

# *The Silver Lining*



*O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!  
how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!*

*Romans 11:33*

*September 2006*



Sermon by Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle, Altadena, CA

## Isaiah 6 and St. Luke 4

We have here an individual who is crying out to the Lord day and night. Recognizing that God is his God or her God. The God of salvation. With a desire of, let my prayer come before Thee. (Psalm 88:1,2)

It is so interesting, as we study about prayer and how God receives prayer. So often we hear today when there's a tragedy or difficulty or some calamity, people are moved to pray. People respond with; I will pray for you and your family; may our prayers be with you. That is a wonderful thing. Yet, the question is, to whom do we pray and what is our prayer about and for? Who will hear our prayer? Is this prayer of faith?

As you read through the scriptures about prayer and about God's response to people crying out to Him, it is interesting the loving, merciful, long-suffering God says, I will turn my face away from those that call upon me but don't believe in me. That don't trust in me. That don't seek me with their hearts. So it is our part to turn towards Him. That is our part. It is not very glamorous or exciting. But it is a turning of our hearts towards Him. (Proverbs 1:23-32)

Then He says, this is His promise. As we turn towards Him, as there is may be just a first beginning of a sidelong glance, a heart's turning, He says, I will pour out my blessing upon that soul that turns to me and who looks to me in faith. (Proverbs 1:33) And then all the promises and the blessings and the grace of God that are poured out upon people that turn to Him, believing, knowing, seeking. Even though our knowing may not be - may be just like a

mustard seed. So very small. It is the beginning.

So this is the cry of the Psalmist, Let my prayer come before Thee and Thee alone. No one else. I don't pray to any other but to Thee alone. Lord, hear my prayer. May my prayer come before Thee. "...incline thine ear unto my cry;" Psalm 88:2. Isn't that a wonderful picture? Incline Thine ear unto my cry. Hear. Hear me, Lord.

Then the outpouring of life and all that the Psalmist was involved with and filled up with. "...my soul is full of troubles..." Psalm 88:3. Verse nine, "Mine eye mourneth by reason of affliction: Lord, I have called daily upon thee, I have stretched out my hands unto thee." Psalm 88:9.

And then questions. We all have questions as we turn to the Lord and wonder, what is this all about? We can relate to Job. We often turn to the Lord when we have questions. But why question? And but what to question? And how? It is okay to ask questions if we ask in anticipation. If we ask in faith. We ask in love. We ask, seeking.

Then the turning back, but unto thee have I cried, O Lord; and in the morning shall my prayer prevail upon Thee. Shall my prayer come before Thee. My prayer shall be in Thy presence in the morning. (Psalm 88:13) It is as though prayer will open the flood gates of God and allow His blessings to flow in.

James says, you ask and you don't receive (James 4:3). It's so typical and we say, why? Well, often we ask amiss. We ask so that we can consume it on our own lust. We ask for ungodly desires. Un-Christ centered desires. He says, anything you ask in my

name, that such, all inclusive name of Christ, what all is included in the name of Christ, for God's will, for His glory, for His purpose. Not for our well-being. But for His glory.

That prayer of a righteous man is effective and powerful (James 5:16). Then our prayer is in the

*Sermon continued on page 44*

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

## Light From The Word



Writings based  
on God's Word

September 2006

### We Have Found the Messiah

"...We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ" (Jn. 1:41). Andrew realized that Jesus was more than just a prophet. When he heard John the Baptist speaking to Jesus, he knew this was no ordinary man and he was anxious to share the news with those he loved.

Andrew went to tell his brother Simon Peter he had found the Messiah. It does not appear that Andrew and Peter spent much time in deciding what to do. Even though it was the tenth hour of the day when Andrew realized that Jesus was the Christ, he took Peter to Jesus. Jesus, when he saw Peter, called him to be an Apostle.

The next day Jesus called Philip to be an Apostle. Philip then found Nathaniel and gave him the same message Andrew gave Peter: "...We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph" (Jn. 1:45). We can feel the joy in their hearts as they shared this wonderful news with others.

The good news spread rapidly. And why shouldn't it? A promise made by God about four thousand years earlier had been fulfilled! The apostles, of course, at this point did not really understand Jesus' true mission, but they knew their lives would never be the same. They rejoiced that a long standing promise of God had been fulfilled.

Not all of the Apostles were as easily convinced as Andrew, Peter and Philip. Nathaniel didn't think anything good could come out of Nazareth, but he soon learned that Jesus was "...the Son of God; ...the King of Israel" (Jn. 1:49).

Jesus saw James and John, the sons of Zebedee, while they were in their ships mending their nets. "...He called them: and they left their father Zebedee in the ship with the hired servants, and went after him" (Mk. 1:20).

Levi (Matthew) was going about his daily routine collecting taxes for the Roman government. Jesus said "...Follow me. And he arose and followed him" (Mk. 2:14). Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Simon called Zelotes, Judas the brother of James and Judas Iscariot were also called.

Scripture does not record all of the details of the calling of each of the twelve apostles but we have enough information to believe that they willingly followed Jesus. In a discussion with His disciples concerning the difficulties they would face, Peter, in apparent reference to himself and the other apostles said "...Lo, we have left all, and have followed Thee" (Mk. 10:28). It provides us with evidence that each of the twelve apostles were very willing to leave all they had to follow Jesus.

Not all who were called by Jesus willingly left all to follow Him. One man asked Jesus what he needed to do to inherit eternal life. After a brief discussion Jesus told him "...One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions" (Mk. 10:21-22). It was not simply the possession of material goods that Jesus was concerned about. Anything that we regard as more important than serving God (father, mother, wife, child, etc.) would make so we cannot be Jesus' disciple (Lk. 14:26).

On another occasion, after He had told His followers that they must eat His flesh and drink His blood, "...many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then Jesus said unto the twelve, Will ye also go away? Then Simon Peter answered Him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life" (John 6:66-68).

So what does all of this have to do with us in the twenty-first century after Jesus' birth? The message of the gospel of Jesus is still available to mankind. Each of us must make a decision about Jesus' message. Some will receive it and some will not.

The joy of finding the Messiah has not diminished with the passage of time. When a soul comes under conviction of sin and is, by the grace of God, able to repent, be converted and ultimately find peace, the joy they experience is similar to what was expressed by the Apostles nearly 2000 years ago.

As Elders work with converts and see their struggles as they battle temptation, Elders often encourage them to continue the

battle, and assure them they will find peace at the appropriate time. The joy in their expression "I have found peace" is usually mirrored by their countenance. The joy of finding the Messiah cannot be hidden if one is truly converted and finally freed from the bondage of sin. Many times those who have found peace can hardly wait to tell others of their experience.

Unfortunately, just as it was in the days of Jesus' time on earth, not all who are called are willing to follow. Just as the rich young man was unwilling to give up his wealth, so are there those who have an idol that they cannot (or will not) give up.

God, in His mercy, often calls sinners many times but each time He is rejected by a sinner, there is a risk that there will be no more opportunity to yield to the Lord. We all know of individuals who have good intentions of repenting but they keep putting it off until, ultimately, it is too late. The hoped for "one more chance" didn't come, and they were called out of this life in a sad state of condemnation.

No doubt there are those who expect God to continue to call them until they finally heed the call. God will not force us to serve Him. Again, consider the case of the rich young man: although Jesus loved him, when the young man walked away, Jesus did not follow him and try to force him to change his mind. We have a free will. We can find the Messiah or we can reject Him. There is hardly a more heart rending verse in any hymn than the one that says "Almost persuaded, harvest is past! Almost persuaded, doom comes at last! Almost cannot avail; Almost is but to fail! Sad, sad that bitter wail, Almost but lost!" (Hymns of Zion #212 "Almost Persuaded")

Our lives do not need to end in bitter disappointment. If we will heed the Master's call, "He'll lighten the load, And level the road And bear thee on hands of compassion" (Zion's Harp #46 "The Best Refuge"). We can still find the Messiah, and the reward for finding Him is eternal life in heaven!





## 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

### Long Range Planning

The Mission Committee has focused its efforts in recent meetings on more purposeful and inspired long range planning for development and implementation of the mission efforts of our church. This requires establishment of a clearly stated Mission and Guiding Principles, as well as structured processes for implementation.

Recommendations resulting from this intensive effort will be critical in future Elder Body deliberations and in communications throughout the Brotherhood as plans are further refined and steps are initiated, by God's grace.

The Committee firmly believes that mission efforts will be blessed and will serve to strengthen the Church if they are carried out as part of a balanced application of the four pillars of the Mission of our Church. These four pillars represent the comprehensive, ever-faithful counsel of God to His holy church.

### Mission of the Church

It is strongly encouraged that all brethren become familiar with these four pillars and their scriptural basis. The mission (purpose) of the church is fourfold:

#### 1. To present to the lost the Gospel message of salvation based on faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ and a true repentance and conversion.

a) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. (Matthew 28:19-20)

b) 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)

c) For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. (Eph 2:8)

#### 2. To teach and nurture the believers toward a sanctified life and to faithfulness by God's grace and through His Word.

a) Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. (Colossians 1:28)

b) For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:12)

c) That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. (Ephesians 5:26-27)

#### 3. To preserve sound doctrine by "contending for the faith."

a) Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. (Jude 1:3)

b) For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God. (Acts 20:27)

c) Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee. (1 Timothy 4:16)

#### 4. To offer loving, humble deeds of service to fellow believers and all mankind in the name of Christ.

a) For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. (Galatians 5:13)

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

c) But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men. (Philippians 2:7)

### Mission Statement for Presenting the Gospel

This is our purpose, and it reflects what we do in mission efforts.

**To present the Gospel message of salvation to the lost in concert with guiding, training and preparing the Church Body to serve all men, to nurture one another in the true faith and to preserve sound biblical doctrine.**

### Guiding Principles for Presenting the Gospel

These biblically based principles provide a framework within which all efforts to present the Gospel are to be developed and implemented.

#### 1. Biblical Truth

Teach and practice the whole counsel of God (the perfect and universally applicable Word) under the direction of the Holy Spirit.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable...."

(2 Tim. 3:16-17)

"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you..." (Matt. 28:20)



## 2. Repentance and Sanctification

Teach that salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Eph. 2: 8-10), calling mankind to a Holy Spirit led repentance, born again experience (Matt. 3:6; Acts 3:19) and walk of sanctification (Tit. 2:11-14).

## 3. Church

Establish and support viable Apostolic Christian Churches as the nucleus of our mission work. "...the church of the living God (is the) pillar and ground of the truth" (1 Tim. 3:15); "...ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit" (Ephesians. 2:19-22). This will occur in concert with the four pillars of the established mission of our church.

## 4. Preparation

Prepare brethren who are called of the Lord and are being sent by the Church to share the Gospel message of salvation. "...be ready always to give an answer to every man..." (1 Pet. 3:15); "...sanctified and meet for the master's use and prepared unto every good work" (2 Tim. 2:21).

## 5. Doctrinal Integrity

Avoid ecumenical intermingling (2 Pet. 2:1-2) and other forms of spiritual deception (Rev. 2:14) in our efforts to preserve sound doctrine. "Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught..." (Tit. 1:9).

## 6. Biblical Accountability

Provide mission environments that enable effective support and oversight, fulfilling our accountability to God for the welfare of those being sent and those being served. "...for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account..." (Heb. 13:17); "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof..." (1 Pet. 5:1-2).

## 7. Love of Christ

Let the love of Christ be the prime motivation for all mission endeavors

and the inspiration for loving and respectful relationships among all who serve. "This is my commandment, That ye love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12); "...in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves" (Phil. 2:3).

It is hoped that brothers and sisters throughout the land will prayerfully and sincerely consider each one's personal responsibility to become equipped to be more actively engaged in fulfilling the mission of our church.

It is essential that we first come to a unity of spirit in the belief that a balanced approach is in accord with God's plan for the church, without over-emphasis or neglect of any of the four pillars. The Mission Committee entreats your continued prayer in its efforts to discern and follow the leading of the Holy Spirit in these endeavors.

## Go Ye Therefore...

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel to every creature.

(Mark 16:15)

And this Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations.

(Matthew 24:14)

And the Gospel must first be published among all nations.

(Mark 13:10)

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

(Luke 4:18-19)

And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His Name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

(Luke 24:47)

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

(Acts 1:8)

To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

(Acts 26:18)

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?

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

(Romans 10:15-16)

I have fully preached the Gospel of Christ. Yea, so have I strived to preach the Gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation: But as it is written, To whom He was spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand.

(Romans 15:19-21)

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

(II Peter 3:9)

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of the Heaven, having the everlasting Gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.

(Revelations 14:6)

For the Son of man is come to save that which was lost. How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?

(Matthew 18:11-12)



## **APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN COUNSELING SERVICES**

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

*Philippians 1:6*

In 1988, the Elder Body formed the Mental Health Committee with the purpose of addressing mental health and relationship issues of people in the church. Through the work of this committee, the Mental Health Hotline was developed. The hotline allowed members and friends of the Apostolic Christian church to call 365 days a year and talk to a registered nurse. The nurse on call would talk with the caller and assess the situation. Then, depending on the caller's needs, the nurses would make a referral to a professional counselor from the caller's area and/or send the person print information about the problem. Over the 16 years the hotline has been in existence, eight sisters in the church (Martha Moser, Beverly Knapp, Jane Stoller, Judy Witzig, Karen Martin, Kathleen Klopfenstein, Karen Stoller, and Jeanette Lavalier) have been a part of this valuable service. Each of them was employed as a nurse in settings ranging from nursing homes to hospitals to hospice. Their work on the Hotline was voluntary and they gave of themselves willingly. The nurses were trained by Bro. Richard Kilgus who was part of the Mental Health Committee. He and Bro. Ron Messner provided ongoing training and supervision for the nurses over time.

Over the years, these sisters have faithfully ministered to hundreds of

individuals faced with emotional struggles, depression, marital problems, stress, anxiety, parenting questions, and a variety of other issues. The sisters have used their God-given gifts and abilities to provide support, encouragement, and information to members and friends across the country. They were truly pioneers in providing care for the mental health needs of people within the church.

In 2000, the Mental Health Hotline became a part of Apostolic Christian Counseling Services. Since then, ACCS has continued to grow and develop and now employs full time clinical counselors and support staff. In the last six years, the ACCS counselors and the nurses who currently staff the hotline (Martha, Jane, Judy, Karen, and Kathleen) have met quarterly for in-service trainings and to coordinate services.

Over time, a natural progression has occurred and the majority of the calls that the Mental Health Hotline once responded to have been shifted to the full-time clinical and support staff at ACCS. Within the last year, the nurses who faithfully staffed the hotline suggested that it may be time for the hotline to be phased out. Through discussions with the nurses and the ACCS staff and Board of Directors, it has been decided that as of September 1, 2006, the hotline will no longer be staffed by the nurses. We feel a twinge of sadness at the coming of this change because we have enjoyed working together so much. However, this change also fills us with gratitude as we think of God's blessing and provision over time as ACCS has grown.

It is important for readers to un-

derstand that anyone in need can continue to call the ACCS toll free number 877-370-9988 with questions or concerns related to mental health and relationship issues. The ACCS clinical and support staff members will continue to respond to calls for assistance. Again, we would like to thank the sisters for their years of dedicated service to the Lord and the church in helping those in need. May God richly bless each one.

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

What can you do as an individual for the residents of the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped (ACHH) agency? Do you feel only distantly involved in this mission of serving developmentally disabled adults? What can be done to help you feel a closer relationship to individuals that may be hundreds of miles from where you live? The paragraphs following will attempt to help you develop that involvement.

The first step would be to pray for the whole mission of the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped. Pray for the board of directors and administrators that decisions that glorify God will be made for the agency and our residents. Also pray for the direct care staff members that they will be able to be kind, compassionate and competent caregivers. Direct care employees are those who work in our Nursing, Activities, Occupational Therapy/Physical Therapy, Social Services and Day Program departments. Pray for strength of mind and body and a serving attitude for the support staff members. These



people are office, dietary, house-keeping, laundry, and maintenance employees. Pray in general that God would send those people to work at ACHH facilities who want to serve Jesus Christ and to serve those individuals that need constant support in this life. Our residents need your prayerful attention, too. Pray they will be content, healthy and safe in our environment.

Secondly, if you live within a reasonable distance you may want to volunteer at one of our buildings. Often young groups from our Apostolic Christian churches and individuals from the area help with projects such as window washing, landscaping, bush trimming, also car and bus cleaning. There are times when skilled, certified workers have given their time freely or at a lower cost when working with computers, painting, plumbing, electrical, etc. The winter hours can become long for our residents so you may want to plan a game or song evening at one of the group homes or come to a Friday night sing at Timber Ridge. Many of our residents have outlived their parents; could you come and visit just one person and build a relationship over time? Are you a professional or amateur photographer that can use a digital camera? Come take some pictures for us. Do you have sewing skills? We always need someone who is willing to mend for us. Be imaginative, think of your God-given talents and see if you can use them in volunteer hours here at the Home. Call us for more information for volunteering opportunities.

Third, are you being led to answer direction from the Lord to serve instead of being served? Think of applying at ACHH as an

employee. This fall is a time that we are in need of registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and resident aides. It is more costly for us to call upon a nursing agency than to have enough qualified nurses and aides on staff.

Also, any non-profit charity such as ACHH always needs your financial support. Financial support can be donated by giving of your time, in giving products or in actual monetary gifts. We would encourage those of you who are able, to donate to our endowment fund. This fund is being maintained for the future financial security of the Home.

Finally tell others about our Home as you witness about Jesus Christ and His love. Tell others that Christ loves and gives purpose to each and every living individual. Christ cares for the poor and needy. He instructs his servants to give a glass of water to the thirsty, food to the hungry and kindness for the disabled.

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## GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

**Jeff Schumacher**

Gateway Woods has been blessed with many opportunities to minister to the lives of children and families over the past 30 years. We have felt God's direction many times as we have expanded our outreach. We once again have felt the Lord's leading to serve. The Gateway Woods Board of Directors has approved the expansion of our adoption program in Illinois. We covet your prayers as we seek to follow His direction in this new outreach.

### NEWS

Auction: Gateway Woods held

it's 30th Annual Auction on August 19, 2006. We praise God that over \$330,000 was given to support this ongoing ministry to children and families. It was a true blessing to see so many believers coming together to give, enjoy fellowship, and be blessed. May God bless you for your support!

Residential and School: For 30 years, Gateway Woods has retained the names of its houses. With the expansion of our 4th house this year, the need to rename all of the houses became evident. On August 14, new names were unveiled. In keeping with our tree and woods theme, West House became Oak House, East House became Hickory House, New House became Maple House, and our 4th House under construction is now Cypress House. Each house will have its respective tree planted in the yard and customized sign mounted on the house.

Gateway Woods School is officially back in session. Gateway Woods is pleased to announce the hiring of Sis. Heather Merritt. Sis. Heather has taught at Gateway Woods in the past and led by God to come back and become our English teacher. Please remember to pray for Sis. Heather as she adjusts to her new position.

4th House Update: The 4th house (Cypress) construction is moving along. All of the underground electrical, duct work, and plumbing has been completed. There is still a need for more funds to complete this project. We are especially grateful to those of you who have given specifically toward this house, including many Sunday School and Vacation Bible School students who made our Furnish-A-Room project a success. We look forward to skilled volunteers



helping with masonry, trim carpentry, landscape, painting and wallpaper.

Volunteers: Once again we want to say thank you to our many volunteers who willingly gave of their time to come out here over the summer and bless us. A special thanks to our summer coordinator, Bro. Eric Huber, for a very smooth summer filled with many different tasks. Volunteers are a blessing to everyone here, especially the residents, who need to be encouraged and shown God's love.

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

Every morning at 8:30 we begin our day at the preschool with the same little routine. Everybody gets to pick a color and place their two little feet on it. When it's all done our goal is to have a circle. Of course the circle tends to wiggle and evolve into other shapes, but being made up of children, it's perfect. It is the best part of the day to me because it is time set aside for all of us to pray and praise the Lord all together. You can feel the presence of God so strong in our room as all the children sing songs to Him. It is pure innocence and love pouring out of their hearts, and as I smile, I know the Lord must be smiling, too. What makes it even more worthwhile is when you hear a little 3 year old later on in the day as she is putting her doll in the cradle singing "Jesus wuvs the wittle childwen, all the wittle childwen of the wold." God knows us teachers need these moments to be frequent so we can know without a doubt, that along with the challenges of childhood,

there are so many rewards, too.

Along with our Bible teachings, we have all been working in our classes getting the letters in our names just right, counting, coloring, learning our shapes and colors and the list goes on. A child's brain is so much like a sponge, and with patience and repetition you can see progress in such a short amount of time.

We are so happy to welcome our new teacher for our 3-year-old class. Sis. Sarah Hodel has obeyed the Lord's call to move here from Roanoke, IL. God has answered our prayers and we are so thankful that once again He has met our needs. We feel blessed to have her here and know she will be too for her willingness in the Lord's service.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS  
Louise Hall**

We extend our thanks to our visiting ministers over the past month, Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL), Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL) and Bro. Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka, IL). We were blessed having all of them here and we know God will bless them for their efforts.

Our prayers go out to Billy Hall. He was involved in a car accident and has undergone several surgeries. He is the brother of Sis. Kat King and Bro. J.R. Hall. We continue to pray for healing and encouragement for Sis. Ruby Ross (Bro. Don). She has been in the hospital and is currently recovering in the nursing home. Sis. Eunice Kelly (Bro. Winifred) has also been in the hospital and we pray for the Lord's hand to be upon her.

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX  
Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."  
*James 4:10*

We were grateful for Bro. Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton) who came and served on our pulpit on July 30. We give thanks and rejoice that God feeds us so well, twice weekly!

Sunday School resumes August 20 and the enthusiasm is contagious. (Grandma sees so much in the foyer!)

Josephine Elise Labudde was born on August 4 to Bro. Brandon and Sis. Jodi Labudde. Her happy grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Kathie Labudde and Bro. Sam and Sis. Cindy Hohulin. May God bless their new family.

Bro. Jim Beres and Sis. Eleanor Hill were surgical patients this past month. Dakota Thorpe (Bro. Chris and Sis. Heather) was in California for more testing on her arm. Bro. Carl Gutwein (Francesville) was also in our prayers.

Our sympathy to Sis. Lucille Richardson's family in her recent passing in Illinois.

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**ARIZONA, PRESCOTT  
Jane Hodges**

Our visiting ministers this last month included Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Debra, Remington), Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Sis. Shawn, Morris), Bro. Jim Koehl (Sis. Hildegard, San Diego), Bro. Dale Frank (Sis. Christine, Oakville) and Bro. Paul Zimmerman (Sis. Loretta, Forrest). A sincere thank you to each of you for your time spent with us and for your labors of love.



We certainly appreciate all the visitors that travel through our area, whether it is to serve in the ministry or visiting relatives or loved ones here or whether just passing through. May the Lord bless each of you and may He keep you in His care until we may meet again.

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## ARIZONA, TUCSON

### Lisa Knapp

Our little church enjoyed another very special weekend recently when our friend, Krystal Tyler, became our sister in the faith on August 7. There were friends and family here from Remington, IN, to help make the weekend special for Krystal. Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ) was joined by Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN) to conduct the testimony and baptism. Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) was also here and shared the Word with us. It was a joy and blessing to be present at this wonderful occasion. May God richly bless Sis. Krystal as she begins a wonderful new phase in her life.

Our children have returned to school. We had two starting kindergarten, several returning to college and some in between so our prayer for each of them is different, but we pray they will all remember what they have been taught at home and at church.

Also here to start school are some college students from other churches who will be attending the U of A. We warmly welcome Bro. Jamon Steffen (Bluffton, IN), Richelle and Sis. Kaitlyn Meiss, and Josh Roth (Phoenix, AZ).

As I write this, I realize I neglected to report that in May Sis. Mindy Bauer (Bro. Brad and Sis.

Sandy) graduated with honors with degrees in Nursing and Spanish from the University of Arizona. Sis. Mindy is now working at St. Joseph's hospital in Tucson, having recently passed her boards. She is pursuing a graduate degree in nursing at the U of A along with enjoying actually being a nurse! Congratulations and God's richest blessings to you, Mindy. Sis. Krystal Tyler is also attending the U of A along with several of our Tucson children. Our C.J. Kaufman (Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline) returned to Ohio to start his sophomore year of college. May God be with each one of these young people and help them make good decisions in their young lives. We pray they will ask God's guidance in all they do.

We have begun the process of remodeling our church building. Some parts of our church are over 35 years old. We feel very excited and blessed to be able to make these improvements and changes to our church home. We have many talented people in our congregation with various talents, so we are putting everyone to work using their individual talents whether it be planning, coordinating, painting, demolition, drywall, or whatever is needed. We pray God will be with us during this process and invite you all to come and see the results when you're in the area.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Candy Meiss (Phoenix, AZ) were with us this past Sunday to deliver precious cargo (daughters Richelle and Sis. Kaitlyn as mentioned above!). Bro. Jim shared the Word with us on Sunday morning for which we are very thankful.

## CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

### Suzanne Klotzle

"There are friendships that we cherish in our daily walk of life..." ("Christian Friendship" #91 in Hymns of Zion). Altadena was blessed with a weekend of fellowship with the Young Groups of Taylor, MO; West Lafayette and Francesville, IN. Being on the West Coast, we do not have the opportunity to be with visiting Young Groups that often. God richly blessed our time together.

"When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain..." ("Blest be the Tie" #156 in Hymns of Zion). This past week we said goodbye to three dear members of our congregation. Bro. Jonathan Sauder (Roanoke, IL) finished up his work here in Pasadena and headed back home for the school year. Paula Luginbuhl also made her way to Chicago, IL, to attend Loyola University for two years. Sis. Stephany Moser has finished her vacation here in the States and has gone back to China. We will miss them all very much and will keep them in our prayers as they begin a new phase in their lives.

Our pulpit was filled with ministering Bro. Jay Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Tucson, AZ) and their family while they were vacationing in California.

We also wish to extend a warm welcome to any who would like to come to California to visit. We greatly appreciate the fellowship, support and love of those with like mind and faith.

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## CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

### Yasmin Koehl

This past month our congregation has experienced the many joys and blessings visiting brethren can bring!

Amongst our visitors were min-



istering Bro. Justin Moser (Sis. Robin, Altadena, CA) and Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Sis. Lois, Shioda, Japan). We were thankful for these brothers' willingness to allow the Holy Spirit to lead them as we were encouraged to trust in God. We pray the Lord's richest blessings upon their lives and their service for Him.

We would also like to thank each one who came to worship with us while traveling in San Diego. We always anticipate having visitors and thank God for the many blessings within our brotherhood.

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### KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA

#### Johanna Fortenbacher

Love and greetings from Kitchener! In this world there are always comings and goings. May we all be ready and waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Coming here to share the Word this month were Brothers and Sisters: Mark and Bev Bahr (Detroit, MI), Sam and Linda Schlatter (Junction, OH), Dan and Mary-Lou Goric (Rockville, CT) and Dale and Sandra Stoller (Fairbury, IL). God bless you all for your willingness to be here.

We have a family leaving us to live in America at the end of August. They are Bro. Nathan, Sis. Miriam, Lucas, Gabrielle, and their newest baby, Jason Quartus Reutter, born July 19. Grandparents of Jason are Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter (Rockville, CT) as well as Bro. Vladimir and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher (Kitchener). We will miss this family dearly and wish them the Lord's nearness as they worship with Norwich, VT, brethren. Also, Bro. David Fortenbacher is temporarily working out in west-

ern Canada, and attending at Regina SK.

May now the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The peace and love of God,  
The fellowship of His Holy Spirit  
Abide with us all. Yea with us all.  
Amen.

*Zion's Harp #213*

#### Reminder:

Our Silver Lining donations are due in September. The way it was done last year worked out well so let's try the same method again. Thank you.

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### COLORADO, DENVER

#### Ann Gonglach

We had a busy, blessed summer with many visitors. Visiting ministers have been Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL), Bro. Art Mueller (Sis. Marlene, Belvidere, IL), Bro. Tim Roecker (Sis. Diane, Peoria, IL) and Bro. Tom Troxel (Sis. LuAnn, LaCrosse, IN).

On August 20, we gathered for a picnic to celebrate the June wedding of Brian and Valerie Reuter, who have been assembling with us.

As we settle back into the regular routine of the school year, may we remember to lift our students up to the Lord in prayer.

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### CONNECTICUT ROCKVILLE

#### Laura Virkler Amber Rocke

Greetings to each one! As the summer draws to a close, and we begin to see the harvest bearing its' fruits, we are reminded of how graciously the Lord provides for us. As a congregation, we have definitely felt the provisions of the Lord, whether through comfort, guidance, or

strength.

We rejoice with Bro. Scott and Sis. Tecca Virkler as they have given birth to their first child, James Kenneth. Grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Dorothy Virkler, as well as Clare and Sis. Bev Keever. It is such a joy to observe all the children within our congregation and be reminded of the teachings of our Lord and Master "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of God" (Matthew 18:3). We pray that the Lord will continue to bless and provide for each family.

We are so thankful for all the guidance and support we receive from our Elders. It is so humbling to witness the effort and time they do sacrifice on our behalf. May the Lord richly bless them each one. It is a comfort to hear that the Conference was a blessing to all who were able to attend. The rest of us look forward to hearing the tapes!

This past month our congregation lost a dear friend and Brother. Our sympathy extends to the family of Nancy Way. She leaves behind her husband, Keith, and mother-in-law, Phyllis Lanz. Bro. Ervin Luginbuhl also took his last breath this past week. His children, Bro. Chet and Sis. Pam Luginbuhl, Sis. Mary and Bro. Keith Kloter, Erva Jean Luginbuhl, and Bro. Tom and Sis. Heidi Luginbuhl (Altadena, CA), mourn the loss of their father, yet rejoice that he has won a great victory. Many friends, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren paid their last respects to this dear soul.

We humbly apologize to our convert Suzie LaPlante as I forgot to mention that she also graduated from High School this past year. We pray that the Lord will guide and di-



rect her on the pathway she must go.

O forsake me not, Thou ever faithful,  
 Though to try me Thou Thy face  
 dost hide;  
 Till I bear Thy likeness and im-  
 pression,  
 Purge me as the gold is purified!  
*Zion's Harp #182*

May this be a reminder to us each  
 one to press onward in the Pilgrim  
 way, and be a recipient of the tre-  
 mendous love and mercy of our Mas-  
 ter. May God be with you!

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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
 WASHINGTON  
 Henrietta Meyer**

"The joy of the Lord is your  
 strength."

*Nehemiah 8:10*

One Sunday afternoon Bro. Phil Steffen showed slides from his recent trip to the Sudan. His work was in the Southern (Christian) part of the country. The country is recovering from twenty years of civil war. One slide was of folks after church services. Bro. Phil mentioned how joyful the people were. Even though the surroundings and life style were quite different than ours, we can understand the joy of worshipping the Lord.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL), Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Sis. Michele, Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Brandon Emch (Sis. Maria, Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Erik Givens (Sis. Deb, Princeville, IL). Other visitors this month were from Champaign, Cissna Park, Fairbury, Forrest, and Roanoke, IL.

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.

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**FLORIDA  
 FORT LAUDERDALE  
 Renee Mangold**

We were thankful to have with us visiting ministers, Bro. Stephen Baner (Sis. Donnalou, Gridley, IL), Bro. Ron Kipfer (Sis. Linda, Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Glenn Dill (Sis. Marilyn, Tremont, IL). We pray for God's blessings on His servants.

Sis. Delores VanNorman suffered a fall and a heart condition. She is in a nursing home recovering. We pray for the Lord's healing to be with her.

Our dear friend, Martika Albu, has returned from an extended stay with her son's family in Pennsylvania, helping because of medical needs.

As our summer has drawn to an end, many of our local families have taken vacations. As a result, Wednesday night singings have been temporarily placed on hold.

We pray that God would bless our

children as they once again begin their school year, whether college or high school, and that they have a safe and productive year; keeping God close to them in all things.

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**FLORIDA  
 NORTH FORT MYERS  
 Naomi Vogel**

Our church renovation as a result of a broken water pipe over the kitchen area is well underway. They are finished with the dismantling and beginning the reconstruction. It is expected to be finished by October when the first northerners arrive. Until last Sunday, we were able to hold services in the sanctuary along with the boxes of books, kitchen items etc., but last Sunday we set up chairs in the dining room and had our services and noon lunch there because the benches in the sanctuary had been lifted to remove the carpeting and grouped together and covered in preparation for the painting and will not be put in place until after the new carpeting is laid. It is truly a blessing that this happened when our group is small or we would have to find another place to hold services. We continue to have a few visitors each Sunday, but some of the permanent residents have been away part of the time, so we have been averaging around 15-20. Sometimes we have our lunch in our outdoor picnic pavilion if the weather permits.

Get well prayers are in order for Sis. Opal Rocke (Morton, IL) after having stints inserted in some arteries and having a pacemaker put in place. We were pleased to hear that Sis. Carol Gottier's tumor has been reduced in size after her treatments, and that Sis. Anita Bertsch is recovering from her heart proce-



ture. Praise God! We hope you are all well real soon!

As I hear rumbles of thunder while I write this report, I realize we have made it through half of the hurricane season without a hurricane strike anywhere in Florida, especially when it was predicted to be worse for us than last year. We will have to wait to see what God has planned for us for the remaining three months. He is in control!

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**GEORGIA, ATLANTA**  
**Kevin Kipfer**  
**Benjamin Stoller**

As our summer comes to a close, we can look back at the bountiful blessings God has provided and feel great joy. We appreciate the opportunity to travel freely and we are thankful for those that choose to make the Atlanta church part of their travel plans. On July 23, we enjoyed the fellowship with Sis. Laura Vircler, who is engaged to our Bro. Mark Lindberg, and her family. The following week Bro. James Emch (Sis. Gina, Phoenix, AZ) ministered unto us. On August 6, we were pleased to have Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI) and Bro. Nate Lehman (Sis. Yvonne, Denver, CO) share Sunday with us.

Summer has been great, but we are anxious for the time of year when Will Olar dost come back here.

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

“Neither murmur ye.”  
*Corinthians 10:10*

We have a house cat that when he meows, it is mostly a whiny meow. It irritates me and I frequently tell

our cat to be quiet. It made me ponder that God might find me to be a whiny individual. I know He wants us to be joyful and not to murmur and complain as the Israelites did on their journey to the Promised Land.

Many visitors to Belvidere have blessed us this summer. The Young Groups from Princeville and Bradford churches also visited and after church went to sing at a rest home.

It is with joy that we welcome Bro. Chad and Sis. Janice Wettstein and their sons, Derek, Logan and Korey, from Gridley to our congregation.

We had a lovely Saturday for our Sunday School and church picnic. We appreciate all our teachers do with making this a joyous occasion.

Our dear friend, Mary Spencer, has been having medical problems and needed to go to the nursing home. Our love and prayers are with her.

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**ILLINOIS**  
**BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**  
**Ann Nussbaum**  
**Jen Heiniger**

We rejoice as Alec Gramm (Brad and Sis. LuAnn) has expressed his desire to walk with the Lord, and we pray for him during his time of repentance.

While we are thankful for this good news, we lift the Gramm family up in prayer and sympathy as Sis. LuAnn's mother, Sis. Lucille A. Richardson, was called home on August 10. Sis. Lucille was a sister to Sis. Annie Widmer and Sis. Dorie Widmer of our congregation.

Our prayers and sympathies are also with Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Farney at the passing of his mother, Sis. Neva “Toots” Farney, on July 15.

We welcome Harold “Hank” Aberle, who is worshipping with us. He is a brother to Sis. Ann (Bro. Roy) Maurer and Sis. Rose Huette.

We recently said farewell to Bro. Greg and Sis. Louanne Umland and their three boys, Taylor, Levi, and Hunter, who have moved to Winnebago, MN. We miss them dearly, and pray that they are happy and blessed in their new home.

Our prayers are with those in our church family who are recovering from surgeries and accidents or who continue to fight serious illness.

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**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD**  
**Steve Endress**

The Conference in Goodfield brought several ministering brothers to our midst. We appreciated the labors of Bros. Mike Ursu (Kitchener, ON), Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO), and Ned Stoller (Alto, MI).

We rejoice to report that Melissa Ehnle (Bro. Donn and Sis. Tracy) has come in repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. It takes each one of us back to our own day of salvation. How well we can remember the hopeless and wretched condition our evil minds and hearts kept us in, and the joy and peace we could exchange for this through Jesus Christ.

We have been prayerful for Sis. Elizabeth Kimble as she sustained a slight heart attack and was hospitalized. Despite the trials she faced, we've been encouraged to observe her care and concern for others.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Renee Endress are thankful for the safe arrival of their seventh child, Kambria Janae, on July 21. Kambria is welcomed



home by siblings, Andrea, Tyler, Brendan, Mikaela, Austin, and Mariah.

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**ILLINOIS  
CHAMPAIGN-URBANA**

**Karla Aberle**

Greetings from Champaign-Urbana!

August is always exciting for us because we get to welcome the students, old and new, back to the area. It is tradition to have a "New Student Picnic" the weekend before instruction begins where we welcome the new students and catch up with the returning ones. The new students at the University are Reid Zehr (Animal Sciences, Fairbury), Sis. Amber Miller (Horticulture, Gridley), Luke Stoller (Chemistry, Gridley), Jeremy Stoller (Farm Mgmt, Eureka), Elizabeth Wagner (Ag & Consumer Economics, Goodfield), Bro. Matt Wyss (Farm Mgmt, Washington), Fred Sollberger (Chemical Engineering, Morton), Ryan Knepp (Computer Engineering, Roanoke), Dustin Knapp (Architecture, Bloomington), Bonnie Stevig (Liberal Arts and Sciences, Bloomington), and Sam Ifft (Business, Bloomington.)

We have one new graduate student at the University; Jesse Dotterer (Agricultural and Consumer Economics, Mansfield, OH). Our new Parkland College students are Sis. Ashley Aberle (Forrest), Rochelle Gerber (Forrest), Heather and Heidi Schaffer (Forrest), Ben Kaeb (Cissna Park), and Justin Steffen. We welcome all the new students and pray they seek God's guidance as they begin this new phase of life.

We did have another wedding during the month of August! August

13 saw the wedding of Bro. Brent Young (Bro. Norman and Sis. Lollie, Fairbury) to Sis. Janelle Schlipf (Bro. Art and Sis. Twyla, Gridley). We thank Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL) for helping our Elder Bro. Wayne behind the pulpit.

Bro. Brent did his undergraduate and graduate work here and Sis. Janelle did her undergraduate here and also worked in the area after graduation. Sis. Janelle also served as a Sunday School teacher for several years. They have relocated to Phoenix, AZ, where Bro. Brent found employment at an Architectural firm. They will be sorely missed and we wish them God's richest blessings. Please come back and see us!

We thank our other visiting ministers for the month of August: ministering Bros. Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN), Marvin Dotterer (Forrest) and Dean Steffen (Belvidere).

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**ILLINOIS, CHICAGO**

**Rachel Meyer**

Greetings from Chicago. We have the privilege of welcoming two newcomers to our congregation. Sis. Cheryl Manz from Junction, OH, has taken employment in the Chicago land area as a nanny. Bro. Troy Blunier from Goodfield, IL, has taken work as a teacher. We look forward to getting to know these two dear ones.

We extend a sincere thank you to Bro. Warren Schlatter (Junction, OH) for his ministering efforts on our behalf. Thank you for being willing, Bro. Warren.

The Bible tells us that we are all part of one body, gifted with different talents to be used in God's service. We thank Sis. Kasey Messner

(Bro. Daniel) for being willing to join our Sunday School teachers. We give her our full support and prayers, and have no doubt that she will be a blessing to the children and teachers, alike.

Our dear Sis. Tina Leman has accepted employment in Bloomington, IL, and we wish her joy in her new vocation. It is a time of rejoicing when God leads so clearly, yet it is a time of sadness for the Chicago congregation as we say goodbye to Sis. Tina. May God be with you.

A week ago I was in the office working with a young man with autism. My studies and work focus on autism therapy, and summers provide an opportunity for more intensive intervention with our clients. This particular young man spent a good deal of time "quoting" things that his parents apparently have been telling him at home. It was nothing inappropriate and we find this to be quite common. Often it can give an indication of something we can tactfully ask the parents about in order to incorporate home lessons with speech lessons.

One day last week I overheard this young man quoting me! I thought, do I really sound like that...and does he quote me at home??? I laughed...but made a mental note to take extra care with my words.

Thinking on these things, I was reminded of the wise teaching of a dear ministering brother that has stuck with me through the years. He often warned us of the power our words had - whether for good or evil. His suggestion was simple...we should endeavor not to say anything throughout the day that we would not mind having read over the pulpit on Sunday. That sobers me. You, too?



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**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**  
**Pam Walder**  
**Andrea Walder**

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA), Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), and Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA). We thank them for their willingness to serve and pray that God might bless them for their labors.

We rejoice with Sis. Dorothy Walder in the birth of her granddaughter, Lena Elise Hohulin. Lena's parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Marilyn Hohulin (Valparaiso, IN).

We extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Harry Young who passed away this month. May God comfort and uplift them throughout this time of sorrow.

Our hospital patient this month was Sis. Gladys Knapp, and we pray that she might feel the Lord's nearness.

We were thankful to hear that five souls have found peace with God and are awaiting baptism the weekend of September 23-24, Lord willing. Our prayers are with Reid Walder (Bro. Steve and Sis. Kathy), Michael, Ben, and Julia Kaeb (Bro. Max and Sis. Beth) and Chad Kaeb (Bro. Eric and Sis. LouAnn).

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**ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**  
**Rachel Schrock**

As some of us recently attended the Brotherhood Conference, and as hopefully all of us are able to hear the recordings of these heartgiven messages, may we be able to maintain a proper spiritual balance in our lives. What a neat definition was given of balance: using and applying the whole Word of God in our lives.

We appreciate the time and efforts that our Elder and ministering brethren put forth for us, not only during the week of the Conference, but throughout the whole year. Our sincere gratitude is extended especially to those who visited our congregation this past month, including Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sis. Linda, Sardis, OH), and Bros. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judy, Silverton, OR), Steve Pamer (Sis. Arliss, Akron, OH), Tony Manz (Sis. Denise, Junction, OH), Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO), Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH), Gary Maibach (Sis. MaryAnn, Smithville, OH), Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA), Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH), Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN) and Tim Zimmerman (Sis. Barbara, Lamont-Gridley, KS).

We welcome all our visitors as we are refreshed to have each of you in our midst. We also welcome Sis. Brooklynn Lehner, originally from Bay City. She has moved to our area to attend Illinois State University this fall. We pray that she will feel God's presence as she adjusts to life in Central Illinois.

Our prayer also is that God's guidance can also be felt by our two sets of new parents. On July 18, Bro. Philip and Sis. Kristin Wyss welcome Naomi Lin into the world. Josiah Fredrick gazed upon his parents, Bro. Kurt and Sis. Julie Schrock, for the first time on August 1. What a miracle is each little babe. Truly God is the Great Creator and Master of the universe!

Are we not thankful for God's presence when a dear soul passes from this life into eternity? Our prayers are with Sis. Gay Knapp (Bro. Denny) as she mourns the passing of her father, Richard Fan-

ning.

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

Wayne and Jennifer Sauder are the happy parents of a baby boy, Caden Thomas. Born June 8, he was welcomed home by his loving siblings, Ariana, Colton, and Aleah. The delighted grandmas are Dolores March and Sis. Gertrude Sauder.

On July 22, Ben Martin (Bro. Dave and Sis. Jean) and Brienne Kellenberger (Bro. Tim and Sis. Marcia) were joined as husband and wife. We wish God's blessings on their union.

The annual Sunday School picnic was at the Fellowship Center on July 30, and the following week was Vacation Bible School. May the efforts of our local teachers and the visiting ministers who came to help plant the good seed bring forth fruit in its season. Bros. Gary Sinn (Latty, OH), Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), and Edwin Strahm (Bern, KS) taught the Bible Class students; and on Wednesday evening, Bro. Bob Pfloderer (Morton, IL) spoke to the entire church. Though a summer storm caused a power outage, Bro. Bob maintained his composure and gave a meaningful presentation on the state of the heart.

Bros. Gary Sinn and Ed Strahm extended their visit through the weekend and served from the pulpit, as well. Other ministers who traveled here and labored on our behalf were Bros. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Bruce Endress (Bradford, IL), and Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL). What a comfort to hear many life-giving messages prompted by the same Spirit!



Sis. Marie Hugh spent time in the hospital while being treated for pneumonia. It is good to see her looking better again. Special thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Joyce Schifferer and Matt Steffen (Natalie), who are undergoing cancer treatments.

Sis. Helen Liebig's wish to go to her heavenly home was granted July 31, after a long and courageous struggle with her bodily infirmities. Her funeral was August 4. We miss Sis. Helen and offer our sympathy to her family. Helen's niece and nephews are Sis. Carol Wackerle (Bro. Greg) and Bro. Jim Dietrich (Sis. Joan) of Silverton, OR, and Bro. Gus Dietrich (Sis. Dorothy) of Paulding, OH.

We rejoice with Heidi Krueger (Jim and Mary), who has repented and found peace with God and man. The weekend of September 9-10 has been tentatively set for her proving and baptism. Recently, David Kellenberger (Bro. Chuck and Sis. Debbie) professed his need for a Saviour and began his repentance. It gives us courage to know that souls are still heeding the Spirit's call. May we continue to pray for others!

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## ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Cindy Stoller**

**Lisa Metzger**

We have had three new converts start repenting this month. They are Vernon and Sara VanWaters (Bro. Charles and Sis. Karen Sinn) and Carly Knecht (Bro. Mike and Sis. Lisa). We rejoice with and pray for them as they progress on the path of righteousness.

Several visiting ministers assembled with us recently, including: Elder Bro. Bob Walder

(Congerville, IL), and Bros. Ben Walder and Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL), Bill Dotterer (Lamar, MO), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Warren Schlatter and Tony Manz (Junction, OH), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA), Lucas Frank (Detroit, MI) and David Hartter (Sabetha, KS). We appreciate their labors on our behalf and pray the Lord will richly bless them and their families.

Ryan Eigsti (Howard and Jayme Eigsti of Eureka) and Kelli Leman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Marilyn) were united in marriage on August 5. Also, Bro. Randy Huber (Bro. Gary Huber and Karen Huber) and Sis. Lindsay Hoerr (Bro. Mark and Sis. Carolyn) were wed on August 6. We wish these couples God's blessings in their new lives together.

Bro. Clint and Sis. Kayla Metzger, along with big brother, Ryan, welcomed home Kierra Christine. Grandparents are Bro. Harlan and Sis. Shirley Metzger and Kent and Sis. Beth Steffen (Congerville, IL). Also, Bro. Alan and Sis. Angie Huber are happy parents of newborn Lanae Kristine. Her older siblings are Kevin and Erica, and grandparents are Bro. Gary Huber, Karen Huber, and Bro. Paul and Sis. Kris Schmidgall.

Our medical and hospital patients this month include Sis. Wilma Blunier (Bro. Hank), Sis. Kandi Carr (Bro. Ryan), Bro. Lewis Martin (Sis. Arletta), Sis. Karen Sinn (Bro. Charles) and Sis. Gretchen Zimmerman (Bro. Mike). Let us continue to pray for one another as these and many unlisted loved ones are often beset with bodily health concerns of varying degrees.

There were three engagement

announcements this month: Bro. Bob Schieler (Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa, Goodfield, IL) to Sis. Ashley Edelman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Nadine); Bro. Jeremy Knecht (Elder Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandy) to Sis. Kalsey Leman (Bro. Kent and Sis. Chris); and Bro. Jared Fehr (Bro. Ken and Sis. Sandy) to Sis. Sarah Stoller (Bro. Tom and Sis. Edie). We are happy for these couples and wish them God's nearness as their lives blend together.

### *Notes of Thanks:*

Thanks so much to you all for your prayers, cards and gifts sent to me, and your visits during my knee surgery and stay at the Home for therapy. All was very much appreciated. May God bless you one and all.

*Bro. Lester Martin (Sis. Ruth)*

I, and my family, want to thank everyone for all the prayers and acts of love and support given to me during and since the time that I was burned. Words cannot express the gratitude and appreciation I feel in my heart. A special thank you to the many brethren, friends and family that made the trip to the Springfield Burn Center to visit and encourage me; and for all the visits, food, and help I received since returning home. Through it all, the Lord was very good and gracious, and spared much that could have made the situation even worse than it was. We pray God will bless and reward you all richly for your deeds of kindness. The message we want to convey to one and all is "Be Ready". After spending time in the Burn Unit, we can say that we had just a small taste of the sounds and pain that must be present in Hell. Nothing on this earth is worth missing Heaven for.

*Bro. Brian Cottrell and family*



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**ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY****Lila Fehr  
Anna Schmidgall**

We rejoice with two dear couples this month who exchanged wedding vows and began their lives together in the Lord. Bro. Dale McCasky and Sis. Natalie Getz (Eureka, IL) were married on July 23. Her parents are Bro. Allen and Sis. Nathalia Getz. We welcome her to our Fairbury congregation. The wedding day for Bro. Brent Young and Sis. Janelle Schlipf (Champaign, IL) was August 13. Thankful parents are Bro. Art and Sis. Twyla Schlipf (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Norman and Sis. Lollie Young. We wish them many blessings as they make their new home in Phoenix, AZ, and assemble with the brethren there.

We appreciated Bro. Jeff Thames (Washington, IL) and Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) who willingly preached the Word to us.

Two babies were born in August. Luke Matthew, born on August 1, is the second child of Bro. Matthew and Sis. Jodi Kaisner. His big sister is Lydia and happy grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Donna Kaisner and Bro. Ernie and Sis. Carol Leman (Forrest, IL). First-time parents, Bro. Karl and Sis. Karrie Steidinger, welcome Addison Jean who was born on August 3. Her grandparents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Dawn Steidinger and Bro. Chris and Sis. Kay Steffen. We pray for God's guidance to raise and guide these precious little ones.

Our prayers are with Nita Moser (Keith), Dale Mowery (Sis. Elaine), and Bro. Duane Kilgus (Sis. Arlene) while they are in the hospital. We are especially thankful for Dale that he feels at peace with God and man,

placing himself in Jesus' hands.

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**ILLINOIS, FORREST****Jill Wenger  
Lori Leman**

We are thankful for the safe arrival of Luke David Beard into the family of Bro. Joel, Sis. Heidi, Loren and Katie. Luke's grandparents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill Stoller and Bro. Ed and Sis. Dee Beard (Sardis, OH).

We extend our congratulations to Stephen Zimmerman and Kaci Taylor as they were recently joined in marriage. Their parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta Zimmerman and David and Marsha Taylor. We also congratulate Ryan Wenger and Mary Kaeb as they were also joined as one. Their parents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Jill Wenger and Merlin and Ida Lou Kaeb. May these couples feel God's presence and guidance in the days ahead.

We said farewell to Bro. David and Sis. Jackie Eisenmann and their daughters, Sydney, Courtney and Mackenzie, as they are relocating to Champaign, IL, and will be assembling with the congregation there. As one family leaves, another comes, and we welcome Dale, Sis. Elaine, Sis. Bonnie and Sis. Becky Dotterer as they have recently moved from Smithville, OH. May they feel welcome in our congregation.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to those who have lost a loved one recently. Neva "Toots" Farney passed away and leaves her children, Dale (Harriet), Donna Dockery and Bro. Roger (Sis. Janet) of Bloomington, IL. Also, Reuben Metz passed away and leaves his children, Patricia Waibel (Glen), Marilyn Wyllie (John), Ronald,

Wayne (Betty), and Kay Monahan (Dennis).

Several of our loved ones spent time in the hospital this month. May God be with Sis. Irene Traub, Blake Hall (Bro. Don and Sis. Barb), Colin Steidinger (Bro. Ray and Sis. Shelly), Sis. Alisa Ricketts (Bro. Allen), Sis. Aldine Wackerle, Bro. Les Roth (Sis. Ruth), and Sis. Edna Wiegand (Bro. Paul).

We thank the many visiting ministers who were willing to share God's Word of Life with us. These brothers are Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Elder Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR), Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Harvey Kuenzi (Silverton, OR), Bro. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Tim Gerber (Mansfield, OH). May God bless them and their families for their efforts as they bring forth the Word.

*Note of Thanks:*

We truly appreciate all the visits, calls, food, gifts, and prayers on behalf of Charlotte and Kari while in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless you.

In His love and ours,

*Bro. Phil and Sis. Charlotte  
Leman and family*

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**ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD****Amber Grimm  
Rita Bauman**

Our sympathy goes out to Sis. Lila Wirtz (Bro. Mike) in the loss of her dear mother, Sis. Emma Meyer, Lester, IA. We pray the God will comfort you as only He can.

We were blessed to have visiting Elder Bros. Duane Farney (Sis. Karen, Croghan-Naumburg), Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville,



OH), and Peter Petrovic (Sis. Marian, San Diego, CA). May God bless them for their willing service.

Our congregation hosted the annual Brotherhood Conference August 8-11. In addition to the visiting brothers above, we had many visiting Elder and ministering brothers. It was a blessing to all who took part and attended.

Hospitalized this month and needing prayers are Bro. Ray Wagner (Sis. Vi), Sis. Betty Wiegand (Bro. Willis), Audrey Rocke (Bro. Steve), and Roy Roth (Sis. Corrine). We pray for God's healing hand to be upon each one.

Love, of all gifts, is the greatest  
Which the Spirit does bestow.

*Zion's Harp #37*

Bro. Bob Schieler (Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa) and Sis. Ashley Edelman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Nadine, Eureka, IL) recently made known their engagement. May God be with you and direct you as you make plans for your future.

On August 27, Bro. Travis Blunier (Bro. Denny and Sis. Eddis) and Sis. Jaclyn Kellenberger (Bro. Ken and Sis. Vicki, Elgin, IL) made their vows to each other. We rejoice with them and pray God will continue to guide them and provide as they walk life's pathway as one.

Summer has come to an end, and a new school year begins. Let us remember our children as they return to school this fall. We pray that God's protection be upon them as they face the many challenges.

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

### *Hymns of Zion #106*

The angels and our congregation rejoice over each and every sinner who answers His call. Audrey Rocke (Bro. Steve) has answered the call and has found peace. We are so thankful that He continues to call and souls are willing to surrender. We pray that the Lord will continue to encourage her and walk by her side as she faces the daily trials of life.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

We want to sincerely thank you for all the love, prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, food and help since my accident and Donnie's surgery. The Lord truly answers prayer. May God richly bless each one of you.

Our Love,

*Bro. Donnie and Sis. Carolyn Ott*

### **ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein**

Among the most noble quests we can make as believers in Christ Jesus is understanding. The most thorough understanding is that gained by immersing ourselves in the understanding God gives us. We are taught not to lean on our own understanding (Proverbs 3:5), and in Proverbs 7:4 it is written, "Say unto wisdom, Thou art my sister, and call understanding thy kinswoman." The dictionary tells us a "kinswoman" is a close relative.

We are happy to report that Bro. Seth Campbell is now our brother in faith, having repented for his sins and been baptized. This is a glory to God, and our wish is that multitudes would take the same step. Our prayer is that God will stay the day of grace so everyone would still have opportunity to seek their

soul's salvation. In an ideal sense, it all seems so simple — since God offers eternal life through faith in His son — it is puzzling that souls would not flock to the Lord. Yet, an awful foe is present to dissuade millions to hesitate and neglect their soul's great need. His convincing thought is, "Wait until a more convenient day."

It is always encouraging when brothers from the assembly offer the second prayer in church. Recently, a brother gave a humble prayer in which he prayed "for every soul on the face of the earth." At first glance this may not seem significant, but indeed every soul needs our prayers, and especially with respect to their eternal welfare. In the eyes of God, each soul — whether in America, or in the deepest part of Africa or South America, etc. — is of high importance, and He loves them.

We had several visiting ministers this past month: Elder Bro. Kent Heimer and Bro. Kim Sutter (Taylor, MO), and Bros. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN), Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN), Kevin Knapp and Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington, IL), Howard Plattner (Alto, MI) and Ron Jones (Portland, OR).

Sis. Terri Gramm was married to Bro. Bob Witzig. She is the daughter of Bro. Don and Sis. Rosie Gramm, and he is the son of the late Bro. Edward and Sis. Dorothy Witzig. She attended the Leo, Indiana, congregation for many years. They will reside in Gridley. We offer them our sincere best wishes in their union of hearts.

Sis. Alison Romersberger became the wife of Bro. Brian Sutter (Taylor, MO). Her parents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Gail Romersberger.



His parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Kris Sutter (Taylor, MO). May God be with them in their three-fold cord of marriage.

Bro. John E. Schlipf has moved to the home in Eureka where he will make his residence due to declining health.

Sis. Anna Marie Reutter had a light stroke and was hospitalized. Lincoln Ringger, young son of Bro. David and Sis. Kate Ringger, was in the hospital with a high fever. Sis. Jodie Schlipf was in the hospital for surgery. Sis. Marcia Campbell also had surgery.

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**ILLINOIS, MORTON**  
**Annette Tanner**  
**Julie Bahr**

We've sent our children back to school already. Where did our care-free summer days go? It's often tempting for families to hide their struggles; whether home schooling or public schooling. It is productive though, for us to share and understand one another's problems, and discover how faith can heal and bring us answers. Together we can pray our families through!

With thankful hearts we welcome a new family to Morton. They are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Candice Klopfenstein along with children, Erin, Emily, Anna, Seth and Ryan. They have moved here from the Phoenix area. Welcome!

We are thankful for the concern shown for the Morton church that brings visiting ministers. Our gratefulness goes to Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Debra, Peoria, IL), Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Liz, Portland, OR), Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Phoenix, AZ), Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL), and Bro. Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn,

Taylor, MO).

Special thanks to Bro. Jon Zeller (Sis. Christy) for sharing with us on Family Worship night. His topic was "Shining Lights", challenging us to be the CURRENT, the ELECTRICITY, that sparks the glow of the Saviour's love toward those around us. As an electrician by trade, we are thankful Bro. Jon used his talent to give us this perspective.

Baby girl Kaiya Jo was born to Brad and Susan Steffen on July 25. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Valerie Steffen and Donna Swartzendruber.

On August 21, baby boy Charles Andrew blessed the family of Andy and Erin Witzig. He was welcomed home by sisters, Samantha and Zoe, and brother Will. Bro. Ted and Sis. Cindy Witzig and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth Mott are the blessed grandparents.

I'm sorry to be late in reporting the marriage of Paul Grimm to Elise Kaupp, Gridley. Elise became Paul's bride on July 8. May God bless and keep them in His love. Paul is the son of Bro. Mark and Sis. Becky Grimm. Elise is the daughter of Bro. Tim and Sis. Betty Kaupp, Gridley.

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**ILLINOIS, PEORIA**  
**Kristin Menold**  
**Carissa Klopfenstein**

We thank Bro. Dave Zehr for his message at our family night on August 2. His topic, "Dealing with Stress," was very applicable to our busy lives and we thank him for making the effort to prepare and present this message.

We rejoice with Bro. Benji Hodel (Bro. Marv and Sis. Gail) and Sis. Kristen Regier (Bro. Dana and Sis. Martha Kay, Princeville, IL) as they

were joined in holy matrimony on August 13. Elder Bro. Jim Plattner performed the wedding vows. Also contributing to the service was Bro. Erik Givens.

Congratulations to Sis. Abby Hoerr (Bro. Carl and Sis. Deb) and Bro. Brent Schmidgall (Bro. Randy and Sis. Cindy, Goodfield, IL) who were married on July 30. Officiating was Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) and Elder Bro. Tim Funk.

Congratulations to Bro. Wayne and Sis. Erma Wieland, who celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this year. They wish to thank everyone who attended their open house and for the cards and well-wishes. They greatly appreciate your friendship and fellowship.

It is with great joy that we anticipate the testimony and baptism of three young converts on August 20: Carmen Klopfenstein (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Carol), Sarah Reinhard (Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan) and Autumn Huett (Rick and Gaynell).

Our prayers are with Bro. Howard Getz, Bro. Tim Reinhard, and Seth Howard, as they travel to Russia to visit the prisons involved in the Berean Prison Ministry. Also, with Bro. Fedi Davidovics, Bro. Ken Hoerr, and Ken Helmuth who will be traveling to Romania later in August to visit the prisons. We pray for safe travel and health to these brothers as they seek to further God's work in the hearts of these men in foreign lands.

July 23 - August 21, five families in the Peoria congregation and one family from the Princeville congregation were privileged to share their home with a Chinese student. These six students and one English teacher were part of the Pinghu to



Peoria Host Program, a ministry begun by Sis. Carissa Klopfenstein as a result of her year of teaching English in China. For one month, these students visited various places of interest, Chicago, Springfield, met with a Congressman, Superintendent, and received an honorary citizenship from the Mayor of Peoria. They also learned about farming in the Midwest, drove a tractor, went to a Caterpillar demonstration, ate pizza and other junk food and were exposed to Christianity for the first time. These girls' lives have been touched and hopefully changed because of this opportunity and Sis. Carissa wishes to thank all those who supported this program and were part of making this wonderful experience possible.

We continue to pray for Sis. Chris Erkert, Jerry Hoerr, Sis. Hattie Hoerr, Bro. Dick Binkele, Sis. Lilian Koehl, Bro. Max Hoerr, Sis. Brnetta Binkele and Sis. Eunice Unsicker for various health issues.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Sis. Hilda Fischer, who passed away on July 10, who was a resident at our home on Skyline Drive.

We continue to pray for our troops in Iraq, for the conflict that is ongoing in Israel and the Middle East. God's people have long been under attack, whether in the far-away land of Israel, India, or China, or the struggle to live a victorious life here in the USA. Whatever our struggle, whether small or great, let us not forget that we are in a battle. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:12)

### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Connie Christ Vera Baer

We have been blessed with many visiting ministers this month: Bros. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Greg Lehman and John Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Allen Stoller (Bluffton, IN), Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), Ted Steffen and Ned Stoller (Alto, MI), Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Jaye Rinckenberger (Goodfield, IL), Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), and Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Peoria, IL). We appreciate each one making the effort to come and the willingness to be a spokesman for the Lord.

Ones having had to spend brief time in the hospital this month are Bro. Nathan (Esther) Martin, Louise (Gerald) Martin and Bro. Richard (Sis. Jeanette) Graham. They are each home at this time. Sis. Helen Schick was also in the hospital for a bit and is now at the Peoria Skyline Home.

We pray Sis. Mary Lou Streitmatter feels God's compassion in the passing of her mother.

Sis. Kristen Regier (Bro. Dana and Sis. Martha Kay) and Bro. Benjamin Hodel (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Gail, Peoria, IL) were united in holy matrimony. Also marrying this month was Brett Herrmann (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Lavonne) and Laura Sauder (Bro. Howard and Sis. Janice) from Tremont, IL. We pray they will each seek God's will as they begin a new phase of their lives.

### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE Doris Fischer Dee Fehr

Ring the bells of heaven! There is joy today!...  
Tell the joyful tidings! Bear it far away!  
For a precious soul is born again.  
*Gospel Hymns #622*

We rejoice with Bro. Brian Schwind (Bro. Dan and Sis. Donna), as he has left the old life behind and begins a new life in Christ. Brian gave his testimony and was baptized the weekend of July 22-23. There is also reason to rejoice, as Allison Sauder (Bro. Tom and Sis. Mary) has made the decision to seek the Lord in repentance. We wish these two young souls much grace and blessings from the Lord, and pray that many more will answer the Lord's calling while there is still opportunity.

The wedding of Bro. Nathan Hodel (Bro. Brent and Sis. Marge) and Sis. Jamie Knochel (Bro. Jim and Sis. Kay) took place on August 13 in Bay City. May this dear couple establish their home on the firm foundation of Christ, the solid Rock.

We appreciate the ministering brothers who have visited us recently and allowed themselves to be led by the Holy Spirit, to our benefit. Bro. Ted Hirstein (Morton) and Bro. Virgil Kaeb (Sarasota) were with us on August 6, and Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Denver) visited us on August 13.

"Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of His saints."  
*Psalms 116:15*



Our sympathy is extended to several who have lost siblings recently, including Sis. Arlette Fehr (Bro. Walt) upon the passing of her sister, Sis. Lorene Wiegand (Washington), on August 2. The brother of Sis. Louise Fehr, Bro. Edwin Aberle (Rockville), slipped peacefully from this life into eternity on July 23. Sis. Madlyn (Bro. Bob) Zimmerman's sister, Sis. Lucille Richardson (Bloomington), departed from this life on August 10.

God is good! Sis. Lisa Gerber (Bro. Byron) was able to return home on August 9, after almost a month in the hospital at Iowa City, receiving a stem cell transplant. Our prayers are that Lisa's health will continue to improve, and that she can gain added strength with each day.

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## ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell  
Sheri Allen**

Our congregation was blessed this past month with many visiting ministers. They were Bros. Matt Rassi (Chicago, IL), Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL), Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL), DeWayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN), Roger Sauder (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Virgil Kaeb (Sarasota, FL) and Ron Jones (Portland, OR). May God bless them for their labors.

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

*Proverbs 22:6*

Rejoicing over the birth of their precious daughter are Bro. Chad and Sis. Laurie Keever. Hope Joy was born on July 24. She is welcomed home by brothers, Joel, Todd

and Seth. Excited grandparents are Clair and Sis. Bev Keever (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lauretta Schafer (Leo, IN).

"And now abideth faith, hope and charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."

*I Cor. 13:13*

Joel Koch and Natasha Wiegand were united in marriage. Joel's parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy Koch. Also celebrating their marriage are Ryan Aberle and Courteney Sharp. Ryan's parents are Bro. Pete and Sis. Debbie Aberle. Our prayers are with each of these couples as they begin their lives as husband and wife.

We have had three hospital patients this month. Sis. Lila Moser, Sis. Carol Koch and Bro. Earl Sauder have all been in our prayers.

"Prove all things; hold fast that which is good."

*I Thess. 5:21*

Elder Bro. Charles Sauder recently attended the Elder Conference that was held in Goodfield, IL. It is comforting knowing that our Elders join together to ask God for His direction as they discuss different issues. As we listen to the Conference tapes, may we be sure to open our hearts and minds to what God is trying to speak to us.

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## ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Barb Banwart  
Nancy Knepp**

"Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vine; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no

meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold and there shall be no herd in the stalls; yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation."

*Hab. 3:17-18*

How easy is it to rejoice in times of abundance! Yet Habakkuk found joy in God alone, the Lord of his salvation, even in times of extreme need. Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) expounded on these verses when he visited us this month. We heard many profound teachings from Bro. Virgil Kaeb (Sis. Suellen, Sarasota, FL) at our monthly topical Bible Study. As pressure is applied to apples to make applesauce, he explained, "God uses life's pressures to bring out life's sweetness."

We were grateful also for the visit from Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Elizabeth, Portland, OR) and the Word that was shared with us.

Our Sis. Lorene (the late Bro. Bill) Wiegand was relieved of life's sore pressures when she went to be with the Lord on August 2.

Bro. Mark (Sis. Karen) Hangartner and Bro. Mark (Sis. Tammy) Herrmann were injured in work accidents, Sis. Kay (Gary) Monagle was injured in a fall, and Harold (Loretta) Wettstein is enduring chemotherapy. We are praying that God will press goodness and sweetness through their lives as they endure the pressure of trials and suffering.

As summer passes away, school and Sunday School resume, locusts buzz, and nights grow cool. How swiftly time flies! With the aged prophet we can sing,

"The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds'



feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.”

*Hab. 3:19*

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**INDIANA, BLUFFTON**  
**Amber Steffen**  
**Amy Gerber**

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”

*I Cor. 15:58*

What an encouraging Truth! Our labor is not in vain as long as it is in line with God and His Word. Through all stages of life we can cling to this verse, understanding and trusting that God has a plan.

We were blessed to have many visiting ministers come and share God's Word with us this month. Bro. Dan Dubach (Sis. Bethany, Prescott, AZ) stood before us on July 23. On August 8, we were blessed with four visiting ministers who were here attending a soldiers' reunion. Bro. Greg Stoller (Sis. Jill, Forrest, IL), Bro. Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL), Bro. Jon Zeller (Sis. Christine, Morton, IL) and Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL) ministered unto us the power of God's love. Also, Bro. Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton North) was with us on August 16.

The union of two souls in marriage is always a happy time, and we celebrated with Bro. Shawn Leman (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Val) and Sis. Kara Drayer (Bro. Herman and Sis. Julie) as they became one on July 23. For close to one year, Sis. Kara had lived

in Prescott, AZ, but the wedding took place in Bluffton. Both the Bluffton and Prescott congregations rejoiced on this special day. That same day we celebrated the engagement of Sis. Shauna Fiechter (Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie Fiechter) to Bro. Alex Neuen-schwander (Bro. Terry and Sis. Jean).

Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Fiechter celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this month, and we rejoiced with them on such a special occasion. What a beautiful testimony of Christ's unfailing love for us!

Amidst the rejoicing, there were also tears in Bluffton as two souls went to their heavenly homes this month. Sis. Marie Gerber (Bro. Clifford, dec.) passed away on July 31 leaving behind three children: Cliff (Delores), Becky (Dave) Booker, and Tom. Also leaving his earthly home was Bro. Dan Lantz on August 3. Bro. Dan left behind his wife, Sis. Gladys, and six children: Sis. Rose (Ted) Pfister, Bro. John (Sis. Sue, Bluffton North), Bro. Dan Jr. (Sis. Charlene, Bluffton North), Bro. James (Sis. Kathy), Mary, and Steve. We lift these families up in prayer that God will comfort them in their loss.

Our prayers are also resting on Bros. Joe Gerber, Jon Ringger and Rich Pfister (Sis. Amber) as they plan to leave in October on a trip to India. We are praying that God will keep them safe and bless the work that will be done for His glory.

August 13 marked a special day for two souls as they stood in the baptismal waters and made a covenant with our Lord. Bro. Shawn Longenberger (Bro. Terry and Sis. Twila) and Sis. Amanda Isch (Bro. Jim and Sis. Rachel) displayed the joy of the Saviour as they made this

important step in their walk. We rejoiced with their families and also with Leah Gerber (Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn) as she gave her heart to the Lord this month. How encouraging it is to know that, in His time, God is constantly working in the lives of all those around us.

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**INDIANA**  
**BLUFFTON NORTH**  
**Tiffani Schladenhauffen**  
**Darren Drayer**

On July 30, Bro. Travis Frauhiger (Bro. Kris and Sis. Ann Frauhiger) and Sis. Jenna Steffen (Bro. Keith and Sis. Kay Steffen) were joined in marriage.

Dan and Robin Nash are the parents of a baby boy, Blaine Andrew, born on August 20. Blaine's grandparents are Bro. Rod and Sis. Rosemary Mounsey.

We are prayerful for Sis. Eunice on the passing of her husband, Bro. Max Steffen, on August 1. Their children are Sis. Kay Craighead (Bro. Mike), Dan (Jane), and Alan. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Kathy. They have 5 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren. I will remember Bro. Max for the beaming smile he always wore.

On August 3, another man of God passed away: Bro. Dan Lantz, the husband of Sis. Gladys. Their children are Sis. Rose Pfister (Bro. Ted), Bro. John (Sue), Bro. Dan Jr. (Sis. Charlene), Bro. James (Sis. Kathy), Mary, and Steve. They have 11 grandchildren and 32 great-grandchildren.

We have had a few loved ones spending time in the hospital this month. My mother, Sis. Lois Drayer (Bro. Jerry), spent time in the hospital this month. Praise God — she



told me she is back in good health. Mike Mayne (Sheryl) spent time in the hospital this month. He is the son-in-law of Bro. Jay and Sis. Dorothy Kipfer. We are also prayerful for Sis. Theresa Kipfer and Bro. Joe Kipfer in regards to their hospital stay.

We sorrow with Bro. Jason and Sis. Anna Lantz in the loss of their daughter, Jaycee Marie, who was stillborn on August 14. Her grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Charlene Lantz and Elder Bro. Bruce and Sis. Charlene Hohulin (Goodfield). She is survived by a sister, Ali. Let us all unite around them in prayer.

“There is a Hope, to which the  
Christian, clinging  
is lifted high above life’s surging  
wave;  
finds life in death, and fadeless  
flowers springing  
from the dark grave.”

*“There is a Calm,” # 383 in the  
Gospel Hymns*

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## INDIANA FRANCESVILLE

**Barb Huber  
Jessica Murray**

Greetings loved ones. We extend our thanks to the visiting ministers who shared with us this past month. Bro. Edward Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL) shared a great spiritual mountain climbing lesson with us and really put our lives into perspective. Bro. Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla, LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lyn, Indianapolis, IN) also shared a Sunday service with us. Thank you for your time, love, and devotion you put into your messages.

In the hospital this past month were Bro. Harry Yaggie who is now recovering at Parkview Haven. Bro.

Carl Gutwein (Sis. Yvonne) underwent several tests and days in the hospital. He is now resting comfortably at home. May our love and prayers be felt by you and your families as you both lean on the Lord for your earthly strength.

Our Elder brothers met this past month and we look forward to hearing the tapes and messages from the Conference. May the Lord reward you for all your efforts of leading the church family. Your work is greatly appreciated by all.

What a special day August 12 was for two dear couples who gave their lives as husband and wife before God. Adam Huber (Bro. Chris and Sis. Sharon) and Alivia Speece (Dean and Leona) were joined as one to share their lives together. Melinda Vogt (Bro. Ron and Sis. Dianne) and Christopher Wong (Mr. and Mrs. Choen Chour Wong, Singapore) also took their vows before God and man. May you always put the love of God and for God before you. Our prayer for you is that God will richly bless your lives together.

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## INDIANAPOLIS INDIANA

**Sandy Lichtle  
Gail Bradford**

We have four “welcomes” in Indianapolis – two newborn babies and two young people who have moved here for their work.

Welcome to Gabriel Witzig Martinez, born August 12. He is the second son of Bro. Joshua and Sis. Keyna. Little Marty Jo is happy he will have a playmate.

We rejoice with Bro. Peter and Sis. Penny Schroder, parents of Jonah Paul Schroder who was born on August 9. He is their first child.

New jobs have brought Sis. Kristen Fiechter from Bluffton and Bro. Jonathan Wales from Kansas City. We hope they already feel at home!

In a recent election, Bro. Joel Sprunger and Bro. Joel Zeller were elected to teach Sunday school.

We thank Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna) for bringing us the Word. We always appreciate visiting brothers who lend themselves during their travels.

The Indianapolis congregation has selected a Feasibility Committee to guide a study on the strengths and weaknesses of our existing church facility.

In whatever stage of life we find ourselves, we are all seekers. When we are young, we may seek adventure. When we reach adulthood, we may seek a mate or an occupation. When we are older, we may seek good health or a retirement community. The only search, however, where we are guaranteed to find what we are looking for, is the search for God. “...ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you.” (Luke 11:9).

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## INDIANA, LACROSSE

**Bethany Johnson  
Julie Rocke**

“Thus united and in concord let us walk the path of life;” (Zion’s Harp #237). Our thoughts and prayers were with the Elder body as they met in Goodfield, IL, this month. They have an awesome responsibility and we thank them for the time and effort that they devote to help us stay on the right path.

We grieve with Sis. Ruth Elcock and her family in the passing of her stepmother, Vida Demrovsky. May



God give them the grace and strength to get through this time.

Our hearts and prayers go out to Bro. Carl Gutwein (Sis. Yvonne, Francesville, IN) and his family as he has been very sick. Bro. Carl is the father to Sis. Carla Wuethrich (Bro. Chris).

Sis. Jessica Feller (Bro. Joe and Sis. Jackie) moved to the Denver, CO, area to work recently. We will miss her but we wish her God's blessings as she takes this new step in her life.

It is such a blessing when we have older brothers and sisters in our congregation that we can learn from. Sis. Carolyn Levy turned 90 years old this month. We rejoice with her on this special occasion and thank God for the love and wisdom that she brings to our church family.

We would like to welcome Sis. Becky Moser and her children, Grant, Shane, Aaron and Lauren, to our congregation from the Mansfield, OH, church. We pray that God's blessings will be with them as they adapt to a new community.

The visiting ministers that we had this month were Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Sis. Marlene, Bay City, MI), Bro. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), and Bro. Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit, MI). Thank you for being willing to come and share God's Word with us.

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### **INDIANA, LEO Ethelyn Schlatter**

Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL) assisted Bro. Trent Schrock on the pulpit. He was a great blessing, as our other three ministers were elsewhere. Many in our congregation attended the wedding in Milford, IN, of Sis. Kristi

Schlipf and Bro. Jeremy Reinhard, but we had a full house with many visitors who were vacationing, and here attending reunions. We were thankful for all who were here.

Retired Elder Bro. David Bertsch and Sis. Marie celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with an open house in the church dining room. They were pleased with the many who came to share their special day. "The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich..." (Proverbs 10:22)

We again had many visitors for the wedding of Sis. Terri Gramm and Bro. Bob Witzig of Gridley, IL. Ministering brothers who attended and proclaimed the Word were Bro. Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol, Gridley, IL), Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL), Bro. Ron Bollier (Sis. Edie, Indianapolis, IN), and Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL) who had a part in the wedding ceremony. Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz read from the book of Ruth and sealed their vows pronouncing them husband and wife. It was a beautiful and blessed day.

"...Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

*I Cor. 2:9*

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### **INDIANA, MILFORD Carlton Beer Carol Haab**

We have been listening to the Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. May God bless each of our Elders for their loving guidance and faithfulness. They carry heavy burdens and continually need our prayers.

Once again we were blessed to

have several visiting ministers this month. Our heartfelt appreciation for their service goes out to Bro. Rich Gramm (Sis. Samantha, South Bend, IN), Bro. Ron Kipfer (Sis. Linda, Bluffton, IN), Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) and Bro. John Reinhard (Sis. Pam, Bluffton, IN).

Sis. Kristi Schlipf and Bro. Jeremy Reinhard were blessed with a wonderful day on August 6 as they pledged their lives and love to one another in marriage. Their parents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy Schlipf and Bro. Jerome and Sis. Gail Reinhard (Bluffton, IN).

Our sincere congratulations are extended to Bethany Cockburn and Mike Atkins upon their engagement. May they feel God's guidance as they make plans for their future together. They are planning an October wedding. Bethany is the daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Cockburn.

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### **INDIANA, REMINGTON Tammy Waibel Beth Virkler**

Natalie Kay was born to Bro. Dan and Sis. Denise Weerts on August 17. Older siblings are Brittany, Ashley and Brendan. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Sally Fritz (Washington, IL) and Bro. Ken and Sis. Myrna Weerts (Cissna Park, IL).

Visiting ministers were: Bro. Ted Steffen (Alto, MI), Bro. Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA), Bro. Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Todd Graf (Akron, OH). We thank each one of you for ministering the Word to us.

As our only college freshman this school term, Sarena Wahl's new address is 230 Marsteller #5, West La-



fayette, IN 47906. [sarenawahl@hotmail.com](mailto:sarenawahl@hotmail.com).

September remains a time to remember our youth in prayer who have moved away to schools of higher learning.

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### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Amy Gerst  
Laura Vercler**

We were thankful to have several visiting ministers this month. Bro. Herb Knochel (Phoenix, AZ), Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), and Bro Paul Eisenmann (Burlington, IA) all came to share God's Word with us. May God bless them for their willingness to serve.

Our small congregation rejoiced this month with the new arrival of Gabriel Witzig Martinez. His parents, Bro. Joshua and Sis. Keyna Martinez, and his older brother, Marty Jo, welcomed him into their family on August 12. Also, thankful for Gabriel's safe arrival are his grandparents, Bro. Marty and Sis. Lavilla Langhofer.

Our Sunday School Picnic in South Bend was held on August 13. We enjoyed the afternoon of fellowship at a park in Nappanee, IN. May God continue to provide wisdom to our Sunday School teachers so that the seeds of His Word may sprout and grow in these young hearts.

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### INDIANA WEST LAFAYETTE

**Andria Sprunger  
Hollie Meister**

We are so thankful and excited to have the Purdue Young Group back on campus here in West Lafayette! We are grateful to them for their zeal and energy for God and for min-

istry. We pray for and look forward to another blessed year with them. We are also thankful for the two new couples that are joining us in West Lafayette. Bro. Jeff and Sis. Gretchen Moser (Steffen) just got married this past summer and have moved to West Lafayette, as well as, Rick and Carla Bowerman. They also just got married and are joining us in West Lafayette.

We are thankful to announce and celebrate with Cameron Walder (Bro. Russ and Sis. Darlene) who has made known that he has found peace with God and man. We look forward to his baptism scheduled to be on September 17.

Bro. Blake Widmer is now back with us from having spent the summer serving in ministry in Jamaica. We are thankful to have him back with us and are also thankful that he had such a blessed trip. We are also excited to have Bro. Lon and Sis. Sarah Vogt (Bollier) back with us here in West Lafayette for a few months. We pray that God gives them clear direction, grace, and blessing as they prepare to go and serve in North India in 2007.

Bro. Don and Sis. Jackie Hoerr have sold their house and it looks as if they will be officially moving back to Peoria, IL. We are so grateful that God has given them clear direction in this move. We are honored that God directed them to live and worship with us in West Lafayette, and we are forever grateful for the impact that their family has been on us here.

We want to be sure to thank those Brothers and Sisters who have so gracefully come to share God's Word with us here in West Lafayette. Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue, Francesville) and Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Ruth Ann, Wolcott)

both graciously ministered to us, and we are so thankful for their service.

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### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Elaine Bahler  
Lowell Bahler**

Greetings to all. On Sunday, July 23, Bro. Ron Bollier (Sis. Edie, Indianapolis, IN) favored us by coming to help out in the ministry as Bro. Alfred would otherwise have been by himself. Our thanks to you, Bro. Ron.

Our Bible topic for this period was brought to us by Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy, Alto, MI) and was centered around the telecommunication advertisement of "Can you hear me now?" With all of the noisy interference coming over the air waves and from everywhere today, we have to wonder if we are even able to hear the small still voice of our Lord tenderly trying to lead us, or tuning Him out and losing our direction. Thank you, Bro. Ted, for your kind exhortation.

We appreciated having Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) here on Sunday, August 20, along with our Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN) who came over in the afternoon. May the Lord bless each of them for their labors of love.

We look forward next week to hearing the first of the 2006 Conference tapes and are so thankful for our shepherds who strive diligently, giving of their time and efforts that we remain on the strait and narrow path which leads to life eternal. Our sincere love and support goes out to them.

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**IOWA, BLOOMFIELD****Barbara Schock**

Greetings in the name of the Lord! Since I last wrote, our church has grown. On July 21, Bro. Andy and Sis. Stacy Joos were blessed with the arrival of Trevor Cade into their hearts and home. He is welcomed by grandparents, Bro. Roger and Sis. DeAnn Wuthrich and Bro. Ron and Sis. Christy Joos. May God be with Bro. Andy and Sis. Stacy as they take on the responsibility of raising a child in the Lord.

We've also grown in the number of sheep in the fold as on August 5-6 we were able to witness the testimony and baptism of our new Sis. Angie Wuthrich (Bro. Roger and Sis. DeAnn). We welcome her into the fold with joyful and thankful hearts and pray that the Lord will continue to guide her as she grows in Him. Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton), Bro. Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis) and Bro. Brad Funk (Sis. Laura, Garden Grove) were here for this special weekend, and we thank them for coming and allowing the Spirit to speak through them.

We've also had other visiting ministers. On July 23, Bro. Randy Mogler (Sis. Evie, Washington) was here for the day. Also, Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest) was here on August 13. We thank these brothers for coming and sharing the Word with us. May God bless them for their willingness to serve us and bring forth His Word.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Wilma Teubel and Bro. Dave Wiegand (Sis. Mary) at the loss of Sis. Wilma's sister, and Bro. Dave's stepmother, Sis. Lorraine Wiegand, of Washington. Our thoughts and prayers also go out to Roy Metzger (Sis. Evelyn) and Bro.

Russell Wuthrich at the passing of their sister and sister-in-law, Sis. Emma Meyer, of Lester. May each of these families feel God's nearness at this time of loss, and may they be comforted by His presence.

The crops here have grown to their full height and are now maturing, getting ready for the harvest in a few months. If we look at our spiritual life, are we still maturing even though we are "full grown"? Are we still preparing for the harvest day that is coming?

**IOWA, BURLINGTON****Krystal Knapp  
Laurie Schulz**

We had a blessed weekend in hearing the testimonies and witnessing the baptism of our new Sis. Marilyn Anderson and Bro. Brett Wulf (Bro. Leroy and Sis. Carolyn). We thank Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) in assisting our Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall in this work. Other visiting ministers this weekend were Bros. Joe Gerst (Iowa City), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL), Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), Glen Braker (Princeville, IL), and Trent Meiss (Eureka, IL). We appreciated the efforts of each one.

Our congregation sadly bids farewell to Bro. Fred and Sis. Kathy Eberhardt and their family as they relocate to the Taylor, MO, area. We certainly thank Bro. Fred for his many years of service in the ministry, but will definitely miss him and his family. We wish them God's richest blessings.

**IOWA, ELGIN  
Gloria Frieden  
Heidi Butikofer**

"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord, and not unto men."

*Colossians 3:23*

At our annual election, Sis. Sue Schneider (Bro. Charles) was elected to teach the intermediate class and Bro. Phil Waldbeser (Sis. Charlotte) will now be the new Sunday School superintendent. Rotating out are Bro. John Schupbach (Sis. Janet) and Sis. Gloria Frieden. One of the things I learned while teaching Sunday school is how much we can learn by teaching, and that it can be a real joy to learn, together, with the children.

Ushers elected are Bro. Jim Knobloch (Sis. Marcy), Bro. Lon Butikofer (Sis. Sandy), Bro. Tim Butikofer (Sis. Kathy) and Bro. Wade Halverson. May each find it a blessing and joy to serve the Lord in these capacities. We were thankful to have our Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm and Sis. Rose (West Bend, IA) with us for this annual meeting.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was well attended again this year. What precious memories can come forth as the young and old share time in Christian fellowship.

The annual Brotherhood Conference is over for another year and we are encouraged to know that we still have caring shepherds watching for the spiritual welfare of their flocks. May we each one be encouraged in our walk of faith.

We were thankful to have two visiting ministers with us this past month. Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN) and Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata,



TX). It is a real comfort and encouragement to have visiting ministers come and preach the same truths from the same gospel that we are used to hearing Sunday after Sunday.

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### **IOWA, GARDEN GROVE**

#### **Willia Clark**

After missing a few months submitting news, the list of brothers who have visited and shared the Word of God with us is quite lengthy. I will just apologize for not naming each one and offer a heart-felt thank you to all for your service to us.

We rejoice with the angels in Heaven as another soul has been brought into the family of God. Sis. Britany Moser (Bro. Tom and Sis. Dawn Moser) gave her testimony and was baptized in our little congregation. We are grateful to Elder Bros. Mike Leman (Denver, CO) and Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA) for sharing the blessed occasion.

We send Ashly Parmer and Sis. Britany Moser off to college with our prayers for their spiritual and physical well-being.

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### **IOWA, IOWA CITY**

#### **Diana Butikofer**

We would like to thank the Elders and their wives, the Goodfield congregation, and the many others for all the prayers and effort they gave on our behalf to support the Brotherhood Conference. May the Lord bless you for all you have done and continue to do for Him.

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### **IOWA, LESTER**

#### **Gloria Moser**

#### **Polly Metzger**

We want to welcome six new ba-

bies to the Lester congregation. Jeremy Lynn was born July 22 to Bro. Dana and Sis. Kary Metzger. His grandparents are Bro. Jerome and Sis. Gail Hartter and Bro. Marv and Sis. Jolene Metzger. Eden Joy was born July 30 to Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley DeSmet. Welcoming Eden are Bro. Greg and Sis. Kristin Johnson (Bradford), Stacey, Bro. Chad, Grant, Shannon, Lorna, Haley, and Clark. Bro. Art and Sis. Elgeva Knobloch are her grandparents. Laura Rose was born July 31 to Bro. Jared and Sis. Carla Metzger. Leah, Logan and Laban welcome her home along with grandparents, Bro. Art and Sis. Kris Metzger and Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene Hartter (Sabetha, KS). Korey Robert was born August 5 to Keith and Julie Moser. Lucas and Jude are glad for another brother. His grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Cindy Leuthold. Adam James was born August 6 to Cassie Beverage. His grandparents are Arlyn and Nancy Metzger. Drew Michael was born August 13 to Bro. Eric and Sis. Joy Kupferschmid. Levi welcomes home his new brother. Drew's grandparents are Bro. Pat and Sis. Twyla Meyer and Bro. Richard and Sis. Mary Beth Kupferschmid (Eureka, IL). May God bless these parents as they raise their children.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Iola Knobloch, Bro. Bud Knobloch (Sis. Irene) and Paul Messner (Bro. Henry and Sis. Charlene). We want to remember all those with illnesses in our prayers.

Sis. Emily Leuthold (Bro. Art) has moved to the Lyon Manor Nursing Home in Rock Rapids, IA.

We bid farewell to Sis. Jo Ann Meyer (Bro. Pat and Sis. Twyla) as she has taken a teaching position in

Sabetha, KS. We will miss Sis. Jo Ann and wish her God's blessings and nearness.

Visiting ministers this month were Bros. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Glen Braker (Princeville, IL) and Virg Metzger (Chicago, IL). May God continue to bless these brothers for their efforts.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Sis. Emma Meyer. She passed away on August 1 at the age of 97. Sis. Emma was the oldest member in our congregation and a wonderful example and pillar to our faith. Those surviving are her children: Sis. Mary Lou Streitmatter (Princeville, IL), Sis. Doreen Meyer, Bro. Pat and Sis. Twyla Meyer (Lester), Carolyn and Bob Banwart (West Bend), Bro. George Meyer (Lester), Margaret and Eli Grimm, and Irene Banwart (West Bend), Earl and Barb Meyer (Brandon, SD), Sis. Paulette and Bro. Norm Zaugg (West Bend) and Sis. Lila and Bro. Mike Wirtz (Goodfield, IL); 49 grandchildren and 93 great - grandchildren. Her sisters, Sis. Freida and Bro. Andy Mogler (Lester), Sis. Lydiann and Bro. Carl Wyss and Sis. Pearlina Streitmatter (Washington, IL), and her brothers, Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mariann Metzger (Lester) and Roy and Sis. Evelyn Metzger (Bloomfield, IA). May God be with them all and we will keep them in our prayers.

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### **IOWA, OAKVILLE**

#### **Sharla Wiegand**

“Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me.”

*Matthew 19:14*



Tyra Ann joined the family of Bro. Dave and Sis. Tami Lanz on July 26. Also welcoming her home are big sisters, Kenna, Krissa and Ellie. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Janet Lanz, and Bro. Rod and Sis. Twyla Bajema (Lester, IA).

“Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.”

*Matthew 18:3*

We welcomed three new sisters into the fold on July 30. Carly Wagenbach (Bro. Colin and Sis. Barb), Deanna Lanz (Bro. Ken and Sis. Janet) and Rachel Wagenbach (Bro. Dave and Sis. Charlene) were baptized upon their faith and testimony to the church. Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) helped with this important work.

“What therefore God hath joined together, let not men put asunder.”

*Matthew 19:6*

Wedding vows were shared between Natasha Wiegand (Bro. Brian and Sis. Cindy) and Joel Koch (Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy, Tremont, IL) on August 5.

The engagement announcement of Sis. Renee Lanz (Bro. Keith and Sis. Tonya) and Bro. Mitch Schulz (Bro. Roger and Sis. June) was made known on August 6. We rejoice as a new Christian home will be established.

“Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.”

*Matthew 13:9*

Visiting ministers this month included Bro. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA) on July 23, Bro. Gary

Endress (Bradford, IL) on July 30, and Bro. Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) on August 9 before attending the Brotherhood Conference.

“Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.”

*Matthew 5:4*

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Ken and Janice Grimm on the passing of her mother, Eva Williams.

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### IOWA, WEST BEND

**Sue Schneider**  
**Lori Skoglund**

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

*Eccles. 3:1*

“A time to be born ...”

*Eccles. 3:2*

Tiffany Ann Fehr was born on August 10 to Bro. John and Sis. Wendy. She was welcomed home by her sisters and brothers: Heather, Michael, Brandon, Crystal and Garrett. Tiffany will enjoy the benefits of two sets of grandparents living close by: Bro. Art and Sis. Eula Mogler and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Fehr.

“...and a time to die;”

*Eccles. 3:2*

Richard Zaugg died August 5, reaching the age of 84 years. Richard was born on the farm where he and his wife spent their entire married life. We extend sympathy to the family left behind: his wife, Doro-

thy; daughter, Sis. Ellen (Bro. Curt) Strahm of Sabetha, KS; and sons: Tom, Jeff (Penny) of Mitchellville, IA; Mike of Bancroft and Jerry. Also surviving are sisters, Leah Franck of Battle Creek, MI, Eva Banwart, Sis. Elma Mogler and Ruby Besch, nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Sis. Hulda Wirtz lost her son and Fred Wirtz Jr. lost a brother with the death of Aaron (Peggy) Wirtz of Belmond, IA.

Four sisters, Kay (Bob) Banwart, Marg (Eli Jr.) Grimm, Irene Banwart and Sis. Polly (Bro. Norm) Zaugg have lost their mother with the death of Sis. Emma Meyer of Lester, IA.

May God be near unto all who are mourning the loss of a loved one.

Special thanks to Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR) for his willingness to minister unto us in conjunction with traveling to and from the Brotherhood Conference. The wise counsel of our Elders is being appreciated as we gather weekly to listen to the recordings of the Conference.

Sis. Helen Zaugg, Sis. Lucille (Bro. Dwaine) Schmidt, and Bro. Noah (Sis. Emma) Gerber have been hospitalized. Each has ongoing health concerns at this time. May God continue to grant them grace sufficient for each day.

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### JAPAN, TOKYO

**Jana Klaus**

We are in the midst of the usual hot and humid Tokyo summer. Schools are off for 6 weeks, families are traveling back to their hometowns and lots of good fruit is in season (including those unsurpassable Yamanashi white peaches)! Our church had some spe-



cial summer occasions, including the Sunday School Otomarikai (overnight gathering) and the whole church Shuyokai (fellowship meeting).

This was the third year for Sis. Marie Inoue to hold the Sunday School Otomarikai for those children with good attendance. It consisted of a day out hiking and playing in the river, then returning to the upstairs of church where they ate a curry rice supper, played outside, had Bible time and spread out futons for all. Then, the next morning they made their breakfast of pancakes, took a walk, and attended Sunday School. It is good bonding time for the children and we thank Sis. Marie for all her efforts.

Tokyo was in charge this year of the summer Shuyokai, which includes both churches, and lasts two days. The theme was "Our adversary, Satan — who he is, and how we overcome his temptations." We thank our Tokyo brothers for very good teachings. It was a first time experience for it to be held at Okutama Bible Chalet, set in gorgeous mountain and river scenery. A very blessed time was had by all.

Sis. Yoshiko Sakuta received one of the best summer presents — her first grandchild. A baby boy, Hiichi, was born to her daughter, Keiko and husband. We can tell Sis. Yoshiko is thrilled with this blessing from God.

Bro. Makoto Inoue was back from the US for another visit and brought along a friend, Bro. Wes Sutter (Taylor, MO). We thank the brothers for their afternoon Bible class teachings.

### **KANSAS, BERN Sheri Edelman Rita Menold**

John and Michelle Strahm (Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen) as well as Fritz Strahm (Bro. Kyle and Sis. Peggy) have been announced for peace. We are looking forward to hearing their testimonies on August 26!

A special thank you goes to our visiting ministers this month. Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis, OH) and Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH) proclaimed God's Word to us.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen, as well as their family, since the death of her father, Richard Zaugg (Dorothy, West Bend, IA). We pray for God's comforting presence through the loss of your dad and grandfather.

Surgical patients this month have been Bro. Waymer Esslinger, Amy Rokey (Bro. Mike and Sis. Sue), Leonard Edelman (Sis. Anna), Sis. Carol Renyer (Greg) and Bro. Dale Strahm (Sis. Shelby). Our continued prayers remain with Bro. Dale and his family as they deal with his medical condition.

Two new babies have been born with grandparents in our Bern church. Lee and Carmen Ukele had a baby girl, Marlee Geneva, on July 30. Bro. Leonard Baumgartner is the beaming grandpa and Bro. Lester Hartter the great - grandpa! On the same day, Troy and Amity Kaeb (Overland Park, KS) welcomed into their family Maelyn Reese. Bro. Paul and Sis. Joan are the smiling grandparents! Congratulations and may God be with you as you raise your little ones!

We bid farewell to Sis. Bethany Strahm (Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Vero-

na) who has moved to Illinois. She is assembling with the Washington congregation. May God be with you as you begin a new job in a new location!

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### **KANSAS, FORT SCOTT Karen Kellenberger**

We are approaching the breath-taking autumn season here in beautiful southeast Kansas. If you live in a section of the country where your climate does not produce rich fall colors, please come visit us.

Our Fort Scott congregation offers our heartfelt thanks to visiting Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA), Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL), our Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS), and Bro. Jeff Niehouser (Sis. Sue, Francesville, IN).

One of the thoughts shared by a visiting minister exhorted us to not let Satan paralyze us, resulting in our not standing up and doing the right thing or offering the kind deed, when the circumstance calls for it.

In late July, many individuals joined a work team and spent productive time at the orphanage in Magdalena (Mexico). The group blessed us with an inspirational slide presentation upon returning.

Our new Sunday School term is upon us and we welcome and prayerfully support two new teachers: Bro. Jeff Fischer and Sis. Tina Banwart.

Sis. Debbie Banwart (Bro. Lonnie) was a surgical patient.

I had occasion to drop off our stray dog at the humane shelter, which is aptly named Wayside



Waifs. If the little dog is fortunate, she will be adopted out, but there is no guarantee nor does she have any choice in the decision. We have all been lost wayside waifs at some time in our lives. Gratefully, we do have a choice to be adopted, unlike unwanted pets. Furthermore, we need not worry that our adoptive Father will mistreat us.

“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, And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ...”

*Romans 8:15-17*

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**KANSAS, KIOWA**  
**Janice Bahr**  
**Jenny Stewart**

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul...”

*Psalm 23:1-3*

Everyone needs to be restored at some point in their busy lives. For me, that happens when I can sit by still waters, reading precious words from my Bible and Zion’s Harp and listening to the sounds of God’s creation through the birds, animals, locusts, and the fish as they feed in the early morning beauty. There is such a peace and restoration and I know how the Psalmist felt as he penned those beautiful words while watching his sheep in the green pastures beside the still waters. May each of you find time for a place of restora-

tion in the Lord.

Back to school is right around the corner and may we, as parents, hold our children up in prayer and keep our homes a peaceful haven of love and Godly example for them to come home to.

“A man’s heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps.”

*Proverbs 16:9*

Our Sis. Stephanie Bahr, through much prayer and the direction of the Lord, is soon to leave for a year in Mexico. She will travel to Morelia, Mexico, first for language training then back to Magdalena de Kino de Sonora, Mexico, to share in the teaching of English to the Spanish-speaking populace. We will greatly miss her, but know if the Lord leads her, He will bless her way and the work of her hands. Go with God and our fervent love and prayers, Sis. Stephanie.

We lift up our friend, Bethany Hamilton, in our prayers as she continues her trips to Mayo for treatments in her illness. May God grant her healing and peace.

Sis. Mildred Frieden celebrated her 80th birthday this past month, and was surprised by family from both near and far, including a little great-granddaughter. We wish her God’s blessings.

We would like to extend our deepest love and sympathy to Bro. Ronald and Sis. Lois Allenbach and family at the passing of Bro. Ron’s mother, Alice Allenbach, who passed away at the great age of 99 years. Up until shortly before her death, she faithfully attended church and we will miss her presence.

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

We really appreciate the effort it takes to come the distances of our rotating ministers in the extreme heat. Thank you, Bros. Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL) and Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO). We also enjoyed listening to the taped lesson that Bro. Matthew Rassi gave for the Fairbury Bible School lesson on the “Impact of modern technology on your soul” at the home of Bro. Jay and Sis. Jane Luthi on July 26.

August 14, little four-year-old Hannah Luthi had her tonsils removed at the Children’s Mercy Hospital in Kansas City. She was released to go home the next day.

Have you thanked your spouse or family lately for the many “everyday jobs” they do that you take for granted? God gave me a very special helpmate for 52 years. I’m finding out how many “little things” he did as a “handy husband”. This past weekend Paula and I went to Kiowa to help celebrate granddaughter Tif’s 21st birthday and granddaughter Steph’s farewell – she leaves Saturday for Mexico. I talked to Sis. Shirley Nelson – “It’ll get better, but you’ll still miss him.” Ministering Bro. Ron Nelson was another special person. Now I have posted another clip on my frig: “Don’t be afraid of the future – God is already there.”

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**KANSAS, SABETHA**  
**Rebekah Beyer**  
**Dawn Strahm**

Greetings from Sabetha, Kansas! In the fourth chapter of the Proverbs of Solomon it states: “Get wisdom, get understanding: forget it not; neither decline from the



words of my mouth. Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding" (verses five and seven). How thankful we can be that our Elder body, ministers, and congregations have the opportunity to gather for a yearly Conference. We hunger for the wisdom and understanding that was shared at the Conference in Goodfield, Illinois, and will be shared via tapes to our assembly this fall.

Our Sunday School is taking a summer break for the month of August and will resume in September. May the Lord bless and prosper the teachers who have dedicated their time in teaching our youth of the heavenly way.

Sharing the Word from the pulpit with us this month were Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Jim Kaeb (Sis. Diane, Bern, KS) and Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA).

A baby daughter was born to Bro. Trent and Sis. Rosie Strahm. Nyah Grae was born on July 31. Grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Sharon Strahm and Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel Zeltwanger (Morris, MN). We pray that God will be with these first-time parents as they experience many new things as parents.

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## KANSAS, WICHITA

### Emma Miller

Even though our numbers are small here in the Wichita church circle, we have many concerns for the welfare of those who are experiencing physical afflictions. In spite of the effort it takes for Bro. Dick and Sis. Jocelyn Payton to go anywhere, they faithfully make the effort to

"not forsake the assembly." Bro. Howard Warner and Bro. Al Langhofer seem to have the mindset that they will not hurt any more in church than they would at home so they come to church and lend their voices in the worship service. Last Sunday, we sang "Seeking the Lost" at the beginning of our morning song service. Less than ten souls were assembled in the sanctuary. With the help of these two brothers' rich mellow voices, the chorus was a beautiful rendition of praise. Dwaine Reeves also is undergoing treatment. Our prayers go out for him as well as for Sis. Lillian Bowers and for her son, Bro. Phillip. May they all be blessed as they continue to struggle with their fleshly infirmities.

For those of us who have less physical afflictions, we need to be a light to those around us. Recently, one of our brothers told of his experience with his grandsons. He was helping them with a project they had started but were unable to complete without help. As the day progressed, one of them said, "Grandpa, this is the best day of my life." Another of our "grandpas" works a second shift and wanted to keep in touch with his grandchildren during the school year. He volunteered as a lunchroom aide at the school they attended. Not only did he have contact with his grandchildren, but he became a favorite of many children who coveted his attention. A sister works as a volunteer classroom aide in an inner city school. One of the little boys wrote her a note saying, "I love how your sweet face looks and your hands feel." She had guided those little hands of his as he learned to write. In conclusion, may we all use our opportunities to let the love of God be

evident in our lives.

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## MICHIGAN, ALTO

### Rose Watson

### Terri Huber

Summer is so busy! We welcome our high school kids back from a mission trip to Jamaica. Lasting friendships and lasting impressions on young hearts and minds were made. Our congregation had another blessed experience as Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. and his family from Morton came to spend the weekend. Bro. Ted addressed a group on Friday night on the topic of Depression, and on Saturday on the topic of marriage. We are thankful for his willingness, and for his further ministry on Sunday.

On different weekends we welcomed and benefited from the words and fellowship of Bro. Mike Ursu (Sis. Barb, Kitchener, Ontario) and Bro. Jim Vierling (Sis. Linda, Eureka, IL). May God bless their efforts.

Congratulations to Amanda Blough and Jeremy Frost on their marriage! We are excited along with their parents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Julie Blough and Denny and Barb Frost (Lake Odessa), to witness the culmination of months of planning. Our prayer is for God to guide their steps and their future together.

Also feeling God's guidance are our two new young brothers, Derek Steffen and Allen Huber. Their baptism weekend was a reminder to all of us to be zealous and happy in the Lord, and to be true and faithful to Him for the rest of our lives. Visiting and ministering on that day were Bros. Ron Jones (Sis. Elizabeth, Portland, OR) and Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI), as well as Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie,



Gridley, IL).

We would like to ask for your prayers for the family of Bro. Bill and Sis. Judy Gerst, as their daughter, Ramona, is in the final stages of cancer. Please lift them up and pray for Ramona's sons, Jalen and Jarod.

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## MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Sarah Knochel**

**Janelle Ramseyer**

Sis. Jamie Knochel and Bro. Nathan Hodel became one in the Lord on August 13. Visiting ministers for their special day were Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH), Bro. Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH) and Bro. Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL). May God's love fill Bro. Nate and Sis. Jamie's home as they begin their new life together in Roanoke.

Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Lisa, Eureka, IL) and his family were with us at the end of July and we want to thank him for worshiping with us as well.

Our prayers are with Jerry Meier (Sis. Edie) and Bro. Bill Waibel (Sis. Carol) as they each spent time under physician care this past month. We are thankful for the Lord's healing touch on both of these dear ones.

The summer days are becoming shorter and the fields are starting to show that harvest is near. May we continue to draw near to the heart of God that we may be ready for the Golden Harvest.

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## MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Tiffany Wieland**

**Kay Rauhe**

This month, we enjoyed the annual Woodhaven Benefit Dinner and Choir Program. This event is

held every year to help generate funding for the Woodhaven Retirement Community. We were fortunate to have many out of town guests join us for the afternoon, and we especially appreciated the Covenant Chamber Choir lending their musical talents to the day. We want to thank all those who contributed to help fund the Woodhaven ministry.

Several of our Sunday School young adults traveled to Jamaica this month to participate in a work team effort. We were thankful that they were able to return safely home, and we trust that the experiences they had in Jamaica will be a positive influence on their young lives. Many of us who have traveled to such an impoverished country can speak first hand about the blessings of helping those who are in so much need, and, perhaps even more of a blessing, to be reminded of the material blessings God has lent us and how many of them we often take for granted.

This month, we say goodbye to Rachel Germaine (Bro. Milan and Sis. Joyce) as she leaves for Florida to pursue collegiate studies. We also bid farewell to Bro. Nathan Knochel as he returns to college after spending several months with us during a summer internship in our area. We also welcomed Bro. Brian and Sis. Cherise Blume and their sons, B.J. and Zach, as they have relocated to our area. While we will miss Rachel and Bro. Nathan, we are happy that Bro. Brian and Sis. Cherise's family is now a part of our congregation.

We want to thank Bro. Howard Plattner (Sis. Kristen; Alto, MI) and Bro. Walt Rager (Sis. Sharon; Toledo, OH) who, on separate occasions, came to share the Word of God with the residents at

Woodhaven this past month. We appreciate them making the trip here to Detroit, especially considering that both services took place during the week. We know that such service usually means arriving back home at a very late hour, so we want to extend an extra measure of gratitude to them and those who accompanied them from their respective congregations.

Several in our congregation have dealt with various health issues this past month. Sis. Perseda Wieland's daughter, Bonnie Jermo (Ernie), and Sis. Ann Tachar's son, Gordon Tachar, both spent time in the hospital. John Reardon (Sis. Linda) has been moved to long term care in rehab as he continues to recover from a stroke and heart attack. We want to remember all those who have special needs, and we commit each situation to the Lord with the prayer that His will could be done and for the grace to except His will.

We want to congratulate Sis. Kelly Ramseyer (Bro. Mark) as she has completed her studies and internship through Wayne State University to become a Registered Dietitian.

As our Elder body gathers this month, our prayer is that God would watch over them and grant them the wisdom to guide us as His flock. We can read in Ephesians 5:25-27 "...even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, that He might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish," and we can see how high a calling we have. We live in a world that seems to become more and more riddled with the



open evidence of sin and evil, and as new and seemingly insurmountable challenges face us as a denomination, we seek the Grace of God to overcome. We can be encouraged by the words in I John 4:4 that "...greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world."

*Note of Thanks:*

I would like to thank everyone for the love shown to me through the beautiful cards I received for my 80th birthday. May God bless you.

In Christian Love,  
Sis. Esther Rauhe

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**MINNESOTA  
MINNEAPOLIS  
LaRae Dill**

The miracle of birth, and rebirth are evident in our congregation!

"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made..."

*Psalms 139:14*

Our congregation is thrilled at the birth of two "wonderfully made" little girls. Dennis and Annette Schmidt were greatly blessed on July 16 when they received their new daughter, Bailey Dean. Bailey was born in Guangdong, China, on September 14, 2005. Her grandparents are Bro. Dwaine and Sis. Lucille Schmidt (West Bend, IA), and John Ford and Eileen Ford, both of Humboldt, IA. On July 22, Kendra Rose was born to Brent and Tina Deragisch. Dan and Lola Deragisch are local grandparents, as well as Tom and Jana Bucetich of Hibbing, MN. This is an exciting time of blessing for both families and we rejoice with them.

"...Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

*St. John 3:3*

July 22-23 we had an inspiring weekend. Testimony of rebirth, and a new life in Christ Jesus was shared by our new sister, Maxine Larson, and new brothers, Braden Mogler (Bro. Kent and Sis. Mary) and Ben Dill (Bro. Dewayne and Sis. LaRae). Many family members and guests were present, including these ministers - Elder Bros. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) and Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bros. Justin Koch (Washington, IL), Jim Koehl (San Diego, CA), Roy Koehl (Morris, MN), Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA), Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Tom Troxel (LaCrosse, IN), Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) and our retired elder Bro. Leroy Messner, also from Winthrop, MN.

Bro. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN) shared the pulpit here on August 6. We certainly appreciated his ministry and visit.

Brooke Kent (Darcy) was hospitalized recently for a few days. Our church family certainly lifts up Brooke and her family in prayer.

Two families from our congregation have relocated to other states, and while we miss them all, we wish them God's blessing and care. The Baer family - Doug, Dawn, Carly and Case, have moved back to their home area of Morton, IL. Peter and Jessica Zarkovacki and Aleksander have moved back to Colorado, near Peter's family. As families worship with us for a time and then move away, it is reassuring to know God will be with them til we meet again.

**MINNESOTA, MORRIS  
Sheila Reuter  
Heidi Nohl**

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Bros. Don Manz (Junction, OH), Brian Huber (Francesville, IN), Darren Plattner (Champaign, IL) and Jim Koehl (San Diego, CA). We thank these brothers for their willing service and pray God will richly bless them.

Our congratulations are with Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel Zeltwanger on the birth of their new granddaughter, Nyah Grae. We pray God will be with her parents, Bro. Trent and Sis. Rosie Strahm (Sabetha, KS), and grandparents, Bro. Carl and Sis. Sharon Strahm.

Our prayers are with our Sis. Pearl Moser on her recent hospitalization. We pray God will heal her according to His will.

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**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP  
Rachel Steiner  
Julie Schmidt**

Greetings in the Lord!

We want to welcome Sis. Shayla Messner "home" to our congregation after teaching in the Lamar, MO, area for two years. We are thankful for God's leading in her life and pray that she can feel His nearness as she starts her new job.

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

*Zion's Harp #237*

Many prayers were offered up as our Elders gathered together for the annual Brotherhood Conference. May God grant wisdom and guidance to our shepherds in these troubled times.



We would like to thank Bro. Wes Moser (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA) for sharing God's Holy Word with us this past month.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Hazel Schmidt (Bro. Elmer), Sis. Delores Messerli, Lila Messner (Sis. Julia) and Bro. Chris Williams (Sis. Nancy). May they feel God's nearness during their time of recovery.

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### MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Becky Marti  
Mindy Braker**

We were thankful to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of our new Bro. Doug Strahm the weekend of August 12-13. Among our many visitors that weekend were Elder Bro. Art Nohl (Morris, MN), Bro. Galen Rokey (Bern, KS), Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS), Bro. Edwin Strahm (Bern, KS) and Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA). Also visiting this month were ministering Bros. Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA), Mike Rinkenberger (Conger-ville, IL) and Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN).

Should we be severed far apart,  
We know the Lord leads every  
heart.

He as the Shepherd, full of love,  
Will gather us in heaven above.

*Hymns of Zion #230, vs. 4*

Our prayers went with Sis. Shayla Messner and Sis. Andrea Banwart as we bid them farewell this past month. Sis. Shayla returned to her home in Winthrop, MN, and Sis. Andrea moved to Rockville, CT.

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### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

**Betsy Schrenk**

As our hot and humid summer draws to a close, we are enjoying the somewhat cooler weather. Our area was battered by several violent storms, resulting in extensive property damage and widespread power outages because of many, many fallen trees, branches, and telephone poles, bringing down countless wires. The electrical repair crews had to work in terrific heat for long hours. They got most of the damage repaired from the first storm, and then we had a couple more storms the next weekend, coming from the opposite direction and bringing down more trees and wires. Some people had no power for 10 days, but most had electricity restored after 3-5 days. Then some homes and streetlights became dark once again. We realize how dependent on electricity we are, how inconvenient and uncomfortable life is without it.

With these awesome shows of power, we think of Christ speaking to the storm, saying, "Peace, be still." He told his quaking disciples, "Fear not." That phrase is found 63 times in the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. We go through physical storms and spiritual storms in this life. The way to obey the command to "fear not" is to have a deep faith and confidence in the One who is in control.

Summer always brings many visitors to St. Louis, and we have been blessed to have so many people worship with us these past few months. The numbers always decline after vacation season ends and school starts.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Bruce Endress (Sis. Elizabeth, Bradford, IL), Alfred Bahler (Sis.

Frances, Wolcott, IN), Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL), Arnie Gerst (Sis. Marge, Taylor, MO), and David Hartter (Sis. Beth, Sabetha, KS). We thank them all for their willingness to travel to bring us God's Word.

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### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

**Sally Haerr**

As I review this past month, my heart swells with gratitude for many answered prayers... Have you ever been amazed at the depth of the longing in your heart and not even realize just how deep that longing was until those prayers were answered?

Our prayers for more converts have once again been answered. Jim and Sally (Riney) Gottman have "turned their hearts toward home" in surrender to Jesus for salvation. Oh, how we rejoice with them! I believe there is one situation when it is okay to be discontent, and that is concerning the longing for more and more souls to turn to Jesus with repentant hearts and a sincere desire to love and keep His commandments. John 14:15 (Holy Bible) says, "If you love me, keep my commandments." I remind myself that that scripture is not just for new converts, it is for all of us who call ourselves believers.

Another special blessing in our congregation is the addition of a dear family, Bro. Fred and Sis. Kathy Eberhardt and their children, Kara, Josh and Kenda. They have two older children, Bro. Jonathan who lives in Peoria, IL, and Sis. Kayla who is attending Purdue University at West Lafayette, IN.

A request was made at the Brotherhood Conference for approval to hold some mid-week services in



Macomb, IL. There are a number of brethren and friends in that area. We are praying that God's will can be carried out in this matter and a haven can be established there.

On July 22, the Hoerr/Haerr reunion was held here in Taylor. Bro. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL) came for that occasion and stayed for Sunday and served us from the pulpit. Also that same weekend Elder Bro. Ted Witzig Sr. (Sis. Cindy) and Bro. Ted Witzig Jr. (Sis. Donna), both from Morton, IL, spent some time here sharing God's Word with us. Bro. Ted Jr. spoke to the Jr. and Sr. Bible class students.

On July 26, to complete our 5-week study in the book of I John, Bro. Ed Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern, KS) came to share Chapter 4. Our key verse was/is I John 4:18. Our last Bible Study was I John chapter 5. Key verse: I John 5:4, given by Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL). We are so thankful that these brothers are willing to come so far to pass on the wisdom and knowledge the Lord has blessed them with.

On July 30, Bro. Jim Kaeb and Sis. Diane (Bern, KS) and many of their extended family, spent several days vacationing near here and chose to spend Sunday in church with us. Thank you, Bro. Jim, for preaching God's Word to us. Blessing after blessing, how can we ever count them all!

On August 6, many of us from here in Taylor went to Gridley, IL, to witness the marriage of Bro. Brian Sutter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Chris) and Sis. Allison Romersberger (Bro. Ron and Sis. Gail). We pray that God will bless them as they grow in grace together serving Him.

Our Elder Bro. Kent Heimer gave us a brief overview of the delib-

erations of this year's Brotherhood Conference and now we have set aside the next five Wednesday evenings to listen to the topics presented there. We are so thankful and continue to pray for our Elder brothers who truly watch for our souls. Read Hebrews 13:17. We all have a responsibility to be submissive to God's Word, so that our Elders may serve/watch with joy.

Those sick/hospitalized this past month were Bro. Louis Hoerr (Sis. Ruthie) and Sis. Janet Schaer. We pray that God will give them patience as they heal.

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### NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

We held our annual business meeting July 31 and we are thankful to God for those who are willing to continue in their present positions and pray for those that will be taking on new duties as we have the humbling responsibility of keeping our church doors open for those willing to come worship and serve our great God.

On August 14, our dear Bro. Kenneth Farney (74) passed from this life into eternity. We extend our sincere sympathy to his sisters, Sis. Louise Purvines and Sis. Bernice Hirschey, and brother, Donald Farney, and many nieces and nephews. How wonderful to see the church filled on the day of his funeral.

We are thankful to have Sis. Bessie Farney assembling with us again and pray for her as she may have more treatment ahead. Also, many prayers went out for Sis. Polly Farney as she had successful surgery August 18 and is recovering and hopefully to be home in a few

days.

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

*Psalm 27:1*

May we rejoice with and pray fervently for our dear friend, Mark McGillvray, as he is seeking the Lord in repentance. As we encourage him, may we also strive to be the example we should be. God is all powerful and with faith the size of a grain of mustard seed, mountains can be removed and things that seem so impossible to us are not impossible with God. Oh, what a wonderful Saviour we have! Are we counting our blessings and naming them one by one?

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### NEW YORK CITY Secaucus, New Jersey

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as you see the day approaching."

*Hebrews 10:25*

We were thankful to have the blessed fellowship of brethren from Rockville, CT, and Philadelphia, PA, as we met for services this month. It is always a time to renew old acquaintances and start new ones, as our hearts are stirred up in remembrance of God's goodness. There were a number of children present, so the children appreciated a time of Sunday School in the morning. We are thankful for our Sunday School teachers, and their time of preparation on behalf of our children. Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand



(Sis. Michelle) also labored on our behalf, reminding us that we are always in God's presence, it is just that sometimes our sight is blinded by our own will and we don't clearly see Him. May we, by God's grace, deny self, take up our cross daily and follow Him on the more excellent way.

We have additional services planned this year on October 15. They will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Secaucus, New Jersey. We begin singing at 10:15 am in the morning with pulpit service beginning at 10:30 am. We have a lunch break, and then begin afternoon services at 12:30 pm. As this is the last scheduled service for 2006, we would welcome any who were considering to come this year.

If you are planning to visit the New York City area for vacation or business, please call Bro. Ben Wiegand at (215) 295-4526 for assistance and to let us know how many to expect for Sunday services. We would be glad to provide directions on how to get to the hotel, or you can contact them directly at (201) 864-1400.

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**OHIO, AKRON**  
**Mara Henico**  
**Rachel Pamer**

May each one then in his own  
 place  
 On Him, the Rock, be grounded  
 By His good Spirit, Word and  
 grace  
 At all times be surrounded?

Life can become busy, and, unintentionally, we lose track of our goal. We were recently exhorted to be like Mary and remember the important things of life, and not be-

come encumbered by the seemingly urgent (earthly) demands as Martha found herself. May we each be busy in the place that God has called us to serve Him.

We are thankful that Hans Heib has answered God's call to repentance, and trust that he will humbly seek God's will for his life and find grace to truly leave his past behind.

It was good to see that, after hospital stays, both Bro. Carl Graf and Zarko Reljin have been able to again assemble with us at church. We hope and pray that God will continue to grant His healing mercies to these dear ones.

Our older Sunday School students were able to travel to Mansfield for the Youth Day activities. How thankful we are that so many were willing to help this weekend be a success! We hope and trust that God will bless each one.

It truly is a blessing to know that God still speaks to His people today through His holy Word, brothers and sisters, and through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as our brothers serve us. While our Elders recently assembled in conference, our prayers were with them and we trust that they will continue to feel our support as they return home to their individual duties. May our hearts be ready and willing to prove out that good and acceptable will of God by being submissive and pliable to His direction for our lives and being grounded on His Word and led by His Holy Spirit.

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

We are happy and thankful to announce that Sara Rufener (Bro. Larry and Sis. Susan) has found that wonderful peace in her heart.

Lord willing, we are looking forward to her baptism in the near future.

As the summer months are busy traveling times for many families, the Columbus congregation is blessed with many visitors, especially those willing to lend of themselves on our pulpit. Joining us this month were Elder Bros. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH), Ben Wiegand (Sis. Michelle, Philadelphia, PA) and Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH) and Bros. Bill Brake (Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH), Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield, OH), Dwight Stoller (Sis. Lori, Latty, OH) and Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH). We thank these brothers for all of their efforts.

Last but not least, we would like to welcome Bro. Corbin and Sis. Audrey Schlatter and baby Wyatt to our congregation and the Sunday School warmly welcomes little Natalie, Nicole and Allison. May God richly bless this family as they adjust to the many changes in their lives.

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

We were thankful to have several visiting ministers this past month. Our heartfelt thanks go to Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) for bringing forth the Word of Life to us. May our Heavenly Father richly bless you and please come back to visit, as the Lord would open the way.

"I'm a lamb of Jesus flock; Untold blessings are my lot..." (Zion's Harp #17). We welcome Sis. Tara Schlatter (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Laurie) as a "new" lamb into the



flock. What a blessed weekend it was to hear of the miracle of conversion that took place in her heart and then to witness her baptism. We appreciated having Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) and Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) with us to minister the Word; may God be your Rewarder.

Our support and prayers are with Sis. Linda Schlatter (Bro. Sam) and Bro. Michael Schneider (Sis. Jodi) as they take on the responsibility of our new Sunday School teachers. We would also like to thank those whose term expired for their efforts in teaching our young people.

Bro. Neil and Sis. Sandy Stoller welcomed little Kathleen Melvene into their family on August 16. Emil, Adam, Ellie, Katie & Katrina, Rachel and Kara are her excited siblings. Kathleen's grandparents are Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth Stoller and Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee Sinn, all of Latty, OH. Bro. Gus and Sis. Dorothy Dietrich welcomed another grandson into their family circle. Stephen August was born to Max and Amy Delgado. We wish these two couples much grace and wisdom as they raise their dear children.

Little Kayleigh Manz (Henry and Christa) had surgery this past month. We hope and pray she has a speedy recovery and is soon running all over again. Jason Carnahan (Danielle) spent time in the hospital, too. We trust God will be with him now and in the future.

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**OHIO, LATTY**  
**Amanda Steffen**  
**Carmen Eisenmann**

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN), Bro. Gene

Lehman (Sis. Verna, Wolcott, IN), and Bro. Tony Manz (Sis. Denise, Junction, OH). We thank them for their willingness to minister the Word to us.

We were so thankful to hear that two dear souls have begun their repentance. We pray that Brian and Mackenzie Wenninger will feel God's nearness as they turn their hearts to Him. Brian's parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Deb Wenninger.

July 20 was the funeral for our dear Bro. Charles Dunham. Our heartfelt prayers and sympathies go out to Lydia Doerschler, Walter (Opal), Bro. Dale (Sis. LaBeth), Elizabeth, Chuck (Deb), and Bro. Byron (Sis. Jody). We pray that the Holy Spirit will comfort their family during this time.

Wedding bells were ringing on July 22 as Whitney Wenninger and Trevor Webster were united in marriage. Whitney is the daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Alice Wenninger. Also married this month were Brett Klopfenstein and Justine Koch. Brett is the son of Bro. Leon and Sis. Deb Klopfenstein. We pray that God will bless these couples as they begin their lives together.

August 6 was the birthday of Nicholas Steven born to Bro. Steve and Sis. Joy Sinn. Sara, Andrew and Nathan helped welcome their little brother home. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Ann Sinn.

We wish Bro. Jason and Sis. Lori Whitman and their daughters, Lindsey and Elise, God's richest blessings as they relocate so Bro. Jason can further his education. They will be attending the Smithville, OH, church.

Our congregation is also thankful to report that our convert, Todd (Lacey) Wenninger, has made it known that he has found peace with

God and man. Todd is the son of Bro. Dave and Sis. Deb Wenninger. May God continue to fill his heart with peace and joy as he prepares to give a testimony and be baptized.

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**OHIO, MANSFIELD**  
**Esther Baumann**

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."

*I Corinthians 1:18*

We were thankful to be able to witness the evidence of God's power in the life of Sis. Maria Tucker (Dan and Sis. Barb) as she gave her testimony and was baptized on August 5-6. We are grateful for the many visitors who joined us. Visiting ministering brethren who served us were Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN), Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH), Bro. Bob Meyer (Sis. Ann, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH).

Rachel Gerber (Bro. Tim and Sis. Wendy) has begun her repentance. Continue to pray for her as she grows in God's ways.

Our Annual Youth Fellowship Weekend was held on July 22-23. We pray the seed that was planted in the young, tender hearts will bring forth good fruit. Special thanks to Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann) and Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta) from our Smithville congregation for ministering to us this weekend.

The funeral service for Marcia Rice was held on August 12. Thankfully, she was able to turn to the Lord in repentance several months ago. Pray for her mother, Sis. Sarah



Rice.

Our prayers are also with Bro. Harry and Sis. Mary Mae Bocka. Their son-in-law, Tom (Paula) Them, passed away recently.

Also, remember our recently hospitalized patients: Sis. Becky Vent (Richard), Elmer 'Bud' Sauder, and Bro. David Eyerly (Sis. Edna).

We are grateful to Bro. Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse, IN) for his recent service to us in the ministry.

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**OHIO, RITTMAN**  
**Sarah Bauman**  
**Hannah Beery**

With great joy and thankfulness we report that Richard Miller (Sis. Melba) and Lois Steiner (Bro. Matthew and Sis. Gail) have begun seeking the Lord in repentance. We trust they will feel the strength of the Saviour as they submit to His perfect will.

Our congregation is always appreciative of those brethren who visit us and serve by proclaiming God's Word. This month we were pleased to have Elder Bro. Dave Graf (Akron, OH), Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH), Bro. Shawn Metzger (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH) sharing in the ministry.

Julie Rigggenbach (Joseph and Sis. Karen) was wedded to Matt Hostettler on Saturday, July 29. On the same day, Anna Rupp (Bro. James and Sis. Sharon) became the wife of Brian Jentes. Bro. Ken Gasser (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ellen) and Sis. Brenda Stoller (Bro. Joseph and Sis. Marian) were joined in marriage on August 6. Abby Beery (Bro. Stanley and Sis. Karen) was wedded

to Jordan Avery on August 12. May we always be prayerful that these unions will be an honor to God and help to strengthen our faith in Him!

Christopher Samuel Zollinger was welcomed as the first child in the family of Paul and Carol Zollinger. Joyful grandparents are Bro. David and Sis. Mary Ann Zollinger (Smithville) and Sis. Lucille Gasser.

Our Sis. Marguerite Gasser passed away on July 11. Mourning her death are children, Wanda Lang, Roscoe (Raetta) Gasser, Ralph (Joan) Gasser, Janet (Paul) Studer, Bernard Gasser and Stanley Gasser.

On August 8, Ben D. Imhoff passed away. He was a brother to Sis. Joann Widmer (Bro. Robert), Sis. Jeannette Stoller (Bro. Dale), and Sis. Delores Bauman (Marion). We sympathize with the loss in this family.

Hospitalized this month were Kaden Katanic (Bro. Mike and Sis. Heather), Kya Csapo (Bro. Matthew and Sis. Darlene), Barbara Acker (Boyd), Bro. Aquilla Barna and Richard Miller (Sis. Melba). We pray that the one true Comforter will be near unto each one of these.

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**OHIO, SARDIS**  
**Eric and Jami Hartzler**

Call and cry, ye watchmen, boldly;  
 Call aloud and spare them not!  
 Jesus wants a faithful witness;  
 Teachers not confessing Jesus  
 Have stern judgment as their lot.  
 Call and cry, ye watchmen, boldly;  
 Call aloud and spare them not.

*Zion's Harp #112*

Our congregation has been blessed to receive God's Word

through two visiting ministers this past month. We are thankful for Bro. Don Steidl's (Sis. Nan, Akron, OH) and Bro. Floyd Frieden's (Sis. Jan, Elgin, IA) willingness and efforts to bring us the Word.

We are also thankful our beloved brethren have returned home safely from the General Conference in Goodfield, IL. We pray the Lord will continue to provide wisdom and guidance to our under-shepherds and our precious faith. We look forward to listening to the tapes in September, Lord willing.

No death nor sorrow, fear nor  
 suff'ring,  
 All that this world and hell in-  
 clude,  
 Shall ever part me from my Sav-  
 iour  
 Nor from His love and brother-  
 hood.  
 I trust the God of faith and truth  
 With saints above my heart to  
 soothe.

*Zion's Harp #75*

Our prayers are with those who needed medical care recently. We are thankful Sis. Terry Zollinger (Bro. Gary) and Sis. Karen Indermuhle (Bro. Bob) have recovered and are doing fine.

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**OHIO, SMITHVILLE**  
**Edith Miller**  
**Ruth Gasser**

We appreciate hearing the humble teachings of God's Word from our own ministers, as well as from visitors we have had. In the past month, Bros. Shawn Metzger (Philadelphia, PA), Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) and Tom Leman (Denver, CO) have visited us, and we truly hope they are blessed by their efforts and that the Word is fruitful.



We were happy to hear that converts, Alissa Maibach (Bro. Jay and Sis. Marsha) and Sarah Rufener (Bro. Larry and Sis. Susan), have repented and felt the peace of God. We look forward to receiving them as sisters in faith. Since Sarah is living in Columbus, she will give her testimony there and become part of the Columbus church. We hope they will continue to feel the blessings of God and grow in grace.

July 22 was the special date chosen by Rebecca Rufener (Bro. Larry and Sis. Susan) and Nimesh Patel to give their marriage vows. Also, Dawna Beery (Arthur and Eileen) and Eric Kohr were united in marriage on that date. Jason Indermuhle (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shari) and Whitney Price were joined as husband and wife on August 5. We wish the Lord's blessings on these unions.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Joleen Hofacre have become grandparents again, as Hadassah has joined the family of Bob and Stephanie and Sarah Sax.

Several of our number have required hospital care, and we hope that their recovery continues following their discharge. Hunter Nieman (Doug and Melanie), Trent Weber (Bro. Myron and Sis. Darlene), Bro. Bob Stoller (Sis. Eileen), Sis. Betty Dotterer (Bro. John) and Kelsey Bauman (Bro. Vic and Sis. Brenda) have experienced difficulty and needed extra prayers.

We were sorry to say farewell to the Dale Dotterer family as they have relocated to the Forrest, IL, area. We wish them well in their new home, and hope they will visit us often.

There reunited we will be,  
Where parting tears no more we'll see.

With countless hosts we shall adore  
And praise our God forevermore.  
*Hymns of Zion #230*

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**OHIO, TOLEDO**  
**Teresa Rywalski**  
**Rebecca Beard**

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Mark Steiner ( Sis. Sue, Smithville, OH) and Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH). May their true blessings come from above.

The time of year has come for our children to return to school once again. Let us remember the students and teachers in our prayers.

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**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**Melissa Kuenzi**  
**Cindy Metzger**

Stephanie Walder (Bro. Jesse and Sis. Kelsey) is still in the hospital, but is progressing. Please continue to pray for their family.

Thank you to all the visitors and Silverton congregation for your labors on our new fellowship hall. There are so many that endlessly give of their time, in which we greatly appreciate. We are looking to be able to use the building around the end of September.

We want to thank Bro. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL), Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA), Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL), Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA), Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Sis. Lillian, San Diego, CA), and Bros. Ron Jones (Sis. Liz) and Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy), both from Portland, for their service on the pulpit this month.

*Note of Thanks:*

We want to express our heartfelt thanks to all who shared their loving support of prayers, cards, food and many other acts of love for the illness and passing of our loving Dad.

May God Bless.

*Alfred Dettwyler's Family*

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**PENNSYLVANIA**  
**PHILADELPHIA**  
**Nathan and**

**MaryElizabeth Gasser**

As we welcome the longer days and warmer temperatures of summer, we are reminded of the beauty and the wonder of God's creation. As we enjoy spending time outdoors this summer, let's remember to share our appreciation for His goodness with our children, our friends and neighbors, and those who most need His love in their lives.

We appreciated having Bro. Tim Gerber (Mansfield, OH), Bro. David Hartter (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Warren Zahner (Rockville, CT) share the Word with us this month. It is encouraging to hear the same Word taught to us by each of His faithful servants. We invite all those who may be traveling out east this summer to consider spending a Wednesday evening or Sunday worshipping with us in Philadelphia.

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

We rejoice that our small church continues to grow, and that we can feel God's blessings on our congregation. Recently, Bro. Darin and Sis. Tami Kupferschmid and their children, Caleb, Garret, and Nora, have been led to relocate to the area from Eureka, IL. Also, Marisa



Rowell has relocated here to continue her education, and Wayne Bgart has moved here from Francesville, IN. We are thankful for their presence in our midst and pray that the Lord will guide and bless each one of them.

We have been richly blessed from God's Living Word in this past month, and are grateful to the visiting ministering brothers who have so willingly come to share with us: Bros. Alan Schambach (Sis. Sarah; Remington, IN), Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy; Chicago, IL), Sid Kaufmann (Sis. Sandra; Cissna Park, IL), Glen Braker (Sis. Audrey; Princeville, IL), and Brian Huber (Sis. Jacki; Francesville, IN), and Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda; Leo, IN). We are also thankful for the blessing of fellowship with brethren and friends visiting from Chicago, Cissna Park, Congerville, Elgin, Eureka, Forrest, Goodfield, Gridley, Princeville, and Tremont, IL; Bluffton, Francesville, Leo, and Remington, IN; Burlington, Lester, and Oakville, IA; Morris, MN; Lamar, MO; Silverton, OR; and Budapest, Hungary.

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: Smithville, OH (9/24); Peoria, IL (10/1); Mansfield, OH (10/8); Bluffton North, IN (10/15); LaCrosse, IN (10/22); Taylor, MO (10/29). 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 at 7:15 p.m. 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.

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### **TEXAS, AUSTIN** **Amy Ringger** **Serenity Ringger**

Many of the visiting ministers have enjoyed using the guest facilities at our church and some have even had unique experiences while staying there. While going for a walk early Sunday morning, one Brother was surprised to find a horse in the front yard of the church! (We found out later that it was one of the neighbor's horses.) Another time a neighbor lady rang the doorbell early Sunday to drop off a newspaper (that wasn't ours). When the visiting minister invited her to come back for church later, she declined, saying, "I have God in my heart. I don't need a church."

It's so sad that she doesn't know what she is missing. A church is a necessary part of our lives; a brotherhood of converted believers to help us on the narrow way. What a blessing it was for us to attend the Conference in Goodfield this month to meet and greet many of our spiritual family and be encouraged in The Way.

We thank our visiting ministers who were Elder Bro. David Graf (Sis. Barbara, Akron), Bros. Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman), Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis), and Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago).

For next month, the churches serving us are these: Champaign (Oct. 1), Princeville (Oct. 8), Sabetha (Oct. 15), Eureka (Oct. 22), and Elgin, IL (Oct. 29).

We extend a warm welcome to anyone who may be in the area to worship with us, even midweek we

may meet at times though we don't have a regular schedule for it. 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, perhaps even a month or more if possible, so that we can accommodate you more readily in our weekend gatherings. See the ministers' book for local contact information.

Directions to our church are these: from the intersection of Hwy 71 and 21 on the west side of Bastrop, go east on Hwy 71 about 1/2 mile and take the first exit (by the Ford dealership), proceed on the eastbound frontage road about 4/10 mile. The church is on the right. It is located about 18 miles east of the Austin airport. The address is 1025 Highway 71 West, Bastrop, TX 78602. It is a one-story building with limestone siding and the church sign in front.

In the church, there are two furnished bedrooms for the ministers to use when coming for services. When you contact someone about coming for services, please let them know if you would like to use the bedrooms during the time you are here.

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### **TEXAS, McALLEN** **Joyce Nohl**

This month serving us was Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL). Bro. Fred brought his wife, Sis. Diane, and daughter, Holly, with him. We encourage those that come to bring their families if they can as it's such a delight to meet and fellowship with one another. We have only three children in our congregation so it's always excitement when we hear children are visiting us.

If you are going to be in the



McAllen area, we extend a warm invitation to worship with us. Our upcoming services will be held September 17, October 8, and October 21. Our address is: Holiday Inn Express, 1921 South 10th Street. Turn South 1 ½ blocks off the Expressway (Highway) on 10th Street. Services will be held at 10:30 and 12:30. Please see ministers' directory for local contact information.

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### TEXAS, ZAPATA Mary Plattner

All of our permanent residents have returned from traveling in the Midwest and we are looking forward to having our winter residents join us again for the winter months. We have had another typical Texas summer with hot and dry weather almost every day.

We appreciate the visitors from Illinois that we have had this summer and know a special effort was made to put Zapata in their travel plans.

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### VERMONT, NORWICH Areli and Kirby Reutter

This month we experienced big news for a small church. First of all,

we thank the Lord for the safe arrival of Jason Reutter, welcomed into the world by Bro. Nathan and Sis. Miriam from our dear flock in Kitchener, Canada. Jason joins his siblings, Lucas and Gabrielle, and is already cherished by four grandparents: Bro. Walter and Sis. Margaret Fortenbacher (also from Ontario) in addition to Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter (Rockville, CT).

As this article is being drafted, Nathan and Miriam are preparing their belongings for a relocation to Vermont. We welcome this young family with open arms and beseech God speed upon their journey south. Anyone else contemplating a relocation to the Northeast is certainly encouraged to prayerfully seek out the Lord's will in this regard.

A few of us from both Rockville and Norwich were also privileged to attend the Small Church Presentation directly following the General Brotherhood Conference in Goodfield, Illinois. We plead for the true spirit of apostolic discernment as new gatherings are established to the glory of our Lord.

As always, we wish to express appreciation for the Rockville Brothers who continue to support the

labour in Norwich, whether from the pulpit or behind the scenes. This past month our ministering Bro. Warren Zahner (Sis. Bonnie) and Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Sis. Cheryl) served us in the work of the ministry.

We invite all to come and worship with us this fall. Please call Bro. Kirby Reutter at (802) 776 - 5293 to help us plan for your attendance. Services start at 10:15 in the morning and at 12:15 in the afternoon. Sunday school for all ages is held in the morning. Everyone is welcome!

To arrive at our meeting place, please take exit 13 from Interstate 91 onto Route 5 and proceed .7 miles to 344 Main Street. Look for the two-story Grange building (painted gray) on the right side of the road. There is a fire house to the rear of the building. Please park along the street.

Also, if you or your congregation are interested in purchasing head coverings hand-made by Sisters from Ixtlan, Mexico, please contact Sis. Areli Reutter at the number listed above. Sis. Areli grew up in Ixtlan and has a collection of coverings ready for distribution. An inventory is available upon request.







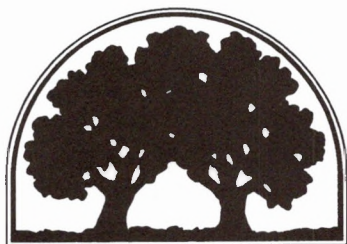
## Child Placement Manager (IL) Opening

As Gateway Woods expands our Christian Adoption Services into Illinois, we are in need of an IL Child Placement Manager. Applicants for this job must:

1. Be a member in good standing of the Apostolic Christian Church with approval of his/her local elder.
2. Have at least a Master's Degree in Social Work from an accredited school and three years work experience in social work administration OR a Master's Degree in a human services field from an accredited school and five years of work experience in human services administration.
3. Have a dedicated interest, love and sensitivity for youth and families.
4. Possess good motivational, organizational, teaching and communications skills.
5. Have ability to establish positive working and interpersonal relationships and use a team approach.
6. Have treatment philosophy compatible with the mission of Gateway Woods - Apostolic Christian Children's Home.
7. Have commitment to ongoing personal and professional growth.

For further information and a job description, please contact:

Jeff Schumacher  
 Administrator  
 PO Box 151  
 Leo, IN 46765  
[jeff.schumacher@gatewaywoods.org](mailto:jeff.schumacher@gatewaywoods.org)  
 1-888-443-4283 (GATE)



## Thank You

On August 19, 2006 Gateway Woods held it's 30th Annual Auction. Once again, God blessed us with great weather and many volunteers and supporters. Thank you for celebrating 30 years of God's faithfulness with us! This year over \$330,000 was raised! Praise God! Thank you for your support in helping make a difference in the lives of these children.

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

*Luke 6:38*





## Teaching Position Available

Gateway Woods is excited to announce an opening for an English teacher at Gateway Woods School. Student census will be expanding with the addition of a 4th group home. Gateway Woods School is a fully accredited educational facility serving 5th-12th grade students who have difficulty in public school.

Qualifications include a Bachelor's Degree in Education and/or an active teacher's license. Special Education Certification and previous teaching experience is especially useful, but not required. Also you must be a Sister in the Apostolic Christian Church. If you hold these qualifications and have a heart for children, please ask the Lord if this is the position He has in mind for you. For more information please contact one of the brothers listed below.

Kirk Plattner  
 Director of Education  
 PO Box 151,  
 Leo, IN 46765  
 1-888-443-4283

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

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## Interested in Houseparenting?

Houseparenting at Gateway Woods offers an opportunity for a couple, directed of the Lord, to come to work in a full-time on going ministry at Gateway Woods. We are expanding and have need for several couples. This position offers competitive wages and benefits and a close relationship with brothers and sisters whose hearts and lives are dedicated to a common mission with an eternal reward. If you feel the call to explore these possibilities, please call one of the brothers listed below.

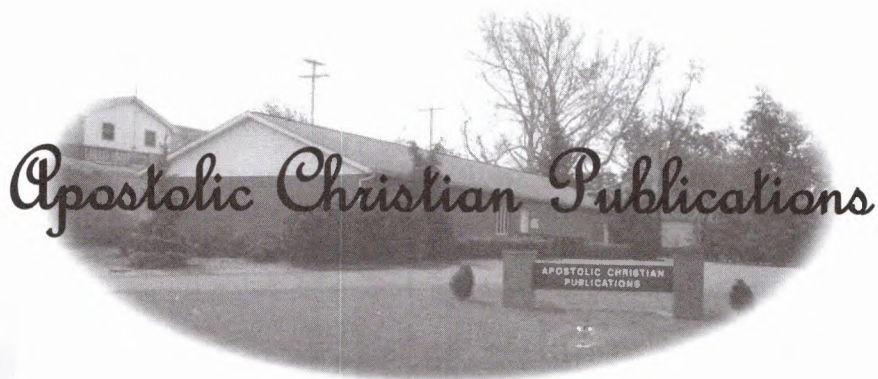
## Assisted Houseparent Needed

Gateway Woods has appreciated the Lord's blessing of being fully staffed with Assistant Houseparents for some time now. We are expanding our Residential Program, so we will have an opening for a single sister to work in a full-time ministry with troubled children. The Assistant Houseparent position offers competitive wages and benefits and a close relationship with brothers and sisters whose hearts and lives are dedicated to a mission with an eternal reward. If you feel the call to explore the possibilities, please call one of the brothers listed below:

Ed Graf  
 Residential Program Director  
 PO Box 151,  
 Leo, IN 46765  
 1-888-443-4283

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





805 W. Cruger Street, Box 52  
Eureka, IL 61530  
Ph. 309-467-3611  
Hours: Mon.—Fri. 8:30 to  
11:30 CST/CDT

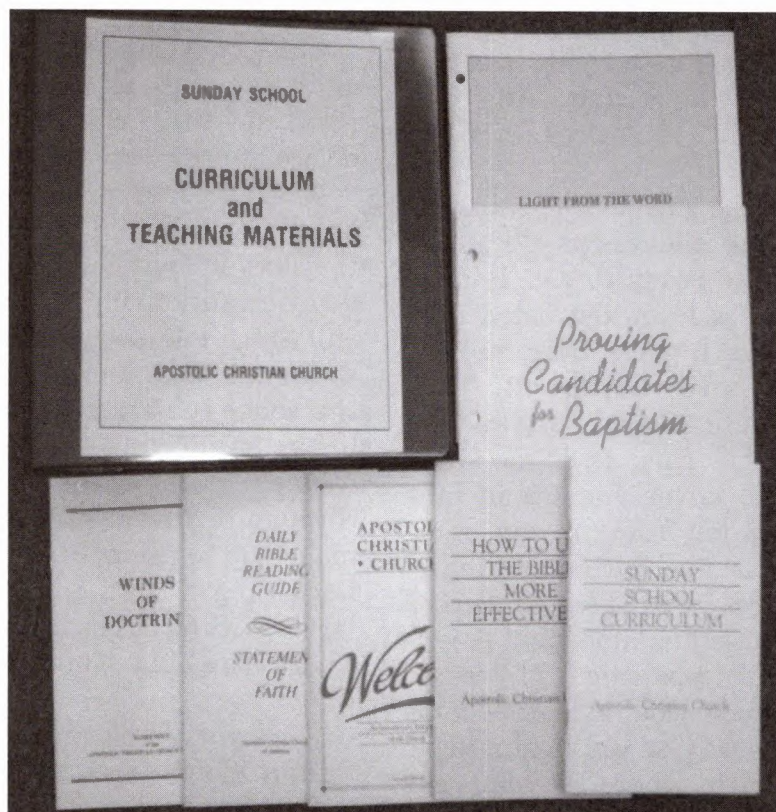
## Online ordering coming soon!!

Our new website will be going live on  
Monday October 9th 2006  
[www.acpublications.org](http://www.acpublications.org)

Now that Sunday School has begun again do you have the updated teachers manual??

Some of the items included:

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- Daily bible reading guide
- Winds of Doctrine
- Teachers Manual
- Curriculum
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- Many explanations of Apostolic Christian Church Practices & much more



### How to Order:

During Business Hours: call 309-467-3611

After Hours: Call 309-467-3611 leave a message, or fax to the same number.

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Order blanks available: at each Church, by calling AC Publications, or by emailing [office@acpublicatons.org](mailto:office@acpublicatons.org)



*Sermon continued from page 2*

morning that God will just open the flood gates of His blessing and His purpose and His provision and His power for us.

I know we've all asked for something only to receive something else that was unexpected. It might be a gift; a birthday gift, a Christmas gift. Or something that we need and we ask for it. Or it may be at work. Sometimes I am struggling with a problem and I need some help. I go to the boss and say, this is what I need. I need this. He says, no, you don't need that. It looks like you need that. But I know. I have been there. I have experience. This is what you need and it is something quite different but it is so right. It is perfect. It is applicable. And God knows and He desires for us to ask.

Then the end of this Psalm just seems like it leaves us - "I am afflicted and ready to die...I suffer thy terrors I am distracted. Thy fierce wrath goeth over me; thy terrors have cut me off. They came round about me daily like water; they compassed me about together. Lover and friend hast thou put far from me, and mine acquaintance into darkness." Psalm 88:15-18. We see here a soul that is just alone and frightened and despairing.

You know what I think? That is right where God wants him to be. That's right where He wants me to be. That is right where He wants you to be. Didn't Christ teach, if you want to be my disciples, leave all the comforts and the security and the relationships of this temporal life and follow me (Matthew 19:29)? May your desire be me and me alone. It is just where He wants us to be. It seems like such a dark place.

But then He says, I will fill it

with my light. The Psalmist said, when surely the darkness, when I say the darkness shall cover me, even the night shall be light about me. (Psalm 139:11) Christ is the light of the world. The answer is the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have in the beginning of the next Psalm, the answer to this place of lowness and dejection and heartache and disappointment and doubts and fears. "I will sing of the mercies of the Lord for ever; with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations." Psalm 89:1. That is what the Lord wants for us. Not necessarily to be filled up with the things of this life, with the comforts and security and homes and clothing and cars and money and all these things. He wants us to be filled up with Him. Our heart's desire to be towards Him.

When we find our place in this loneliness and darkness, we have the answer right here. Seeing this is my condition, my response is, I will sing. I know you know me well enough to know that I ride the roller coaster of emotions of life's circumstances, so when I get to feeling like verses fourteen through eighteen, please remind me of the solution. Sing unto the Lord. Sing of His mercies. Sing of His love. Sing of His faithfulness. That is the light. The light of the Lord.

Were you with me in that last Psalm? I have a feeling that there is a holding back. Let's be honest. The treasures of this life are so fickle and so temporary. Here today and gone tomorrow. Christ is not physical and he doesn't show up in our bank account. But let's pray to be like the Apostles and act like the Apostles. Like Paul, who said all those things that were gain to me I now count as loss for the excellency of the

knowledge of Jesus Christ my Lord (Philippians 3:7,8). Then we see what happens in a man's life who lives like that and acts like that. Maybe the holding back I sense is my own heart.

The Acts of the Apostles...these are how the Apostles acted. They are now gone. They have come to the end of their life. They, living in faith, have gone to be in the presence of the Lord. As Paul told Timothy, now you are to be a minister of the gospel (II Timothy 4:1,2). He handed off the baton, so to speak, in the relay race through life. One lays it down. The other picks it up. Timothy picked up the mantle that Paul was laying down. And continued to run the race. To walk the walk. To talk the talk. To act out the acts of the Apostles.

So generation follows generation. I wonder how that affects us and how we see ourselves, having been saved by grace through faith. The Apostles are gone. The Lord Jesus Christ still sits at the right hand of the Father. The Holy Spirit is as present today as He was back then when Paul healed the lame man. How does that affect our acts? What were your acts yesterday and last week and the week before? What have our acts been? Where is our treasure? What is our desire? Let's see ourselves - let's see ourselves as we are. The witnesses, those who testified of the same things that Paul testified of, let's see ourselves with purpose. Let's see ourselves with a mission, with a desire, with a purpose, as Paul did.

Remember it said that they turned the world upside down (Acts 17:6). We see here the confusion that was going on. Some following the Apostles and some following the Jews. (Acts 14:4)



There is a verse here that really jumped out at me. Verse twenty two. "Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God." So what is the message? What is the message of the Apostles? What are their acts? What is the focus of their message and what is the focus of our message? When we share Jesus Christ, when someone asks of the hope that lies within us, what is our response?

I know so often I am tempted to lay down a path of wonderful ease, of prosperity, of joy and peace. But here we see the truth of it. This really is no way to build a church, as church builders think today. To speak this truth that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

But let's take heart and know, since this is true, that when tribulation comes we are not disappointed. I am defeated. There is nothing that defeats me faster than tribulation. Because, for some reason, my desire is for a lack of tribulation. I work so hard and desire so much no tribulation. Yet when tribulation comes, I am faced with discouragement - my first reaction. Hopefully it is not like that with you. I know others and some of you that in the face of tribulation are not discouraged. Because you are like the runner who falls down and gets back up again and carries on. Knowing that there will be another fall, but getting back up again and taking the opportunity.

So there is going to be tribulation. What is the message and what do we speak? We go back to chapter thirteen. It says, there was, in the church that was in Antioch, verse one, chapter thirteen, certain prophets and teach-

ers and it names these men, two of which are Barnabas and Saul. It says, "As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away." Acts 13:2,3.

That is where Paul and Barnabas got their start. Fasting, ministering unto the Lord in prayer. They were chosen out by the Holy Spirit. So they knew that when tribulation came, it was okay. It is going to be okay because you are chosen for this work. For these acts. It is the same with you and me.

What do you look forward to tomorrow and the next day? We have many plans in life. We are given responsibilities and stewardships and all these things are good. Yet they cannot take the place of the main purpose, the message and that is the furtherance of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. That even in the face of tribulation, we still speak the truth.

Paul and Barnabas left and they came to Iconium and there was this stirring up (Acts 14:1,2). So they fled. There is a time to stand. There is a time to fight. There is a time to flee. They were filled with the Holy Spirit. They knew what to do and when and where. They fled to Lystra.

Now we see this from a different perspective but there is a man in Lystra and he is crippled. He's never walked. He did not know, neither did the Apostles know. But let's consider this in our lives. We don't know the future. We don't know what - why do we worry about tomorrow? Why aren't we filled with hope for tomorrow?

Think about this man in Lystra that had never walked. The moment the Holy Spirit spoke and said, separate Paul and Barnabas for the work of the ministry, that man was on the road to healing and to victory and to walking. But he didn't know it. He was sitting there in Lystra. He did not have all that our handicapped people have today. He was likely in very, very difficult circumstances. But the Apostles walked and they acted and they were led by the Holy Spirit. This man in Lystra had no idea, the day before, what was going to happen. He had no warning, even moments before Paul and Barnabas came there. They didn't know. He didn't know. But it was going to be the most glorious day of his life. Because he was going to receive healing. Because Paul and Barnabas were following the Lord Jesus Christ through much tribulation. This man benefited by their willingness to continue on in faith, teaching the truth.

Paul, steadfastly beholding him, perceived that he had the faith to be healed (Acts 14:9). Isn't that great? This man had faith to be healed. "Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked." Acts 14:10. Then there was this huge outpouring and outcry. Something wonderful has happened! Something great has happened! Something marvelous has happened! Something that is miraculous! This man who has never walked, leaped up and walked!

What is the natural inclination of people when something like that happens? We see it right here. It is so typical. To worship. We have to worship something. We are created as beings that worship. We need to worship. It is



*Sermon continued from page 45*  
part of us.

So the question is, what do we worship? Who do we worship? When do we worship? How do we respond to the great acts of God? They had to worship. It just came out of them. The only thing they knew to do was to call one of them Jupiter and the other Mercury and worship these pagan gods that were impotent and powerless.

We just know the acts of the Apostles. They acted when they were separated for the work by the power of the Holy Spirit. They acted when they went to Iconium. They acted in faith when they fled that place and they acted when they reached out and spoke to heal the man. Aren't we thankful for their example? That when credit wanted to be given to them and when they were made objects of worship - I don't think my heart often enough thinks about this - they didn't accept it. They could have thought, we might stay here

for a while. That other place was really hostile. But these people, they think we are gods. We can stay here and enjoy all that they have to give here and have reputation. They'll probably take good care of us.

But what was their response? They were men of purpose, of passion. They tore their clothes and they ran and they said, wait! Stop! Stop! We don't want worship. They directed the worship where it belongs. To the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 14:14,15) We are men of like passions (Acts 14:15). Isn't that wonderful? The pillars of the church - they are not dressed up in fancy robes and hats and scarlet. Large buildings and gold. They are walking to Iconium and Lystra. They are directing people to the One, the only One who deserves worship. The only One that we are created to worship. They directed them to the almighty God, to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Verse fifteen, "...Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of

like passions with you, and preach unto you..." And here is the gospel message for all of us that need preparation to give an answer of the hope that lies within us. This is it. Turn from these vanities - this is repentance - unto the living God which made heaven and earth and the sea and all things that are therein. "Who in times past suffered all nations to walk in their own ways. Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness." Acts 14:16,17. Filling our hearts with the Lord Jesus Christ and all that comes with the fullness in Christ.

Let's be encouraged to consider ourselves and who we are and what we stand for and how we respond in tribulation and how we respond in the middle of the acts of God. And we continue to walk in faith and faithfulness and truth. Counting all that this world has to offer as loss so that we can gain Christ.



## **"Zion's Melodies" Instrumental CD**

A CD has been recorded containing one verse each of all 67 hymns in the Zion's Melodies hymnal, played on a digital piano. It is hoped this recording will be helpful in learning these hymns which are historical to our church, but may be new to many of our brethren today. The cost is \$5.00 per CD plus shipping if necessary. Proceeds beyond expenses will be donated toward further preservation and sharing of Apostolic Christian historical material. To keep costs low, the CD will be sent in a slim jewel case without an insert (the track numbers correspond directly to the song numbers). The title is simply "Zion's Melodies" and it can be ordered by the following options:

Phone: (309)448-2422 - ask for Chet  
Mail: ZM on Piano, 319 First Street, Congerville, IL 61729  
Email: chetrink@juno.com



## Zion's Melody Music CD

An a cappella singing CD of hymns from the Zion's Melodies recently was recorded with the intention of helping the brethren become more familiar with the Zion's Melodies. The CD consists of 17 hymns and the title of the CD is "The Homeward Journey". Anyone who is interested in purchasing CDs can order from the Homeward Journey, PO Box 20, Fairbury, IL 61739; or e-mail [fairview@Route24.net](mailto:fairview@Route24.net) or call: (815) 692-2572 (days) and ask for Sally. The cost is \$12.00 per CD plus shipping (media mail, unless first-class is requested). All proceeds of the CD, beyond expenses, will be contributed to The Good Samaritan Fund of Fairview Haven Nursing Home, Fairbury.

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## CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2006/2007

All volunteers should contact the project coordinator. Should you not be able to contact the coordinator, for Haiti direct your inquiry to Bro. Rich Bertschi, Ph. 309-467-6110, E-mail [lemangm@mtco.com](mailto:lemangm@mtco.com). For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Mike Rassi, Ph. 1-309-359-3020 or E-mail [michael\\_rassi@hotmail.com](mailto:michael_rassi@hotmail.com).

HAITI					
ORG.	DATE	AREA	COORDINATOR	PROJECT	CAPACITY
MEBSH	October 6-13, 2006	Les Cayes	Dean Pashak	Clinic Roof	12
AWA-FRW	November 10-17, 2006	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4
AWA-T	November 10-17, 2006	Les Cayes	Troy Struber	Water Aid	5
Palm Grove	November 10-17, 2006	Les Cayes	Tom Hitz	School Roof	12
AWA-B	December 1-8, 2006	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
MEBSH	December 1-8, 2006	Les Cayes	Ted Habegger	School Roof	11
MEBSH	December 8-15, 2006	Les Cayes	Phil Isabel	School Roof	11
MEBSH	January 5-12, 2007	Les Cayes	Ron Palito	School Roof	11
MEBSH	Jan. 26 - Feb. 2, 2007	Les Cayes	Dean Pashak	School Roof	11
SEED	February 9-16, 2007	Les Cayes	Dale Frank	Agriculture Aid	9
Palm Grove	February 9-16, 2007	Les Cayes	Stan Descarpentrie	School Roof	11
SEED	March 9-16, 2007	Les Cayes	Dale Frank	Agriculture Aid	11
AWA-T	March 16-23, 2007	Les Cayes	Troy Struber	Water Aid	5
AWA-FRM	March 16-23, 2007	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4
AWA-B	March 16-24, 2007	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
MEBSH	March 23-30, 2007	Les Cayes	Rich Bertschi	School Roof	9
Palm Grove	TBD	Puit Sales	Tom Hitz	School Roof	11
MEBSH	Apr. - May 4, 2007	Les Cayes	Jon Zeller	Construction/Maintenance	11
MEBSH	May 4-11, 2007	Haiti	Tom Hitz	Caribbean Evaluation	Invitation
AWA-FRW	June 1-8, 2007	Les Cayes	Rick Wuethrich	Vocational School	4
AWA-T	June 1-8, 2007	Les Cayes	Troy Struber	Water Aid	5
AWA-B	June 1-8, 2007	Les Cayes	Bill Rager	Vocational School	2
JAMAICA					
CCCD	March 23-31, 2007	Kingston	Terry Miller	Construction	40

COORDINATOR	PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL
Dale Frank	319-766-3661		frankfarms@iowatelecom.net
Rich Bertschi	309-467-6110		lemangm@mtco.com
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	734-454-9259	thitzhome@juno.com
Bill Rager	419-263-2989		
Jon Zeller	309-266-9009		jzeller@mtco.com
Rick Wuethrich	219-567-9488	219-567-2542	topnotch@home.ffni.com
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Dean Pashak	989-662-7685		dwpashak@charter.net
Stan DesCarpentrie	309-467-3898		srjed@mtco.com
Rusty Adrian	573-769-3650		radrian@centurytel.net
Terry Miller	309-923-7274 (north) 941-485-4302 (south) 309-696-7804 (cell)	same same	

**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 2006

If anyone is interested in leading a team to Mexico, contact Bro. Mike Fiechter at 260-597-7330 or [mfiechter@onlyinternet.net](mailto:mfiechter@onlyinternet.net)

Location	Date	Project	Coordinator	Phone	E-mail
Agua Prieta	March 10-17, 2007	Construction	Bob Meyer	260-824-3236	<a href="mailto:bobmeyer@adamswells.com">bobmeyer@adamswells.com</a>
Juarez	Dec. 26, 2006 - Jan. 2, 2007	Construction	Doug Schock	641-929-3377	<a href="mailto:dcschock@juno.com">dcschock@juno.com</a>
Juarez	March 28 - April 4, 2007	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrmann	309-385-1082	<a href="mailto:cherrmann@verizon.net">cherrmann@verizon.net</a>
Juarez	September	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrmann	309-385-1082	<a href="mailto:cherrmann@verizon.net">cherrmann@verizon.net</a>
Magdalena	November 18-25, 2006	Construction	Loren Dettwyler	503-873-5784	<a href="mailto:lmdettwyler@peoplepc.com">lmdettwyler@peoplepc.com</a>
Magdalena	December 23-30, 2006	Construction	Kirk Schambach	630-377-5271	<a href="mailto:lyndon22@comcast.net">lyndon22@comcast.net</a>
Magdalena	Dec. 30, 2006 - Jan. 6, 2007	Construction	Carlos Soto	765-490-6115	<a href="mailto:los315@hotmail.com">los315@hotmail.com</a>
Magdalena	January 13-20, 2007	Construction	Kenny Edelman	217-745-2321	<a href="mailto:kenedelman@cawi.org">kenedelman@cawi.org</a>
Magdalena	February 18-25, 2007	Construction	Bob Knepp	309-923-7335	<a href="mailto:rnep@verizon.net">rnep@verizon.net</a>
Magdalena	March 10-17, 2007	Construction	Seth Braker	309-678-4703	<a href="mailto:sdbrake@ilstu.edu">sdbrake@ilstu.edu</a>
Magdalena	March 17-24, 2007	Construction	Nic Rassi	217-367-1427	<a href="mailto:rassi@uiuc.edu">rassi@uiuc.edu</a>
Magdalena	March 24-31, 2007	Construction	Roger Reinhard	260-565-3282	<a href="mailto:rmreinhard@adamswells.com">rmreinhard@adamswells.com</a>
Magdalena	March 31 - April 7, 2007	Construction	Pete Aberle	309-925-5969	<a href="mailto:dpabfrms@hotmail.com">dpabfrms@hotmail.com</a>
Magdalena	June 2-9, 2007	Construction	Scott Klopfenstein	602-721-7409	<a href="mailto:scottklop@yahoo.com">scottklop@yahoo.com</a>
Magdalena	June 30 - July 7, 2007	Construction	Brent Knobloch	815-923-4736	<a href="mailto:BEKMRH@aol.com">BEKMRH@aol.com</a>
Magdalena	July 21-28, 2007	Construction	Tyler Banwart	620-223-1362	<a href="mailto:tybanwart@hotmail.com">tybanwart@hotmail.com</a>

### U.S.A. BOARD WORK PROJECTS

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

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

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

**Illinois:**

**Indiana:** Tom Neuenschwander  
 Phone/Fax: 260-824-4773  
 E-mail: [tsneuen@adamswells.com](mailto:tsneuen@adamswells.com)

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

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

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# REMEMBERING

## *Our Spiritual Heritage*

*The following includes a message to German state officials concerning the beliefs of our brethren in 1878. Authors were: Brothers Johann Schlipf, Christian Schlipf and Johann Aupperle. This is taken from To The King's Administration of Justice.*

*September, 18, 1878  
Wuttemberg, Germany*

### **The Foundation Of Our Christian Faith As It Is Taught And Practiced In Our Churches**

We find recorded in the Holy Scriptures, both in the New and also in the Old Testament, Hebrews 11:16, that without faith it is impossible to please God — for he that wishes to come to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him. Therefore we confess with our mouth, and believe in our hearts, like all true and holy men according to the Holy Scripture on a Holy, True, Eternal, Merciful Perfect Trinity — Father, God and Holy Ghost. To Him alone belong thanks, praise, honor, glory, honor and worship from eternity to eternity. Amen.

We believe that the Almighty God created heaven and earth and sea, and everything that is upon and in it. That He created man after His own image, holy, pure, innocent and perfect. God, the Lord, let man live in Paradise, and ordained that there should be man and woman (Genesis 1:26-27).

But the first parents departed from the commandment of God by being disobedient to their Creator, and reached for that which was forbidden, being in-

fluenced by Satan, the subtle serpent, who deceived mankind through craft and hatred. (Genesis 3:13).

In consequence man lost the image of God and on account of man's disobedience against the commandment of God fell under the punishment of God and the curse came upon him (Genesis 3:16,17). On account of sin and transgression the spiritual death came over all mankind. The holy communion which man had with God was lost.

But the gracious and merciful God did not want mankind to be lost forever, therefore gave them a hope and a promise of redemption that man again might be delivered from this spiritual death. For the fulfillment of such the Fathers longed and waited (Psalm 14). Oh, that salvation of Israel were come out of Zion, when the Lord bringeth back the captivity of the people, etc. Until the appointed time from the Father did He give His people of the Old Covenant whom He led out of Egypt through Moses, the law. And Moses himself did testify of the promise of the Messiah and spoke, "A prophet shall the Lord, your God, raise from your brethren, like unto me; him shall ye hear." (Acts 7:37, Deut. 18:18)

Regarding the redemption of mankind through Jesus Christ we teach and believe: When the time of fulfillment of the promise of God to the Fathers came, then God did send His Son, born of a virgin, Mary, who was espoused to a man named Joseph, from the House of David. Which was begotten not of the blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor the will of man, but of God (Luke 1:35, John 1:3). This promised Messiah, Jesus Christ, came in the form of a servant and proclaimed the

Gospel of Peace to all mankind, so that fallen mankind could through Him again be redeemed and delivered from the fall of Adam and from the spiritual death and the power of darkness.

Jesus Christ placed Himself as the mediator between God and man. He reconciled and redeemed man with His own precious blood which He shed on the cross for the sins of man. For we are not purchased with gold or silver from destruction, but with the precious blood of Christ. For God does not want anyone to perish, but wants man to believe on Jesus Christ and be saved from sin and the power of Satan. We read in the Gospel of John, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Because we read in the Holy Scriptures to believe on Jesus Christ, or not to believe in Him, determines to eternal life or eternal death. And likewise obedience and disobedience to the Word of God. Because Jesus Christ, while He lived on earth as the son of man, revealed the whole counsel and will of God, and all that is beneficial and needful for salvation. Therefore we should not add anything nor take away anything from the Word of God, which Christ and afterward His chosen disciples declared and taught. The Apostles did bear witness of His truth and resurrection.

*Compiled by Bro. Perry Klopfenstein*

#### **Next Issue:**

More from this *Statement of Faith* to German state officials



# The Light Of Hope

## From Across The Ocean

### 希望の光

#### **“That's What We're Living For”**

*Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan*

Recently, I said to one of the members of our church, “If there is anything we can do for you, please let us know. That’s what we’re living for.” Now I’m thinking, “Is that really what we’re living for?” The answer is yes, that’s what we’re living for.

In Revelation 4:11 we read, “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.” According to this verse, we human beings, who are part of God’s creation, were created for His pleasure, and to bring Him glory, and honour, and power. Therefore, I have always used this verse to show that the purpose of our lives is to bring God glory. If others see that we are devoted to helping others, and they know that we are followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, God also receives honour, that is, they come to respect God more, and the power of the Holy Spirit working in the lives of others, is

increased. That’s what we’re living for.

Another verse which supports this view is Matthew 5:16, “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” The Lord Jesus also taught that good works bring glory to God.

Let us be in the business of looking for someone to help. If we give someone a ride home and the person says, “Thank you very much for kindness,” we may reply, “That’s what we’re living for.” It should not be unusual for children of God to so conduct themselves.

We must be careful, though, that the devil, working through others, does not start to take advantage of us. For instance, if we ask if there is anything we can do for others and someone says, “Yes, give me a million dollars,” we should refuse that request even if we would be so fortunate as to have a million dollars. We humans are basically selfish and to promote


that selfishness is not helping them.

We can help others, not only by what we do but by what we say. Most people need a little encouragement mixed in with all the criticism that is tossed around. Too much criticism may be one of our most serious problems. We naturally tend to criticize more than praise, usually indirectly. That is a difficult problem to overcome but let’s try to give a little credit where credit is due. Proverbs 27:2 reads, “Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth.” We tend to stay away from praise for fear that the person will become proud, but sometimes we can help others with a little praise for the good points that everyone has. That’s what we’re living for.

Moving away from the individual we can say that one of the purposes of the church is to help people. For the church and for individuals, “That’s What We’re Living For.”

# 希望の光





*One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after;  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple.*

*Psalms 27:4*

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