jamie Dill have been blessed with a second little boy, Brady Lane, born on October 3. Parker is excited to welcome his new little brother home. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill and Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy Koch. Welcoming their first child are Bro. Paul and Sis. Beth Wagenbach. Jesse Daniel was born on October 14. His grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Liz Wagenbach and Bro. Dan and Sis. Dorothy Virkler (Rockville, CT). We pray for God's blessings on each of these families. We extend our sympathy to Sis. Beth (Bro. Todd) Stuber on the passing of her brother, Robert Emich, Jr. (Richland, WA). We pray they will feel the nearness and comfort of the Lord during this difficult time.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Barb Banwart
Nancy Knepp

It was a special blessing to welcome so many guests, including several ministers, on invite – a – guest Sunday, October 8. We were thankful to have with us Bro. Ron Joos (Sis. Christy, Bloomfield, IA), Bro. Wayne Leman (Sis. Julie, Roanoke, IL), Bro. Gene Metzger (Sis. Dolores, Lester, IA), Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Lisa, Eureka, IL), Bro. Matt Steffen (Sis. Deanna, Princeville, IL), Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb, Remington, IN), and Bro. Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor, MO).

One of the brothers encouraged us to live so as not to have any regrets. For myself, I praise God that He is the God of second chances! When we come to Him in repentance with regret and remorse, He is filled with mercy and compassion, always giving us the opportunity to change, even at the eleventh hour.

“It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.”

We are prayerful for Sis. Delores Kiefer who suffered extensive injuries in an automobile accident, and for Viola Sigafus (Sis. Jan Sigafus' mother) who recently underwent surgery.

We rejoice with Brenda Hodel and Mike Roley who were married October 22. Parents of the couple are Kent and Janet Hodel and Dan and Marilyn Roley of Metamora.

We have been encouraged as we listened to the Conference tapes this month. God is ever faithful!

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Amber Steffen
Elizabeth Frauhiger

“For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

Philippians 1:21

Death, although a part of every life, is a difficult prospect for those loved ones left behind. This month, many dear souls have gone to their rest in the Lord. Our dear Bro. Ken Reinhard, who suffered through a long illness, finally went home, leaving behind a loving wife, Sis. Ann, and their five children, Bro. Kevin (Sis. Shelly), Bro. Kent (Sis. Jodi), Sis. LaNae (Bro. Eric) Tonner, Bro. Kris (Sis. Heidi) and Lynnette (Kenny) Frauhiger. Bro. Ken's brothers and sisters are Mildred Badiac, Sis. Edna Moser (Bro. William Gene), Sis. Aldulla Pulver (Bro. Lester, dec.), Betty Macklin (Carl), Bro. Jim (Ruth), Bro. Ezra (Sis. Doris, dec.) and Bro. Dan (Sis. Deloris).

Also, Sis. Anna Frauhiger passed away early on Friday, October 14. Her four children are: Dale (Karen), Bro. Doyle (Sis. Jane), Bro. Chuck (Sis. Marie), and Sis. Wanita (Bro. Dwain) Laukuf. Her siblings left behind are Bro. Chuck Neuen-schwander (Sis. Doris), Bro. John Neuenschwander (Sis. Irene), Bro. Bill Neuenschwander (Sis. Mildred), Sis. Martha (Bro. Luster, dec.) Heyerly, Sis. Lucille (Bro. Leonard) Grandlienard, Sis. Betty (Bro. Bill) Frauhiger, Sis. Joyce (Bro. Howard) Baumgartner, and Sis. Ellen (Bro. Ervin, dec.) Fiechter. We are prayerful for the extended family as well during this time of loss.

On September 23, Bro. Harry Tonner (Sis. Clara, dec.) passed from this earthly walk with Christ. He leaves behind three sons, Bro. Eric (Sis. Rhonda), Arlan and Leon; and three daughters, Harriett Thompson, Rose Dalio, and Sis. Carol (Bro. Steve) Stucky. Bro. Harry also leaves four sisters, Sis. Lucille (Bro. Alfie, dec.) Reinhard, Sis. Marcella (Bro. Truman) Yergler, Sis. Doris (Bro. Dale) Fiechter and Sis. Mary (Bro. Marvin) Klopfenstein. Our prayers are with this dear family.

Also, the Bluffton congregation is prayerful for Sis. Marjorie (Bro. Earl) Stucky, Sis. Carolyn (Bro. Harry, dec.) Lantz, and Bro. Paul (Sis. Phyllis) Dotterer in the loss of their sibling, Bro. Joseph (Sis. Lavina) Dotterer (Eureka, IL). Although he was not currently from the Bluffton church, his brothers and sisters certainly need the prayers of our congregation.

Prayer requests have been offered for Sis. Sylvia (Bro. Oscar) Bertsch, Sis. Dorothy (Bro. John, dec.) Frank, Bro. Ralph (Sis. Jeannie) Baumgartner and Bro. Don (Sis. Judy) Isch as each suffers from individual health ailments. Thank you's were given for lifting them up to our Heavenly Father.

For those in our congregation who are widows and widowers, the Bluffton and Bluffton North young group hosted a “Love One Another” supper on October 9. The evening proved to be an opportunity for the older and younger members/ converts to meet and feel the love of Christian fellowship.

There were two couples who started repenting this month, much to our joy. Kenny (Bro. Tom and Sis. Rose) and Lynnette (Bro. Ken, dec. and Sis. Ann Reinhard)

Frauhiger. Also, Nick (Bro. Dave and June) and Jessica Fiechter began their walk with Christ. We rejoice with these dear couples who have chosen a better way of life, knowing that God has mighty things planned for them.

We were blessed with two weddings this month. October 2 was the wedding date for Bro. James and Sis. Vanessa Stoller. Bro. James is the son of Bro. Allen and Sis. Susan. Sis. Vanessa is the daughter of Bro. Jim and Sis. Rachel Isch. We are happy for them and rejoice with them in this new life they will share together.

In addition, October 16 marked the joyous wedding of Bro. Brandon (Bro. Charles and Sis. Marcia Geisel) and Sis. Amber (Sis. Susan Byerly) Geisel. As these two families are united, we ask God's blessings on them in this new chapter of their lives.

There were several births in the last month, and we rejoice with these happy families. September 20 was the day that little Ruth Ann was welcomed into the world by her joyful parents, Bro. Zach and Sis. Miriam Geisel. Ruth's grandparents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Cindy Geisel and Bro. Barry and Sis. Imogene Isch.

Bro. Klint and Sis. Amy Moser welcomed their new daughter, Kate Elizabeth, on October 4. Kate's grandparents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean Moser and Bro. Dan Jr. and Sis. Charlene Lantz. We rejoice with them as well.

October 4 was also the birth date of Bro. Clint and Sis. Amy Gerber's new son, Hudson Michael. His excited grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Kay Gerber and Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie Fiechter.

Hudson's new little cousin,

Kendra Joy, was born on October 12 to Bro. Kris and Sis. Heidi Reinhard. Kendra's happy grandparents are Sis. Ann Reinhard (Bro. Ken, dec.) and Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie Fiechter. We are so happy for the new and exciting blessings that are occurring in these families.

This month, Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda, Francesville, IN) was able to worship with us and assist with baptisms on September 17-18. We are thankful for his willingness to be used in the work of the Lord.

That joyous weekend in Bluffton four converts were baptized. Chase and Caitleigh Rinkenberger (Bro. Linc and Sis. Catrina), Ben Girod (Sis. Carla) and Zach Reinhard (Bro. Gene and Sis. Darlene) gave their testimony of Christ's love. We are thankful and happy for these four new members and pray for them as they enter the world as ambassadors for Christ.

As is evident by the length of news within the last month, the Bluffton congregation has had many joyful as well as sad occasions. In unity we should be thankful for the joyous times and prayerful for the sad times.

**INDIANA
BLUFFTON NORTH
Tiffani Schladenhauffen
Darren Drayer**

Love and greetings from the brethren of Bluffton North. Bro. Zach and Sis. Miriam Geisel recently celebrated the birth of their second daughter, Ruth Ann, on September 20. She joins a sister, Leah. Grandparents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Cindy Geisel and Bro. Barry and Sis. Imogene Isch (Bluffton).

Bro. Klint and Sis. Amy Moser also had a child born this month. On October 4, Kate Elizabeth joined a sister, Grace. Grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Charlene Lantz and Bro. Phil and Sis. Jean Moser (Bluffton).

Sis. Diane Mason is a new grandma. Her granddaughter, Morgan Leigh, was born on October 8 to Brian and Kara Wright of Fishers, IN.

We extend our sympathies to Bro. Joe Schwartz (Sis. Jan) on the loss of his dear mother, Katherine Schwartz, on October 4

On October 14, Sis. Anna Frauhiger entered eternity. She is survived by three sons, Bro. Doyle (Sis. Jane), Dale (Karen), Bro. Chuck (Sis. Marie); a daughter, Sis. Wanita Laukhaf (Bro. Dwain, Latty); three brothers, Bro. Chuck Neuenschwander (Sis. Doris, Bluffton), Bro. John Neuenschwander (Sis. Irene, Bluffton), and Bro. Bill Neuenschwander (Sis. Mildred, Bluffton); five sisters, Sis. Ellen Fiechter, Sis. Martha Heyerly (Bro. Luster, Bluffton), Sis. Lucille Grandlienard (Bro. Leonard, Bluffton), Sis. Betty Frauhiger (Bro. Bill), and Sis. Joyce Baumgartner (Bro. Howard); 18 grandchildren; and 40 great-grandchildren.

We also sympathize with Sis. Edna Moser (Bro. Gene) and Sis. Adula Pulver on the loss of their brother, Bro. Kenny Reinhard (Bluffton), on October 12.

Our prayers are with Sis. Silvia Frauhiger and Sis. Delores Shady (Bill) as they spent time in the hospital this month.

**INDIANA
FRANCESVILLE
Barb Huber
Jessica Murray**

Greetings of love in Jesus' name! We have had a bountiful month of blessings here in Francesville and really feel aware of God's grace in the midst of our brotherhood.

"He hath remembered his covenant forever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations."

Psalms 105:8

Andrew Huber, son of Bro. John and Sis. Bev, was announced to have peace with God and man and is awaiting baptism. We are encouraged as a fellowship as we are privileged to look forward to his testimony and baptism, along with five other dear converts, on October 29-30. May God be praised for His loving kindness in calling and sanctifying souls unto Himself.

"For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

I Timothy 2:3,4

We were blessed with a joyous Wednesday evening when Sis. Cyndi (Joe) Daniels was received back into our fellowship. Circumstances in her family life directed her to move away from Francesville for a time. But through God's loving, marvelous grace and her humble submission, she has been led back into our midst. Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein referenced Romans 15:5, 6 and 7 with verse 7 being our goal as a Christian fellowship: "Wherefore receive ye one another,

as Christ also received us to the glory of God.”

Bro. Jan and Sis. Val Gutwein and family are home for a time from the mission field of Haiti. Bro. Jan spoke to the church after services and shared some of their experiences and expressed their gratefulness for the prayers and support of the fellowship for their work there. At this time, they plan to attend language school in January and return to Haiti in early spring. They are looking forward to the arrival of a baby in November so we are so glad to have them here with us.

We've also been blessed with arrival of several precious little ones to our church family. Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally Neihouser happily received a new grandson on September 19. Their daughter, Mindy, and husband, Bob Taylor, of San Diego, California, welcomed Jacob Mitchell into their family. He joins sisters, Kim and Brook, and brother, Bobby, in the Taylor family. Congratulations to all of you!

Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally Neihouser and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Denton became great-grandparents to Hannah Nichole, new daughter of Tabitha (Denton) and Bobby Lincourt. Tabitha's parents are Todd and Penny (Neihouser) Denton with Todd being the son of Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon and Penny being the daughter of Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally. We pray God's blessings of these families and wish them many mutual joys to share in the future years.

Bro. Nathan and Sis. Sara (Gutwein) Huber have a new baby son. Finley Jonathan was born on October 5. He is their second son and joins big brother Avery. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Bev

Huber and Elder Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein. Even though Bro. Nathan and Sis. Sara live near Cincinnati at this time, we want to share our love and best wishes to them and their precious sons. We pray God's grace to them as they raise Avery and Finley to His glory.

We also have two engagements to announce. Adam Huber, son of ministering Bro. Chris and Sis. Sharon Huber, is engaged to Olivia Speece, daughter of Dean and Leona (Yaggie) Speece of Francesville. They are happily planning an August wedding.

Also announcing their engagement are our friends, Chance Wuethrich and Ashley Sizemore. Bro. Rick and Sis. Judy Wuethrich and Randy and Suzanne Sizemore are their parents. They are looking forward to an April wedding. Our prayers, congratulations and best wishes are extended to both couples. We as a congregation have been blessed to watch these young people grow up and pray that they take the teachings of their early lives into their future days.

We have had several members of our fellowship going through health trials this month. We pray convalescent blessings for Sis. Nola (Bro. Rich) Wuethrich and Sis. Liz Anliker (Bro. Earl) who both have had foot surgery and are recuperating at home. Sis. Joan and Bro. Harvey Gutwein Sr. have spent time in the hospital and we hope to see them in church again soon. Sis. Erica (Bro. Lance) is on bed rest at her home as she awaits the arrival of their new little one. Our dear friend, Wilma Clauss, has had knee replacements on both legs and is now going through therapy. What a privilege it is to pray for one another and know that the gracious

hand of God will hear and answer.

“Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.”

Jeremiah 29:12

Once again, the season of harvest has come upon us. “Let the people praise thee, O God, let all the people praise thee. Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.” (Psalms 67:5,6 and 7)

May it be our desire to be a people who love and serve the Lord of the Harvest so that he can find us worthy of His blessing.

**INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS
Sandy Lichtle
Debbie Anliker**

Greetings from Indianapolis.

We are enjoying a beautiful fall in central Indiana, and are thankful for that blessing.

September 18 was the wedding day of Sis. Emily Bollier and Bro. Keith Schambach. Their parents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie Bollier and Bro. Les and Sis. Alison Schambach (Elgin, IL). Our prayer is that God will be the center of their marriage as they walk through life together. We are thankful Bro. Mark Gerber (Sis. Barb, Bluffton), Bro. Tom Schambach (Sis. Connie, Elgin, IL), Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL) and Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) were all here to share in this special day.

The Bible class traveled to Camp

Mac the end of September and enjoyed a day of fellowship and friendship. Camp Mac, a wonderful place to make lasting friendships! We ask the Lord to richly bless those who worked to make it a special day.

Bro. Bob Beebe (Sis. Sue, South Bend) spent a Sunday with us. We are thankful for their visits and for their willingness to share God's Word with us.

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

Psalm 100:4

INDIANA, LACROSSE
Shirley Frank
Cathy Nuest

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

Psalm 46:1

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Pearl Nuest who recently underwent surgery. She and Sis. Lucille have temporarily moved to a retirement home in Roselawn, IN, until they regain enough strength to care for themselves at home.

Sis. LuAnn Troxel has also undergone surgery and is home again recuperating. We want to remember all of our loved ones who are bearing physical and mental infirmities. There are many that we are unaware of, but we have confidence that the Lord will provide strength and healing where needed.

We wish to extend our sympathy to the family of Karen Rosenbaum (granddaughter of deceased Bro. Ernie and Sis. Emma Pfeifer). Karen lost her struggle with cancer on October 2. Our thoughts and

prayers are with her husband, Kevin, and their three children who must now adjust to life without their loved one.

As we experience sorrow in life, we also experience times of joy. Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gudeman are the happy grandparents of a new granddaughter, Emily Renee, born to Bro. Duane and Sis. Jill Gudeman (Congerville, IL).

We also experienced joy as a congregation when our young group hosted young brothers and sisters from several of our churches. Bro. Ned Stoller (Alto, MI) was here to share the weekend with us. To be able to hear singing is a blessing from our Lord and many times we may take that blessing for granted, but to walk into our assembly and hear many young and vibrant voices is just a reminder of how blessed we truly are. We thank our Lord for the words of the songs that have been penned and passed down in our faith from generation to generation. We are also thankful that these young people have chosen to sing songs of praise unto our Lord, instead of the songs of the world. We need to remember our youth in our prayers, for they are faced with many decisions in life. We pray that as young groups get together they will strengthen one another in the faith and encourage each other to a closer walk with our Lord.

Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), who is frequently in our area for business, was also with us for a Wednesday evening service. We are thankful for our brothers who freely give of themselves on our behalf.

We bid farewell to Lina Moldovanu, a foreign exchange student, who has been living with Bro. Tom and Sis. LuAnn Troxel for sev-

eral months. We will miss her presence as she returns to her home in the Republic of Moldova, a communist country between Romania and the Ukraine. We hope she will have many blessed memories of her time among us.

INDIANA, LEO
Ethelyn Schlatter

We welcome Bro. Adam and Sis. Katie Reinbeck and their four children into our fellowship as they serve at Gateway Woods.

On October 1, Bro. Greg Stieglitz and family (Indianapolis, IN) visited. We appreciated Bro. Greg's message.

Bro. Nick and Sis. Tricia Zaugg became first-time parents on October 9, when Solomon Joseph arrived to bless their home. Grandparents are Bro. Norman and Sis. Polly Zaugg (West Bend, IA) and Galen and MaryJo Metzger (Burlington, IA). Congratulations to all.

October 9 was our annual church picnic and hymn sing. We expressed our appreciation to our four ministering brothers. They each possess differing gifts to encourage our fellowship and we are grateful for their service.

A seminar by Bro. Kent Kloter "Growing Godly Men" was presented Monday evening, October 10. It was well attended. Praying the seed will find root in good soil of the hearts as they continue for two more sessions.

Bro. William Waibel (Sis. Carol, Bay City, MI) visited October 16. We were encouraged by his message and appreciate when he comes.

Rejoicing in the Lord, we give thanks for the Apostolic Christian Church and God's bountiful gifts.

He who thanks but with the lips
Thanks but in part;
The full, and true Thanksgiving
Comes from the heart.

—*J.A. Shedd*

This Thanksgiving, may your heart be warmed knowing you have given people in need a reason to give thanks.

INDIANA, MILFORD

**Carol Haab
Cap Beer**

Greetings from Milford. Our community is beautiful at this time of year. We still have some wooded areas. The maple trees are red and green, the hickories are golden and the ash are a deep purple. Even the sumac and the poison ivy are colorful. The geraniums are still blooming and there are mums of every color. We marvel at the beauty of God's creation and are thankful for the wisdom that our Lord has given men to further develop them.

Bro. Rod Stoller visited us one Sunday and had scriptural advice for all ages and a loving invitation for our friends. Our Elder Bro. Bill was with us for a topical Bible study. He related to us what God hates and what He loves. He also stayed with us for Sunday worship.

Our community filled a semi with non-perishable food and other essentials for the hurricane victims. Our church contributed generously to this endeavor. It is a privilege to help where needed.

Rustin Mikel (Russ and Sis. Pat) was united in marriage to April Young at Rockford, IL. We pray that they may have many blessings and God's guidance in the days to come.

Our sewing group has been active in sewing for World Relief. They also made casseroles and other food items for some local charities; they invited the Sunday School to participate. It makes them feel they are really a part of us and it encourages them to be more charitable.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Tammy Waibel
Beth Virkler**

We were privileged to experience an interpreted sermon this past month on a Wednesday evening when Bro. Ernst Pfister (Breidenbach, Germany) ministered to us. He preached in German while Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott, IN) interpreted. Bro. Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL) also ministered to us.

"It is the rare person who, looking back over his life and seeing what he has done to it, hasn't sighed for a chance to redeem what he has cheaply used or carelessly ruined.

If only somehow, somewhere, there was a way to live again the days we have darkened with our blind haste—the innumerable occasions when our indifference trod on all the pearls of God's graciousness; the times when our pride, or our fear, or our meanness poured the acid of contempt over the fair countenance of another's soul! If this grace were ours, how we would leap to the chance!"

—*S. H. Miller*

It's easy to spend time in regret. But this Thanksgiving season, may we ponder the fact that God's Word mentions the idea of

"thanksgiving" over 130 times ... either giving us a direct commandment to be thankful in all situations or demonstrating the example of biblical characters who were grateful in their circumstances.

"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving."

Colossians 4:2

"Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."

Col. 2:7

"But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay that I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord."

Jonah 2:9

"I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving."

Psalms 69:30

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Melissa Gerst
Stacey Feller**

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Tom and Sis. Carolyn Frank and their daughter, Celise Beckman, and family as Celise has undergone surgery. May God's comfort and healing be with them.

Our congregation is thankful for the safe return of Bro. Marty Langhofer from Romania.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Ed Lester

Greetings once again from Valparaiso. We are having wonderful weather here during this Fall season. The harvest is going well

too!

“Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.”

James 1:12

Please keep Bro. Brady Moser (Bro. Andy and Sis. Diane Moser) in your prayers. He is home now, but will have to undergo more medical testing.

We would like to thank Elder Bro. Curt and Sis. Lyla Frank (LaCrosse) for giving of their time to worship with us this past month. Elder Bro. Dan and Sis. Jenna Kilgus (Remington) were with us to share the gospel this past month. Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe (South Bend) also reminded us of God's love for us. Thank you to all that give freely of their time to minister the Word to us.

**INDIANA
WEST LAFAYETTE**

**Diana Norman
Nettie Haab**

We welcome Sis. Alesa Knapp to our congregation as she became the bride of Bro. Clint Bahler on October 16. Parents of the couple are Bro. Kevin and Sis. Dixie Knapp from Bloomington, IL and Bro. Ed and Sis. Annette Bahler.

October 8th was the wedding day of Teresa Houston and Michael Erb Early. Their parents are Sis. Diana Houston-Norman and George and Elaine Erb of Fort Wayne, IN. We wish both of these couples much joy and happiness in their lives together and pray they will always keep God in the center of their marriage.

Our visiting ministers this past month have been Bro. Greg Stieglitz (Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Darren Plattner (Champaign, IL), Bro. Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon, Francesville, IN), Bro. Tom Troxel (Sis. LuAnn, LaCrosse, IN), and Bro. Ron Kipfer (Sis. Linda, Bluffton, IN).

Sis. Reva (Bro. Leon) Waibel and Sis. Hollie (Bro. Ryan) Meister have spent time in the hospital. We are thankful they have both been in church again and able to worship with us. At the time of this writing, we have just heard that Sis. Suzanne (Bro. Duane) Schieler is in the hospital. We pray God's healing for her also.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Elaine Bahler
Lisa Furrer**

Many thanks to the many who have visited us this month from near and far, including ministers: Elder Bro. Ernst Pfister (Sis. Elisabeth, Breidenbach, Germany), Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Sis. Loretta, Alto), Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda, Francesville), Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington), and Bro. Neal Widmer (Sis. Kris, West Lafayette).

“I now baptize you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit...” Our new sisters in faith are Daveana Schieler (Bro. Dave and Sis. Merri) and Emily Bahler (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Heidi). Elder Bros. Aaron Steffen and Dan Kilgus assisted our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler.

After many faithful years of shepherding the Wolcott flock, Elder Bro. Alfred has retired from that position, but will remain as a minister. We at the Wolcott church

wish to thank Bro. Alfred and his dear wife, Sis. Frances, for the many years of love and labor given to our church. We pray that God will bless you both on earth and much more in eternity.

Our neighboring Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus received our full support as Elder for our congregation. We pray that God will be with him and his family as he assumes another position in service to the Lord. We welcome you, Elder Bro. Dan.

Little Jace Jacoby (Bro. Jon and Sis. Colleen) fractured his wrist and is well on the way to recovery. Young bones heal quickly!

Sis. Arles Kropf had eye surgery and Bro. Alfred Bahler had ear surgery. May God grant them a full recovery.

We bid farewell to Bro. Dale and Sis. Missy Banwart and their children, Heidi, Angie, Mark, Luke, and Jason, as they feel led to return to Congerville. We will miss their smiling faces and Bro. Dale's words from the pulpit. May God bless this dear family.

IOWA, BLOOMFIELD

Barbara Schock

Greetings! This past month, we were blessed with three visiting ministers. On September 18, Bro. Joe Dotterer (Sis. Rose, Smithville) was here, and the next Sunday, September 25, Bro. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend) was also here.

Then on October 9, Bro. Ed Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern) was here. We thank these dear brothers for coming and letting the Spirit guide them as they shared the Word with us here.

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

Go offer Him thy youthful days
and walk within the Savior's ways.

On October 9, our Bible Class had the privilege of hosting the annual Bible Class picnic. The Bible Classes from Taylor, Oakville, Burlington, Iowa City, and Garden Grove were here for the day. Retired Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen (Sis. Marilyn, Elgin, IL) was also here to speak to the Bible Class. We thank him for making the effort to come out and speak to our youth in the Bible Class.

Time has flown! Fall is here and winter is approaching. The holidays are coming, the first of which is Thanksgiving. It is a time for us to look back on the year and see the many blessings which God has given us, and to be thankful for all that He has done for us. But we should also be thankful for each and every day that we are blessed with. We should be thankful all year round, not just at Thanksgiving. It is the day that our nation has set aside. Think about the word: Thanksgiving = Thanks + Giving.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Brenda Schulz

Laurie Schulz

May God's blessings be with ministering Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA). We appreciated his visit this month.

We also are rejoicing as a dear soul has turned to God in repentance. We pray that many more can find grace to heed the call while there is still time allowed.

IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden Heidi Butikofer

"And Jesus entered and passed through Jericho."

Luke 19:1

I was recently given a CD which contained the piano music of many hymns. One of the hymns is entitled "On the Jericho Road". Since I had not heard this hymn for some time, I decided to refresh my memory on the words, and this moved me to turn to my Bible to learn more about the Jericho road. I found only three happenings in New Testament scripture where Jericho is mentioned, and from them I came to the personal conclusion that we all have our individual Jericho roads. We may not be afflicted with blindness as Bartimaeus was or fall among thieves and be left half dead, but hopefully, we are all like Zacchaeus, the rich publican from Jericho, who had a great desire to see Jesus. We all have Jericho's to enter and pass through, but Jesus is with us.

As you travel along on the Jericho road

Does the world seem all wrong,
and heavy your load?

Just bring it to Christ, your sins
all confess.

On the Jericho road, your heart He
will bless.

On the Jericho road, blind

Bartimeus sat.

His life was a void, so empty and
flat,

But Jesus appeared, one word
brought him sight,

On the Jericho road, Christ ban-
ished his night.

O, brother, to you this message I
bring,
Though hope may be gone, He'll
cause you to sing;
At Jesus' command, sin's shackles
must fall,
On the Jericho road, will you an-
swer His call?

The first weekend in October we were blessed with the privilege of hosting the single groups of the Iowa churches. Our thanks to all who came and helped make this a time of spiritual enrichment.

Visiting ministers are always a blessing and I trust that I never forget to mention any who come and serve our little flock here in the "Little Switzerland of Iowa." This past month, Bro. Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL) and Bro. Glen Braker (Sis. Audrey, Princeville, IL) and their family were with us. We hope they will return often.

We are thankful that Sheryl Schroeder is on the road to recovery following her recent surgery. May God continue to bless her with new strength.

Trevin Jensen (Amy and Rhett) would like to announce the arrival of his new little sister, Avery Joan, who arrived on October 20. Avery's grandparents are Bro. Tim and Sis. Kathy Butikofer and Collin (Joan, dec.) Jensen. Bro. Paul and Sis. Millie Butikofer (great - grandparents) are also thankful for this sweet addition to their family circle.

Our prayers are with Aaron Butikofer (Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy) who is currently in Camp Shelby, Mississippi, preparing for his assignment in Iraq.

We realize we have much to be thankful for and should be express-

ing our gratitude to God on a daily basis. But, as we approach another Thanksgiving Day, may we take a little extra time to remember the many blessings that we so easily take for granted, and praise God from Whom all blessings flow.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Willa Clark

"I used to hate birthdays," a cancer survivor said recently. "Now I thank God every morning that I wake up and can put my two feet on the floor."

A sister with multiple sclerosis told me, "I am so thankful for my illness. It has made me closer to God and my family in ways I could never have imagined."

These woman learned the hard way the meaning of thankfulness. How do we thank God for the bountiful blessings He has bestowed? With a routine mumbled prayer, or with exalting praise and an earnestly thankful heart?

"In every thing give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

1 Thessalonians 5:18

"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, . . . and be ye thankful."

Colossians 3:15

We appreciate Bro. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA) for sharing the Word of God with us, and our many visitors for times of fellowship. Our thanks also to the Bloomfield congregation for hosting us to a picnic in early October, when a day that started with rain turned into sunshine and smiles.

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Diana Butikofer

At our annual business meeting we elected Bro. Bob Fehr to a 3-year Trustee term and Sis. Emily Peterson to a 2-year Women's Committee term. We wish to encourage them and thank our servants, Bro. Wayne and Sis. Becky Snodgrass, who have fulfilled their terms.

"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

Let's try to remember to pray with thanksgiving every day, not just on Thanksgiving Day.

IOWA, LESTER

Dawn Knobloch

Dawn Metzger

Fall is a beautiful season. The leaves are in full color and the farmers are spending long days to bring in the harvest. May we always be thinking of our spiritual harvest – how pleased will the Lord be with our yield in terms of the fruit of the Spirit?

Our hearts rejoice to hear the news that Colin Moser and Camille Moser (children of Bro. Rick and Sis. Lori) have heard the call to repentance and responded. May the grace of God be with them as they begin to walk in obedience to God's Word.

Two new baby boys were born this month. Derek Bradley was welcomed into the family of Bro. Brad and Sis. Michelle Leuthold on September 21. His sisters and brother are Ashley, Monica, Mikayla and Brendon. Grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Vicki Leuthold and

Bro. Steve and Sis. Pam Schaefer (Morris, MN). Perry and Jessica Mogler are excited to have a boy, Rier Paul, who was born on September 22. Mallorie is his big sister and grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Lolly Mogler.

Those in our church family that required hospitalization this past month were: Sis. Freida Mogler (Bro. Andy), Bro. Elmer Metzger (Sis. Mariann), Sis. Emma Meyer, and Isabelle Metzger (Bro. Justin and Sis. Jodie).

As always, we appreciate the willingness of all our ministers who preach the Word. Visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Larry Bahr (Ft. Scott, KS).

Emma Metzger (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Polly) feels at peace with God and man. What a milestone in our spiritual life that moment is. We look forward to witnessing her baptism in the near future.

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Bill and Sis. Erma Gerber in the passing of their brother-in-law, John Scott, of Topeka, KS.

IOWA, OAKVILLE

Sharla Wiegand

Rosalie Wiegand

Greetings to all this beautiful autumn day! The farmers have been busy harvesting the fields of ripened grain. It's a day of reckoning. Due to lack of rain this summer, the farmers are unsure what kind of harvest they will have. Some fields yielded better than supposed, others poorer. What if today were our soul's Harvest Day?

We were thankful to have a visiting minister come from our Burlington congregation, Bro. John Rowell. May God bless him for

his willingness to serve the flock of God.

Little Jesse Collin arrived on September 23 to bless the home of Bro. Chuck and Sis. Lois Massner. May God grant them wisdom and grace as they raise their growing family of six: Stephanie, William, Jonathan, Justin, Travis and Jesse. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Sis. Phyllis Knobloch (Princeville, IL).

IOWA, WEST BEND

**Lori Skoglund
Sue Schneider**

Sis. Clara Anliker is home again after a short hospital stay. Little Garret Fehr (Bro. John and Sis. Wendy) is also doing well following some corrective surgery. We're thankful God's healing hand has been extended to both these individuals. May such a blessing be enjoyed by each who suffer afflictions of the body.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude to our Heavenly Father as the Thanksgiving season approaches, and we count our many blessings. Truly our bodies and souls have abundantly been provided for. May we daily be thankful.

"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."

Psalm 100:4,5

We thank Thee, God, for every-
thing
The big things and the small,
For "every good gift comes from

God"
The Giver of them all.
And all too often we accept
Without any thanks or praise
The gifts God sends as blessings
Each day in many ways.
And so at this THANKSGIVING
TIME
We offer up a prayer
To thank Thee, God, for giving us
A lot more than our share...
We thank thee for the little things
That often come our way,
The things we take for granted
But don't mention when we pray,
The unexpected courtesies,
The thoughtful, kindly deed,
A hand reached out to help us
In the time of sudden need...
Oh, make us more aware, dear
God,

Of little daily graces
That come to us with "sweet sur-
prise"
From never-dreamed of places.
We thank Thee, God, for the MIR-
ACLES
We are much too blind to see,
And give us new awareness
Of our many gifts from Thee.
And help us to remember
That the KEY to LIFE and LIV-
ING
Is to make each prayer a prayer of
THANKS
And every day THANKSGIVING.
—*Helen Steiner Rice*

JAPAN, TOKYO

Jana Klaus

Greetings from Tokyo! We had our annual church cleaning on September 23, a national holiday celebrating the first day of fall. It is a blessing spending time together on a weekday and humbling to see all who come to help. May God bless each one who labors in love for our church.

At the end of September, we said goodbye to Rebecca Drete (Bro.

Mike and Sis. Kathy, Washington, IL), a cousin of the Klauses, who came back from the U.S. with them for a month to help out and experience Japan. It was a blessing having her as a part of our Sunday gatherings and she seemed to really enjoy getting to know the people and country where her mother lived for four years when she was single and a teacher out in Shioda.

The first Sunday of October was very special as we were blessed by a visit from Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev Bahr (Detroit). We appreciated Bro. Mark's willingness to give of himself in preaching and teaching in his loving way and Sis. Bev's coming along for support and fellowship. We look forward to seeing them occasionally as Bro. Mark is Elder in Shioda.

Bro. Mark Miller (Leo, IN) paid us a second visit, after being here this past July, and we were blessed by his fellowship again this fall. We invite him back anytime as he seems to have interest in Japan.

Please join us in praying for our Bro. Yoshio Yamazaki, as he is still recovering at home after a fall and hospital stay last spring. We pray for all those who carry extra burdens suffering from poor health. May their inner man be strong in the Lord and may we encourage them in ways we can.

KANSAS, BERN

**Sheri Edelman
Rita Menold**

On October 16 we witnessed the wedding vows of Sis. Diane Strahm (Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen) and Bro. Bruce Stoller (Bro. Darrel and Sis. Gloria). The visiting ministers who were with us on that special day were Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi

(Sis. Sandra, Lamar, MO), Bro. Gary Endress (Sis. Evelyn, Bradford, IL), Bro. Pat Zaugg (Sis. Julie, West Bend, IA), Bro. Greg Braker (Sis. Wendy, Lamar, MO), and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS). We thank each of you for coming! May God richly bless this new couple!

The birth of Taylor Beth on October 14 brought much happiness to the home of Bro. Trent and Sis. Rita Menold and big brother, Braden. The beaming grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Kathy Rokey as well as Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth Hartter (Sabetha, KS). We pray for God's guidance as this growing family strives to raise their children according to God's will.

We offer our sympathy to Bro. Larry and Sis. Jill Meyer and their family on the death of her grandfather, Bro. Joe Dotterer, of Eureka, IL. Our prayers and sympathy are also with Ezra and Fremond (Ruth) Meyer and their families on the death of their sister, Alberdena Vancil, of McPhearson, KS. May God bring His loving comfort to each of them.

Our hospital patient this month was Rachel Fehr (Bro. Todd and Sis. Cynthia). We hope she heals quickly!

KANSAS, FT. SCOTT **Ethel Smith**

Greetings to all through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. We are enjoying the nice cool fall season. Ft Scott is just beautifully alive with the fall colors, bright red, orange and yellow. No one but our great God could create such beauty.

Ft. Scott hosted the annual Ft. Scott and Kansas City Sunday school picnic. We had a nice turn-

out from Kansas City and an enjoyable afternoon of fellowship.

Many from here attended the wedding and reception of Bro. Chris Wuthrich and Sis. Janelle Sinn in Kansas City. May God bind their hearts with His love and grace. We feel so blessed they are making their home here in Fort Scott. We welcome them.

Our hospital patients this past month were retired Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart and Craig Colegrove, son of Pam and Jimmie Jackson. They are both home recuperating. Craig was in an auto accident with fractures to both ankles and feet. We request your prayers for Bro. Raymond, Craig, and Bro. Harold Kraft who is homebound with his illness. He continues to have such a positive spirit and is truly an inspiration.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Pat Zaugg (Sis. Julie, West Bend, IA), Bro. Robert Pflederer (Sis. Eleanor, Morton, IL), Bro. Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL), Bro. Wes Moser (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA), and Bro. James Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Congerville, IL). Elder Bro. John Lehman has been so faithful to come every other week to counsel with the converts and anyone else who has concerns. We are very grateful for the bountiful messages from all of these brethren. God bless them for their love and support.

The preface in the front of a Bible is very meaningful. It reads:

"The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy; its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and

practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charters. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed.

Christ is the grand subject, our good the design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

And it is the Living Word, living in all that have been redeemed. There is no way or book that could contain the impact that the Bible has on the human race."

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

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Gerry Beyer of the Phoenix congregation. She and Bro. Clarence came for their annual visit to Gridley. He had taken her to have her hair washed across the street, returned to sit in a chair, and the Lord called her home.

We were asked the question, "What do you like about the church?" God blessed us with our invite - a - guest weekend of fellowship and worship with ministering Bros. Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Mark Schmidgall (Eureka, IL) and Larry Bahr (Fort Scott, KS).

Bro. Rex Frieden and family (Lamar, MO) ministered to us on October 9 and joined us afterwards on God's "beautiful day" for our Sunday School picnic.

Grandpa Bro. Ron and Grandma Sis. Jane Isch went to Congerville to meet their new granddaughter, Emily Renee Gudeman, born October 13, to Bro. Duane and Sis. Jill.

KANSAS, SABETHA

**Rebekah Beyer
Dawn Strahm**

As the signs of fall approach, we can be grateful that our Lord has provided shelter for our earthly bodies ... more shelter than some people will ever have. He has also provided shelter for our spiritual body as we have heard His word proclaimed Sunday after Sunday. Our recent visiting ministers included Bro. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS) and Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA).

Our congregation enjoyed many visitors for an Invite-a-couple weekend in September. We are thankful for the fellowship, meeting and greeting.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Our congregation is looking forward to the weekend of October 29-30 when our young friend, Anna Sauder, plans to give her testimony of faith and to be baptized. Anna is the daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Marie Sauder.

Stephani Long and Nathan Schweizer chose October 1 for their wedding date. Stephani is the daughter of Bro. Jonathon and Sis. Ruthie Long. Stephani has been dear to our hearts and we pray

God's blessing on the two of them as they progress in their new role as husband and wife.

We are delighted to have Derek Funk home from Iraq and we rejoice with his family that he has taken employment at Ft. Leavenworth. His wife, Emily, and their two young sons are joining him and have established a home in Lees Summit, Missouri.

Elder Bro. Jay and Sis. Jane Luthi worshipped with us on Sunday, October 9. I almost envied them the drive to Wichita because in Kansas, the autumn days are proudly exhibiting their vivid colors. Yellow seems to be the predominant color at the present time. Along with the marvelous display of colors comes the responsibility of caring for the falling leaves, a small price to pay for the pleasure of enjoying God's artwork.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Barb Huber

"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."

Psalm 100:4,5

Thanks be to God for His continued faithfulness in providing willing servants to come and share in the ministry of His Holy Word. Our assembly has been blessed to have Bro. Kenneth Weerts (Sis. Myrna, Cissna Park, IL); Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL); Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Pat, Congerville, IL); Bro. Tom Waldbeser (Sis. Susan, Atlanta,

GA); Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL); Bro. Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL); Bro. Dan Moser (Sis. Anne, Elgin, IL); and Bro. Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla, LaCrosse, IN). It is our prayer that God's special blessings will rest upon these dear ministers, their families, and all who traveled with them. We appreciate all their efforts and labors of love.

Thanks be to God for fellowship of Christian brethren. Our assembly is always grateful for those visitors who count us worthy to come and worship with us. We've been privileged to enjoy the fellowship of brethren from Eureka, IL; Fairbury, IL; Goodfield, IL; Morton, IL; Washington, IL; Remington, IN; Wolcott, IN; Akron, OH; and Smithville, OH.

Thanks be to God for answered prayer. Jonathon Huber (Ben and June), who served our country four years as a Marine, has arrived home safely. We're thankful for the Lord's providence to protect and keep him out of harm's way. May God be ever near Jonathon as he seeks to adjust to civilian life.

Thanks be to God for His dear Son,
For victory, life's battles won,
For grace to say, "His will be done."

Again, we extend a warm welcome to all who may be in our area to worship with us. You may contact Bro. Doug Germann (859-224-8710), Bro. Lester Huber (859-745-2541), or Bro. Jan Neukomm (859-273-8574).

MEXICO, MAGDALENA Gloria Gonzalez

The following report is a new column from Magdalena and begins with news from August 1, 2005.

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

Psalm 117

Greetings of love in our precious Savior's name!

It is a joy for me and for everyone here in Magdalena to share with you and let all know Magdalena's journal every month. First of all we want to express our sincere thanks to every work team who was able to come and work. Thank you for this labor of love.

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

Matthew 19:14

August 1-5, for the first time, Magdalena had VBS. It was a blessing to have more than 100 children learning of our Savior. Our theme was “Listening to Jesus”. It was incredible how the children enjoyed it; for the majority, it was their first time learning of God's love. Our prayer and our desire is that the planted seed in their little hearts can grow and grow and one day bring forth fruit, some thirty fold, some sixty, and some an hundred. (Mark 4:20)

“Let all your things be done with charity.”

I Corinthians 16:14

Recognizing their work of love, we bid farewell to our summer volunteers. They were Bro. Brent Sauder (Tremont, IL), Bro. Matt Gerber (Washington, IL), Sis. Ashley Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Brittany Esterling (Morris, MN), and Bro. Tyler Schick. We really appreciate their love for the Lord and also for the children here in Magdalena. May our Lord bless them all in their daily walk.

As we sadly farewell the summer volunteers, we happily welcome Bro. Seth Gerber (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Jeff Beer (Milford, IN), and Sis. Jenna Mueller (Bluffton North, IN) as they are willing to come and serve through the year.

We would like to thank every one of you who support this work with donations, but most important with your sincere prayers.

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

Hymns of Zion #201, vs. 3

Sept-Oct. News

“Can a woman forget her suckling child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee.”

Isaiah 49:15

Greetings of love in our precious Savior's name!

Last month CVE experienced the arrival of children, siblings Andres and Kevin (ages 2, 1 years old), and siblings Gabriel and Moses (ages 18, 6 months). Maybe they were abandoned by their parents but they were not forgotten by God.

Every single brother and sister here is learning a lot about babies (changing diapers, etc.). But also all are learning how to guide and discipline children and young people. We want to thank Bro. Norberto for coming and serving here several months.

Now CVE has 18 children ranging from 6 months to 12 years old. It is a blessing to see God work in these little hearts. As they memorize Bible verses and are rewarded with ice cream, the ice cream is soon eaten but God's Word will be in their hearts forever.

We want to thank our ministering brethren, Bros. Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy, Roanoke, IL) and Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL) who were here last month and willingly shared God's Word with us.

May the Lord bless you all this month.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Rose Watson

Terri Huber

Although it has been in use for about one year, it was a joy to invite the Michigan churches and the community to our Fellowship Hall to share in a slide presentation and song service at the official Open House on October 8. We are thankful that some of the visitors stayed over for church on Sunday, including ministering Bro. Jesse Bedolla and his family from Detroit. God certainly works through our “system” of sharing ministers of the Gospel!

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Liz Blough are excited to report that they became first-time grandparents when little Dekota Anne was born to Chris and Michelle Blough.

Veronica Oesch (Jeff and Brenda, and Karen Kehoe) was joined in marriage with Martin Hoeksma on October 16. May they have many years of love and companionship ahead of them.

There have been several people undergoing surgery, and as always, we keep them in our prayers: Loren Kaeb, Steve Schutte and Bro. Jim Blough. We also pray for those who are unable to attend church when their health is fragile.

The young group was blessed when they traveled to Fort Wayne for an outreach weekend. It is wonderful that they are learning at tender young ages that serving others is Christ-like and beneficial.

We will miss Bro. Tom and Sis. Joan Schrenk when they head to Texas to spend the winter months. There are others from our congregation that relocate for weeks or months at a time, and we want them to know they are missed and that we look forward to welcoming them back!

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Sarah Knochel
Janelle Ramseyer

Far away in the depths of my spirit
 tonight
 Rolls a melody sweeter than
 psalm;
 In celestial-like strains it unceasingly falls
 O'er my soul like an infinite calm.

Peace, peace, wonderful peace,
 Coming down from the Father
 above!
 Sweep over my spirit forever, I
 pray
 In fathomless billows of love!

Four dear souls have professed

peace with God and man. We are thankful that Jamie Knochel (Bro. Jim and Sis. Kay), Joan Long (Rick), Caitlin Long (Rick and Joan) and Rebekah Ruegsegger (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Maria) have found the grace to seek the Lord and we look forward to the upcoming baptisms.

Our prayers are with Sis. Esther Waibel as she spent time in the hospital. We pray that the Lord will continue to comfort her.

We are thankful for ministers who traveled through our area this past month: Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen (Sis. Loretta, Alto, MI) and Bro. Dave Steffen (Sis. Linda, Elgin, IL).

As we look forward to a time of thanksgiving, may we take a moment to reflect on all the blessings God has given us. As we see our nation physically break away by natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods and earthquakes, may we ever strive to remain spiritually strong and may we now more than ever look forward to that heavenly home!

MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Tiffany Wieland
Mary Weigele

As we are enjoying the beautiful fall weather and see the trees take on their new colors, we are so aware that God has designed His creation in a way that only He could. The Hymns of Zion song, "The Golden Harvest", certainly captures this season well. We are thankful that the hymn writer spoke of planting, sowing, and reaping of the harvest in both earthly and spiritual ways. May we all "hasten gladly to the labor and consecrate our hearts to

God", saying unto our Saviour that we will "gladly do our part".

We are so thankful that God blessed our Elder Bro. Mark and his wife, Sis. Bev, with safety as they recently undertook a trip to visit our congregations in Japan. We missed having them with us but God was able to use them for His service and we were always connected through the blessed avenue of prayer. Locally, our Detroit Church recently hosted services at Michigan State University and a nice group enjoyed being together. Thanks to all who attended.

We rejoice with Sis. Michelle Bahr as she was recently engaged to Bro. Aaron Stoller. Michelle's parents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn and Aaron's parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Tam of Latty, OH. Bro. Aaron recently moved to Latty from New York. We wish them God's blessings and guidance as they plan for their future together. Also, we extend our congratulations to Derek Wieland on his marriage to Lindsay Ketelhut on October 1. We share the happiness of their parents, Mark and Joy Wieland and Ron and Cheryl Ketelhut. May God bless Derek and Lindsay as they begin their walk with each other.

We welcome Caitlin Long who recently started worshipping with us. Caitlin is a student at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilante and moved here from Bay City. She has begun her repentance and we wish her God's blessings and His nearness. As we rejoice in welcoming newcomers to our fellowship, we are also sad to say good-bye to those who called the Detroit area their home and now must leave. Bro. Matt, Sis. Nancy, Jennifer, Jessica, James, and Jodi Rocke

have moved to Goodfield, IL, and will be greatly missed. We knew when they came here from Ft. Lauderdale that they would be with us "but for a season", and that Matt's employment with Caterpillar would likely necessitate their moving. We bade them a fond farewell on October 16 with a singing at Woodpointe. May God bless them as they begin yet another chapter in their lives.

A few in our congregation have recently experienced health problems and we continue to pray for them. Both Sis. Eloise Bahr and Jason Allen were recently hospitalized, and Sis. Barb Johnson continues her treatment in her battle against cancer. There are others who we miss when they cannot assemble with us and we know that God will touch their hearts with His love.

**MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS
LaRae Dill**

Welcome to Doug and Dawn Baer and children, Case and Carly, the most recent additions to our fellowship. The Baer's have moved to the Twin Cities from Morton, IL. We enjoyed welcoming a number of newcomers at our Welcome Dinner on October 2. It was interesting to hear some of the history of the Minneapolis church from Bro. Don and Sis. Bernadine Miller, and to hear how the Lord led other families and individuals here through the years. The Sunday School's fall activity day was also a refreshing time of Christian fellowship. This annual event was held on October 8 at Cleary Lake. Beautiful weather made the woods, bonfire, and activities enjoyable for all.

Prayers have been offered for a number of our church family with cares, concerns, and changes. Sis. Millie Schmidgall and Chelsey Messner (Bro. Doug and Sis. Sue) were hospital patients this month. Sis. Kathryn Blunier is enjoying her change of accommodations. Her new address is:

Kathryn Blunier
Lakeview Apts. #45
3220 Lake Johanna Blvd.
Arden Hills, MN 55112

We miss seeing Tina Roberts who moved back to her home in Iowa following the birth of her baby girl. Tina has lived with Bro. Sam and Sis. Ruth Moser and family for the past 3 ½ months. Tina's adoption plan for her baby was a great reminder to all of us of God's plan to redeem us, through adoption. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God..." Romans 8:15.

Our congregation appreciated three visiting ministers this month: Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN), Elder Bro. Leroy Messner (Winthrop, MN), and Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA).

**MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Katie Koehl
Heidi Nohl**

Bro. Andy and Sis. Echo Hacker were blessed with a little boy, Ashdon Cork. Welcoming him home are his brother, Easton, and grandparents, Bro. Cork and Sis. Pam Fehr and Chuck and Deb

Hacker.

Haley Marie was born to Bro. Byron and Sis. Amy Wulf. Her grandparents are Chuck and Deb Hacker and Bro. Doug and Sis. Joyce Wulf. We wish them all God's blessings as they raise their families.

Hospitalized this month was Bro. Ryan Messner (Sis. Heidi) and Robin Wulf (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda). May God grant them healing.

**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP
Ginny Stoll
Rachel Steiner**

Elder Bros. Art Nohl (Sis. Sandra, Morris, MN) and Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA) spent a weekend to assist with the baptisms of Bro. Adrian and Sis. Becky Ebling and Sis. Amy Bartels (Jay). We appreciate their willingness to come and we are so thankful to welcome three dear souls into the fold.

We recently held our annual pork chop supper and we would like to thank our visitors for sharing the weekend with us. We would especially like to thank Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA) for sharing God's Word with us.

The angels rejoice over each and every sinner who answers His call. Chris Williams (Nancy) has answered the call and has found peace with God and man. We are so thankful that He continues to call and that loved ones are willing to answer.

Our hospital and medical patients this month are Bro. Elmer Schmidt (Sis. Hazel), Lowell Demm (Shirley), and Bro. Leo Messner (Sis. Georgia). We pray that they can feel God's nearness during this time.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY
Garry and Marty Rokey

“We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you.”

II Cor. 4:13-14

Because of various events that recently occurred in our congregation, we have had many visiting ministering brethren and in this same spirit of faith, they spoke and prayed with us. They were Elder Bros. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) and Mike Leman (Sis. Deb, Denver, CO). Ministering brothers included Bros. Glen Funk (Sis. Sally, Wichita, KS), Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS) and David Hartter (Sis. Beth, Sabetha, KS), and from Roanoke, IL, were Bros. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy), Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy) and Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie). Many thanks, dear brothers, for your labors.

“For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.”

Romans 8:2

Our dear Bro. Scott Kellenberger (Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen) has taken these words to heart and was baptized on September 18. Assisting our Elder Bro. Don Braker was Elder Bro. John Lehman. Welcome, Bro. Scott, into the fold of our Redeemer.

“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, liveth and abideth for ever.”

I Peter 1:23

We rejoice with Sis. Diane Smith and Ron Smith as their son, Matthias, has recently turned to the Lord in repentance. May God grant him grace and strength as he begins his walk with Jesus, abiding by the Word of truth.

“Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the Lord.”

Proverbs 18:22

Trusting that God has brought them together, Sis. Janelle Sinn (John and Sis. Carole) and Bro. Chris Wuthrich (Sis. Valerie Wuthrich, Roanoke, IL, and Bill Wuthrich, Peoria, IL) were united in marriage on October 9 by Elder Bros. Don Braker and Tom Hoffman. We wish them God's richest blessings.

“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

We thank Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen Kellenberger as they hosted our annual church wiener roast and picnic along with singing and fellowship. Along with visitors, nearly all of our congregation attended.

MISSOURI, LAMAR
Wendy Braker
Mindy Braker

We wish to thank Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL) and Bro.

Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS) for bringing forth the Word of God this past month. May the Lord bless them for their service.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Bill and Sis. Sharon Dotterer in the loss of their father, Bro. Joe Dotterer (Sis. LaVina, Eureka, IL). May the Heavenly Father be near to bring comfort and peace.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS
Krista Banwart

Visiting ministers to St. Louis recently include: Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), Bro. Greg Braker (Sis. Wendy, Lamar, MO), and Bro. Kim Sutter (Sis. Vonette, Taylor, MO). We also appreciated a visit from our Elder Bro. Kent Heimer and Sis. Jan (Taylor, MO) on a Wednesday evening.

We welcome Bro. Nathan Rassi to our St. Louis congregation. Bro. Nathan began his teaching position in Edwardsville this fall.

May everyone have a blessed Thanksgiving Holiday and may true thankfulness be in our hearts and not just our conversation this time of year and always.

Praise Him for His goodness
And His abundant grace.
Praise Him for His presence
In this very time and place.
Thank Him for His wisdom
And His guidance from above.
Thank Him that He never tires
Of giving us His love.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR
Sally Haerr

Lately I have been thinking a lot about “unconditional” love. Whether it is toward one of our chil-

dren, a spouse, a neighbor, or a brother or sister in faith. How much does our love toward them or their love toward us depend on what personal gain is involved? What about our love toward Jesus? I continually remind myself that He is our ultimate example of unconditional love (Holy Bible, John 3:16) and, for me, the realization of that fact is very humbling. To be Christ-like is a serious assignment ... is our zeal in our service to Him unconditional or do we think only of the personal gain involved? As we love and praise our dear Saviour unconditionally, let's all study more to know just what is our reasonable service to Him and to each other.

October 8-9 was a very special weekend for all of us here in Taylor, as we were blessed to witness the testimonies and baptisms of Wes Sutter (Dan and Sis. Tina) and Shane Sutter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Chris). If any of us think "miracles do not happen anymore", we are not taking time to observe the changed life of a converted person. Converted from sin and death to life and peace. The wisdom of these young people is so reassuring and uplifting. We pray for these two new brothers in Christ as they return to college and face many opportunities and challenges. We want to express our sincere thanks to Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Deb, Peoria, IL) for coming to assist our Elder Bro. Kent in this important service.

Those hospitalized and/or ill this past month were Bro. Gerald Sutter (Sis. Marge), Chad Massner (Lisa), Sis. Ruthie Hoerr (Bro. Louis), Sis. Penny Knochel (Bro. Eric). These are only a few that we know of and it seems there are al-

ways those who battle health problems day after day. We want to lift them all up in prayer to our Heavenly Father. We should be so thankful that He is always "on call", just waiting to hear from us.

NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

We have been enjoying the beauty of the ever changing colors in the fall leaves. It is always such a beautiful time of year here!

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
consider all the worlds Thy hands
have made.

I see the stars, I hear the rolling
thunder,

Thy power throughout the uni-
verse displayed.

When through the woods and forest
glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in
the trees.

When I look down from lofty
mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the
gentle breeze.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour
God to Thee,

How great Thou art, how great
Thou art!

—*How Great Thou Art, vs. 1-2*

We are thankful that Bro. Ted Virkler has done extremely well after having a pacemaker put in and that Sis. Polly Farney is again able to assemble with us after having surgery. Todd Farney has also experienced a complete recovery and has been able to return to work. These blessings remind us how powerful our prayers can be!

OHIO, AKRON Joyce Gasser

We are rejoicing for three who have turned to the Lord in repentance: Samuel Greenbank, Adam Henico, and Octavia Demrovsky. Samuel is the son of Bro. Glen and Sis. Joan Greenbank. Presently Samuel is getting his school classes while in Connecticut. Adam is the son of Bro. Greg and Sis. Sarah Henico. Octavia is the daughter of Bro. Andrew and Sis. Vera Demrovsky. The Lord is with each one to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus.

We have had two marriage engagements announced:

One is the engagement of Bro. Aaron Stoller and Sis. Michelle Bahr. Bro. Aaron's parents are Bro. James and Sis. Tamera Stoller of Latty. Bro. Aaron has been working east of here and assembling with us and has now relocated to work in VanWert. Sis. Michelle is the daughter of Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn Bahr of Detroit.

Another engagement is Bro. Ted Gherian and Sis. Anna Schar. Bro. Ted is the son of Bro. Paul and Sis. Sharon Gherian of Junction. Bro. Ted has recently moved to work at Akron and assembling with us. Sis. Anna is the daughter of Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy Schar of Rittman. We wish both couples God's blessings as they join hearts and become one in Jesus.

We appreciated having some students of the Fairbury Sunday School, along with some adults, spend a weekend with us. It was during the time we were having meat canning at the World Relief Center, and they visited there and helped with it for a while. They made other visits on Saturday, and

we appreciated having them for worship services and fellowship on Sunday.

We had two Sisters in faith at the hospital and released. Sis. Mary Ann Weigele (Bro. Al) and Sis. Janet Graf (Bro. Leon). May the Lord Jesus help them in recuperating.

We are thankful the Lord has opened the way for two additional Brothers to serve in the ministry at our Akron congregation. Bro. Todd Graf and Bro. Don Steidl have been chosen for this duty. Bro. Todd's wife is Sis. Lydia, and Bro. Don's wife is Sis. Nan. We are thankful for the good support they will be for their husbands in their ministry. The ordination as ministers occurred Thursday evening, October 20, with Elder Bros. Andy Stoller and Merle Hartzler assisting our Elder Bro. Dave Graf. We certainly wish for Bro. Todd and Bro. Don an abundance of God's grace for this important responsibility.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Nancy Banks

We greatly appreciate those ministers who visit the Columbus congregation. This month we welcomed Bros. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) and Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) and their wives as our guests. We are thankful for those brothers who are so willing to serve the smaller congregations.

Our monthly World Relief meeting was held and soup was packaged by all who attended. Pizza and fellowship was enjoyed by all afterwards.

Our love and sympathy goes to Bro. Bill and Sis. Becky Sauder and family at the loss of Sis. Becky's father, David Saltz, of Florida. May

God be their comfort during this time of loss.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Cindy Schlatter

We were privileged to have several visiting ministering brothers this past month. The efforts of Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), and Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) were very much appreciated. May our Heavenly Father be their rich Rewarder.

Bro. Ted Gherian (Bro. Paul and Sis. Sharon) of Akron, OH, and Sis. Anna Schar (Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy, Rittman, OH) recently made their engagement known. Our prayers are with them as they make plans for their wedding and future life together.

When peace like a river attendeth
my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast
taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul..."
Hymns of Zion #55

It is with gladness in our hearts that we tell of the wonderful gift of Peace that has been placed in the hearts of two of our dear converts. Melinda Gasser (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue) and Renae Schlatter (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Sheila) have felt this wonderful peace in their hearts. We continue to pray for them as they look forward to the time in their future that they can tell of how the Lord worked in their hearts.

Several babies have come to bless the homes of those in our congregation. Lathan Daniel was born on October 12 to Bro. Michael and Sis. Jodi Schneider. His excited siblings are Joel and Lynelle who lov-

ingly welcome him home. His grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra Schneider and Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley Ifft, all of the Forrest, IL, congregation. Bro. Gus and Sis. Dorothy Dietrich have a new granddaughter, Ava Ann. Ava's parents are Steve and Rose Foltz. We pray for much grace and guidance to these families as they raise their precious little ones.

OHIO, LATTY

Amanda Steffen Bonny Wenninger

Our congregation increased by three during the past month. Three new babies will be showing their faces in the recently refurbished baby room in coming months. Brooks Michael was born on September 15 to Bro. Chris and Sis. Rachel, Gracie and Carson Laukhuf. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Nelson and Sis. Shelby Beer (Milford, IN) and paternal grandparents are Elder Bro. John and Sis. Marcia Laukhuf.

Crystal Marie was born on September 28. Her parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Cherry Klopfenstein and siblings: Angela, Abram, Jacob and Bethany. Grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Bev Rocke (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Raymond and Sis. Catherine Klopfenstein.

The third baby born was Luke Andrew to Bro. Doug, Sis. Bonny and Makaela Wenninger. He was born on October 12. Elated grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Joyce Wenninger and Bro. Mike and Sis. Pat Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL).

Latty was also pleased to hear of two marriage engagements. Bro. Aaron Stoller, formerly of Akron, OH (Bro. Jim and Sis. Tam) was an-

nounced to Sis. Michelle Bahr (Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn, Detroit, MI). They are planning a wedding sometime next summer. The same day, Bro. Ralph Stoller was announced to Sis. Esther Stoller. They are planning an October 26 wedding date. Congratulations to all and may God be with these two couples in the time to come.

God grants peace in mysterious ways and three more souls have found this God-given peace. Jennifer Manz (Bro. Marvin) and Jeremy and Mandy Whitman are anticipating baptism the weekend of December 3-4.

Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL) was our only visiting minister this past month. May God continue to be with him in his endeavors.

Addendum: As of this writing, we are once again assembling in the church sanctuary. The carpet has been laid only in the assembly room. Cabinets are being installed in the kitchen and bathrooms. Parking space lines have been painted on the new parking lot. A November 6 dedication is still being anticipated.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Esther Baumann

We rejoiced to hear the good news that Jesse Boliantz (Bro. Doug and Sis. Connie) has begun his repentance. Please continue to pray for him as he matures in his walk of faith.

Heartfelt congratulations to Bro. Harry and Sis. Mary Mae Bocka who celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on September 19.

A little bundle of joy, Anna Rose, was born to Bro. Jason and Sis.

Nora Sabo on September 8. Siblings Sophie and Joseph, and grandparents, Bro. Greg and Sis. Sharon Sabo and Carl and Lila Schuster, also welcome her home.

On October 8-9, our church hosted an 'Invite-a-Friend' Weekend. We were thankful for the rich blessing of fellowship we experienced. We are especially thankful to Bro. Harvey Kuenzi (Sis. Jennifer, Silverton, OR) who served in the ministry this special weekend.

Additional visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH), Bro. John Grimm (Sis. Julie, Columbus, OH) and Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Sis. Judy, Forrest, IL). We thank each one for the sacrifice they made on our behalf.

Sis. Milly Gerber (Bro. Wilbur) and Sis. Becky Vent (Richard) were hospitalized this past month. Please continue to pray for their recovery.

Bro. Pete Weibel (Sis. Linda) and Bro. Ron Rufener (Sis. Kay) were elected onto our Fellowship Hall Committee.

Continue to keep Tim Rufener (Bro. Ron and Sis. Kay) in your prayers as his military service takes him to Afghanistan.

"And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing."

Ezekiel 34:26

In this Thanksgiving season, and always, may we be reminded to give thanks for the abundant showers of blessings God has bestowed on us.

OHIO, RITTMAN Anne Gasser Hannah Beery

O, may we all united stand
By holy tie and sacred band,
As members of Christ's body here,
Led by Thy Spirit true, sincere,
With one accord.

Zion's Harp #200, vs. 2

Several new converts have committed themselves to a walk with our Lord this past month. Miguel Ramos, Steven Baltic (Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty, Indianapolis, IN) and Ruth Tieche (Greg and Sis. Peggy) have all begun their repentance. Our congregation heartily rejoices with each soul that chooses this more excellent way!

We continue to keep our ministering brethren in thought and prayer as they humbly serve our beloved congregations. This month visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), and ministering Bros. John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH), Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH), Tony Manz (Junction, OH), Don Manz (Junction, OH), Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Jesse Bedolla (Detroit, MI) and Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI). We were grateful each one could be assembled with us. This month we were also privileged to gather together for the playing of the Conference tapes.

On September 24, three dear

souls were baptized into our brotherhood. Sis. Katie Ramsier (Bro. Timothy and Sis. Jonell), Bro. Ryan Gasser (Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary) and Bro. Don Powell (Sis. Carol) all gave beautiful testimonies of faith, and we continue to delight in the goodness of God.

Twins were added to the Bro. Shawn, Sis. Judy and Noah Acker family on September 29. Grandparents of Aaron Boyd and Anna Lynn are Boyd and Barbara Acker and Elder Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie Hartzler.

Also born on the 29th was Aquina Diane to Bro. Matthew and Sis. Amber Rufener. Bro. Isaac and Sis. Verna Rufener, and Bro. Max and Sis. Diane Miller (Smithville) are the grandparents.

Bro. Greg and Sis. Joy Stoller also welcomed an addition to their family in the arrival of Faith Larae on October 4. She is welcomed home by her siblings, Sis. Laura, John, Rachel, Ann and Elsie. Grandparents of Faith are Bro. Dale and Sis. Jeannette Stoller and Bro. Ronald and Sis. Hope Gasser.

Bro. David Gasser and Sis. Anne Widmer were joined in marriage on October 2. Parents of the couple are Bro. Virgil and Sis. Lois Gasser and Bro. Darrell and Sis. Alice Widmer.

Also made known to our congregation this month was the engagement of Sis. Anna Schar to Bro. Ted Gherian (Akron, OH). May the Lord's blessings be upon both of these new unions.

Several members of our congregation spent time in the hospital this month, and we pray for God's healing touch in their lives. These individuals were Bro. Elton Rufener (Sis. Velma), Sis. Martha Zollinger (Carl) and Sis. Marge Weber. We trust our Lord will con-

tinue to provide for each one during these difficult days.

OHIO, SARDIS

Eric and Jami Hartzler

There have been many blessings this month and many reasons to rejoice, but we also weep with those that weep. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Bob Dotterer and his family, as his grandfather, Bro. Joe Dotterer (Eureka, IL), passed away. We also mourn with Sis. Ruth Headley as her brother-in-law, Clarence Headley, was laid to rest.

Our prayers are also for loved ones who required hospital care. Sis. Hazel Riggerbach, Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice) and Josh Ramsier (Bro. Mark and Sis. Alice) have all recovered and are assembling with us again. We are thankful to see the healing power of the Great Physician.

He leadeth me! O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort
fraught!

Whate'er I do, where e'er I be,
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth
me.

Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in
mine,

Nor ever murmur nor repine,
Content, whatever lot I see,
Since, 'tis my God that leadeth me!

Hymns of Zion #162

We are thankful the Lord has led Sis. Kim Lanz to accept employment here in Sardis. We welcome her and hope she feels our love and prayerful support. The congregation in Philadelphia will surely miss her.

The Lord has also led Bro. Matt Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam) and Sis. Dawn Maibach (Bro. Bruce

and Sis. Lois, Smithville) together. We rejoice with them and pray that God will be with them throughout their engagement and upcoming marriage.

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."

Genesis 2:24

Rex Boltz (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marge, Rittman) and Christa Koerber were united in marriage on October 7. Rex moved to Sardis and began assembling with us nearly one year ago and we are thankful to have the two of them worshipping with us.

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

Psalms 127:3

Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry Zollinger are blessed with another grandson. Philemon Andrew Rassi was born on September 26 to Bro. Matthew and Sis. Bridget of Chicago, IL. His paternal grandparents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Carla Rassi, also of Chicago. Carl, Manna, Emmaus and Quartus are excited to welcome their new little brother.

We can see God's Almighty hand as the leaves on the trees begin to lose their color. The air begins to become crisp, and the days are noticeably shorter. We are thankful that many could gather with us on Saturday, October 15, at our annual fall gathering and again on Sunday to worship with us. We pray that all who visited us have received a blessing, as we are always thankful to have visitors. As

Thanksgiving approaches, let us praise our heavenly Father for His love and care for us, and rejoice in the salvation that He offers through His Son.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

**Edith Miller
Ruth Gasser**

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

Luke 10:2

We are thankful for those who have labored in the harvest for us at Smithville. Elder Bros. Dave Graf (Akron, OH), John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) and Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH) and Bros. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH) and Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL) have served us recently with the Word of Truth.

As man plants and waters, God gives the increase. We rejoice that two souls have allowed the seed to become fruitful, and have acknowledged their need of a Saviour. We pray for Brienna Indermuhle (Bro. Brian and Sis. Beverly) and Elijah Beery (Norman and Audrey) that they may be led through a true repentance to a true peace for heart and soul.

On October 9, we welcomed four souls who testified of their conversion experience and made vows of faithfulness to God in the waters of baptism. Our new brothers are Paul Klotzle (Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley), Aaron Bauman (Bro. Vic and Sis. Brenda), and sisters are Josie and Joy Rufener (Bro. John and Sis. Janice).

The engagement of Bro. Mat-

thew Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH) and Sis. Dawn Maibach (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lois) was made known to us on September 25. May they feel the Lord's leading as they prepare for their January wedding.

Bro. Max and Sis. Diane Miller are thankful for the addition to their family, as Bro. Matthew and Sis. Amber Rufener became first-time parents of Aquinnah Diane.

Bro. Aaron Bauman, Jim Gasser and Sis. Kim Luginbuhl have required hospital stays this past month. We are thankful when God provides healing, but realize there are many physical afflictions that loved ones often bear. May we continue to lift them up in prayer. We are also praying for Roy Blackford (Marlene) who anticipates heart surgery.

We wish God's blessings on Bro. Joe and Sis. Rose Dotterer and family as they relocate in Bloomfield-Pulaski, IA. We have appreciate their support in the ministry, and will miss them and their children, Tim, Bro. Craig, Kurt and Rachel. We hope they can visit us often.

We also welcome into our fellowship Mike and Sis. Diane Jarrett, Alexa and Madeline (formerly of Akron). Also, Bro. Josh Steffen has moved from Bay City, MI, living in the Cleveland area. May they feel a warm welcome and soon find their place with us.

OHIO, TOLEDO

**Teresa Rywalski
Rebecca Beard**

Greetings of love to each and every one!

We appreciate the labors of our visiting ministers this past month.

Sharing the pulpit were Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH), Bro. Gary Sinn (Sis. Paulette, Latty, OH), Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI) and Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN).

Please keep Sis. Betty Fetter in your prayers as she recently had a fall and is unable to worship with us.

OREGON, PORTLAND

Brianna Strahm

We appreciated listening to the Conference tapes this past month following our afternoon service for three consecutive Sundays. Our congregation enjoyed two all-church potlucks and a blessed time of fellowship on two of these Sunday afternoons.

Forever with the Lord,
My blessed lot shall be.
His word is like a shining star
And gently leadeth me.
I journey through this world,
I am a stranger here.
I shall pursue my pilgrim's course,
Unto my Saviour dear.
Near to Thee, Near to Thee,
I'm drawing near to Thee.

Hymns of Zion #88

We extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Bro. Robert and Sis. Pearl Miller in the passing of Sis. Pearl's sister, Sis. Leona Pfister (Roanoke, IL). Sis. Leona went to her Heavenly home on September 21 at the age of 83. She was a resident at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home. May the Lord comfort her family as only He can.

Our friend, Lowell Ditch (Sis. Golda), also passed from this life on August 21 at the age of 96. He was followed in death by his wife, Sis.

Golda, who went to claim her eternal reward on October 6 at the age of 92. Lowell and Sis. Golda were married nearly 70 years. We have surely appreciated Sis. Golda's faithful example over the years, though separated from the brethren by many miles.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judie) of Silverton. We surely appreciate his willingness to come and support our small congregation.

OREGON, SILVERTON

**Melissa Kuenzi
Cindy Metzger**

Bro. Jason and Sis. Colette Snook added another blessing to their family. Mason Lewis joins his sisters, Shalyse, Kiara, Kyra, Elisha, and Jade. Mason's grandparents are Vance and Sis. Liz Snook and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Kathy Fehr (Portland, OR).

"In sorrow and pain, thy trust do retain in Jesus the merciful Saviour..." (Zion's Harp #46). Last week we laid Sis. Golda Ditch to rest. We will miss her faithful example.

We are thankful that Sis. Lanette Feuchtenberger is recovering from her recent car accident.

Recently, progress has been made on our fellowship hall. We look forward to using this facility.

We certainly appreciate the willingness of the ministering brothers who share the Word with us regularly. We want to thank our home Brothers, as well as our visiting ministers, this past month: Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA), Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Liz) and Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy) of Portland, OR.

PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

**Nathan and MaryElizabeth
Gasser**

This month we are delighted to welcome two new babies into our congregation. Lydia Dawn was born to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda Isch, and joins big brother, Joel, and big sister, Bonnie, in the family. Happy grandparents are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Lucile Isch (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Glen and Sis. Eileen Furrer (Prescott, AZ).

We also rejoice with our Bro. Bob and Rika Allen as they welcome foster baby Austin into their home. Big brothers, Hira and Yoshi, are sure to take good care of the new arrival.

Our prayers are with these and all our growing families as they endeavor to raise their children in the knowledge and the love of God. May we all share in the responsibility of bringing Christ's light and love to the children around us.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

Mike and Monica Fritz

In this past month, the Lord has abundantly provided instruction for us from His Word. We are thankful to the visiting ministers who have so willingly brought it forth: Bros. Ted Schock (Sis. Heidi, Belvidere, IL); Ted Witzig, Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton, IL); Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH); and Elder Bros. Ted Witzig, Sr. (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL) and Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN). We have also been greatly blessed by the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Belvidere and Forrest, IL; Oakville, IA; and 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: Oakville, IA (11/20); Lamar, MO (12/4); Bern, KS (12/11); and Goodfield, IL (12/18). We do not have a minister scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend (11/27), Christmas (12/25), or New Years (1/1), but if any local brethren are in the area, we will meet at church for a tape service. If you are planning to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. We also usually meet on Wednesday evenings for a song service 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) 356-5755.

TEXAS

DALLAS/FORT WORTH

Judith Fehr

The Lord is my Shepherd,
I shall not want;
He maketh me down to lie
In pastures green, he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

Hymns of Zion, #130

We wish to express our thanks and gratitude to Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson for their service in His name. Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon have moved from the Dallas area, and while we shall miss their support, we certainly pray that He will bless them in their future plans.

We were grateful to welcome Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary; Zapata, TX) on October 9, when Bro. Leland served as visiting min-

ister for our small gathering. We are grateful for Bro. Leland's service in the Lord.

Two of our friends in faith, Ralph and Beverly Riggenbach, have been experiencing health problems. We pray that their health will soon be restored and that they will soon be able to rejoin our service gatherings.

We extend a warm welcome to anyone local or passing through the area to attend services with us. We do ask to be contacted in advance simply to ensure planning for lunchtime meals. For service dates and times, and other information, please contact Sis. Judi Fehr / Mindy McClard at 972-956-0597 or friends Ralph and Beverly Riggenbach at 217-741-1502. Services are scheduled every other Sunday, and are held at the Holiday Inn Express in Grapevine, TX, near the intersections of Highways 121 and 114. To reach the hotel while traveling either direction on Hwy 121, exit on Main Street; the hotel is on the south side of the highway.

TEXAS, SAN MARCOS
Amy Ringger
Serenity Ringger

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
 Pilgrim thru this barren land;
 I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
 Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.

Hymns of Zion, #158

As Thanksgiving comes each year, we often encounter the term "pilgrim". The dictionary says that a pilgrim is a sojourner in a strange place. The Pilgrims of the 1600's had much discouragement getting to where they wanted to go and we too may face discouragement in different ways. The following poem by

John Bunyan gives us something to consider as we read about the Plymouth Pilgrims this year and consider the parallels to our own spiritual journey.

The Pilgrim

Who would true valor see,
 Let him come hither!
 One here will constant be,
 Come wind, come weather;
 There's no discouragement
 Shall make him once relent
 His flint - avow'd intent
 To be a Pilgrim.

Whoso beset him round
 With dismal stories
 Do but themselves confound;
 His strength the more is.
 No lion can him fright;
 He'll with a giant fight;
 But he will have a right
 To be a Pilgrim.

Nor enemy, nor friend,
 Can daunt his spirit;
 He knows he at the end
 Shall life inherit:
 Then, fancies, fly away;
 He'll not fear what men say;
 He'll labor, night and day,
 To be a Pilgrim.

by John Bunyan

Many thanks to the ministers and wives for their service: Bro. Steve Martin (Sis. Vicki, Eureka), Elder Bro. Gerry Hertz (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha), Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction), and Bro. Paul Messner (Sis. Jan, Winthrop). We also appreciated the visitors from Silverton, Pharr, and some of the Junction Single Group.

Upcoming churches serving us in November are these: Minneapolis (6), Elgin, IA (13), Morris (20), and Washington (27).

We extend a warm welcome to anyone who may be in the area to worship with us. Please call ahead to help us plan for serving lunch. Also, because visitors add much to our local fellowship times, it helps if we know about your visit well in advance so that we can accommodate you more readily in our weekend gatherings. See the ministers' book for local 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
Sandy Leman

"I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD. I will pay my vows unto the LORD now in the presence of all his people. In the courts of the LORD's house, in the midst of thee, O Jerusalem. Praise ye the LORD."

Psalms 115:17-19

We have so much to thank the Lord for. As we consider the events of the past year and all the victims of tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes, and wars, our hearts are full of gratitude to God for His care for us. Not only has He spared us the devastation of these events, He has blessed us both materially and spiritually. Most of all we give thanks for His love and mercy. He provided the Way for us to find abundant life and the promise of a home in Heaven forever with Him.

We owe Him the sacrifice of thanksgiving for the sacrifice He made for us. Praise His name!

Last month we bid a fond farewell to Bro. Joe and Sis. Denise Maller, who left South Texas to follow the Lord's call to Magdalena, Sonora, Mexico to work in Casa Vida y Esperanza, our church's children's home. We will miss them, but our loss is Magdalena's gain. We wish them the best in their new home there.

As winter approaches, we welcome back our Winter Texans who have been in the North during the summer. We are so glad to renew friendships and to have our brothers and sisters back to spend a few months with us again. While we rejoice in the promise that He will be in our midst when two or three are gathered in His name, it is a huge blessing to have a bigger number to worship with us.

VERMONT, NORWICH Areli Reutter

"And when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet."

Mark 11:13

Greetings beloved brethren!

We thank God for sending servants to preach the Gospel. This month we were blessed to have Elder Bros. David Graf (Akron), Dale Eisenmann (Chicago), Dennis Warner (Lester), Robert Walder (Congerville), and ministering Bros. Eugene Metzger (Lester), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Warren Zahner (Rockville) and Dan Stoller (Rockville). May the Lord prosper their efforts to serve the least of the flocks.

If you have plans to visit the beautiful Northeast this fall, please

worship with us! It is always helpful to give us a call in advance to help us plan for your attendance.

Also, please disregard the incorrect information listed in the "minister's book". Services start promptly at 10:15 in the morning and 12:15 in the afternoon. To arrive at our meeting place, take exit 13 from Interstate 91 and proceed to 344 Main Street, Norwich, VT 05055.

For more information or directions, please contact Morey Weiss at (802) 295-5981 or Bro. Kirby Reutter at (802) 776-5293.

This past month, thousands of tourists from all over the world came to see "nothing but leaves". Christ is looking for figs.

"A fruitful branch, O Saviour make me, which from the one true vine is grown!" (Zion's Harp, #62)



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PUBLICATIONS BOOK STORE

Apostolic Christian Publications now has CD sets and cassette tape sets of the Children's Harp Hymn book. These are recordings of children from the Apostolic Christian Churches singing all of the Hymns from the Children's Harp. It would be a great gift idea for Christmas, birthday etc. These are available at the book store in Eureka for \$18.50 per set.

To order this or other material, either stop by the book store between the hours of 8:30am to 11:30am Monday thru Friday or Call 309-467-3611 during those hours to order by phone. If you call after hours you may leave your order on the answering machine or fax your order to the same number.

Zion's Melodies - Available December 1, 2005 - \$6.70

This hymnal contains sixty-seven (67) historic hymns that have been a source of spiritual comfort to Brothers and Sisters of the Apostolic Christian faith for many years. These songs are published with a hope that, with their reintroduction into our brotherhood, they would again become a source of comfort and inspiration as they are sung in praise and honor to God.

The sixty-seven hymns were translated from the following hymnals: *Alte Lieder* - 43; *Heft* -16; *Zion's Perlenchore* - 6; and 2 from other sources.

The *Alte Lieder* is a hymnal of 43 songs. Approximately twenty percent of the *Alte Lieder* hymns are linked to the *Zion's Harp* or *Hymns of Zion*. They are associated either by melody or verse or both melody and verse as in *Alte Lieder* #5 "The Heavens Are Praising" and in *Alte Lieder* #17 "Anticipation".

The German speaking churches in Europe, associated with the Apostolic Christian faith, have preserved the *Alte Lieder* hymns by publishing them as an integral part and continuation of their *Zion's Harp*.

The *Heft*, also known as the *Long Book* because of its size and shape, was first published in Bern, Switzerland. It was compiled by Johann Meister. Publications are as follows:

- 1st edition Late 1860's hymns ... 1-54
- 2nd edition Year 1910 added hymns ... 55-78
- 3rd edition Prior to 1939 added hymns 79-104

An English-language *Heft* was copyrighted in 1931 by the Apostolic Christian Church of America. This hymnal

was titled *Songs of Praise and Worship* and has a total of 75 songs. The first 54 were translated by Elder Ernest Graf. This translation was identical to the German *Heft* with the exception of hymns #3 and #4 in which the songs "What a Friend We Have In Jesus" and "He Leadeth Me" were substituted for the two *Heft* hymns. These two original *Heft* hymns were later added to the *Hymns of Zion* as numbers 298 and 299. The remaining 21 hymns to #75 are not *Heft* hymns. There were selected from other sources.

The *Hymns of Zion* was published in 1958. Sixty-two (62) of the 301 melodies were selected from the second edition 78-hymn *Heft*. The sixteen (16) remaining *Heft* hymns which were not translated are now included in this hymnal. The 3rd edition of *Heft* hymns numbered 79-104 are not included in this hymnal.

The Apostolic Christian Church (Nazarene) English translation of *Heft* verses is used in this hymnal. Each hymn was reviewed using the German-language *Heft*. This was to verify the accuracy of translation and to ensure that the meter of each verse would also match the original text. The poetry was reviewed for its ability to communicate its message. Some wording was changed as a result of this process.

The European churches associated with the Apostolic Christian Church have used the *Heft* continuously from its inception. The churches in Hungary are using the 104-song *Heft* as a continuation of their *Zion's Harp* which also includes 11 *Alte Lieder* hymns. The churches in Germany have chosen to continue the *Long Book* format, containing 104 *Heft* songs, as a separate hymnal.

The *Zion's Perlenchore* was published in Germany circa 1870. Some *Heft* songs are included in this hymnal. As a note of interest, the *Zion's Perlenchore* hymn #90 "The Twenty-Third Psalm" is the identical rendition of our *Zion's Harp* #212.

The last two songs of this hymnal are "Unity" and "Come To The Homeland". "Unity" is sung to a melody which has been in use for over 100 years. This hymn is also published in the Hungarian *HANGOLJATOK SZIVETEKET* - the *Green Book* - number 137. The source of "Come To The Homeland" is a small hymnal titled "Komm".

These songs of praise and worship are in numerical sequence, relative to their source, as noted under each title. Two-page songs are exposed on opposing panels, eliminating the need to turn pages while singing. To accommodate this format, scriptural quotations are inserted where blank pages would have appeared.

One of the most precious gifts given to mankind by our Heavenly Father is the human voice. It is an instrument that cannot be duplicated by man. When the Holy Spirit is in control and peace and contentment rule the heart, this musical instrument can express love and appreciation of our Heavenly Father by its ability to blend and harmonize beautiful sounds into songs of praise and honor to God.

I will sing unto the Lord as long as I live.
I will sing praise to my God while I have my being."

Psalms 104:33

Heft Ale Lieder Committee

Sermon continued from page 2

for some reason. No, God forbid. But esteeming and respecting and lifting up and encouraging. Better than ourselves. So we do that, that respect and esteem toward each other is higher than ourself.

“Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 2:5. Why was it in Christ Jesus? Because He was “...in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” Philippians 2:6-8. So we must die. As Christ shows us the mind of Christ, we need to die of our will. We need to die of our desires that we feel are so worthy. We are to die of those as Christ died of Himself. He died on the cross, loved ones. He surrendered. He surrendered to the Father.

When one heart surrenders to God as Christ surrendered, “Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:” Philippians 2:9, then that name, that individual is worthy to the adoption of the son of God and the daughters of God. The children of God. As Christ gave the example of dying and shedding His blood, loved ones, He did it for you and for me. We are to have that mind for each other.

“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;” Philippians 2:10. Everything, as Isaiah saw it, of the earth, it is going to bow to God. God the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We’ll bow to Him. The waters, the kingdoms. That is where Jesus and the Apostle Paul were continually reminding the people, this kingdom that Jesus is establishing is an inner man kingdom. It is an inner heart kingdom. It is a spiritual kingdom.

We saw the message this morning in the prison (Acts 16:16-40). The people didn’t understand that. We are so thankful to be continually reminded of the mind of Christ. To live as Christ. To live is Christ and we are encouraged to stand firm on that foundation.

As Brother Galen mentioned, to believe. To believe is the beginning. To believe is the end when we take our last breath in Christ. And Christ is all, everything.

“And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:11. That Jesus Christ, this foundation, our whole worship service is focused to Christ and the cross. When the church’s focus is to Christ and the cross, the whole mission of the church is to Christ and the cross, the whole repentance of hearts coming to the Lord is Christ and the cross, and every one of us brothers and sisters, our walk of life is for Christ and the cross, we are likeminded. We are filled with joy. We are thankful.

Time and time again it says - when hearts become unthankful, depression sets in. When you are unthankful, you become discouraged. You become disappointed. You become self-inwardly selfish - thankful for where you are.

A little boy was praying once. He was sitting at the table and this was his prayer. An innocent little child. His father asked him to pray and he said, “Thanks, Lord, for this food. Some of it I don’t like but I am going to eat it anyway. Amen.” How can we, as the innocence of a little child say, “Lord, thank Thee for my life? Some of it I don’t like. But I am going to be in it anyway. Thank Thee, Lord.”

When that can be our heart and our inner feeling, be it the process of repentance, be it the process of living an overcoming life, thank Thee, Lord. I don’t know what you have gone through. What kind of disappointments you have. But when our mind is so close to God that we are thanking Him for things that are not going to be good in the future, and you can read continually through the Word of God, those people that were walking close to God were thankful for the events that weren’t going to be pleasant. Paul in prison sang hymns (Acts 16:25) and so we thank God today for the firm foundation of Jesus Christ.

There was an exhortation, continue in obedience. “Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salva-

tion with fear and trembling.” Philippians 2:12. We work out our own salvation with fear of God. The fear of God is the beginning. God is an awesome God! We fear Him because He can give us a heavy load to carry. We fear Him because the load can be too heavy. But we know we can, as a child - have you ever seen a mother in the grocery store and the little girl is carrying the basket and the mom keeps putting things in the basket and the little girl is carrying it and it is getting heavier? But she knows that mom is not going to put more in that basket than she can carry. So she carries it with courage. Mom knows how much I can carry. She is just carrying it because she just loves to serve her mother. So we carry that load with joy, knowing that God is not going to give you more than you can handle. The main thing is that you surrender your heart. You surrender your life to God.

“Do all things without murmuring...” Philippians 2:14. We do it, not complaining but we do it joyfully. We carry this load.

“That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;” Philippians 2:15. Be blameless and harmless, as the lamb lies down by the lion.

“Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.” Philippians 2:16. So we are living in a crooked and perverse nation. We are living in an evil time, loved ones. It is a time closer to the end than it has ever been. So as you interact with people, you are going to find unthankful hearts. You are going to find people who are selfish. You are going to see things that are definitely from the devil, definitely from Satan. You can see the hearts of people attached to the world and they are running over. Running, running, running for things.

But we are to be blameless and harmless, as the sons of God. Admonishment to be gentle, to be kind and to be harmless. That is not to hurt. God’s children are harmless. They are

Sermon continued on page 46

Sermon continued from page 45

blameless.

Remember growing up as young boys, somebody has to get blamed for this. Something happens - someone's going to get blamed for this. Somebody is at fault. Well, we are to be blameless. That is, we haven't done it. Walking joyfully, faithful, fearful of a living God in obedience.

"...sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all. For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me." Philippians 2:17,18. He brings there in the eighteenth verse that Paul is filled with joy. And we are filled with joy. Jesus Christ was victorious over the grave. So we have found victory in Christ. The victory in Christ. We have faith in the victory of Christ on the cross. When we repent and have the hope of life eternal and have peace in our heart, that we are going home, we are going to heaven, we are on the winning team of Christ, it is a time of joy. Filled with joy. It is not a time of sorrow and disappointment. But we are rejoicing today for Jesus Christ. We have the mind of Christ. Paul says, filled with joy! We rejoice today. People are repenting and seeking out the Savior. We as a church are coming together because we are likeminded in Christ. We have been blessed above measure. We have been given so many things. As we come together, we are coming here because we are rejoicing in that we find joy with one another.

I just think, I hope that everyone has joy today. If you don't have joy today, there is one reason you don't have joy today, loved ones, and that is because of sin. Because the Word says sin separates man from God. I remember the Sunday morning after, about the noon hour, just as they were unshackled there in the prison (Acts 16:26), I remember Kay Meyer, the noon hour, just started repenting right at the noon hour. She heard the Sunday morning message. All at once she knew this was God. She needed to put on a prayer veil. She needed to make her heart right with God because she wasn't filled with the joy that the body of Christ knew.

When the message of God goes out and it touches your heart and you

know you are not filled with joy, it is sin that has separated man from God. Today is the day of salvation. Jesus says, come unto me, all ye that are burdened and heavy laden. I will give you rest. (St. Matthew 11:28)

"...trust in the Lord Jesus..." Philippians 2:19. Trust in the Lord Jesus. Don't trust in yourself. "...trust in the Lord Jesus...that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state. For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state." Philippians 2:19,20. So there are people caring for you. There are people concerned for the welfare of your soul.

Don't seek things of your own. Seek things of Christ Jesus. "...ye know the proof of him..." Philippians 2:22. The four gospels. Jesus Christ, He conquered healing. He conquered. The deaf could hear, the lame could walk, the blind could see. He had power over the demons. He had power over death and life. So if we read the four gospels, continually we can read the miracles that Jesus performed. Jesus was the Son of God. If you believe that - Paul says, "For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's." Philippians 2:20,21. We seek those things of Jesus. Loved ones, seek the things of Jesus today. The difference is heaven and hell. The difference is life and death. It is so important to seek Jesus Christ.

"Him therefore I hope to send presently..." Philippians 2:23. He speaks of Timothy, a younger believer in the faith. Timothy wrote some beautiful writings of the last days. "But I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly." Philippians 2:24. His desire to be together and our desire to be together is precious as we fellowship together. I trust it is always a joy to come and meet one another. If you aren't ready to meet everyone on the earth today, if you are not ready to meet everyone, your heart, something isn't right. Because the scripture tells us we should be filled with joy to greet and meet and have a desire that we would come together into the house of God.

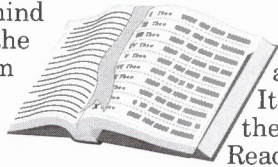
Were we filled with enthusiasm to be here today? God knows our hearts. He knows where we need to correct

things. He knows where we need to make things right. So the Apostle Paul encourages the Philippian church to be filled with joy. That we would labor together. We would work and labor together as fellow soldiers. As messengers carrying out the gospel message.

"For he longed after you all, and was full of heaviness, because that ye had heard that he had been sick." Philippians 2:26. So we care for one another. We are sorry when disappointments and heartaches come. When things don't work out. Illnesses and death. We have had funerals. We are going to have a funeral next Tuesday morning for the family - unexpected deaths. We come together to comfort one another. We come together, loved ones, today. Jesus says this place is not for those who don't need help. This place is like a hospital. If you need help today, I trust the Holy Spirit has lifted you and has come to you and has reassured you there is a great concern for you. And that God will not give you a load too heavy to carry. You have been encouraged to pick it up as a little child and say, Lord, I carry it. I carry it for the Lord and I know this is not going to be too heavy.

We thank God for things we don't like before they happen because we know they will bring the fruits of a righteous heart. Chastisement and admonishment is for our good. If your children are far from God, it might be for your good. If you are financially set back, your husband is passed away, your wife is passed away, it is for your good. To bring forth the fruits of righteousness because God is a righteous God. I don't know all the disappointments, the heartaches you are going through, but can we thank God? When Daniel knew that he would be thrown in the lion's den he said thank Thee, Lord (Daniel 6:10). When Paul was in prison, he said say thank Thee Lord. So today we thank God for the good things and we thank God for the things that aren't so good. We stay likeminded, firmly grounded in Jesus Christ and the cross. Esteeming others higher than ourselves.

The Bible



The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy; its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charters. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed.

Christ is the grand subject, our good the design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.

And it is the Living Word, living in all that have been redeemed. There is no way or book that could contain the impact that the Bible has on the human race.

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CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2005/2006

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
AWA-T	TBD	Les Cayes	Troy Struber	Water Aid	5
AWA-B	December 2-9, 2005	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
MEBSH	December 2-9, 2005	Les Cayes	Ted Habegger	Grade School	11
MEBSH	December 9-16, 2005	Les Cayes	Phil Isabel	Grade School	11
MEBSH	January 6-13, 2006	Les Cayes	Ron Palitto	Grade School	11
MEBSH	Jan. 27 - Feb. 3, 2006	Les Cayes	Dean Pashak	Grade School	11
SEED	February 10-17, 2006	Les Cayes	Art Mueller	Agriculture Aid	11
Palm Grove	February 10-17, 2006	Puit Sales	Stan DesCarpentrie	Grade School	11
SEED	March 10-17, 2006	Les Cayes	Bob Beebe	Agriculture Aid	11
AWA-T	March 17-24, 2006	Les Cayes	Troy Struber	Water Aid	5
AWA-FRW	March 17-24, 2006	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4
AWA-B	March 17-24, 2006	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
MEBSH	March 24-31, 2006	Les Cayes	Rich Bertschi	Grade School	9
Palm Grove	TBD	Puit Sales	Tom Hitz	Grade School	11
MEBSH	April 21-28, 2006	Les Cayes	Jon Zeller	Construction/Maintenance	11
MEBSH	April 29-May 6, 2006	Haiti	Tom Hitz	Caribbean Evaluation	Invitation
MEBSH	June 3-10, 2006	Haiti	Tom Hitz	Elder Evaluation	Invitation
AWA-T	June 16-23, 2006	Les Cayes	Troy Struber	Water Aid	5
AWA-FRW	June 16-23, 2006	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4
AWA-B	June 16-23, 2006	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
JAMAICA					
CCCD	March 18-26, 2006	Deaf Village	Wolcott SS/Jon Schwab	Work Place	40/50
CCCD	March 24-April 1, 2006	Kingston	Work/Project/Terry Miller	Deaf School	40/50
CCCD	May 19-27, 2006	Deaf Village	Work Project/Ted Hirstein	Work Place	40/50
CCCD	June 3-10, 2006	Deaf Village	Taylor SS/Rusty Adrian	Work Place	40/50
CCCD	July 1-8, 2006	Knockpatrick	Mansfield SS/Pete Webel	Deaf School	40

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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

Mexico Work Teams 2005-2006

Location	Date	Project	Coordinator	Phone	E-mail
Agua Prieta	Dec. 26 - Jan. 2, 2006	Construction	Keith Stoller	330-715-3085	keithstoller@hotmail.com
Magdalena	Dec. 26 - Jan. 2, 2006	Construction	Kirk Schambach	630-377-5271	klyndon@comcast.net
Magdalena	Dec. 31 - Jan. 7, 2005	Construction	Carlo Soto	765-490-6115	los315@hotmail.com
Magdalena	February 11-18, 2006	Construction	Dennis Zimmerman	815-657-8810	zimmerman@characterlink.net
Magdalena	February 18-25, 2006	Construction	Norm Rechkemmer	309-231-0098	jannorm67@earthlink.net
Magdalena	Feb. 25 - Mar. 4, 2006	Construction	Marvin Hodel	309-263-0050	dove@dpc.net
Juarez	March 4-11, 2006	Construction	Kurt Ifer	260-824-2829	k.ifer@mchsi.com
Agua Prieta	March 4-11, 2006	Construction	Gerald Fiechter	260-597-7494	fiechter@adamswells.com
Agua Prieta	March 11-18, 2006	Construction	Bob Meyer	260-824-3236	bobmeyer@adamswells.com
Magdalena	March 11-18, 2006	Construction	Arlan Miller	309-747-2683	seek_truth@yahoo.com
Agua Prieta	March 18-25, 2006	Construction	Denis Fry	260-824-3055	fry.d@mchsi.com
Magdalena	March 18-25, 2006	Construction	Nic Rassi	217-367-1427	rassi@uiuc.edu
Rio Bravo	March 25 - April 1, 2006	Construction	Dean Fiechter	260-565-3439	dfiechter@adamswells.com
Juarez	March 25-April 1, 2006	Construction	Jay Grube	260-565-3402	grube@adamswells.com
Agua Prieta	March 25-April 1, 2006	Construction	Jim Fiechter	260-565-3248	jimfiechter@adamswells.com
Magdalena	March 25-April 1, 2006	Construction	Courtney Pfister	260-824-5161	fizz@parlorcity.com
Juarez	March 30-April 6, 2006	Medical	Cheryl Herrmann	309-385-1082	cheryl@mtco.com
Magdalena	April 8-15, 2006	Construction	Kevin Fischer	309-923-7684	kafischer80@msn.com
Magdalena	June 3-10, 2006	Construction	Jim Plattner	309-385-4811	jplattner@verizon.net
Magdalena	July 8-15, 2006	Construction	Rick Kaisner	847-942-1174	rick@kaisner.org
Magdalena	July 22-29, 2006	Construction	Tyler Banwart	620-223-1362	tybanwart@hotmail.com

If anyone is interested in leading a team to Mexico, contact Bro. Mike Fiechter at 260-597-7330 or mfiechter@adamswells.com

U.S.A. BOARD WORK PROJECTS

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Illinois: Marvin Sauder
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Indiana: Gerry Waibel
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 E-mail: glwaibel@hotmail.com

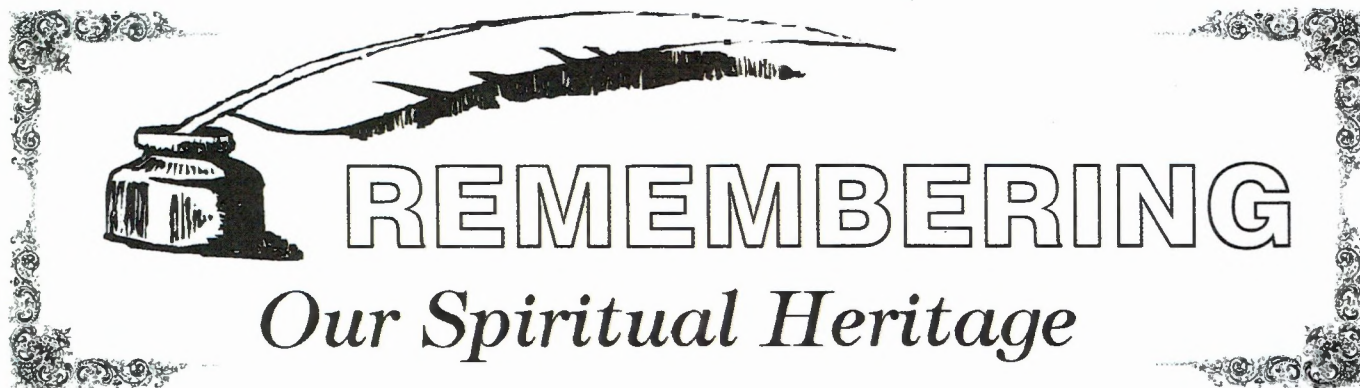
Ohio: Ken Zollinger
 Phone: 330-925-6370
 Fax: 330-927-6370
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 Email: ALM@aol.com



The Ties That Bind

The Bible teaches about being knit together in love (Colossians 2:2). This closeness has been evident in our churches throughout the generations. The centrality of closeness is our faith in Christ Jesus — yet there are corollary reasons for the ties that bind us. More ties follow.

Evidence of Following Christ

As the generations have unfolded, the Word's messages have remained unchanged: and the church and its Godly leadership have striven to adhere to what Christ and the Apostles taught.

As we notice diligence, and the practicing of the faith in others, it gives cohesive strength and creates a tie that binds us together. To keep the Word — and to bow down to it — has often been painful as the flesh (and our constant enemy, the devil) wants to find reassertion in the believers' life.

As we seek (by God's grace) to deny ourselves, and to resist evil, we find a strong and broad ally in the brethren if we are resisting, together, in a mutually-defined way. In this, we find a joyous tie that binds us.

If we repent right, and our old man of sin is broken and made dead, a true conversion results — and our change to Godliness is evident. We are thence expected, from the Word and from the church (Christ's body), to maintain a high standard of virtue, both to please God and to overcome sin, temptation

and evil — to life's end. We find a special joy in striving together in a similar way to walk as the Bible teaches.

Special Characteristics of Brotherhood

Our faith and belief have a common order. Our tradition, both by word (orally) and by epistle (God's Word) has helped form a solid tie that binds us (II Thessalonians 2:15).

Our sense of good order is expressed in many ways. The order of worship is special, and very simple whereby God's Word and Spirit are given pre-eminence. Men of good report (I Timothy 3:7) are instated into the ministry. They come not with excellency of speech or of wisdom (or prepared sermons), but preach by the power of God (I Corinthians 2:5). A shared multi-minister system serves us well. We are free of studied "theology" and seminary falsehoods since our ministers receive no training other than personal study of the Bible.

Our worship music is sacred, and "a cappella." Showy entertainments are absent. The Zion's Harp and Hymns of Zion songbooks are reflective of sound doctrine; and as everyone joins in singing, such music inspires the heart.

A consistent worship liturgy exists across the local congregations, and has remained unchanged for generations. We gather around the Word and Spirit — and they are the core of worship. Man recedes to his/her appropriate place of subordination to the Word (in worship).

Fellowship endears the brethren

one to another. The greeting with a holy kiss (men with men and women with women) is practiced. The holy kiss is an evident tie that binds us as believers in Christ Jesus.

Lay participation in sometimes offering the second prayer during worship, in announcing songs and in song leading constitutes a special characteristic of worship. Too, the "giving of greetings" (from visitors, and from local brethren who have visited elsewhere among our brethren) is a special tie that binds us. It is a constant reminder of our brethren of like precious faith in other congregations.

The noon lunch and time of fellowship further endears and unites us as believers. Deepening acquaintances and closer bonds result from the noon fellowship as we share each other's joys and sorrows (I Corinthians 12:26).

A unique feature of our fellowship is to visit a church for the first time. As we enter the foyer we greet people with a holy kiss first, and then ask their name secondly. Our tie is in the Spirit, not necessarily in familiarity.

Separated seating of the sexes during worship is a practice that honors the widows, widowers and single believers — and those who may be lonely. It also contributes to better singing. This practice is consistent with that which existed in the early church at the time of the Apostles. It was universally observed in Christianity up until approximately 1900.

By: Perry A. Klopfenstein

Next Issue: More ties that bind

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

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“What Gives Life Meaning”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

I would like to distinguish between the purpose of life and the meaning of life. The purpose of life is to bring glory to God. Revelation 4:11 “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, and honour, and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”

We can think of the meaning of life as how much worth or value it has. Most people, at the time of their death, would give all of their earthly possessions to have one more year of healthy, vigorous living. We tend to cling to life, as something of great meaning and value.

The Lord Jesus said in John 10:10, “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.” Here Christ is speaking about spiritual life, in the first part of this quotation. Surely it is possible to live a physical life, our hearts beat and we can breathe, without Christ. The second part of the

quotation indicates that if we receive spiritual life from Christ, our physical life, our life here on earth, becomes much better, more wonderful and more enjoyable.

Once we enter into the spiritual realm of life, we are, “Ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us.” II Corinthians 5:20. God works through human beings and this gives life a very deep meaning. It gives life an eternal meaning. Please know, that if you are a child of God, you are an ambassador for Christ.

One characteristic of an ambassador is that he or she represents someone else. If you and I are to represent Christ, and God, the Father, too, our life is very meaningful, indeed.

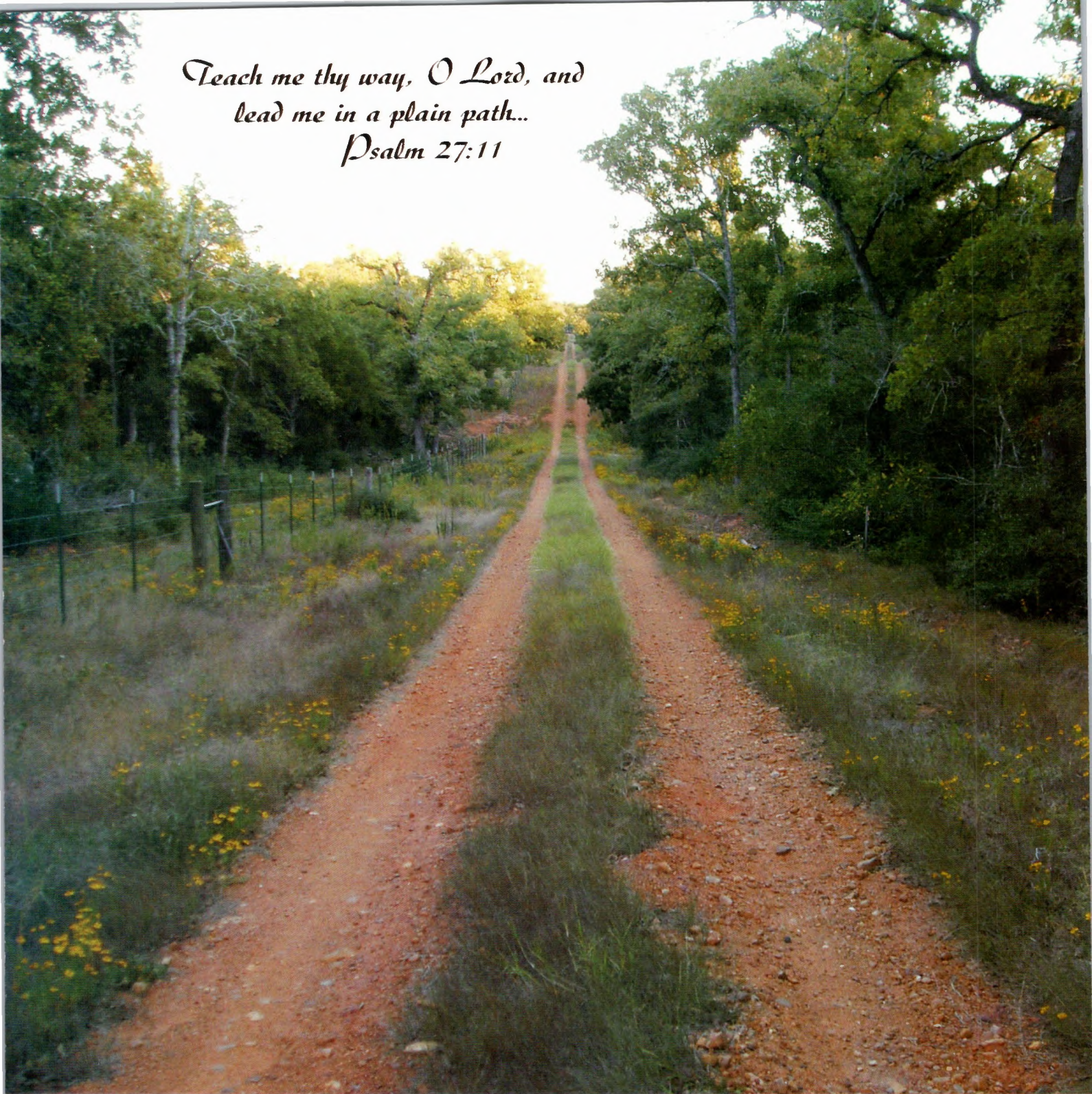
God works through you and me to show love and kindness to others. When Christ was on earth, God worked through Him to help people. Now God works through you and me to help others, to smile at them, to listen to them, to respect them for all

their wonderful characteristics. Of course, people have faults, ourselves included, but we can associate with others, even those who don't belong to Christ. Jesus did, and said, “They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick.” Matthew 9:12.

I John 5:11 reads, “And this is the record, that God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.” When we think about eternal life, the meaning becomes of greater worth and greater value. How can we possibly fathom the immense meaning of life, both now and throughout eternity? Please wake up every morning with the realization that that day is very meaningful with opportunities for you to be an ambassador for Christ. I cannot take your place because I'm not going to be where you are. You and the Holy Spirit, are on your own. The Holy Spirit will also, be with me. That's one thing we have in common. Living for Christ gives life meaning.

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*Teach me thy way, O Lord, and
lead me in a plain path...
Psalm 27:11*



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