



# *The Silver Lining*

*And he changeth the times and the seasons:  
he removeth kings, and setteth up kings:  
he giveth wisdom unto the wise,  
and knowledge to them that know understanding*

*Daniel 2:21*

*October 2006*



Sermon by Bro. Fred Eberhardt, Burlington, IA

## Acts 27:14-44

Today, we pray that the Lord will come into our midst and speak to our hearts. He will be there to encourage us because this is why we come to church. It's to be encouraged by the Lord. We live in a time in which we need to be encouraged. We need God in our lives because God can offer that encouragement. One of the ways we can find that encouragement is through His Word. We have beautiful words contained within the Holy Scriptures of the Bible. Psalms describes them as wonderful words of life. Life! Life is beautiful in itself. But we think of the life that the Lord has given to us - beautiful life. The Lord has been good to us, He has blessed us. We have every reason to believe that this day the Lord will continue to encourage us and be in our lives.

We have before us a rather lengthy chapter in Acts...it kind of goes through my mind where to begin here. We have Acts Chapter 27 which has fallen open. Here we read the story of Paul. He was taken as prisoner from in the area of the Middle East to Rome where he was going to appeal to Caesar. He ran into a ship wreck. We do not know why things happen to us. Storms of life come into our lives. But I believe that there is a great connection between this chapter which we are about to read and our spiritual lives and how even chapters such as this which seem to be history can be compared to our lives today. How we can read in chapters such as this and how we could rededicate our lives for the Lord.

Quite a storm...to break a ship like what happened in that island long ago. We know that when storms come there is fear. Fear in

peoples lives. Fear, lest they should perish. And then we think of the safety of the ship, and I'm sure the last thing that these people wanted to do was to jump that ship when the seas were so high and the waves, caused by the wind, would make it so difficult for them to reach the shore. But a miracle happened. This is truly a story of a miracle. A miracle of God so many survived and the way they did.

Then we think of our situation today and we think of our church. We call our church here the ship of faith. This ship of faith of ours sails on and on and on. We have beautiful days in which our ship sails and which there is joy in our lives, there is happiness. But then there comes those times in our lives that the storms come and fear comes into our lives. The safety of the ship...we think of the safety of our ship of faith and we are comforted.

We think of those storms out there. How many times do we, well, we might call these storms sickness, in which people fear for their loved one's life? How many other times, there are times in which we fear for our own safety? There are times then, that Satan is out there to try to deceive us. We can call these storms. But in our church of faith and our ship of faith there are certain things that we can do to strengthen our ship. What are those things that we can do? Well, let's just read here what they tried to do to this ship right here.

One of the first things they tried to do was, they used helps, undergirding the ship. (Acts 27:17) We need help today and undergirding our ship of faith. We need to strengthen the undergirding of

our ship of faith. How do we strengthen the undergirding of our ship of faith? It is called love. Love for one another. There is nothing more strengthening than the love of the brotherhood. The love for each other. It strengthens us, it encourages us. It undergirds our faith.

*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

October 2006

Afar Off

"But Peter followed him afar off unto the high priest's palace, and went in, and sat with the servants, to see the end" (Mt. 26:58). "But when he (Peter) saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me" (Mt. 14:30).

"But Peter said unto him (Simon the Sorcerer), Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter; for thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity" (Acts 8:20-23).

If we did not know the situation, we could hardly believe that the first two paragraphs give insight to the same man. Peter was very bold and quite willing to speak without giving careful thought to the likely results of what he said or did.

How is it possible for one man to respond so differently when in each case he really was trying to work for the Lord? After all, in the two incidents described in the first paragraph, Peter was following Jesus or following Jesus' instructions. Peter did follow Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to the high priest's palace. Peter did step out of the boat at Jesus' command. Peter's intentions were very good. He wanted to serve his Master. He had promised to follow Christ where ever He went, even to the extreme of promising to "...lay down my life for thy sake" (Jn. 13:37). By offering to fight for Jesus, Peter again showed his desire to serve his Master. He "...drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest, and smote off his ear" (Mt. 26:51).

However, something happened to Peter from the time he put up his sword until Jesus was led away. He allowed himself to be separated from Jesus. Satan was given an opportunity to get between Peter and Jesus and the results were disastrous, leading to Peter's denial of Jesus

only hours after promising to die for Him.

In the second incident, Peter actually began to walk on the water. However, Peter took his eyes off Jesus and looked at the dangers around him. The fear that came to Peter when he focused his attention on the world rather than on Jesus caused him to lose faith.

What application does Peter's experience have for us? The experiences of Peter can be applied to the struggles of both the converted and the unconverted. Peter's experiences show us the danger of not walking closely enough to Jesus.

Those of us who have been able, by the grace of God, to respond to the call of God have undoubtedly noticed that there are times when it is easier to resist temptations than at other times. Why is this true?

The power and persistence of Satan's attacks vary significantly. The stronger temptations, of course, are much more difficult to resist. There may be times when temptations seem stronger because our desire or ability to resist are weaker. These are occasions when it is necessary for us to examine our lives more carefully. Have we grown careless in our prayer life and scripture reading? Have we allowed things to enter our life that may give Satan an opportunity to bring distress? Have we simply become too busy in our work or other activities that there is just not enough time to focus on the Word and on the message of Jesus? Have we become a bit too self confident, as Peter did when he took matters (the sword) into his own hands?

Have we allowed the fears that can come from focusing too much attention on what is happening around us that we become distracted and lose sight of the fact that God is still in control? Peter initially had the faith to follow Jesus, but the cares of the world (soldiers in the one case and the forces of nature in the other) caused him to lose his focus on what really mattered. No doubt numerous examples could be cited, each of which could cause us to get farther from Jesus and give Satan greater opportunity to tempt us.

The need to focus on Christ does not

mean that we ignore what is happening around us. If the forces of nature are putting us in danger, we need to take reasonable steps to protect ourselves. When Satan tried to convince Jesus to jump off the pinnacle of the temple to see if God would protect Him, Jesus said to Satan "...It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God" (Mt. 4:7). If the evils of the world are pressing heavily upon us, we must become aware of it so we can follow the instructions Paul wrote to Timothy: "...flee these things; and follow after righteousness..." (I Tim. 6:11). Ignoring danger around us is really abusing the grace of God.

If we have not yet been converted, we can also apply Peter's experiences to our lives. Peter was not converted at the time of the incidents cited earlier. He thought he was serving God, but he was not in total submission to Him. It was not until after Peter denied Christ ["And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord...And Peter went out, and wept bitterly" (Lk. 22:61-62) when he truly repented and was converted. Only then did he truly serve God.

Perhaps we, converted or unconverted, believe we are trying to do God's will. We may love the Lord and want to do what is right. We may even call ourselves "Christians", but have we really made Him the focus of our lives? Have we become willing to forsake all, take up the cross daily, and walk with Jesus? Do we walk closely enough with Christ that there is not room for Satan to get between us and our Lord? Are we really walking beside Jesus rather than following Him "afar off"?

If we can truly answer the above questions with a sincere and thankful "yes", we will find ourselves drawing near to Jesus Christ and to God. We can ultimately walk next to Him, knowing that by His grace we will have eternal life in heaven with God.





## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN Mission Committee

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

### The Lord's Work in Ixtlan

We are encouraged to see God's continuing faithfulness in the Ixtlan church. He is able to reach hearts in many different ways. Sometimes this is through loving deeds of service. For example, an eye clinic in June allowed a number of people to be able to see clearly. Some shed tears of joy as the words in the Bible became clear to them with their glasses. May God continue to open the spiritual eyes of those in Mexico who are blinded by Satan.

In June, a teenage girl started repenting, and soon began meeting with her friends on a regular basis to have Bible studies with them. What an example to us of the desire we should have to share with others about the change Christ is working in our lives! Our faith is strengthened by the example of a sister who is battling cancer, yet rejoices in her pain because she knows it brings her closer to Christ. She sings and laughs rather than complains (see 2 Cor. 12:9-10). The doctors were astounded by her recent clean test results, and said she must have "influence in heaven." She replied, "Yes, I have Christ!"

### New territory

Sometimes the Lord provides unexpected opportunities for hearts to be touched by the truths of His Word. Recently God turned a mountain hike into an opportunity to share the Gospel with a family in a town near Ixtlan. Three of the brothers serving in Ixtlan decided to tackle one of the nearby mountains, and had invited some young men from the community to go along. They hoped it would be an opportunity

to spend time in God's creation and witness to the young men. That morning none of them showed up. Disappointed, the brothers decided to climb the mountain anyway.

In the village at the foot of the mountain they met three teen boys who agreed to take them to the top. Afterwards they invited them to meet their grandmother, a very devout woman. She told them to sit down, brought her Bible, and asked them to teach. The brothers explained the simple Gospel plan to her family. A relationship was established and this family is now an entry point in this new village, where we trust that God will continue to spread His Word. When our human plans fail, God is able to turn our disappointments into divine opportunities!

God has begun a new gathering of believers with four converts in Barra Vieja (near Acapulco), Mexico. The scene is reminiscent of the early church in Acts, when the believers eagerly gathered in their homes daily to hear the Word taught (Acts 2:41-47). Since Barra Vieja is far from Ixtlan, couples or two brothers who speak Spanish are sent monthly to have Bible studies with the new believers. It's refreshing to see their hunger and thirst for the Word of God, and their willingness to humbly obey the teachings which are new to them. The first out-loud prayer of the father, simple and sincere, brought tears to his wife. This display of humility before God was a rare and powerful sight.

The Holy Spirit demonstrated the living truth, "Ye are the salt of the earth," when one of the guests went next door to borrow salt from the neighbors. A new friendship was started, resulting in Bible studies every evening with the family. Ev-

ery evening the mother called her children together and instructed them to pay attention to the message from the Bible. Even if God calls you to go a great distance to share the Gospel, it still begins with your neighbor!

*For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.*

Galatians 5:14

### Specific needs for service and prayer

We see a continued need for help, especially couples who are called to make a life commitment to the people of Mexico. Also needed are spiritually mature brothers who can be servant leaders to help strengthen the church and spread the Gospel in Mexico.

Each of you can be a part of God's work in Ixtlan through your effectual praying. Please join us in prayer for:

- Restoration of those who are struggling spiritually
- The Holy Spirit to build up the Ixtlan congregation into a strong, holy church that can be a light in the community and a future sending-post for national missionaries to the rest of Mexico
- God to raise up local brothers to be solid, godly leaders in the church and in their families

### Giving thanks for your support

We thank those who came to help with the eye clinic in June, those who donated glasses, and those who donated materials for Vacation Bible School. Thank you to our summer helpers who encouraged us all.





APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

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

## Victory Ahead in Haiti

The name conjures up visions of the poorest nation in the western hemisphere. It invokes overtones of political unrest, kidnappings and voodoo. The fear of the unknown looms large in our minds, but thankfully we felt no fear as plans were made for six Elder Brothers to travel to Haiti in order to better understand the scope of the ongoing Apostolic Christian World Relief projects. We knew that God would be faithful. Dedicated Brothers and Sisters have labored over many years on projects that have had lasting impact on the Haitian people. We had opportunity to view many of these projects firsthand.

## The never ending struggle

We were astonished at the magnitude of the need in Haiti. Many homes have no plumbing. Work is scarce. The average income is about a dollar a day. Because of years of political corruption, there is little trade or opportunity. The Haitians have a word that is loosely translated as "making do."

One of our group observed how a Haitian had repaired a flat bicycle tire. He took out the tube, pulled the part of the tube with the hole out a bit, and tied a very small piece of string around the base of the protruding part in order to seal off the leak. That might seem like an inventive way to "make do." Now, multiply it by dozens of similar repairs on the same tube! To our little group, this exemplified the nature of daily life in Haiti, a never ending struggle to live on few resources.

## Faith in action

We were joyful because everywhere we went we met believing people with smiles on their faces in spite of

their difficult circumstances. Worship services were conducted with a small congregation in Torbeck. We joined them for several hours in singing many familiar hymns (we in English, they in Creole). Then we were invited to a home where the wife was nearing her "due date." We learned that she and several other ladies had labored for hours to prepare us a feast. To understand the principle of the widow's mite is one thing, but to be the recipients of the widow's mite brought tears to our eyes.

## Answered prayer

While we were there, one of them shared the details of his son's kidnapping. When this man received a phone call advising him that his son had been kidnapped, right there on the phone he began to sing a well-known hymn, *Victory Ahead*, that we know from the "Melodies of Praise." It begins, "When the hosts of Israel, led by God..." and ends, "By faith I see the victory ahead!" Then he prayed aloud asking for God's help and thanking God for hearing his prayer.

We rejoiced to hear that he received a phone call from his son the next day. He had been rescued by mysterious commandos in an unmarked helicopter. We rejoiced even more to know that whether his son was rescued or not, this man had reacted with hope instead of despair, with faith instead of fear.

## Opportunities to help

We felt heaviness of heart as it became clearer every day that our efforts to help were the equivalent of bailing a sinking ship with thimbles. We met two women running an orphanage caring for dozens of children with no fixed source of

funding; a school principal working for months without pay because the students needed him; houses of mud constructed on steep hillsides where there is no water; children carrying water in buckets on their head up slopes that would make a mountain goat feel at home and roadsides clogged with people walking because so few can afford any other means of transportation. Rice and beans one day leads to beans and rice the next.

## Gratitude

In spite of the overwhelming enormity of the need, a deep gratitude became the reigning mood in our little group. Gratitude for the opportunity to help - however small our help may be; for the joyful spirit of the Haitian believers; for all the dedicated efforts of our Apostolic Christian Brothers and Sisters; for the faithfulness of the World Relief Board in their commitment to do as much as possible; for the faithful givers who donate the fruits of their labor to what may seem a faceless and unknown recipient; that the Lord provided work team coordinators who have managed our teams so faithfully for many years; for all the others who have faithfully served in Haiti; for the careful and appreciative attitude with which the recipients receive the help and for the evidence of the hand of God at work in so many different ways. Most of all, gratitude for a Savior who by His death teaches us submission to the will of the Father without reservation, and by His life teaches us that there is "Victory Ahead."

*Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

1 Corinthians 15:57



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

Our residents have been enjoying all the activities that come with the fall season. One highlight is the Morton Pumpkin Festival and parade. Many of our residents enjoy the rides, food and being out in the community.

The Twelfth Annual Ice Cream Social was a pleasurable event, recently held at Timber Ridge for the residents, their families, friends and staff of the agency. It was held in the picnic area behind Timber Ridge. Approximately 275 bowls of ice cream were served.

Oakwood and Linden residents spent a very fun and memorable evening with the Washington Young Group. Originally a wiener roast was planned but due to the weather it was held inside. Nevertheless, everyone had a great time playing games, performing skits and participating in contests.

Oakwood Estate held a potluck open house on September 23 for the residents and their families. All who attended enjoyed it.

Several Linden residents have had the opportunity to take mini vacations this fall. Tanner's Orchard is always a favorite and some residents were able to go to Chicago and visit the Cheese Cake Factory.

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

Mark 12:30-31 "And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."

In reading these verses, do we pause to consider how we are doing? Do we ask, "How am I doing at loving my Lord? Am I giving Him my heart? Am I sensitive to His Spirit in my life? Is my mind focused first on those things above? Am I giving my energy to His work? Am I loving my neighbor as myself?"

As Christians we have such a great responsibility to follow God's commandments and through His grace we can be used for His work. It should be easy to serve a God who has given us so much and yet we often become so distracted by those things that are not really that important. This awareness often causes us to come humbly before our God to seek His forgiveness and ask Him to mold us to be more faithful.

We may find loving our neighbors even more challenging than loving our Father as we should. At Gateway we have the opportunity to meet people from many different walks of life. We come in contact with children whose behavior problems challenge even the most patient. We read files that tell us stories of abuse and neglect that bring tears, shock, and anger. These facts help us to understand why these same children are the way they are and help to give us a greater level of compassion. Then we come face to face with adults who are in many cases the ones who caused the emotional and physical harm that we see each day in the lives of their children. We sometimes ask "Father, is this my neighbor?" And our loving Father says, "Yes, I created them just as I have created you." Then we say a prayer and ask for grace to smile, to be respectful, and to show God's love. When our hearts are open, God answers our prayer giving us an extra measure of patience, the ability to see strengths in others, and the ability to have compassion. Most importantly, our Father gives us a desire that they

would accept the gift of salvation. Please continue to pray for the staff at Gateway Woods as we strive to look at our neighbors though God's eyes of love.

## **NEWS**

### *30th Reunion:*

30 years of ministry is something to celebrate. We were thrilled to host about 350 guests on October 7-8 to a reunion of former and present Staff members, Board members and residents along with their families. The Lord has woven our lives forever together for His glory and our good.

### *4th House Update:*

Progress on the new Cypress House has been dramatic in the past month. The building is closed in and our volunteer masons are working on the brick veneer. We have a present need for more volunteer masons and laborers. Starting in early December we will need the skills of finish carpenters to install cabinets and trim. Please call our office at 888 443-4283 or Bro. Joe Braker (masons) 309 369-2330 or Bro. Bruce Schafer 260 433-6799 (carpenters).

### *Staffing:*

Gateway Woods extends a warm welcome to Bro. Nathan and Sis. Rachel Mueller as they began their service here on September 25. Bro. Nathan and Sis. Rachel will be working as Alternate Houseparents in the Maple House with Bro. Jason and Sis. Joy Kilgus.

We are also thankful to announce the hiring of Sis. Dixie Zeltwanger (Sabetha, KS). Dixie began work on September 5 as our new Home Based Worker/Counselor. Sis. Dixie's positive attitude and experience with kids will be very much appreciated. Please remember to pray for the Muellers and Sis. Dixie as they adjust to their new jobs.

### *Other:*

We witnessed the wedding of Bro.



Zach Bertsch and Sis. Jenny Rufener on September 24. What a blessed day! May God bless them as they begin their life together. Sis. Jenny serves as an Adoption and Foster Care Case Manager.

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

Through the month of September we learned and practiced our letters A through D. We wrote them, said them, listened to them and did fun things with words that began with each letter. One of the things we learned was that dog begins with the letter "d". It was fun pretending to be dogs and eating with no hands and lapping up water from a bowl. The one thing I forgot to think about was the question marks that would go up from the parents as their child lapped up their supper that night. I guess we will have to work on manners next! This month we also learned about mailmen, fire fighters, doctors and other workers in our community. The children also got a little lesson on safety, what is hot and what is not, stop, drop and roll and what to do when the fire alarm rings.

Our Bible stories these past few weeks have been about Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, Abraham, Lot, and now we are reading about Joseph. Some days the children listen really great and we get answers to our questions that are right on. It can surprise you what is really going in their mind. But then there are those other days when out comes an odd answer that causes you to question "what IS going on in their mind?" Like today, they got the question right when the teacher asked "who have we been reading about?" and the answer was really loud and clear "GOD!" Yes, they always get that one right because they know we can't deny that God is in

every story. But as she put the flannel board up with a desert scene she also asked "who came to visit Joseph while he was in the palace?" From somewhere we heard "a boat!" Well we weren't sure where his mind was but it obviously was not quite where we wanted it to be. We got a laugh and had to give him credit that at least brothers and boat at least begin with the same letter. So it is here at the preschool, the children continue to bring us smiles and we try to do our best, and let God do the rest.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS  
Louise Hall**

We want to extend a warm welcome to Sis. Sarah Hodel from Roanoke, IL. She moved here to teach in our preschool. She is a wonderful blessing to our small congregation.

We give our thanks and appreciation to Bro. Bob Meyer (Sis. Ann, Bluffton, IN) for coming and preaching the message to us. We enjoyed having you here as well as those you brought with you. God bless you all.

Bro. JR Hall (Sis. Louise) is recovering from back surgery. He is doing well and we give the Lord our thanks for bringing him through and being with him through the healing process.

Our prayers also go out to Bro. Buddy and Sis. Clarann Lynn's family. Bro. Buddy's brother-in-law, Willie Gene Youngblood, passed on to eternity this past month. We know and trust that the Lord will be their great healer.

The family of Kendra Coulter (Bro. David and Sis. Barbara) want to say a sincere thank you to all of those who were with them in thought and prayer as she recovered from her hip surgery. She is doing very well and has been up and walking once again.

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX  
Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

*Psalms 37:5*

The Conference tapes were started on August 23. How thankful we are to be encouraged to a closer walk with our dear Savior.

Our Jr. and Sr. Bible Classes enjoyed their visit to San Diego. There was plenty of God's love shared.

Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Altadena) was our visiting minister. We are grateful for our visitors who give of themselves for our benefit. It was also Bro. Herb and Sis. Johanna Knochel's 50th wedding anniversary — congratulations!

We welcome Bro. Brent and Sis. Janelle Young to our fellowship. They were recently married and moved to Phoenix from the Fairbury and Champaign congregations.

On September 11 we welcomed two baby boys: Bro. Mike and Sis. Angie Ringger are the grateful parents of Jack Michael. Bro. Todd and Sis. Heather Hinrichsen are also thankful for Matthias David.

Sis. Leona (Toni) Bentley was hospitalized briefly with a dislocated hip. We are thankful for her rapid recovery.

We are looking forward to testimonies and baptisms as Amy Emch, Abbey Freed and Bethany Knochel have expressed that they have peace with God.

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**ARIZONA, PRESCOTT  
Jane Hodges**

Bro. Ed and Sis. Gail Schambach became new grandparents getting a grandson and a granddaughter within two weeks. Just in time to celebrate Grandparents Day



(September 10). Hudson Cole Schambach (Jeremy and Kerry) arrived on August 28, and Brianna Buehler (Emily and Jon) was born on September 7. We thank God for their safe arrival and pray He will continue to bless them and their parents.

Our visiting ministers this last month included Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), Bro. Jay Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Tucson, AZ), Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Sis. Peggy, Goodfield, IL), and Bro. Dan Goric (Sis. Mary-Lou, Rockville, CT). We are very thankful to all of them for their support of our ministry. May God richly bless them and their families for their love and support.

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## **ARIZONA, TUCSON**

### **Lisa Knapp**

Our Sunday School Bible Class was once again blessed to attend an ACYF fellowship weekend in California. We were warmly welcomed on a charter bus with the Phoenix Bible Class and we thank them once again for their generosity and hospitality. We certainly want to thank the San Diego church for their love and efforts; it was a wonderful weekend filled with blessings and fellowship that have already become fond memories. Many, many thanks to everyone who labored on our behalf. We love you all!

We welcome back Bro. Loren and Sis. Joan Knapp from their spring and summer time spent in Illinois. They will be in Connecticut for the next month but we'll get them back in October and make them stick around for awhile!

Our dear friend, Bee Schmidt, recently celebrated her 90th birthday and she is looking young and vibrant. She looks like she has more energy than I do sometimes! Happy 90th birthday, Bee! God's blessings to you as you begin your 91st year of life!

Our church remodeling is nearing completion and we are getting very excited. Having our bathrooms up and running will be especially nice. We are so thankful for God's provision during this process. You're welcome to come and take a peek anytime.

We feel the crisp air in the mornings and evenings so we know that summer is winding down and fall is coming. Our highs will be in the low 90's this fourth week of September, a little warming trend before we start to really cool off.

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## **CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA**

### **Suzanne Klotzle**

This month we welcomed Bro. Braden Mogler back to begin his second year at Pepperdine University! This has increased the number of our Young Group once again!

But with the joyful welcome, there came a sad but fond farewell. Kurt and Sonia Luginbuhl (Bro. Tom and Sis. Heidi) left for Madagascar, Africa, for 2 years with the Peace Corps. Our prayers will be with them as they serve the natives over there.

This month, we were blessed with the visit of ministering Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy, Alto, MI).

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## **CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO**

### **Yasmin Koehl**

As we enter into autumn and sense the changes each new season brings, it reminds us of our own life. As a new babe we're like the spring-time, just starting to unfurl into the world God has called us in. Then we find ourselves in summer, where as a child we don't have hardly a care in this world and enjoy simple pleasures. As autumn approaches, our lives change as we realize we're here for a purpose and make decisions that affect the rest of our lives. Finally we enter win-

ter, where goodbyes are frequent and heaven seems closer than ever. Whichever season we're in, we can let go of yesterday and look forward to tomorrow if we trust Christ to hold our hands and lean upon His precious promises.

With hearts overflowing with joy and love we rejoiced with the angels in heaven as Brittney Wagenbach (Bro. Doug and Sis. Lillian) made known her desire to repent. Our prayers are with you as you strive to follow Christ and live according to His will.

On Labor Day weekend we hosted Arizona's and California's Bible classes. We enjoyed a weekend of sweet fellowship and encouragement as we focused on the topic, "Who Jesus, our Lord and Savior, is to us." We extend our heartfelt gratitude to ministering Bro. Joe Klotzle (Sis. Sue) from Altadena for allowing the Spirit to use him in sharing the Word with all our Bible class students.

Amongst our visitors this month was ministering Bros. Jay Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Tucson, AZ) and Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria, IL). We deeply appreciated these brothers' willingness to serve. May the Lord bless you for your labors of love in furthering the Gospel!

Sis. Juliana Topolchanyi has recently undergone surgery for a broken hip. May our prayers for Christ's nearness and His healing be brought forth to our heavenly Father on her behalf.

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## **KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA**

### **Johanna Fortenbacher**

We've been finding some creative ways to assemble in the Lord's house this month. The road out front was simply not accessible, due to road construction. This made me realize how much I took for granted not having to trudge through dust in getting to



church.

A project we have going on for a while is repairing and cleaning our church rental house. A big thank you to some of you who are diligently giving much of your time to make the house ready for use again.

Giving faithful servants ever  
Who have but one endeavor,  
Thy Gospel to proclaim;  
Who heed Thy Spirit holy  
And strive and labour soley,  
O, Lord, to glorify Thy name.

*Zion's Harp #207, vs. 8*

Faithful serving us this month were ministering Bros. Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL), Duane Farney (Croghan, NY) and Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH). May the Lord bless your work for Him.

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## REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN CANADA

Regina is the capital city of the Canadian province of Saskatchewan and has a population of just over 200,000. It is 685 miles north of the Morris, MN, Apostolic Christian Church.

Ever since 1979, Apostolic Christian Church services have been held in a home that is used exclusively as the Apostolic Christian Church of Regina located at 94 Straub Crescent. During the months of March through November, a minister from one of the Apostolic Christian Churches in the U.S. comes on the third Sunday of the month. On all other Sundays, the congregation assembles at the church and listens in "real time" to the "live" services from the Morris, MN congregation.

The church home is a convenient 4.3 miles from the Regina International Airport, making travel into and out of Regina quite painless. The church home is located on a quiet cull de sac in a residential neighborhood.

This year's brotherhood meeting in Goodfield, IL, included an evening session on ways to support our smaller churches. The Regina Church certainly falls into this category. Apostolic Christian families and groups of young members are encouraged to support this small congregation by using Regina as a vacation destination. The city has some lovely architecture, museums, art galleries and several parks with miles of paths for strolling. Just a few miles from the city in every direction are beautiful rolling valleys and large sprawling farms.

To further encourage Apostolic Christians to support the Regina Church, the church house has three furnished bedrooms and two bathrooms, complete with linens, and a fully equipped kitchen and laundry. These facilities are available to Apostolic Christians free of charge and can help make traveling to Regina more affordable. For reservations, please call Bro. Keith or Sis. Myrna Shipley at (306) 545-3025. Currently a birth certificate is needed to successfully cross the national border between Canada and the United States, although there is a real possibility that a passport may be required as soon as 2007 or 2008.

It is the goal of this article to raise the level of awareness among the brotherhood with the hope that some of the curious and adventuresome will feel moved of the Spirit to include the Regina Church in their travel plans for the coming year.

Visiting ministers this year so far have included Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Sandra Nohl (Morris, MN) 03/19, Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Betty Metz (Silverton, OR) 04/23, Bro. John and Sis. Carol Steiner (Oakville, IA) 5/21, Bro. Clint and Sis. Magdalena Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) 6/4, Bro. Rich and Sis. Samantha Gramm (South Bend, IN) and Bro. Jerry and

Sis. Christy Meeks (Sabetha, KS) 06/25, Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Sandra Nohl (Morris, MN) and Elder Bro. LeRoy and Sis. JoAnn Messner (Winthrop, MN) 07/09, Bro. Kevin and Sis. Sandy Banwart (West Bend, IA) 07/16, Bro. Rich Gramm (South Bend, IN) 08/06, Bro. Dale and Sis. Becky Wulf (Lester, IA) 8/27 and Bro. Randy and Sis. Sue Gasser (Detroit, MI) 09/17.

Sunday, September 17, was a special day for Regina's oldest member, Sis. Mary Nesbitt. It just happened to be her 88th birthday. Following the afternoon church service, Sis. Mary's sister, Pearl, and her husband, Richard Stone, served birthday cake to everyone. Present for the occasion in addition to the Stones were Sis. Mary's son, Robin Nesbitt, and his wife, Sheri, and their two daughters, Shayla and Sarah; Bro. Keith, Sis. Myrna and their son, Bro. Kelly Shipley; Nazarene Sis. Julie Hrutka; and visiting ministering Bro. Randy Gasser and his wife, Sis. Sue. The birthday celebration concluded with everyone singing several of Sis. Mary's favorite hymns from the Hymns of Zion.

For information about upcoming services and travel opportunities, feel free to call Bro. Keith or Sis. Myrna Shipley at (306) 545-3025 or write them at 236 College Avenue, Regina, SK S4N-OW6.

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## COLORADO, DENVER Ann Gonglach

We've appreciated fellowship with visitors from Bradford, Elgin, Fairbury, Goodfield and Roanoke, IL; Garden Grove and Iowa City, IA; Lamont-Gridley, KS; Lamar and Taylor, MO; and Latty, OH; as well as Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH), Bro. Mike Rinkenberger, (Sis. Patricia, Congerville, IL) and Bro. Duane



Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA) who have shared the message of God's Word.

Our sympathies are with Sis. Marcel Huber (Bro. Eric) and Sis. Lanette Meyer whose father (Bro. Eli Meyer, Sabetha, KS) left this world on August 26. May they find comfort from the Holy Spirit as they mourn their earthly loss.

We rejoiced with Sis. Eleanor Geyer (Bro. Norman) whose cancer is once again in remission, and much sooner than the doctors anticipated.

Bro. Chuck and Sis. Naomi Wiegand spent a week in Barra Vieja, Mexico, teaching and encouraging the converts there. Sis. Naomi and her children are in Minnesota where 6-year-old Gabriella is having physical therapy following surgery on her back.

We bid farewell to Sis. Tara Huber (Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcel) who is in Mexico studying Spanish and Kevin Heflinger who is in Germany doing his student teaching. We pray that the Lord would be with these two young people so far from home and bring them back safely to us.

We welcomed back Sis. Brittany Moser, who has returned for the new school year. Rachel Wiegand also recently relocated here from Phoenix.

Saturdays in September were filled with activities: a wedding shower for Bro. Caleb Leman and Sis. Erin Hodel (Roanoke, IL); a beautiful day in the mountains enjoying fellowship at our annual Sunday school picnic; and two work days to help finish the basement of Bro. Kevin and Sis. Pam Braun, who have taken in several children.

At their monthly meeting, the young group discussed keeping conversations pure.

Not long ago, I was reminded that sometimes it is easier to recognize Satan's attacks when they're in the form of discouragement or hardship

than when his tactic is to lull us into spiritual sleep because everything seems to be going fine. May we all have the grace to stand against Satan's attacks no matter what form they may take.

## **CONNECTICUT ROCKVILLE**

**Laura Virkler  
Amber Rocke**

Greetings to each one in the name of our Lord and Saviour. We have had a busy month in many respects. Two families have been added to with the arrival of newborns. Burt and Cherinne Wheeler welcome a little boy, Joseph Michael, into their family, joining his sister Courtney, and brothers, Daniel, Christian, Samuel, and James. Grandparents are Daryl and Sis. Norma Luginbuhl, and Burt Sr. and Margo Wheeler. Also born was little Addison Marie to Bro. Derek and Sis. Darla Reutter. She joins her brothers, Nolan and Benson. Being premature and needing heart surgery, we certainly are keeping Derek and Darla in our prayers and hope all goes well in all they will be going through with their precious little daughter. Grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter and Bro. John and Sis. Janet Schupbach of Elgin, IA.

It gladdens our hearts tremendously to see souls turn to the Lord in repentance. Our thoughts and encouragement are with Courtney Wheeler as he begins his journey down the pathway that so many of us have traveled. "For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him." I Thess. 5:9

We also welcome to our congregation Sis. Andrea Banwart from Lamar, Missouri. We hope she will feel our love and welcome as she stud-

ies here for the next two years.

In the past few weeks, we have had the opportunity to listen to the Conference tapes, which certainly was edifying and strengthening. We are grateful that our Elders sacrifice their time to come together for the betterment and prospering of the church and pray that their efforts will be richly rewarded.

Our prayers and sympathy are certainly with those who have suffered the loss of loved ones this past month. Our dear Sis. Gerri O'Brien lost her brother Donald after a long battle with cancer. We pray she will be comforted and blessed, as she devoted much of her time to his care in the past months. Sis. Mary Wagenbach (Bro. Dale) lost her dear mother, Sis. June Zuercher, in the past few weeks. Our thoughts are with her and her husband and family as they mourn her passing. Sis. Ruth Zahner passed away last week after 100 years of life on this earth. She leaves her daughter, Sis. Ellen (Bro. Gene) Kupferschmidt; her sons, Clayton (Mae) Zahner, Richard Zahner, Emery (Susan) Zahner; a sister, Helen McGill; brothers, Raymond and Dean Ludwig; and brother and sisters-in-law, Bro. Ed and Sis. Lora Zahner, and Laura Zahner, as well as a multitude of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She will be missed by all, but we are thankful that at last she could depart this world in peace.

## **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WASHINGTON Henrietta Meyer**

"And he changeth the times and the seasons."

*Daniel 2:21*

The Lord used hurricane Ernesto over Labor Day weekend to change our weather from summer to fall. We



have had a few very warm days since then, but we are into the fall season. Garden shops now have containers of chrysanthemums and pansies for sale.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Dan Koch (Sis. Julie, Tremont, IL), Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Sis. Michele, Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Gene Metzger (Sis. Dolores, Lester, IA). Other visitors this month were from Bluffton and LaCrosse, IN; Morton, IL; and Philadelphia, PA.

When Bro. Ben was here, he gave an overview of the Conference and the Small Church survey.

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 blessed to have with us visiting Bro. Wayne Leman (Sis. Julie, Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington, IL). We pray that God would bless them for coming and sharing His Word with us.

Many of our congregation are finishing up their end of summer trav-

els. It has been a quiet summer with no serious hurricane threats for which we are grateful. We are looking forward to the return of our winter brethren and visitors.

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### **FLORIDA NORTH FORT MYERS Naomi Vogel**

Things are shaping up here at our little Ft. Myers church after the water damage caused by a broken pipe above the kitchen in early July. We will definitely be ready to welcome the migration of the Snowbirds, which will begin very soon. We were able to use the sanctuary the past two Sundays. Before that we set up chairs in the dining room and had our services there on the bare concrete amid construction materials and boxes of packed-up kitchen items. The kitchen cabinets are in, but the plumbing is not finished yet. It should be done by Sunday. It will be so nice to get back to "normal". We praise God for guidance and endurance! It makes one realize how very fortunate we are here in America to have comfortable conditions in which to worship when so many in the world are satisfied to sit on hard crude benches or maybe even on the bare ground, while many more are not allowed to gather for worship at all.

It was a blessing to have Bro. Joseph Beer and his family worship with us for several weeks this summer. They were here from Bradford, IL, to do some remodeling in the condo of one of our snowbirds. It was nice to have three children in our usually childless congregation!

Our hearts were saddened with the news of the sudden death of Bro. Glen Reinhard in Bluffton, and we extend our condolences to his wife, Sis. Lee, and the family. Glen and Lee have spent several weeks each year with us here in Ft. Myers.

Get well prayers are requested for Sis. Carolyn Siegle who is hospitalized with complications of an ear infection and for Sis. Rhea Steffen who is experiencing some back pain. May God heal you both quickly!

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### **FLORIDA, SARASOTA Robin Wiegand**

Greetings to all. We rejoice with Bro. Matt Koehl and Sis. Emily Endress who were wed in Morton on September 17. Bro. Matt is the son of Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Koehl and Sis. Emily is the daughter of Sis. Joanne (late Bro. Fred) Endress. Many Sarasota brethren and many of our "snowbirds" were gathered in Morton for this joyous occasion. We rejoice to welcome Sis. Emily to our Sarasota church family. Bro. Marvin Steffen (Fort Myers, FL) held services in Sarasota that Sunday as all of our ministers attended the wedding.

May God continue to bless you all.

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

"Bestill, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth."

*Psalms 46:10*

May we all seek to exalt our God and make Him known! This month has been bustling as we tarry here in Atlanta. We started things off with a church retreat for VBS during the weekend of August 26-27. Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL) spoke on the "Big Questions of Life". It was a blessing and joy having the Plattner family teach and entertain us over the weekend. We were also thankful for Elder Bro. Ronald Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL) who visited us in Septem-



ber.

Hopefully by the time you read this Will Olar will be back in our midst. We look forward to his return and enlightening presence. We are also grateful for the continual support, wit, and wisdom of Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. (Morton, IL).

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## ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Doreen Moser  
Sheila McCoy**

"While the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

*Genesis 8:22*

Greetings of love from Belvidere! As the leaves are turning colors, the nights are getting cooler and the days are getting shorter. May we find many reasons to rejoice in this harvest season.

Bro. Sam Bachtold held our Bible study for August. He addressed the many lies of Satan, the meaning of sin, our choices in life and the rich young ruler and Zacchaeus. Do we find ourselves like Zacchaeus, who chose to follow the Lord with his whole heart or are we like the rich young ruler who wanted to know what he had to do to obtain his salvation, but yet keep his earthly riches? The Lord leaves the choice to us and we are certainly blessed when we choose to follow the Lord with our whole heart.

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## ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

**Jen Heiniger  
Ann Nussbaum**

It was a blessing to hear the testimonies of two dear souls on September 9. Sis. Katie Albritton (Jason) and

Bro. Will Nussbaum (Bro. Jay and Sis. Ann) were welcomed into the family of believers. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Peoria, IL) assist with this event and minister to us.

Other visiting ministers this month included Bros. Nate Lehman (Denver, CO) and Jeff Thames (Washington, IL). We thank these visitors for their services on our behalf.

The angels in heaven are rejoicing with our young converts. Stephanie Sauder (Bro. Phil and Sis. Kathy) and Jessica Robinson (Bro. Mike and Sis. Liz) both began their walk with the Lord this month.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Shelley Steffen welcomed Nathan Samuel to their family on August 31. He joins big brothers, Will, Thad, and Ben. His thankful grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Judy Knobloch and Bro. Earl and Sis. Betty Steffen.

Our prayers and sympathy go to the family of Sis. Neola Nussbaum of Forrest, who passed away on September 8. Her family in our congregation include grandson, Bro. Jarod Rinkenberger (Sis. Heidi), sisters-in-law, Sis. Carol Nussbaum and Sis. Leona Nussbaum, and nephews, Bro. Jay Nussbaum (Sis. Ann) and Bro. Dave Huber (Sis. Debbie).

It was with much excitement we heard the engagement of our Bro. Jaron Huber to Sis. Marla Schieler. Their parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Debbie Huber and Bro. Darl and Sis. Cindy Schieler of the Indianapolis congregation.

### *Note of Thanks:*

The family of Sis. Lucille Richardson, formerly of the Phoenix congregation, extend our thanks for the support shown to our family during our Mom's quick illness and death. We appreciate all the acts of love that were given to us during this difficult

time.

In Him,  
*Carl & Donna Richardson  
Ron & Starlet Richardson  
Jerry & Rounak Richardson  
LuAnn & Brad Gramm  
Rita Richardson*

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## ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Steve Endress

We enjoyed having several visiting brothers bring the Word of God to us during the past month. We thank Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Bros. Glen Braker (Princeville, IL), Craig Martin (Princeville, IL), Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL), and Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) for their labors.

August 26 was the wedding day of Lanae Dietz (Bro. Kenny and Sis. Mardell) and Peter Huang of Peoria, IL (Tom and Sandy, CA). We wish them a life of joy and blessings.

On September 2, Shane Pyles (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Becky) married Mindy Kimble (Carl and Cecelia, Sparland, IL). We wish them well as they begin their lives together.

Bro. Lucas and Sis. Diana Gudeman are thankful for the safe arrival of their second child. Halle Rose was born on August 24 and is welcomed home by Collin. Grandparents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Gudeman and Bro. Fred and Sis. Jeannette Beutel (Tremont, IL).

Bro. Greg and Sis. Kristin Johnson are rejoicing at the birth of their first child. Elsa Grace was born on August 19. Grandparents are Lou and Joyce Johnson of Peoria and Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley DeSmet (Lester, IA). We wish them Godly wisdom in caring for their new child.

We have been thankful to see the Lord's work in two young lives recently. Andrew and Daniel Klumpp (Bro. David and Sis. Barb) gave testimony of the Lord's work in their lives and were welcomed as brothers in the



Lord. We wish them lives of peace and joy.

*Note of Thanks:*

I want to thank everyone for the cards and gifts they gave me for my birthday and while I was in the hospital. May God bless you all.

*Sis. Elizabeth Kimble*

## ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

### Rachel Meyer

Greetings from Chicago. I hope this finds you all well and experiencing the love of Christ no matter the circumstances in which you find yourselves. God is faithful.

We sincerely thank the following brothers for ministering on our behalf: Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL), Bro. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL). Bro. Dennis gave an encouraging talk at our annual Sunday School Teachers'/Ministers' Meeting.

Wishes for a speedy recovery go out to our Bro. Paul Leman who is recovering from back surgery. We pray he can feel the love and prayers of the brethren.

Welcoming Elias James Carder to the family are Greg and Rachel Carder. Elias has twin sisters and a brother to greet him as well as grandparents, Bro. Greg and Sis. Carla Rassi. Congratulations to this beloved family.

On September 24 our Bro. Doug Stoller wed Sis. Krista Banwart in Champaign, IL. We are pleased to have Sis. Krista with us and we welcome her heartily.

This past month the brethren and converts were blessed to hear the Conference recordings on Wednesday evenings.

It was a joy to surprise Bro. George and Sis. Velda Foxe as they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. "...a

threefold cord is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:12.

*Note of Thanks:*

"We want to thank the many loved ones who remembered us on our 50th Anniversary with cards, gifts, flowers and the wonderful surprise – May God Bless You."

*Bro. George and Sis. Velda Foxe.*

Lastly, a few days ago I was in a parking lot when a driver of a large truck asked for directions to a certain street. Being quite familiar with the area, I gave him directions to the street. Approximately a minute after he drove off, I realized I had given him the wrong directions! I wanted to run back and tell him the true way but I was too late. I felt quite sobered and hoped that he made it to his destination somehow.

A brief thought – have I ever given the wrong signal or direction to someone who trusted me? Have I let anyone down who was looking for godly advice or a godly example? If someone followed in my spiritual footsteps would they eventually reach the ultimate destination of Heaven?

My loved ones, friends, co-workers and acquaintances observe me – the words I speak – the choices I make – the responses I give. It is the same with you. Let's pray we never give directions to those in our lives that lead to the ultimate wrong destination.

"Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments, even as the Lord my God commanded me, that ye should do so in the land whither ye go to possess it. Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people."

*Deuteronomy 4:5-6*

## ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

### Pam Walder

### Andrea Walder

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Beth (Bro. Rod) Steffen in the loss of her sister, Sis. Sharon Strahm (Bro. Carl), from Sabetha, KS. We trust God to comfort and heal those in sorrow.

Our hospital patients this month were Bro. Lester Rocke and Pete Bauer.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Myrna Weerts were blessed with the arrival of another grandchild. Natalie Kay was born to Bro. Dan and Sis. Denise Weerts (Remington, IN).

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this month, including Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann, Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), and Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH).

We recently completed four Wednesday evenings of listening to the tapes of our annual Brotherhood Conference. We're thankful for the admonition and encouragement of our Elder Brothers.

Lost and Found: At Sis. Gretchen Steffen's wedding on 7/16/06, a med. brown plaid suit coat, Towns Craft, was left at the fellowship hall. Call Beth Steffen at 815-457-2280.

## ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

### Rachel Schrock

We recently finished listening to the Brotherhood Conference recordings. There were so many good teachings given upon which we should ponder. It seemed very fitting as they closed with the thought that "the greatest of these is love." How true it is that when our hearts are filled with Godlike love, it becomes a lot easier to willingly follow God's will in all areas of our lives.



Thankful for those who are willing to remind us of God's will through ministering His Word to us each Sunday and Wednesday night. Our appreciation is especially extended to those whom have visited us recently, including Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH) and Bros. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL), Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL), Jim Vierling (Sis. Linda, Eureka, IL), Steve Martin (Sis. Vicki, Eureka, IL), Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH) and Nathan Wieland (Sis. Suzanne, Goodfield, IL).

Our love is extended to our two new brothers in faith. We heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Bro. Henry Wettstein (Bro. Denny and Sis. Emily) and Bro. Vic Rinkenberger (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pat) the weekend of August 26-27. As they continue to grow in faith in Him, may they always stay close to God's Word.

We welcome Bro. Scott and Sis. Jan Stickling as they recently decided to make Congerville their home church. We also join Bro. Denny and Sis. Emily Wettstein and their family as they welcomed Stuart Daniel into their household on September 4. May God continue to give them guidance as they raise their children to know His ways.

We offer our sympathy to Bro. Ben and Sis. Juanita Walder and their family as Sis. Juanita's sister, Ramona, has passed on from this life to the next. What a comfort they can feel to know that she began her repentance before leaving this earth.

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### **ILLINOIS, ELGIN**

**Amy Gasser  
Miriam Gasser**

We received a number of visitors within the past month and thank the following for bringing us the gospel

message: Elder Bros. Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA) and Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN) and ministering Bros. Jesse Bedolla (Detroit, MI), Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), and Ted Schock and Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL).

Three families were blessed with new arrivals in August. Aidan Quinn was born on August 20 to Bro. Scott and Sis. Andrea Heiniger and was eagerly greeted by his sister, Savanna. Bro. Tim and Sis. Marcia Kellenberger and Bro. Don and Sis. Peg Heiniger are the delighted grandparents. On August 26, Kevin and Marianne Power became first-time parents of little Edward Lyle. His happy grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. DeAnne Cox and Mary Power (the late Frances Power). Also born on August 26 was Makayla Grace Standish, daughter of Bro. Ben and Sis. Stephanie. Makayla received a warm welcome from her sisters, Aubrey, Ashton, and Manna, and from her grandparents. They are Joe and Sis. Cheri Frantz and Mike and Kathy Standish.

Bro. Travis Blunier and Sis. Jaclyn Kellenberger were united in holy matrimony on August 27. May the three-fold cord cause this special bond to deepen and prosper. The parents of the happy couple are Bro. Ken and Sis. Vicki Kellenberger and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Eddis Blunier (Goodfield, IL).

We were very saddened to hear that August 27 also marked the date of Lori Kellenberger's untimely death. Our sympathy goes to her husband, Glenn; their children, Nathan and Kelsey; Lori's parents and brothers; and the extended Kellenberger family.

The Sunday School's Pancake Breakfast was enjoyed by many on September 9 at the Fellowship Cen-

ter. Donations received from the morning's efforts will help defray travel and other expenses.

That evening, Heidi Krueger brought her testimony of faith before the church. We were inspired and encouraged as we listened and were thankful to witness her baptism on Sunday, September 10. Heidi's parents are Jim and Mary Krueger.

Bro. Scott and Sis. Hope Schambach have been seeking God's direction with regard to his employment and were recently informed of an opportunity in Columbus, OH. They plan to move the week of September 24. We are sorry to see them go and pray that God will strengthen and establish this couple in their new community.

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### **ILLINOIS, EUREKA**

**Cindy Stoller  
Lisa Metzger**

We are thankful for Bro. Ray and Sis. Louise Rocke who have recently celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary. It is a joy to behold the devotion that grows sweeter with the years.

Bro. Ryan and Sis. Kandi Carr are thankful for the safe arrival of their newborn, Anderson James. He is joyfully welcomed home by siblings, Hailey and Preston. Grandparents are Bro. Tim and Sis. Donna Carr and Glen and Sis. Becky Bauman. Also, rejoicing in their firstborn child, Lemual Marcus, are Bro. Benjamin and Sis. Laurel Wyss. Grandparents are Bro. Bruce and Sis. Donna Wyss (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Mark and Sis. Cheryl Zimmerman.

Visiting ministers this month include Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO), and Bros. Ned Stoller (Alto, MI), Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), Duane Rocke (Minneapolis, MN), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Galen



Rokey (Bern, KS), Jim Butikofer (Iowa City, IA), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Gary Brown and Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL), Don Manz (Junction, OH) and Gene Metzger (Lester, IA). May the Lord bless their ministering efforts unto spiritual fruit for His glory.

We wish to remember Harold Wettstein (Loretta), Bro. Nathan Wiegand (Sis. Cheryl) and Sis. Clara Kempf in our prayers, as they have dealt with recent sickness, injury and surgery.

Our friend, Bob Grusy, has passed away. We pray for the Lord's comfort to be felt by those left behind in sorrow.

Mark Sinn (Bro. Charles and Sis. Karen) and Amy Blunier (Bro. Kurt and Sis. Livy) were wed on September 16. We wish this couple happiness in their new position in life, and pray for the Lord's nearness unto them.

We warmly welcome Sis. Amy Sinn to the Eureka congregation. Sis. Amy relocated from the Bluffton, IN, congregation to accept a teaching position in our area. We hope she may quickly feel at home here.

It has been a joy and blessing to witness the weekend of provings and baptisms for siblings, Bro. Jared Ehnle and Sis. Allison Ehnle (Bro. Gary and Sis. Carole). May they continue to trust their lives to the Lord, that He may lead them to the everlasting goal.

#### *Notes of Thanks:*

I want to express my sincere appreciation for all the love, cards, prayers, gifts and food that I received since my fall. Thanks to my own family and the church family. May God bless all.

*Sis. Wilma Blunier (Bro. Hank)*

We want to express our heartfelt thanks to our families, relatives and friends for remembering us with your

love and kindness for our 5th anniversary. What a blessing to receive over 100 cards. May God richly bless you.

*Bro. Sid and Sis. Ann Leman*

### **ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY**

**Anna Schmidgall**

**Lila Fehr**

Our congregation was truly blessed by the hearing of three testimonies this month and we welcome into our fold Bro. Dale Mowery (Sis. Elaine), Bro. Neil Kaisner (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Donna), and Sis. Valerie Kaisner (Bro. Don and Sis. Leona). We appreciated having Elder Bros. Ervin Knecht and Wayne Anliker here for the weekend.

Our prayers and sympathies were extended to the family of our dear friend, Paul Hoffman, during his sickness and death. We are thankful that he answered the Lord's call and sought Him in humble repentance prior to his death. His bright smile and tender heart will be missed by the many who loved him.

As life ends for some, we find it just beginning for others. Little Micah Plattner was born on September 2 and brought home in the loving arms of his parents, Bro. Joel and Sis. Amber Plattner. Micah's grandparents are Elder Bro. Rick and Sis. Mary Plattner and Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise Kilgus (Forrest).

We were happy to hear the engagement announcement of Sis. Janelle Schmidgall and Bro. Darl Rassi. Their parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Anna Schmidgall and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Diane Rassi. We also would like to extend our congratulations to three couples who were joined in holy matrimony this summer: Christopher Kafer (Bro. Ben and Sis. Carol) married Abigail Schmid (Marvin and Cindy Schmid); Katie Maurer (Steve and Sis. Donna Maurer) married Mikey Meints (Geri Garcia and Kevin Meints); and Wes Steidinger (Bro.

Martin and Sis. Trish) married Erin Kaeb (Will and Juanita Kaeb).

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Pat Hartman, Bro. Dale Mowery and Bro. Duane Kilgus.

### **ILLINOIS, FORREST**

**Jill Wenger**

**Lori Leman**

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL). We thank these brothers for bringing forth the living Word of Life to us.

Spending time in the hospital this month were Bro. Paul (Sis. Edna) Wiegand and Sis. Aldine Wackerle. Our prayers are that God would be near them in their time of need.

God again has spoken to our hearts as He has called a dear sister Home. Our hearts sorrow with Bro. Byron Nussbaum as he and his family, Sis. Devon (Bro. Ken) Rinkenberger (Ballwin, MO), Sis. Dana (Bro. Ed) Meister (Peoria, IL), Kevin (Joan) Nussbaum (Bloomington, IL), and Kim (Tina) Nussbaum (Colchester, IL), mourn the passing of their wife and mother, Sis. Neola. We will greatly miss Sis. Neola's presence in our congregation.

Carson James' safe arrival has blessed the family of Bro. Arlen and Sis. Denise, Jacob, Chase and Jayna Leman. Grandparents anxious to love him are Jim and Rita Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Leman (Eureka, IL).

Joy and thankfulness has filled the home of Bro. Mark and Sis. Natalie Schneider as they welcome little Allie Jo in to their family circle. Allie's thankful grandparents are Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise Kilgus and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra Schneider.

On September 17, we heard the engagement announcement of our Sis. Laura Stoller to Bro. David Braker



(Lamar, MO). Sis. Laura's parents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill Stoller of our congregation and Bro. David's parents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Judy Braker (Lamar, MO). We wish the Lord's blessings upon their engagement and approaching marriage.

## **ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD**

**Rita Bauman  
Amber Grimm**

### *Note of Thanks:*

We wish to thank the many loved ones who remembered us on our 60th anniversary. May God bless all of you.

*Bro. Raymond and Sis. Viola Wagner*

Ayla Grace was born to Sis. Liz and Bro. Ryan Knapp on September 8. Welcoming her home are her brother, Cade, and sister, Emerie.

May we never underestimate the power of prayer. The Bible calls us to "Pray without ceasing" (I Thessalonians 5:17), and we are so thankful for a praying church.

Special prayers are with the family of Floyd Glazebrook, father of Sis. Deb Fehr (Bro. Steve) and the family of Bro. Raymond Wagner (Sis. Viola), father of Bro. Greg Wagner (Jill), who passed away this month.

We are also praying for Bro. Richard Hartter (Sis. Verna) who was hospitalized this past month that God may grant swift recovery.

I heard some time ago that the power of preaching on the pulpit is directly proportional to the persistence of prayer in the pews. God answered our prayers this month while working through our visiting ministers. Special thanks to Bro. Dan Koch Jr. (Sis. Julie, Tremont, IL), Bro. Ted Witzig Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton, IL), and Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL).

Another answer to prayer is when converts find peace through our Lord

Jesus Christ. Anna Bauman was announced for peace this month and we look forward to her testimony and baptism next month.

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

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

*Ecclesiastes 12:1*

During a recent morning worship service, this Scripture was read and mediated on. The minister alluded to the fact that Satan is wooing young people today, in every aspect of life. He then offered an invitation for them to seek the Lord in repentance and to avoid the wrath to come if they neglect their soul's salvation. The worship ended with the song, "Come Unto Me." The musical layout and vivid lyrics of this song made it impressive:

"Come unto Me, all ye that labor, and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn of me. For I am meek and lowly and ye shall find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Day after day the enemy of our soul is whispering to seeking souls, "Wait a little longer. Wait until tomorrow, etc." Our prayer is that unconverted, accountable souls will fall under conviction and respond to the Saviour in true repentance, and begin the pathway that leads to eternal life through God's work at Calvary.

On September 24, Sis. Laura Vercler was married to Bro. Mark Lindberg, Atlanta, Georgia. Their parents are Bro. Tim and Sis. Laura Vercler, and Bro. Richard and Sis. Julie Lindberg, Atlanta, Georgia. We

offer our sincere best wishes, and much happiness to this newly-married couple.

Present for the wedding were ministering Bros. Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA), Neal Widmer (West Lafayette, IN), Wayne Leman and Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL).

On August 27, Bro. Jeremy Schlipf was married to Sis. Rachel Feucht, Roanoke. He is the son of Bro. Art and Sis. Twyla Schlipf. Her parents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Carol Feucht, Roanoke. May God be with them and bless them in their life together as husband and wife.

Sis. Jodie Schlipf is recovering from serious surgery and many prayers are offered on her behalf.

We offer our sympathies to Sis. Lisa Kiefer over the loss of her father. Also, for Sis. Barb Kiefer, who lost her brother, Frank Durbin.

Sis. Pauline Witzig observed her 90th birthday with an open house at the home of her daughter, Ann Daughtery.

Jen Steffen, daughter of Bro. Mark and Sis. Kanda Steffen, is engaged to marry Matt Young of Cissna Park.

Landon Michael Dohman was born on July 9 to Bro. Michael and Sis. Candice Dohman. He is their first child. Grandparents are Bro. Lynn and Sis. Elaine Stoller and John and Sis. Judy Dohman. Great-grandparents are Sis. Lucille Stoller, Gridley; Sis. Alma Bolliger, Tremont; and Shirley Dohman, Fairbury. May God give much grace and insight to this young couple as they raise this dear child in the ways of the Lord.

Ellie Meredith Schieler was born on September 1. She is the first daughter of Bro. Glenn and Sis. Charity Schieler. Ellie has three brothers, Ashton, 7, Caleb, 5 and Carter, 2. Grandparents are Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein, and Sis. Marilyn Schieler, all of Gridley. Great-grand-



parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Pearl Miller, Portland, OR; and Florence Schultz, Meadows, IL. May God bless these parents and their four precious children.

## ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Annette Tanner  
Julie Bahr**

When we long for life without difficulties, remind us, Dear Lord, that oaks grow strong in contrary winds and diamonds are made under pressure. Help us to bear difficulties that we will face. As a church we are rejoicing with four new members: Sis. Kelly Schick (Bro. Keith and Sis. Janice), Bro. Adam Funk (Bro. Fred and Sis. Diane), Sis. Amber Rassi and Sis. Jennifer Rassi (Bro. Gary and Sis. Debbie). We entrust these new little believers to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

A precious baby boy, Matthew James, was born on August 29 to Bro. Kevin and Sis. Tammy Schaefer. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Joyce Strunk and Bro. Maurice and Sis. Marge Schaefer (Tremont, IL).

Andrew Williams was the name given to the newborn son of Todd and Traci Uhlman on September 15. Blessed with his joyful arrival are grandparents, Bro. William and Sis. Eleanor Uhlman.

On September 2, Bro. Al Hunzicker bid farewell to his brother, Bro. Dale Hunzicker, Peoria. On September 3, Sis. Mildred Staker went to her heavenly home. She was the wife of late Bro. Joseph Staker Sr. and a sister-in-law to Sis. Clara Staker. Then on September 8, Sis. Wilma Wiedman and Bro. Ivan Steiner bid farewell to their sister, Sis. Hilda Gerst, Oakville. A "Welcome Home" to the Believer.

Family Worship night entitled "Mexico Open to the Gospel" was led

by Bro. Marshall Heinold (Sis. Jan, Ixtlan, Mexico). Bro. Marshall extended an invitation to all U.S. believers. He asked us to prayerfully consider the Holy Spirit's direction in personally serving the families in Mexico with the presence of Godly influence. "Through Christ Alone" could any of us ever think we could fill this request.

On September 17, our gracious God has united in Holy Matrimony Sis. Emily Endress and Bro. Matt Koehl, Sarasota. Sis. Emily is the daughter of Sis. Joanni Endress (and late Bro. Fred). Bro. Matt is the son of Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Koehl. While we rejoice with them, we will entrust them to God's leading as they make their home in Sarasota.

With thankful hearts we send our gratitude to our abundance of visiting ministers. Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Debra, Peoria, IL), Elder Bro. Charles Sauder (Sis. Miriam, Tremont, IL), Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL), Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL), Bro. Matt Rassi (Sis. Bridgette, Chicago, IL), Bro. Gary Endress (Sis. Evelyn, Bradford, IL), Bro. Bruce Endress (Sis. Elizabeth, Bradford, IL), Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), Bro. Jeff Streitmatter (Sis. Lynne, Sarasota, FL), Bro. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL), Bro. Ron Koehl (Sis. Carol, Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Virgil Kaeb (Sis. Sue Ellen, Sarasota, FL).

## ILLINOIS, PEORIA

**Kristin Menold  
Carissa Klopfenstein**

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."

*Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Goodbye, warm summer breezes!

Welcome crisp air, cool nights, clear starlit skies, and crackling campfires.

Amidst the flurry of back to school madness, the harvest, or whatever busy-ness encroaches in your life, take time to reflect and ponder the God who created and gave us life. As the season changes, so change our lives. May we become more like God every day through His grace and the power of His strength!

Thank you, Bro. Tim Roecker, for speaking at our family night on August 16. We appreciate your time and efforts to prepare for this topic.

On August 20, we welcomed three new sisters into our congregation: Sis. Carmen Klopfenstein (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Carol), Sis. Sarah Reinhard (Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan), and Sis. Autumn Huett (Rick and Gaynell). Elder Bro. Tim Funk, retired Elder Bro. Chuck Hemmer, and Deacon Bro. Ken Hoerr officiated in this momentous occasion.

On September 30, the Berean Prison Ministry is having a banquet/fundraiser in appreciation for the volunteers and people who have supported this ministry and to raise funds for the upcoming year. Anyone interested in attending this event should contact Bro. Ed Meister.

Choir practice began on September 5. The choir is planning to sing at several churches including Morton, on October 1, and Wolcott, on November 12. CDs are now available from our previous Benefit Dinner, "I Will Praise Him." If you would like one of these CD's, please talk with Sis. Rhonda Meister. Anyone interested in being part of the Benefit Dinner this year is encouraged to come and be part of this fun-filled, music-making experience to the glory of God.

On September 9, we had our very first Neighborhood Outreach. In an effort to reach those families whose homes surround our church, members of our church got together to



bake cookies and deliver them. In addition to receiving some delicious cookies, the neighbors were given a card that lists the times for our church services and other events, such as Team Kids and Sunday school.

Sunday School resumed for the year on September 10. We are so thankful for the Brothers and Sisters who so willingly give of their time and talents to assist in teaching our children. May you be blessed!

September 13 marks the beginning of the second year of Team Kids. This children's ministry is held each Wednesday with the purpose of teaching our children to know more about God through Scripture memorization, life application lessons from the Bible, Scripture songs, and activities.

The congregation will be taking an in-depth look at the book of Philippians this month at our Wednesday night Bible Study. We were happy to have Bro. Randy Mogler from Washington with us for the first of these studies on September 6 and we thank him and Sis. Evie for being with us.

Prayer requests for this month are for Sis. Betty Miller, Sis. Jane Rieker, and Elton Sceggel that they may recover from various health issues.

We will greatly miss Bro. Dale Hunzicker who went to be with the Lord on Saturday, September 2. We are so thankful for his contribution to our congregation, his example of faith and confidence in the will of the Lord even during his time of suffering. Our prayers go out to his family.

Please pray for the safety of Jennessa Woodcock, daughter of Sis. Connie and Less Woodcock, as she is to be deployed by the US Army for 1 year as an interrogator/Interpreter in Iraq.

## ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

**Vera Baer  
Connie Christ**

We rejoiced to welcome two young men as our brothers in Christ on August 27. They are Bro. Shane Martin (Bro. Alan and Sis. Janice) and Bro. Jared Hanson (Steve and Miriam). Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) was here and assisted in this work. We were thankful for many other visiting ministers who shared the Word with us this past month. They included Bro. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Bluffton, IN), and Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL). We appreciate the willingness of these brothers to be servants on our behalf.

Our prayers are with Bro. Ike Martin as he recovers from recent surgery and hospitalization.

We are thankful Kristi Stahl (Bro. Rod and Sis. Cathy) has recently answered God's call to repentance and is seeking the Lord's will for her life. Our prayers are with her as well as all of our converts.

Bro. David and Sis. Leann Berchtold are thankful for the safe arrival of a precious baby girl into their family. Lynelle, Rhea, Claire and Cassie are helpful and loving big sisters to little Tessa Lee. Thankful grandparents include Bro. Vernie Berchtold (late Sis. Joan) and Bro. Larry and Sis. Becky Endress (Bradford, IL).

## ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Dee Fehr  
Doris Fischer**

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

*Genesis 2:24*

We witnessed the marriage of Bro. Jeremy Schlipf (Bro. Art and Sis. Twyla, Gridley) and Sis. Rachel Feucht (Bro. Randy and Sis. Carol) on August 27. Stephanie Leman (Bro. Steve and Sis. Shirley) became the bride of Marc Rieke (Dean and Julie Rieke from Jackson, MI) on September 9.

We were pleased to hear of the engagement of Tom Sauder (Bro. Tom and Sis. Mary Sauder) to Amy Gangloff (Charles and Brenda Gangloff, Metamora). They plan, Lord willing, to be wed on November 4. May God bless and keep these young couples through the coming years.

Maggie Lee has come to bless the hearts and home of Sis. Bev and Bro. Scott Luginbuhl. Sam and Lydia are excited to have a baby sister. Little Maggie's grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol Luginbuhl and the late Bro. Joe and Sis. Mardell Aeschleman.

Just as a new baby brings joy to a household, a new convert brings joy to the household of faith. Allison Sauder (Bro. Tom and Sis. Mary) recently made known her desire to repent and be converted. We rejoice with her, and pray for continued growth in the ways of the Lord.

As Sis. Sarah Hodel (Bro. Brent and Sis. Marge) continues on the path God has for her, she has felt His direction to move to Athens, AL, to serve in the church's preschool. The congregation as a whole, and especially her family, will miss seeing her regularly, but will keep her close to our hearts and in our prayers.

We were fortunate to have visitors share our pulpit in recent weeks. Elder Bros. Tim Funk (Peoria) and Earl Ringger (Gridley) and Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley) shared in the wedding day of Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Rachel. Another Sunday we enjoyed a



group of visitors who have been California residents, and were thankful for Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott) sharing the Gospel that day.

Sis. Lisa Gerber (Bro. Byron) continues her recovery from her bone marrow transplant, and grows stronger every day. To God be the glory! Other hospital patients we're remembering in prayer are Bro. Jerry Hodel (Betty), Sis. Carol Metz (Bro. Gene) and Chuck Fehr (Annie). May God grant these and their loved ones grace during their recuperation.

#### *Notes of Thanks:*

Words cannot express my sincere appreciation and love to those who sent me birthday cards on my 92nd birthday. Also a special thank you for your prayers, phone calls, gifts of love, flowers, and all acts of love. Last but not least, a sincere thank you to whoever left fresh vegetables at my front door. God's blessings to each of you.

*Sis. Mabel Bowald*

I want to thank the Roanoke ambulance squad for the wonderful care they gave me in getting me to the hospital when I fell. Also to the persons who responded so quickly to help me in my time of need. A special thanks to the ministers, Dr. Keith Knepp, and everyone for their prayers, cards, visits and all donations. Thanks to the personnel at Eureka hospital and Roanoke Apostolic Christian Home for the wonderful care while I was there. I sincerely appreciate everything that was done for me and all the love shown to me.

*Carol Schwab*

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#### **ILLINOIS, TREMONT** **Teresa Rowell** **Sheri Allen**

"Say not ye, There are yet four

months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

*John 4:35*

The fields are dying and the combines are out. This is the time of harvest and we, as Christians, have yet another opportunity to think on our eternal destination. Are our hearts ready to be harvested at any moment? Do we think on Jesus every day and make sure our souls are at peace and ready to die? We do not know when life will end, and we do not know when Jesus will return, so let us always be ready at a moment's notice.

Sis. June Zuercher has gone on to her eternal reward. We sympathize with her family, Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Zuercher, Bro. Byron Zuercher, Sis. Anne Zuercher, Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary Wagenbach (Rockville, CT), Nathan and Nichole Zuercher, and numerous grandchildren.

In the circle of life there is the sorrow of death and the joy of life. Four families welcome new little ones into their families. Bro. Lucas and Sis. Diana Gudeman (Bradford, IL) add Halle Rose to their family. Big brother, Collin, welcomes her home. Bro. Fred and Sis. Jeannette Beutel, of our congregation are happy grandparents. Bro. John and Sis. Misty, Willow, Echo, Talon, Meadow, Arrow, Halo and Anchor welcome Indigo Love into their hearts and home. Elder Bro. Charles and Sis. Miriam Sauder are excited grandparents. Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmen Rassi welcome their first child. Kate Alyson is the granddaughter of Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Rassi and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Marcia Kaiser. Matthew James is the latest addition to Bro. Kevin and Sis. Tammy Schaefer's family. Mary, Emily, Andrew and Katie are excited for a new brother. Bro. Maurice and

Sis. Marge Schaefer are his grandparents.

We bid a fond farewell to Bro. Akihiro and Sis. Carrie Ito with a singing as they are moving to Japan to support the churches over there. We will miss them in our midst but realize that when the Lord leads, we must follow.

We had the exciting privilege to hear the engagement of our Bro. Greg Beutel (Bro. Dean and Sis. Karen) and our Sis. Mary Rassi (Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy). In this we wish them the Lord's richest blessings as they take this very important step.

We also want to extend our prayers to those who have been in the hospital or have been ill. May the Lord comfort them and heal them through these trying times.

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#### **ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON** **Nancy Knepp** **Barb Banwart**

We were again reminded of our Father's loving response to a repentant soul as our new Sis. Jodi Anliker (Bro. Art and Sis. Carol, Eureka) gave her testimony and was baptized on September 9-10. Surely it is His love that draws one to Himself. Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary, Fairbury, IL) opened the Word of Life and refreshed us in a wonderful way as he assisted Bro. Ron. Bro. Matt Steffen (Sis. Deanna, Princeville, IL) also brought the Word to us. The hearing of the Truth inspires such thankfulness in a believer's heart.

Bro. Grant and Sis. Martha Hangartner became parents on September 3 when their baby boy, Brodie Michael, was born. His grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Karen Hangartner and Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Verona Strahm (Bern, KS). And on September 14, a son, Cooper Ray, was born to Bro. Todd and Sis. JoEllen Martin. He will receive much loving



attention from siblings, Yana and Alex, and grandparents, Harold and Loretta Wettstein and Bro. Nelson and Sis. Mary Ellen Martin (Eureka, IL).

Sis. Pearline Streitmatter had cataract surgery recently and looks forward to improved eyesight in the coming days. What a blessing it has been to many that the Lord has given knowledge and skill to physicians to restore clarity of vision. Good eyesight is surely a gift for which to be thankful. Those who cheerfully accept diminished sight have our admiration; they are examples to us. Fanny Crosby, who wrote many of our beloved hymns and thousands in her lifetime, was blinded at a young age. When still a child, she wrote:

Oh, what a happy soul I am,  
Although I cannot see;  
I am resolved that in this world  
Contented I will be.

How many blessings I enjoy  
That other people don't;  
To weep and sigh because I'm  
blind  
I cannot and I won't!

What she could see was the guiding hand of God and in one hymn she wrote:

Through each perplexing care and  
strife,  
That marks the checkered path of  
life,  
My Saviour's guiding hand I see,  
And know that still He leadeth  
me.

We prayerfully think, too, of others with health concerns without diagnosis or resolution and those with troubled hearts for other reasons. May the lovingkindness of the Lord relieve or comfort each one.

Recently, Psalm 71 was read from

the pulpit. "Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth." We surely appreciate and esteem our older Brothers and Sisters and friends. They lend such stability and support to our lives and our church. May God bless them and gently lead each one.

## INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Amber Steffen**

**Amy Gerber**

"Trust in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength."

*Isaiah 26:4*

There are many in the Bluffton congregation this month that have needed to trust in that everlasting strength of God. At the same time, it has given others many opportunities to be on their knees in prayer. Together we have lifted each other up in prayer and encouragement.

Our dear Bro. Nathan and Sis. Rachel Mueller and their little boy Kaine will be moving up to Gateway Woods to be alternate house parents, and we are truly prayerful for their new ministry!

We are praying for the healing of many in our congregation this month. Bro. Steve Reinhard is at Lutheran Hospital with internal bleeding two places in his leg and in considerable pain. The prayers of the church have been requested for both Steve, Renee, and their entire family. Sis. Rochelle Gerber underwent surgery this month, and the church was also prayerful for her as well. Nicole Sipe was admitted at Lutheran and later transferred to Riley where she underwent major surgery. Prayers for her and her family have been lifted up for Nicole during this critical time. Finally, Bro. Godfrey Bertsch underwent knee surgery and asked for

prayers as well.

Our church also must pray for the families of five precious souls in Bluffton. Our Bro. Jason and Sis. Anna Lantz lost their little girl, Jaycee Marie, who was carried to full term. They have expressed many thanks for the prayers and the loving support that were shown to them during this time of great loss. Sis. Mary Speheger (Bro. Walter-dec.) has passed from this life into the next, and we are prayerful for her remaining family and loved ones. Mrs. Hazel Gerber (Orval) passed away Thursday, August 31. Bro. Glen Reinhard passed on into eternity recently. Mourning his loss are his loving wife, Sis. Leota, and his children, Sharon (Larry) Goodwin, Cindy (Steve) Kline, Bro. Steve (Sis. Renee), and Shelly (Barry) Scott. Lastly, our Lord took Bro. Herman Drayer (Sis. Marie-dec.) home. Grieving him are his children, Sis. Donna (Lemuel) Vega, Bro. Jerry (Sis. Lois), Bro. Herman (Sis. Julie), Dennis (Jan), and Bro. Rocky (Sis. Melinda) Giltner and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Just as sadness comes to our congregation, there is also much room for rejoicing. This month, we have the pleasure of praising God with the angels over the three souls coming in repentance. Bill Frauhiger (Bro. Kris and Sis. Ann), Wendy Fiechter (Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie), and Chelsea Baumgartner (Bro. Craig and Sis. Beth) have all made a beginning. We are so thankful for them, and continue to be prayerful for them as they start their walk with the Lord.

We also rejoice with the family of Bro. Aaron and Sis. Rachel Isch as they gave birth on August 22 to little Corrine Michelle. Her proud grandparents are Bro. Barry and Sis. Imogene Isch and Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth Fiechter.

Announcing their peace and prep-



aration for baptism on September 30 are Sadie Steffen (Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen), Dan Kaehr (Bro. Sam and Sis. Connie) and Nathaniel Aschliman (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Beth). They, along with Spencer Lewis (who has already found peace at an earlier date), will soon be giving their testimonies of faith. We are prayerful for them and the battle that Satan will no doubt try to throw at them in the time before their baptisms.

Our dear Sis. Brenda Kipfer sent out a thank you to the church for the many prayers and well wishes that she has received in the past months. She also requests continued prayers as she faces more surgery in the week ahead.

Sis. Jamie Maller Johnson would like to send her thanks as well. Her gratitude is evident for the many members of the church that helped to fix her home. The needed repairs would not have been possible otherwise, and she is extremely grateful.

Along with the many other prayer requests, remember to pray for the students who recently returned to school for a new year. Whether in middle school, high school or college, many face opposition and new challenges every day. Let's remember to pray for the youth in our church, and that they can stand strong and grow nearer to Christ during this time in their lives.

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**INDIANA  
BLUFFTON NORTH  
Darren Drayer  
Tiffani Schladenhauffen**

"Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin."

*Romans 6:6-7*

We rejoiced with our new Brothers and Sister in Christ as we listened to their testimonies and witnessed their baptisms. We welcomed Bro. Chris Stoller (Sis. Irma, Latty, OH), Bro. Drake Moser (Bro. Wm. Gene and Sis. Edna), Bro. Philip Bertsch (Bro. Lonnie), and Sis. Beth Harris (Bro. Mark and Sis. Susan). It is such an encouragement to see answers to our prayers.

We were thankful that Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) came down to assist our Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen). Also sharing in the special weekend were Bro. John Grimm (Sis. Julie, Columbus, OH) and Bro. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH).

We are prayerful for the family of our Bro. Glen Reinhard at his sudden passing. He leaves behind his wife, Sis. Leota; four children, Bro. Steve (Sis. Renee, Bluffton, IN), Sharon Goodwin (Larry), Cindy Kline (Steven), and Shelly Scott (Barry); a brother, Bro. Richard (Bluffton, IN); and a sister, Sis. Lucille Frauhiger (Bro. Melvin, Bluffton, IN). His bright smile will be missed, but knowing that it will be even brighter in Heaven is a comfort.

We are also prayerful for Bro. Jerry Drayer (Sis. Lois) at the loss of his father, Bro. Herman Drayer (Bluffton, IN).

Just as we said good bye to some loved ones, we were thankful to welcome several new babies into our lives. Bro. Tad and Sis. Stephanie Baumgartner have been blessed with another baby boy, Jude Thomas, on August 24. He joins his brother Samuel. The happy grandparents are Bro. Galen and Sis. Joyce Baumgartner and Jan Elliot.

Big brother Isaac Gerber welcomed his little brother, Caleb Dong Su, home who was born March 15. The thankful new parents are Bro. Jarrod and Sis. Amy Gerber. The

grandparents are Sis. Nancy Gerber and Sis. Melissa Smekens.

We have some thankful grandparents. Bro. Joe and Sis. Jan Schwartz received their first granddaughter, Madison Marie Sonnigsen. Madison Marie's parents are Tyler and Heather Sonnigsen. Bro. Steve and Sis. Myra Ringger are first time grandparents of a little grandson, Jack Michael. Jack Michael's parents are Bro. Michael and Sis. Angie Ringger (Phoenix, AZ). We are prayerful for each of these families as they have new little ones to teach about Jesus.

We rejoice with Bro. Lonnie Bertsch and Sis. Pat Moser and their families as their engagement was announced. We are prayerful for them as they begin to prepare for their life together.

We had some loved ones spending some time in the hospital this month: Sis. Rochelle (Bro. Rod) and Mike Mayne (Sheryl), who is the son-in-law of Bro. Jay and Sis. Dot Kipfer. It is such a blessing to be part of such a praying fellowship.

"...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

*James 5:16*

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**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE  
Barbara Huber  
Jessica Murray**

Greetings in our Lord and Savior! As I write this month's article, I am impressed once again with the wonder of the seasons our Creator has blessed us with. The fields around us are promising an abundant harvest and are a beauty to behold. We pray the Lord's blessings on that harvest.

August 26 - 27 was a weekend of great blessing for us here at Francesville. We gathered on Saturday evening to hear the testimonies of our converts, Jenna Putt (Bro. Brian



and Sis. Tami), A J Gutwein (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Janice), Elizabeth Rayburn (Bro. Jim and Sis. Barbara) and Jacob Tanner (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Gina). They are now our Brothers and Sisters in our Lord Jesus. We are so thankful that they have sought salvation in their young years. Elder Bro. Jay (Sis. Jane) Luthi and family of Lamont-Gridley, KS, traveled here to assist our Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein. May God richly bless their efforts to physically be with us and their labor of love in God's service.

We have had many of our congregation having trials of health this month. Sis. Evelyn (Bro. Vernon) Pelsy spent some time in the hospital and, thankfully, is now back at home and able to worship with us again. Surgery patients have been Sis. Phyllis (Bro. Bob) Wuethrich and Sis. Liz (Bro. Earl) Anliker who have both had hip replacements. Sis. Rosella (Bro. Wally) Bucher has had a knee replacement also. Our dear Sis. Priscilla Anliker suffered a fall in her home and is now endeavoring to recuperate to the level of her previous convalescence. We pray that they all feel the healing touch of the Master's hands.

We have suffered a great loss with the death of our beloved Bro. Carl Gutwein. September 7 was the day the Lord called him home to Himself after several weeks of suffering with cancer. His survivors include our dear Sis. Yvonne (Neihouser); their children, Elder Bro. Steve (Sis. Linda), Bro. Nick (Sis. Suzanne), and Sis. Carla (Bro. Chris) Wuethrich. One son, Bro. Mike, preceded him in death. Eighteen grandchildren also are left without their loving grandfather. May this dear family feel the corporate prayers of our church and the comforting presence of our Heavenly Father as they experience each day without their loved one. May they be comforted by the words from

Romans which they used in Bro. Carl's memorial card: "For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38-39

Visiting ministers this month included Bro. Steven Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) and Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH). Our prayer is one of thankfulness first to God and then to these Brothers and their families for being so willing to minister the Word of God to us.

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

*Proverbs 3:5,6*

This precious scripture was the basis of a topical Bible Study delivered by our Bro. Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol, Gridley, IL). Many Biblical truths were imparted to us. Bro. Byron encouraged us to "let go and let God" handle all the circumstances of our lives and that obedience is the basis of trust. Thank you, dear Brother, for serving us so graciously.

"Oh, how great is thy goodness, which thou has laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men."

*Psalms 31:19*

Our congregation has been listening to the Elder Conference tapes this month also. We are so blessed with our church leadership and may we not only listen to these teachings, but live out the scriptural truths they represent.

Our High School Bible Class and teachers, along with other Indiana churches, attended the Camp Mack day of worship on Sunday, September 17. This year marks the end of the Camp Mack tradition. We pray that God continues to direct our leadership as they endeavor to establish the foundations for a life of faith and truth in our young people. We want to thank everyone who has been so earnestly involved in the Camp Mack day throughout all the years it has been enjoyed and sincerely pray that God richly blesses their efforts as only He can!

### CHARACTER

Build character for God. Make it four-square: with a spiritual side, a moral side, a mental side, and a physical side. On the spiritual side, square it with Jesus Christ; let it be your ambition to be as spiritual as your Master; on the moral side be satisfied with nothing less than the standard set by Christ, Himself; on the mental side let the thoughts of God rule; and on the physical side strive to make the body as clean as you believe was the body of the Lord Jesus Christ. Build the whole life for God.

—Speer

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### INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS Gail Bradford Sandy Lichtle

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held on August 20 at a local park. We all enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship, food, and activities for the children. We are thankful for the servant hearts of our Sunday School teachers.

We rejoice with Bro. Darl and Sis. Cindy Schieler on the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Marla (Bloomington, IL) to Bro. Jaron Huber (Bro. Dave and Sis. Debbie, Bloomington, IL). We wish them



God's blessings as they plan a January 7 wedding.

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

*Psalm 127:3*

August 26 was a special day for Sis. Bev Hartter as her grandson, Caleb Christian Rouse, was born. Caleb's parents are Jacob and Lisa Rouse of Claremore, OK. We pray for God's wisdom and guidance to be with them as new parents.

We sincerely welcome Sis. Laura Braker (Morton, IL) to our congregation. Sis. Laura is attending a local college.

Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers are with the family of Bro. Carl Gutwein (Sis. Yvonne, Francesville, IN) who went to be with the Lord on September 7. Bro. Carl has several family members with ties to Indianapolis which include his sister-in-law, Sis. Marcelle Gress (Bro. Ron), his granddaughters, Sis. Betsy Gutwein and Sis. Sara Huber (Bro. Nate), his grandson, Anthony Gutwein (Jennifer), and his nephew, Bro. Sam Gutwein (Sis. Carrie).

We extend a special thanks to our Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) for leading a discussion on the strengths and weaknesses of our current church building and property on September 13.

We were blessed to have several other visiting ministers with us this month. We appreciate the Word that was brought forth by Bro. Ken Lawson (Sis. Sharon, Phoenix, AZ), retired Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Sis. Frances, Wolcott, IN), and Bro. Bob Pflederer (Sis. Eleanor, Morton, IL). Thank you for your labors of love.

## **INDIANA, LACROSSE** **Bethany Johnson** **Julie Rocke**

Greetings be to you, our brethren,  
To our sisters in the Lord,  
Here from far and near assembled,  
Gathered here in one accord.  
Welcome, welcome, All ye loved  
ones:

Greetings in the Saviour's name.

*Hymns of Zion, No. 7*

We received great blessings in hosting a large number of visiting young people for Labor Day weekend. The singing was beautiful and many of our congregation were able to participate in the weekend.

We want to extend a warm welcome to Sis. Michelle Steidl who is joining our congregation from Akron, Ohio. May she feel the love of Christ as she makes the transition and know that we are thankful to have her assembling with us.

As we welcome one, we say farewell to another. Bro. Rudy Troxel has followed the Lord's leading and has moved to Ixtlan, Mexico, for a period of time. We pray that God will bless him and his work. If you wish to correspond with Bro. Rudy, you may send mail to "5 de Mayo-2, Ixtlan, Michoacan, Mexico CP 59280".

Bro. Elvin Nuest underwent eye surgery. We hope God's healing mercies will be extended to him for a speedy recovery. Our prayers are with many of our loved ones who have spent time in the hospital or are suffering hardships.

Our hearts go out to Bro. Chris and Sis. Carla Wuethrich and their family with the passing of Sis. Carla's father, Bro. Carl (Sis. Yvonne) Gutwein of Francesville. May they ever feel God's nearness and comfort in this time of loss.

We have been blessed to sit and listen to the tapes of the General Confer-

ence in the past few weeks. It was wonderful to feel how the Spirit of God spoke through each of His willing servants and in each of our hearts individually as we sat under the sound of the Word.

Sunday School has begun again after taking the month of August off. New Sunday School teachers are Sis. Cathy Nuest, Bro. Josh Johnson and Bro. Glen Gudeman. Our heartfelt thanks goes to each of them as they give of themselves to teach the children.

Our appreciation is extended to Bro. Don Steidl (Sis. Nan, Akron, OH) for coming with his family to spend a day with us and serve willingly on our behalf. May God be his rich rewarder.

### *Note of Thanks:*

I want to thank all of my dear friends for the cards and blessings and most of all, for your presence at my 90th birthday party. May God bless you all. I appreciate your fellowship so much.

*Sis. Carolyn Levy*

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

Bro. Jon Gerst has been worshipping with us for some time. We welcome him and appreciate his service in leading singing.

A large number stayed over following Gateway Woods auction, including ministering brothers, Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL), Bro. Jedd Rocke (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Tim Hohulin (Roanoke, IL). On August 27, Bro. Matt Kaufmann (Sis. Rebekah, Bloomington, IL) ministered to us.

Our Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz reviewed the purpose and considerations of the Elder Conference, and we are starting to listen to a CD of the speakers. What a blessed heritage we share that from a child we could be



taught of a living way that leads to eternal life; that we are encouraged by faithful brothers willing to serve us and remind us of our high calling in Christ Jesus.

The youth appreciated their time together September 16, for Fort Wayne Outreach. They met to show compassion to those in need, lonely, pack health kits, and spend a time in praise and instruction.

On September 17, we appreciated the ministry of Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN). He and his wife, Sis. Rachel, came to assist their daughter, Sis. Dixie, in getting settled. We welcome Sis. Dixie as she serves as counselor at Gateway Woods. Our hope is that Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel will return often.

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### **INDIANA, MILFORD**

**Carol Haab  
Carlton Beer**

Our congregation has had a blessed month. Bro. Don Haab invited a group that had taken a European trip together to visit us. Bro. Carl Wyss (Washington, IL) showed slides of their journey. Among that group was Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) who ministered to us.

Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL) was here to help our Bro. Dan one Sunday. He was accompanied by his parents, Bro. Dan Sr. and Sis. Carol. We enjoyed their ministry and their fellowship.

Our Bro. Dan invited a former work team to visit. Several families and their children spent a weekend with us. It is always enjoyable to have children with us. With this group was Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA) who spoke to us of peace and how to attain it. He also spoke of the contrast between the old law and the wonderful grace that we live by.

Our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) conducted a Bible

study on the follies of pride and the benefits of humility.

Our young group and those of neighboring congregations met at Camp Mack for the Youth Fellowship day. This activity has been going on annually for fifty years. This was started by our late Bro. Elmer Hartter. Many happy couples rejoice that they met at Camp Mack.

You can see we enjoy company – come worship with us!

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### **INDIANA, REMINGTON**

**Beth Virkler  
Tammy Waibel**

Greetings to all. We at Remington have been blessed to have Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL), Elder Bro. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City, MO), Bro. Glen Braker (Sis. Audrey, Princeville, IL), Bro. Steve Martin (Sis. Vicki, Eureka, IL) and Bro. John Hartman (Sis. Rosemary, Fairbury, IL) as our visiting ministers this month. We are humbled by the willingness of these brothers and their families to share God's Word and fellowship with us.

Bro. Ron Clark (Sis. Brenda) was hospitalized this month after having heart surgery. We are prayerful that the Lord is with this family in their time of need.

Our friends, Dave and Charity Pratt, along with daughters, Chloe-Ann and Genisis, welcome a new member into the family. Noah Phillip Joseph Pratt was born on September 15. Grandparents are: Bro. Phil and Sis. Diane Isabell, Jerry (Pat, dec.) Pratt and Donna Pratt. We wish God's blessings on this family as they bring up this little one with God's Word.

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### **INDIANA, SOUTH BEND**

**Amy Gerst**  
Our South Bend congregation was

blessed with two visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Jeff Thames (Washington, IL) and Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL). Bro. Jeff also brought to us a Parenting Seminar and we were thankful to receive many teachings from God's Word about raising our children.

We rejoiced with Sis. Laura Vercler and Bro. Mark Lindberg as they shared their wedding vows on September 24 in Gridley, IL. Although we will miss Sis. Laura, we are thankful for God's direction in bringing this couple together. They will be attending the Atlanta, GA, congregation.

As the harvest season approaches, let us remember what Christ said in John 4:35 "...Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest" and in Luke 10:2 "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest."

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### **INDIANA, VALPARAISO** **Marguerite Hoerr**

I want to express my sincere appreciation to Bro. Ed Lester for the many times he reported news for our Valpo congregation. He'll be teaching Sunday School this fall; and he's also pursuing the profession of nursing, so his hours are very committed at this time. May God bless him in his goal.

When we first came to Valpo church, there was a delightful friend, Millie Williams, who attended and who was about as friendly as any person I've ever met. Recently Millie has been unable to attend because she had heart surgery. Since then various other health problems have delayed her complete recovery. I spoke with her this morning and in her delightful, Southern accent she said, "I'm takin' each day as it gits here." Trans-



lated, that means Millie is accepting what the Lord gives her and is not complaining about it. She told me that early in October she, her husband, Bill, and their special dog "Boo Boo" plan to go to California so their daughter, Glendy, can keep a closer eye on them. Glendy operates a Home Health Care business and it seems that they couldn't be going to a better place. All of us, in our Valpo church, will be lonesome for Millie's smiling face, her kind ways and her faithful help with dishes each noon. May God bless you, Millie and Bill. We love you.

Bro. Garry Bucher gave greetings from our Sis. Eunice Feller, whom he and Sis. Lois stopped to visit on their way back from Iowa. We're pleased to hear that she's doing well. She's very missed in our little church.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Marilyn Hohulin have a new joy in their lives. Little Lena Elise came to bless their home on August 8. She made her entry into this world a bit early but is very healthy and very loved. Her paternal grandparents are Bro. Wes and Sis. Joyce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL), maternal grandmother is Sis. Dorothy Walder (Cissna Park, IL). There are two sets of paternal great-grandparents also: Bro. Sid and Sis. Ann Leman (Eureka, IL), and Sis. Vi Hohulin (Goodfield, IL). We all rejoice over the birth of little Lena Elise.

Speaking of rejoicing, we have reason to rejoice in the conversion of our dear friend, Art Heinold. Art has reached the age of 90 years and expresses himself in saying he doesn't know why he waited so long. We were reminded of the scripture text in Psalm 90, vs. 12: "So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom." The joy on his face as we meet him in church puts joy on ours, too. We heard his testimony and witnessed his baptism on September 9-10. It brought tears to our eyes to hear him express his love for

his Saviour and his happiness in his new life. In our small congregation, we happily greet him as our new brother in faith. Elder Bros. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN) and Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN) were with us to officiate in hearing Art's testimony and in giving him the rite of baptism.

Bro. Ed Lester, Sr. had hip surgery during this past month. He's recuperating at home. His smiling face and his friendly manner are always missed when he's not able to be with us. We're grateful that the surgery is past and that he'll soon be back worshipping with all of us. May God be with him through this entire recuperation and give him freedom from the pain he's experienced in the past.

Sis. Carol Bucher had foot surgery and according to Bro. Ken, is recovering nicely. Our prayers are that she will soon be back in church with us. We've observed the avid work Ken and Carol do for our church, and we ask God to bless them for it.

Sis. Jo Meiss will be undergoing angioplasty in this coming week and we ask God to be especially near to her. She is a very dear person, who along with her husband, Bro. Rollie, "goes about doing good" wherever and whenever they can. Their reason for this is that they feel so blessed they want to share blessings with others. What an example they are to all of us.

Ministering Bros. Tom Troxel (Sis. LuAnn, LaCrosse, IN) and Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue) visited our congregation and shared His Word with us this past month. We ask God to bless them for the generosity and love shown through these visits.

Our Sunday School program is back in session, after a short summer vacation. New teachers are beginning this term. They are Bro. Ed and Sis. Tricia Lester. Teachers who are on staff are Bros. Tim Bucher, Jeff Miller, Ken Susdorf; Sisters Cindra

Susdorf, Claudia Thomas and Dawn Ailes. Retiring from their terms of teaching are Bro. Lance Bucher and Sis. Marsha Weiss. We want to express our heartfelt thanks to each of them for their dedication in teaching the Word to our children.

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## INDIANA WEST LAFAYETTE Andria Sprunger Hollie Meister

On September 17 we enjoyed the proving and baptism as we welcomed Bro. Cameron Walder (Bro. Russ and Sis. Darlene) into the Body of Christ. We wish him much grace in his continued walk with the Lord.

We also rejoice this month with Kim Furrer (Bro. Irvin Sis. Shirley, Wolcott, IN) and Laura Ridge, for they have both been announced as having peace with God and man. We pray they will continue to feel God's grace as they continue their walk with Him.

We wish to welcome two new families to our congregation. Bro. Matt and Sis. Christine Ginzel and Bro. Nick, Sis. Suzanne, Andre' and Madison Gutwein.

Bro. Stuart and Sis. Alivia Gutwein are thankful to have a healthy baby boy, born on September 16. Hudson Robert was welcomed home by big sister Ava. Joyful grandparents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Ellen Gutwein and Bro. Dave and Sis. Arlene Metzger (Francesville, IN). Bro. Rustin and Sis. Amanda Meister are also thankful for a healthy baby boy, born on September 19. Big brother Micah happily welcomed little Clay Isaiah home. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Sharon Meister (W. Lafayette, IN) and Bro. Roger and Sis. Sandy Ward (Francesville, IN).

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Bro. Carl Gutwein



(Francesville, IN). Our hearts go out to his son, Bro. Nick Gutwein (Sis. Suzanne), and his grandson, Bro. Kevin Gutwein (Sis. Laura). May God be with you in this time of sorrow.

We were blessed with visiting ministers this month. We wish to thank the following: Elder Bros. Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington, IL) and Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, Lacrosse, IN), Bro. Don Sinn (Sis. Linda, Silverton, OR), Bro. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH) and Bro. Alan Schambach (Sis. Sarah, Remington, IN). We appreciate their time and efforts in bringing us His message.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held this month. We enjoyed a beautiful evening of fellowship together. We wish to thank all of our teachers who put forth time and effort to teach our precious children. The brothers and sisters who have been selected to replace the teachers whose terms expired are as follows: Bro. Corey Gerber, Bro. Jason Huber, Sis. Joy Huber, and Sis. Hollie Meister.

Our prayers go out to Sis. Reva Waibel (Bro. Leon). Reva has been ill and in the hospital this month. May the healing hand of God be upon her.

## INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Elaine Bahler**

**Lowell Bahler**

How thankful we are when loved ones come to visit their families in our congregation, and we were especially blessed to have Bro. Randy Gudeman (Sis. Becky, Francesville, IN) spend a Sunday with us. We thank him for his labors of love in the ministry.

"There are friendships that we cherish" and our Invite-a-Friend Sunday brought together many cherished friends. We thank Bro. Nile Bucher (Sis. Phyllis, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Nelson Beer (Sis.

Shelby, Milford, IN) for sharing God's Word with us on this special day.

As our young people attended what may be the last Camp Mack event, many from our congregation reminisced about their own special times at this yearly gathering. It brought back precious memories for Sis. Arles Kropf who was encouraged to share these words that she penned 45-50 years ago. Perhaps others will be reminded of times past when they were part of this blessed fellowship.

### *Precious Memories of Camp Mack*

Again another day we've spent  
Together 'round God's Word.  
In fellowship so sweet and blest  
Communing with our Lord.

'Tis once each year this joy we find  
We come from miles around  
Our Friends and Brethren spend a  
day  
On beautiful Camp Mack ground.

'Tis joy to greet our old friends  
And joy to meet the new;  
Our common faith does bind us  
In God who is so true.

Out on that pleasant hillside  
Overlooking Lake Wabec  
We praise the great Creator  
Whose handiwork we see!

All through the day we praise our  
Lord,  
In song and meditation.  
His Spirit dwells among us;  
We feel His close relation.

With choir voices ringing  
And sunset in the West,  
Our day is almost ended,  
A day so sweet and blest.

The message then to us is given,  
Instructions for us all.  
The plea unto our many Friends  
To answer Jesus' call.

E'er we do part, we once more  
turn,  
To God in earnest prayer;  
To thank Him for such blessings  
And ask for love and care.

We pray for all our precious  
friends,  
That they their lives will give,  
Unto our loving Savior  
And for Him only live!

We plead for His protection  
Upon our homeward way  
And ask Him keep us safe from  
harm  
Until that one Great Day!

When we on yonder Shore shall  
meet  
Earth's sorrows all then o'er,  
To be together with our Lord  
No parting anymore!

—written by Sis. Arles Kropf

## IOWA, BLOOMFIELD

**Barbara Schock**

Greetings in our Savior's name!  
Our numbers here in Bloomfield continue to grow! On August 16, Kami Nicole arrived to bless the home of Bro. Eugene and Sis. Lana Joos. Siblings, Lincoln, Megan, Natalie and Kayla, welcome their new sister home. Also on September 12, Chuck and Tammy Luci, along with Sierra, welcomed into their hearts and home, Alexis Makenna. Grandparents of both little girls are Bro. Ron and Sis. Christy Joos. May the Lord be with each couple as they take on the responsibility of raising children in today's world.

We would also like to welcome Bro. Kristopher Messner (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Audrey) to our congregation from West Bend. We pray that he will feel welcome and at home while he is here.

We enjoyed the opportunity to



host the Zapata Snowbird Reunion here on August 26 and 27. It was a blessed weekend and a joy to see the older ones in faith fellowshiping with one another. Ministering Bro. Mike Bauman (Sis. Florine, Mansfield, OH) was here for this weekend.

On September 10, Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA) was here to share the Word with us. We thank both of these brothers for their efforts to come and share the Truth with us. May God richly bless each one.

This past month, we were able to hear the Conference tapes. May we always be able to take the exhortations to heart, and draw closer to God and His will. Harvest is fast approaching, and the fields are turning brown and the leaves are changing colors. May this serve as a reminder to us that a bigger Harvest is fast approaching, and that we need to be prepared.

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### **IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden Heidi Butikofer**

"While the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease."

*Genesis 8:22*

As I write this article for the October issue of the Silver Lining, I can also enjoy the beauty of the autumn season. Our leaves are turning many shades of red, gold and orange and falling to the ground. By the time this issue is received into the homes, many trees will be barren. Our lives have seasons, too. We can compare spring-time, summer, fall and winter to our infancy, childhood/teens, adult and geriatric years. Each season requires a certain amount of preparation. Perhaps the farmers realize this fact the

most. May we be as wise in preparing for eternity as we are in preparing for each new season.

We have been listening to the Conference tapes, and can't help but feel much gratitude to our Elder body for their great desire to help us prepare for eternity.

Sis. Jan Frieden (Bro. Floyd) was a surgical patient this past month. May God be with her and continue to provide healing and strength.

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### **IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Will Clark**

What a blessing our Garden Grove congregation had, as nearly 70 sisters and brothers from throughout Iowa gathered with us for Iowa Churches Weekend!

We also certainly appreciate visits from ministering brothers and their families. Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA), Bros. John Rowell (Burlington, IA), Joe Dotterer (Bloomfield, IA) and Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO) have shared the precious Word of God with us.

Stefan Dolinsky, husband of Birdie, has moved to Westview Acres Care Center in Leon, Iowa. Our prayers are with him and with Birdie, as she spends time at home without him.

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### **IOWA, LESTER Polly Metzger Gloria Moser**

Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine:  
Lord, I will forever and always be Thine.  
For Thou hast created and purchased me too.  
Baptized with thy Spirit, Thou makest me new.  
*Zion's Harp # 209*

It was a weekend of rejoicing on August 19-20 as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of three dear souls. We welcomed Bro. John Tolvstad, Bro. Colin Moser and Sis. Camille Moser (Bro. Rick and Sis. Lori) into the Fold. It was an encouragement to be reminded that God does work in the hearts of the young and the old. Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO) was here to assist our Elder Bro. Dennis Warner in this important undertaking. Bro. Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO) was with us on that weekend as well. Also here throughout the past month were Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Beirne Messner (Morris, MN). Our appreciation and support go to each of these brothers for their labors of love on our behalf.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those that suffer physical afflictions. We want to remember Betty Ross, Kevin Oleson (Janet), Bro. Dale Metzger (Sis. Christine), Laura Feucht (Darrel) and Sis. Martha Knoblock (Bro. Marti) as they are all recovering from surgery. Sam Metzger (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Harriet) has also spent time in the hospital. We trust that God's healing hand will be upon them and others in our congregation that are enduring pain and serious illnesses.

We extend our congratulations to Traci Knoblock (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet) as she has recently graduated from Radiology school and has found employment in our area. Recently we said good-bye to Kendall Meyer who has returned to Chicago, IL, for employment. We appreciated his friendly smile and his willingness to help others. May God be near both of these dear ones as they begin their new careers.

August 29 was the wedding date of Gwen Meyer (Bro. George and the



late Sis. Charlyn) and Nate Christie. We wish them God's blessings as they walk life's pathway together.

In sorrow and pain, Thy trust do retain;  
In Jesus the merciful Saviour.  
He'll lighten the load, and level the road.  
And bear thee on hands of compassion.  
*Zion's Harp #46*

Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers are with the dear ones in our congregation who are experiencing sorrow. We extend our love and support to Sis. Martha Feucht, Bro. Roy and Sis. Melisa Feucht and Bro. Wes and Sis. Esther Moser as they are grieving the loss of a dear daughter and sister, Sis. Sharon Strahm. We pray as well for Bro. Phil and Sis. Donna Mogler as they mourn the unexpected death of a precious grandson, Luke Messner. May our compassionate heavenly Father lighten the load and make their cross bearable.

The signs of autumn are around us with the trees changing colors and the fields getting ripe for harvest. It is a good reminder to examine our individual lives that we are bearing good fruit so that we may be ready for the great "Harvest" when our Lord returns to claim His own.

### **IOWA, OAKVILLE** **Sharla Wiegand**

We appreciated the many visiting ministers that blessed our congregation this month. On September 3, Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Rod Bajema (Lester, IA) brought forth the Word in its truth and purity. On September 17, Bro. Tom Schambach and Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL), Bro. Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) and Bro. James

Knapp (Congerville, IL) preached the Word.

Our hearts were saddened with the passing of Sis. Hilda Gerst on September 8. May the Lord ever comfort her children, Sis. Luanne Beyer, Sis. Susan Gerst, Sis. Barb Wagenbach (Bro. Colin) and Bro. Fred Gerst (Sis. Susan), all of our congregation. Sis. Hilda also left a good example for her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

We wish to extend our sincere thanks to all who remembered us on our 60th wedding anniversary. Every card and thought is greatly appreciated.

*Bro. Bob and Sis. Edith Schrock*

### **IOWA, WEST BEND** **Sue Schneider** **Lori Skoglund**

August 20 was a joyous day as Bro. Quinn Dahlhauser (Bro. Ken and Sis. Ellen) and Sis. Ruth Zaugg (Bro. Martin and Sis. Doris) were united in holy matrimony. We trust God will richly bless their lives together and their newly established home.

We rejoice with Kris Messner (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Audrey), Corbin Fehr (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy), and Kyle Banwart (Bro. Kent and Sis. Beth) and their families as these three young men became our Brothers-in-Faith following their testimonies and baptisms the last weekend in August.

Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm was assisted in this work by Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA) and Elder Bro. Paul Messner (Sis. Jan, Winthrop, MN). We were also blessed with many visitors that weekend including many ministers: Bro. Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary) and Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae) of Minneapolis, MN; Bro. Clint Schmidt (Sis.

Magdalena) and Bro. Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda) from Winthrop, MN; Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Sis. Shawn, Morris, MN); Bro. Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park, IL); and Bro. Wes Moser (Sis. Esther) and Bro. Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth) of the Lester, IA congregation. May Bro. Kris, Bro. Corbin, and Bro. Kyle experience a blessed walk with Jesus each day of their lives.

'Tis such a narrow pathway, yet  
there's room enough for two  
There's room to walk with Jesus  
and for Him to walk with you.  
You would lose Him on the broad  
way, the crowd would press be-  
tween,  
And only in the narrow path the  
heart on Him can lean.  
—Anonymous

Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, La Crosse, IN) brought the Word to us during a visit in September. We appreciate all of our ministering brothers.

Mike and Amy Van Wyhe happily welcomed a daughter, Macy Marie, into their family circle on August 24. Kaden is her big brother. Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Wirtz and Gary and Karen Van Wyhe of Rock Rapids, IA. are little Macy's thankful grandparents.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Charlotte Fehr have a new grandchild, Morgan Dawn. Little Morgan was born to first-time parents, Joyce and Greg Barker, of Hammond, WI, on June 2.

Sis. Lucille (Bro. Dwaine) Schmidt moved into the West Bend Care Center following her release from the hospital. She and Bro. Dwaine need the prayerful support of loved ones as they deal with many changes in their life at this time due to Sis. Lucille's recent fall.

Others that appreciate prayerful support are those experiencing the loss of loved ones in their family cir-



cles. Angie (Roy) Metzger's mother, Berta Chrischilles, of Fenton passed away. Sis. Helen Zaugg and Bro. Albert Banwart lost their brother with the death of Glen (Ruth) Banwart of Fort Scott, KS. Sis. Sue (Bro. Gary) Schneider has lost a sister with the death of Sis. Sharon (Bro. Carl) Strahm of Sabetha, KS. Bro. Art (Sis. Eula) Mogler's brother, Marvin (Beverly), of Fort Dodge died recently.

Also Sis. Evie (Bro. Gene) Bruellman lost a brother, Fred Eggli, of Tremonton, Utah. For over 20 years Fred had taken care of our church cemetery located in Tremonton. In the recent past, due to failing health, he had turned the caretaking over to his son. Hopefully those sorrowing have been comforted by the many expressions of sympathy they have received.

At this harvest time let us be encouraged with these words:

Ho, reapers in the whitened harvest!  
Oft feeble, faint and few,  
Come wait upon the blessed Master,  
Our strength He will renew.  
Too oft weary and discouraged,  
We pour a sad complaint;  
Believing in a loving Saviour,  
Why should we ever faint?

Rejoice, for He is with us always,  
Lo, even to the end!  
Look up, take courage and go forward,  
All needed grace He'll send.

For they that wait upon the Lord  
shall renew their strength,  
They shall mount up with wings  
as eagles;  
They shall run and not be weary,  
They shall walk and not faint.  
(Isaiah 40:31)

*Gospel Hymns #550*

## JAPAN, TOKYO

### Jana Klaus

We rejoice for added "workers in the Lord's vineyard" as Bro. Akihiro Itoh has brought his wife of one year, Sis. Carrie (Sauder), back to Japan and the two have set up home in Hachioji. They will mainly be attending Shioda church, but also will be coming to Tokyo once a month, or so. We heartily welcome them and humbly and thankfully praise the living Lord for the work He has done in bringing them together and into our Japanese fellowship. Our prayers are with them.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Sis. Marie Inoue on the passing of her sister's (Sis. Yvonne) husband, Bro. Carl Gutwein (Francesville, IN.) May the whole family continue to find comfort in "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever." We are thankful Sis. Marie, and children, Sis. Ayako and Koichi, could go and return safely for the funeral to be with loved ones.

The first day of Autumn (a national holiday here) was a busy day for most of the men of our congregation, plus a few ladies and children, as it was the once a year big cleaning day. We are thankful for each helping hand working for our cherished church building.

## KANSAS, BERN

### Sheri Edelman

### Rita Menold

We are so thankful and happy to report three new converts! Prayers are with Stefany Edelman (Bro. Earl and Sis. Donna), and Byron and Emily Stoller (Bro. Darrell and Sis. Gloria, and Brad and Teresa Edelman of Sabetha), as they begin their walk with God!

Our congregation is thankful to

welcome three new babes into the fold! Bro. John Strahm, Sis. Michelle Strahm (Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen), and Bro. Fritz Strahm (Bro. Kyle and Sis. Peggy) brought forth their testimonies and were baptized the weekend of August 26-27.

Kelsey Ellen joined the family of Bro. Clint and Sis. Kristi Strahm, and big sister, Katrina! Happy grandparents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen Strahm, and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Bachtold, of Forrest, IL.

Bro. Neil and Sis. Evelyn Hartter and Bro. James and Sis. Lou Menold are happy for the arrival of another grandson. Little Khye Victor was born to Victor and Jananne Menold.

Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Verona Strahm are also thankful for another grandson, Brodie Michael. Happy parents are Bro. Grant and Sis. Martha Hangartner, of Washington, IL.

We are always thankful to have visiting ministers with us from Sunday to Sunday. Sharing our pulpit this month were Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Sandra, Lamar, MO), Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA), and Bro. David Hartter (Sis. Beth, Sabetha, KS).

Our thoughts have been with Bro. Joe Rokey, Jr., as he has spent some time in the hospital. We pray that God's healing hand will be with him.

Our Sis. Leola Lehman passed from this life and has won her eternal reward! We pray for her children, Rudy (Linda), Elder Bro. John (Sis. Connie), Kathleen (Dennis) Osterhaus, Sis. Mary (Bro. Elwin) Strahm, Sis. Janice Lehman, and Kenny.

Our prayers are also with Bro. Steve Meyer (Sis. Kaye), Sis. Nancy Rokey (Bro. Galen), Sis. Shelby Strahm (Bro. Dale), and Sis. Jana Strahm (Bro. Faron), at the passing of their father, Bro. Eli Meyer, of Sabetha.

Dorothy Strahm (Bro. Matt), will



feel a void at the passing of her sister, Betty Drown, of Shawnee, KS. Sis. Arlene Esslinger's brother, Marvin Mogler, of Ft. Dodge, IA, passed away during the past month, also. May we remember them in our prayers!

Bro. Dan Edelman has won the victory and is now safe in the arms of Jesus! We think of his children, Bro. Wayne (Sis. Linda), Bro. Earl (Sis. Donna), Sis. Edith Sinn (Bro. Tom, Silverton, OR), Irene Sinn (Jim, Silverton, OR) and Karen (Topeka, KS).

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

A minister recently exhorted us that "Life is not a game – it is a war". We need to daily put on the whole armor of faith the minute we awaken – even if poor health might prohibit us from getting out of our bed.

"Wherefore take unto ye the whole armour of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

*Ephesians 6:13*

We were enlightened and inspired by Bro. Jeff Schumacher's presentation on the Gateway Woods facility in Leo, Indiana. We thank him and his daughter for sharing the weekend with us.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Bro. Jim and Sis. Ruth Bahr in the passing away of Sis. Ruth's brother, Glen (Ruth). Our loving prayers go out to them in this time of loss.

Our sympathy also goes out to Fort Scott's Elder Bro. John Lehman and his wife, Sis. Connie (Bern, KS), in the loss of Elder Bro. John's mother, Sis. Leola Lehman (Bern). May the Holy Spirit draw near unto them in this time of grief.

Also remembered in our prayers are Bro. Larry and Sis. Julie Bahr.

Sis. Julie's sister, Sis. Sharon Strahm (Bro. Carl, Sabetha), peacefully went Home to be with her Lord.

A very blessed Labor Day weekend was enjoyed when many young single brothers and sisters gathered in Fort Scott for fellowship and drawing closer to God's Word. Bro. Cory Metzger (Sis. Jodi, Wichita, KS) exhorted all of us, through a topical Bible study, to "reach out to the lost." We also appreciated his messages on Sunday.

Fort Scott brethren were also privileged to hear Bro. Tom Bolliger (Sis. Jane, Tremont, IL) expound on the Scriptures. We extend our warm gratitude.

"Grace be with all them that love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity."

*Ephesians 6:24*

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

It is fall! Fall makes me think of pumpkins, changing leaves, apple cider, family gatherings, and most important, giving special thanks to God for all His creation!

God of unlimited compassion,  
Thou never ending fount of love!  
With countless hosts in meek submission  
we praise Thee now, O Lord  
above,  
for grace and patience Thou hast shown  
'ere this created world was known.

For Thy most wonderful redemption,  
for the atonement of our wrong,  
for Thy most gracious invitation  
and for Thy Word with promise strong.  
Yea, for the comfort of Thy Word  
our hearts bring thanks to Thee, O

Lord.  
*Zion's Harp #75*

We were blessed to partake of Holy Communion. Elder Bro. John Lehman and Sis. Connie (Bern, KS) were present to share with us. We want to thank Bro. John for his encouraging words and inspiring message.

We also appreciated having a visiting minister stop to share God's Holy Word with us as he and his wife were traveling through Kiowa on a trip. We want to tell Bro. Mike and Sis. Pat Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL) thank you for the enjoyable time together.

This past month we enjoyed the company of several young sisters as they traveled down for a visit. The congregation loves hearing the beautiful young voices praising the Heavenly Father.

We had as opportunity to share God's Word and praises with the Kiowa Manor. We sang several songs and a short sermon was given to the residents and friends.

While you count your many blessings this month, think of those who need our prayers for whatever reasons and please pray for them.

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

Sis. Judy (Bro. Doug) Kraft had gallbladder surgery and is feeling better after having gone through many tests.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers the past month: Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Greg Braker (Lamar, MO).

Sis. Nadine Kraft (Bro. Lloyd) entered the hospital for bronchitis and observation. She is back with us in church.

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

We have again been blessed with several visiting ministers this past month. Bro. Larry Bahr (Ft. Scott, KS), Bro. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS), Bro. Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO), and Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) all shared God's Holy Word with us. May these brethren be blessed as they labor on our behalf.

The new Sunday school term has begun in Sabetha. Our prayers are with the Sunday school teachers and students as they teach and learn of God's divine plan.

In the past two weeks we have bid farewell to two dear souls who have gone on to their eternal reward. Bro. Eli Meyer (Sis. Lois) passed away on August 26 and Sis. Sharon Strahm (Bro. Carl) passed away on September 7. Our sympathy is extended to their spouses and many family members. We will truly miss the gentle presence of these two Godly examples, but are thankful that they have been called home where there is no more suffering or pain.

*Notes of Thanks:*

Our heartfelt thanks to all who remembered our family with cards, prayers, food and loving support at the time of Eli's passing to his eternal reward. May God bless each one who touched his life and ours.

*The Family of Eli Meyer*

We want to express our deep gratitude to all who remembered our family during Sharon's illness and passing. The cards, phone calls, visitors, food, acts of kindness and especially the prayers, were greatly appreciated. May God bless each of you.

*The Family of Sharon Strahm***KANSAS, WICHITA****Emma Miller**

Sunday School classes resumed in September. Sis. Sara Schrader willingly agreed to serve as teacher to replace Sis. Marie Sauder. Bro. Glen Funk leads the upper grade class whenever students are present for it. Sis. Kathleen Gallatin presented her beginners class with the story of the tower of Babel. To illustrate the confusion resulting from the many different languages, she invited a Sister fluent in Spanish and one who still remembered the German she spoke in the 1920's.

The upcoming Wednesday evening services will be devoted to the Conference report on the small church survey. When that is completed, we will then listen to the Conference tapes.

Our congregational prayers have been for Jason Carnahan of Paulding, Ohio. We learned to know him when he visited his parents, Jerry and Pauline Carnahan, in nearby Rose Hill. We praise the Lord for the report that he is mending after heart surgery.

This past week, I attended the funeral of a great-nephew, twenty years of age, thrown from a motorcycle. Neither he nor the driver were wearing helmets. The scripture used in the meditation was from I Corinthians 13:11. "When I was a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." That was a fitting choice for this young man who had begun living a more responsible life, showing respect for his parents and his church.

**KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON****Barb Huber**

"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted wor-

thy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

Luke 21:36

It was Sunday morning, August 27, when a jet plane crashed near the Blue Grass Airport. Forty-nine of the fifty passengers lost their lives with only one survivor, the co-pilot. What a tragedy! But there was obviously a lack of communication, from the airport tower resulting in confusion, when the plane took off from the wrong runway. Possibly an analogy could be drawn for us in our Christian walk of life. May we be watchful and prayerful always, making sure there is no lack of communication with Him, our dear Lord and Saviour, who is at the Control Tower in Heaven, lest we be misled and get on the wrong runway and not be ready to meet Him when He comes.

"But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, making full proof of thy ministry."

II Timothy 4:5

We're grateful to all our visiting ministers who have come to support in the ministry of God's Holy Word. They were Bro. Steve Martin (Sis. Vicki, Eureka, IL), Bro. Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury, IL), Bro. Marvin Leman (Sis. Jane, Bradford, IL), Bro. Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL), and Bro. Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL). May the Lord bless each of you and your families for all your efforts of love and travelling the many miles to serve and labor for our Lord. We were also privileged to enjoy the fellowship of Brethren from the following churches: Champaign, Princeville, IL; Francesville, Indianapolis, IN; Detroit, MI; Akron, Junction, Latty, and Rittman, OH.

May we continue to "Watch there-



fore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh." (Matthew 25:13)

It's always a joy to have visitors and we welcome all who may be in our area or travelling through to worship with us. You may contact Bro. Doug Germann (859) 224-8710; Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541; or Bro. Jan Neukomm (859) 273-8574.

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### **MEXICO, IXTLAN** **Claudia Gonzalez**

"Sing unto the Lord, bless his name; show forth his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people."

*Psalm 96:2-3*

May the Lord give us grace to show His salvation day by day! Our prayers are with convert Jesus Lira who was recently hospitalized, but has since returned home.

We welcome and appreciate having Bro. Rudy Troxel (LaCrosse, IN) with us. Our prayer is that the Lord strengthens him to be a help and encouragement to our little flock here in Ixtlan. He will be a good companion to Bro. Matt Gerber as Jesus commanded His disciples.

"And he called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two..."

*Mark 6:7*

*Meet Sis. Maria Pimental de Gutierrez:*

I grew up in a town where there was no church – not even a Catholic one – and we weren't allowed to read the Bible. This was enforced by a group called "los cristeros". Nevertheless, my mother, siblings and I would pray the rosary every night before going to bed. My mother knew in

her heart that God was greater than this. After my father, who was a soldier, left my mother, she moved to the United States and became a believer. I married at the age of 16 but within a few years was separated from my husband. My mother pleaded with me to give myself to the Lord. Then nine years later, my husband and I again reunited, but because we continued to have conflicts in our marriage, I didn't want to be baptized.

After a time, my husband (Samuel Gutierrez, see September, 2006, Silver Lining) asked around and found our church in Ixtlan. Because there was a doctor from the U.S. there at the time doing eye exams (Bro. Bryan Stoller, Fairbury), Samuel came home and took me to see him because I was in need of glasses. After that we continued to go to church on Sundays and Thursday evenings and even though I recognized that I needed to repent and be baptized, I didn't do it because I could see my life had not changed. I told my husband, "You can't play with the things of God." My mother used to tell me that the Lord was coming back and how sad it would be if I were not in heaven with her. Finally, I did find grace to repent and my husband and I were baptized on October 23, 2005. On the day of our baptism I remembered the words of my mother and thought to myself, "Now, Mother, we will see each other one day." Now even when my husband has to spend time away from home, I don't feel alone. I know the Lord is with me. This is the beautiful story of what the Lord has done in my life.

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### **MICHIGAN, ALTO** **Rose Watson** **Terri Huber**

What joy we feel when a soul comes to the Lord! Ramona Humphreys, daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Judy

Gerst, gave her life to the Lord this month in more ways than one. Ramona began her repentance and three weeks later passed away after a five year battle with cancer. How can such joy and such sorrow be expressed in the same paragraph? Our prayers are lifted up for her young sons, Jalen and Jerrod, and the rest of the family members left behind. She is in a better place than those who remain behind, but they will be reunited one day! Hundreds of people came, local and out-of-state, friends, family, and co-workers, to attend services for Ramona on a clear, sunny Thursday. Those same people were reminded to "choose this day whom ye will serve." May God ease the lonely days and provide wonderful memories for her family.

It was our turn to host Michigan Youth Day. About 50 6th-12th graders enjoyed activities and fellowship (as did their Sunday School teachers and chaperones). We really appreciate those who are willing to travel and join us for this much-anticipated annual event. A special thanks to Bro. Nathan, our Sunday School Superintendent, and his wife, Sis. Susan. They put a lot of planning and hard work into making the weekend a success.

Visiting ministers this month included Bros. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA) and Ben Walder (Congerville, IL).

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### **MICHIGAN, BAY CITY** **Sarah Knochel** **Janelle Ramseyer**

We were pleased to have three visiting ministers with us within the past few weeks. We are thankful that Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL), Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH), and Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) took time out of their travels to visit our congregation



and help share the good news of the Gospel.

Sis. Marlene Mosher has been under physician care during the past month. We pray that she will feel God's healing touch upon her as she recovers.

Our hearts were saddened at the passing of Sis. Neola Nussbaum (Bro. Byron, Fairbury, IL). Sis. Neola grew up in Bay City and has many nieces, nephews and cousins in our congregation.

We rejoice with Bro. Bill and Sis. Carol Waibel as another grandchild, Emma Grace Laukhuf, was born. Emma's thankful family includes Bro. Mick and Sis. Lisa Laukhuf, Clark, Max, and Kate (Latty, OH).

Bay City recently had the opportunity to hear the tapes from the Brotherhood Conference in Goodfield. What an encouragement it was to hear the precious exhortations that the various Elder Brothers did share.

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## MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Tiffany Wieland**

**Kay Rauhe**

Our entire congregation feels so blessed and is so thankful to be able to worship and to fellowship at Woodpointe, which is on our church campus, while our church undergoes some extensive renovations. We would like to convey our heartfelt thank you to all the residents as we converge on their peace and quiet each Wednesday evening and all day Sunday. May God richly bless each and every one of you.

Carl and Ann Marie Mason welcomed a new little one into their hearts and home. Luke Henry is the new little brother of Cody. Happy and thankful grandparents are Bro. Pat and Sis. Jeanie Allen. Paxton and Denise Williams brought home a little girl, Annabelle Mae, to older siblings Amanda, Colby and Bailey. Children

are such a joy and a blessing from God.

On August 19, Kevin Rauhe (Bro. Warren and Sis. Kay) and Debbie Schulz (John and Valerie) were united in marriage in Lansing. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their life together, and may their love and happiness continue to grow.

"Be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear."

*I Peter 3:15*

We so very much appreciated that Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann; Smithville, OH) was with us on Saturday evening, September 16, for a topical presentation based on our VBS theme: "Speak the Truth - Defend your Faith". What a wonderful and insightful evening. Since all of our children have returned to school, whether it be to college, in the local school system or at home, we pray that they will be a wonderful example to all those who come in contact with them and that they will use the tools they learned in VBS this summer and also from listening to Bro. Gary. We were also privileged to listen to Bro. Gary as he conducted morning church services and enjoyed listening as he shared God's Word with us. In the afternoon we were blessed to hear a wonderful sermon from visiting ministering Bro. Walter Rager (Sis. Sharon; Toledo, OH), and may the Lord bless them for their willingness to serve.

Sis. Lorene Maibach (Ret. Elder Bro. Ben) recently fractured her leg and has been recuperating in their home in Sarasota, Florida, but is now back and worshipping with us again. Bro. Willard Bahr (Sis. Eloise) was recently hospitalized and is also home and able to assemble with us. Bro.

Doug and Carole Maibach's son, Jack, broke his arm recently and hope he is doing much better. We are so thankful for answered prayers and will continue to pray for speedy recoveries.

We so appreciated visiting ministering Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Sis. Marlene; Bay City, MI) for conducting church services at The Woodhaven Retirement Community. We sincerely appreciate your willingness to "serve the Lord with gladness" (Psalms 100:2). Bro. Joe Ramseyer, Sis. Barb Knochel and Sis. Bonnie Schlatter accompanied Bro. Jim to help with the singing, and our thanks goes out to them, as well.

We rejoice with Dan Coughlin as he has found peace, and we are looking forward to his testimony and baptism in the near future.

Our love goes out to Jon Meyer (Sis. Kristie) as he is now serving our country in the United States Navy. We wish him God's richest blessings.

"...If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and His love is perfected in us."

*I John 4:12*

*Note of Thanks:*

I wish to convey my sincere appreciation to everyone across our land for the many prayers, cards, gifts and acts of kindness over the past several months as I went through my treatments and surgeries. May God richly bless each of you as you have me.

*Barb Johnson*

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## MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS LaRae Dill

"Teach me thy way, O Lord; I will walk in thy truth...."

*Psalms 86:11*



September is the month when students in our area return to school. Many of our local college students were home for the summer and are now returning to their respective colleges and universities. We welcome back Bro. Brett Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Sis. Mindy Wulf (Morris, MN), both attending universities here. We'll miss seeing Angie Knobloch (Lester, IA) who has transferred closer to her home. It's nice seeing Christa Deragisch as she is back in the Twin Cities to do her student teaching. We pray God's blessing and guidance upon each student, whether close by or away from home, that they may be led to walk in truth.

Jordan and Masondra Metzger are parents of a new son, Koen Garrett. Koen was born on August 29. His grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Kris Metzger (Lester, IA), and Rodney and Glenda Kuehl (Beaver Creek, MN). Returning to the area are Tim and Nada McMillan who moved here recently from Colorado Springs. We welcome Koen and the McMillans to our congregation!

We enjoyed many visitors over Labor Day weekend. Ministering Bro. Kent Getz (Elgin, IA) and others of the Getz family, as well as a group of Bluffton, IN, brothers added to our numbers on Sunday.

Our love and sympathy to Sis. Millie Schmidgall and family. Sis. Millie's daughter, Beverly Broms, passed away on September 11. Special love is also extended to Bev's children, Olaf, Bjorn, and Elise Broms, who were Sunday School students here in years past. Bros. Don Miller and Kent Mogler conducted the funeral services.

Sis. Ethel Bednarski and Sis. Katie Blunier were hospitalized recently. We look forward to soon having them back in our fellowship.

*Note of Thanks:*

I wish to thank everyone for the many prayers, cards, gifts of love, and tapes that were shared after my surgery. May God bless you for your deeds of kindness.

*Sis. Vera Schmidt*

## **MINNESOTA, MORRIS**

**Heidi Nohl  
Sheila Reuter**

We were blessed to have Bro. Joe Dotterer (Bloomfield, IA) minister the Word of God to us. We ask the Lord to bless him for his willingness to share God's Word.

Mark Reuter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Carolyn) is engaged to Becky Dammann (Dan and Mary Jo). We wish them much happiness and God's direction throughout their life together.

We welcome Bro. Paul and Sis. Marie Sauder and their family, Sis. Anna, Julia, Lydia and Philip, to our congregation as they relocated from Wichita, KS. We hope they will feel at home here.

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Dawn Moser (Bro. Doug). We trust they will feel the prayers of the brethren and trust that God will heal where it is His will.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Bro. Bernie and Sis. Joyce Messner in the passing of their dear son, Luke. He will be deeply missed. His siblings are Sis. Julie (Bro. Kevin Koehl), Sis. Heidi (Bro. Paul Wulf), Sis. Katie (Bro. Matt Koehl), Nick and Annie. We trust God's Spirit will be a comfort unto them.

## **MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**

**Rachel Steiner  
Julie Schmidt**

Let us then be so united as Thou  
with the Father art,  
That not one of Thy weak mem-

bers here on earth shall stand  
apart.

From the flames of Thy own burning  
may our light partake its  
glow;

And that we are Thy disciples all  
the world may surely know.

*Zion's Harp #33 vs. 10*

Our congregation has begun listening to the tapes from the recent Brotherhood Conference. We are thankful for the opportunity to hear the warning cry and pray that each of us could apply these teachings to our hearts.

It is a tradition in our Winthrop congregation to host an annual Pork Chop supper and invite guests from near and far. We had a blessed weekend and thank the many visitors who came the weekend of September 9. We would like to thank Bro. Rod Bajema (Sis. Twyla, Lester, IA) for sharing God's Holy Word with us.

## **MISSOURI, LAMAR**

**Becky Marti  
Mindy Braker**

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

*Eccles. 3:1*

We rejoice with Bro. David Braker (Bro. Roy and Sis. Judy) and Sis. Laura Stoller (Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill) of Forrest, IL, as they announce their engagement. May God continue to guide and bless them as they plan for their life together.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Charles and Sis. Alice Marti in the death of his sister, Rosemary (Jack) Degnan, of Bloomington, IL. Bro. Larry and Sis. Marcy Schmidgall also have our sympathy in the passing of his sister, Beverly Broms, of Minneapolis, MN. May each one feel the



Lord's nearness.

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## MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

### Betsy Schrenk

The St. Louis church was blessed by the teachings brought by the following visiting ministers: Bros. Kim Sutter (Sis. Vonette, Taylor, MO), Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy, Champaign, IL), Lenard Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL), and John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL). We thank them and all the rest of the visitors that assembled with us to worship this past month.

As we were traveling home late one night on a rural highway, the full moon was shining so brightly we could see almost as if it were day. Without the moon, our only light would have been our headlights. Loren commented on the sun's light, then corrected himself—and then we realized that was correct, that it really was the sun's light, reflected. Nothing was between the sun and the moon to block the perfectly beautiful reflection. As the moon wanes, it is gradually completely obscured by the earth. As Christians, we can shine as brightly as that full moon that night if we don't let the world come between us and the Son, blocking out His light. How desperately this dark world needs the bright light of Jesus reflected by our lives! May each Christian be a bright and beautiful "full moon" every day.

One minister noted that the word "give" is in forgiveness. When a person is hurt, and holds it to himself instead of releasing it, he is unwilling to give up the wrong, and cannot forgive. Only by opening up his hand and releasing it can his heart forgive. Satan would love for us to be unwilling to give up our hurts! When we don't forgive, he wins.

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## MISSOURI, TAYLOR

### Sally Haerr

Another school year has begun and we sincerely pray for all the children and young adults who must step out of their comfort zone and make new decisions that can be life long patterns. It is our desire that they take Jesus with them into each new day. He wants to be our best Friend! We sing "What a Friend we have in Jesus" (Hymns of Zion, #161); do our actions and choices tell others that He is our best Friend?

The (Rod and Leann) Stoller Family from Latty, OH, came to sing praises to the Lord and they let us all listen in. What a wonderful blessing it was to all of us. Thank you for coming so many miles.

On September 3, Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN) spent the weekend here in Taylor and served us from the pulpit. He talked about the importance of having a smile on our face. Does the joy in our heart shine through our countenance?... it just might make a difference in someone else's life. That same Sunday Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda Knapp and their family came for the day. That brought ministering Bro. James Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Congerville, IL). They used to be at home here in Taylor and now that they have moved to Congerville, we sincerely miss them all. Thank you, Bro. James, for letting God's Spirit speak through you.

September 10 was another special weekend of rejoicing as Elder Bros. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Bruce Hohulin (Sis. Charlene, Goodfield, IL) and John Laukhuf (Sis. Marcia, Latty, OH) came to spend some time with Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan. Because of Jesus and His love, we can enjoy these Christian ties that bind our hearts as we listen to God's Word, the Holy Bible, being preached. Thanks for the lasting

memories.

In this life along with joys and blessings, sometimes sorrows come too. We want to extend sincere sympathy to Vernon Huber (Sis. Judy) in the loss of his brother, Bob Huber, of Glendale, AZ. Also, Dustin Shawl (Bro. Jim and Sis. Kris Sutter) lost his grandmother. Many of us know how hard it is to lose a loved one in death. We hope they can find comfort in precious memories.

We are thankful to see Sis. Ellen Gehring (Bro. Brad) back in church after being in the hospital.

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## NEW YORK

### CROGHAN-NAUMBURG

### Hope Graves

On August 27 we appreciated ministering Bro. Warren Zahner and his wife, Sis. Bonnie, coming to serve us here.

Our prayers go out to Sis. Anna Mellnitz and family as her son-in-law, Richard Whitford (Louise), passed from this life on September 8 at the age of 58.

We have finished hearing the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference and are so thankful for the teachings, exhortations and encouragement to strive to do our part each day. We could feel that the Lord directed each of the speakers and was there that day and may we continue to pray for our Elders.

We enjoyed an invite weekend on September 16-17 and had a potluck meal together Saturday evening followed by a singing and then were able to worship together on Sunday.

Our Sis. Bessie Farney and Richard Lanz were surgical patients and are now home recovering, for which we are thankful.

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## **OHIO, AKRON**

### **Mara Henico**

### **Rachel Pamer**

What joy I feel, what peace is mine  
As I my all to Thee resign...

We have just enjoyed hearing the testimony and witnessing the baptism of our new brother, Matthew Pamer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Arliss), and are thankful that Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH) was able to join us on that weekend. May God bless him for his willing labors! We are also very grateful to be able to share that two more souls have found peace with God and man. They are Melissa Ordogh (Bro. Peter and Sis. Elvira) and Brian Demrovsky (Bro. Andy and Sis. Vera). We pray that God will bless these two as they await the time when they will make their vows with their Lord. We continue to keep our other converts in prayer, that they will find grace to truly set aside the things of this world and become a new person.

Our prayers are also with the family of our late Joe Bako (Mildred). Times of parting are never easy, and we trust that God will grant each one an extra measure of grace to endure.

We are thankful that Bro. Joe Grosenbacher (Sis. Esther) and Sis. Janet Graf (Bro. Leon) have been released from the hospital. We pray that God will continue to give them strength.

We enjoyed having many visitors for Labor Day Invite-a-Guest Weekend. We want to especially thank Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH) for their service to us. What a blessing when we can feel the Spirit as the Word comes forth! May God continue to bless their service to Him!

We are also thankful to share that our Bro. Justin Gherian (Bro. Paul

and Sis. Sharon, Junction) and Sis. Lisa Rufener of the Rittman congregation (Bro. Steve and Sis. Jenee) have found faith to believe that God has called them to serve Him as one. Lord willing, they look forward to a wedding on December 31.

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## **OHIO, COLUMBUS**

### **Nancy Banks**

Once again, we were uplifted as the Word was expounded by visiting ministers this month. Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and ministering Bros. John Jackson (Bay City, MI), Jesse Bedolla (Detroit, MI) and Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH) joined us this month. Bro. Ron and Sis. Ruth were with us for our annual College Welcome Day and picnic for our new students. We enjoy this time together meeting old and new students and their families.

We bid a sad farewell to our dear friend, Amy Raifsnider, who has graduated from school with a degree in the Vet Tech program. She has found employment near her home area and we are sorry to see her go.

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## **OHIO, JUNCTION**

### **Cindy Schlatter**

Our prayers have been with our hospital patients, Shirley Miller (Bro. Randy) and Jason Carnahan (Danielle). We trust our Heavenly Father will continue to be with them day by day.

We are thankful to report two new converts in our congregation. Jason Carnahan (Danielle) and Thor Etter (Rob and Barb Brink) have heard the tender call and found the grace to answer. There are many friends for whom we continue to pray that they might hear and answer in humble repentance while grace still abounds. We will continue to pray for you, Jason and Thor, as you begin this most

precious walk of life.

Bro. Justin Gherian (Bro. Paul and Sis. Sharon) and Sis. Lisa Rufener (Bro. Steve and Sis. Jenee) of Rittman, OH, have announced their engagement. May you feel the guidance and direction of God as you plan for your future marriage.

We appreciated the visit of Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL). We trust our Heavenly Father will bless you for your labors.

Trent Gasser (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue) recently moved to Florida for employment. His address there is 1601 Lakeview Road, Clearwater, FL 33756.

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## **OHIO, LATTY**

### **Amanda Steffen**

### **Carmen Eisenmann**

"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God."

*Romans 5:1-2*

We were blessed with two visiting ministers this past month. Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL) and Bro. Bill Waibel (Sis. Carol, Bay City, MI) visited us. May God be with these brothers as they labor on our behalf.

Two more babies will be showing their faces in church. Bro. Mick and Lisa Laukhuf welcomed Emma Grace on August 15. Siblings, Clark, Max and Kate, are excited for a sister to play with. Grandparents are Bro. Dwain and Sis. Wanita Laukhuf and Bro. Bill and Sis. Carol Waibel (Bay City, MI).

Leah Grace Krzesinski was born six weeks premature on September 12. As of this writing, she is in the NICU at a Fort Wayne hospital and is



said to be doing well. Her parents are Vinc and Natalie Krzesinski. Little Adrienne will have someone to play with in the future. Welcoming her are paternal grandparents, Bro. Keith and Sis. Connie Krzesinski, and maternal grandparents, Bro. Dwight and Sis. Lori Stoller. May God be with these baby girls and help them to grow in His likeness.

## **OHIO, MANSFIELD**

### **Esther Baumann**

Precious little Benjamin Joseph was born to Bro. Ed and Sis. Judy Dawson on September 8. Also welcoming him home are siblings, Marjorie, Jonathan, Matthew, Elizabeth, Peter and Emily; and grandparents Bro. Joel and Sis. Sue Beer.

Continue to pray for our recently hospitalized patients: Bro. Pete Baltic (Sis. Karen) and Grant Moser (Bro. Lonny and Sis. Becky).

We are thankful to have the opportunity to strengthen our faith by listening to the tapes from our recent General Brotherhood Conference.

## **OHIO, RITTMAN**

### **Hannah Beery Sarah Bauman**

August 27 was the wedding day for Bro. Sam Gardner (Gary and Bonnie) and Sis. Joy Ingold (Bro. Art and Sis. Bonnie). May God be with them as they begin their lives together and establish a new Christian home.

On September 2, the engagement of Sis. Lisa Rufener (Bro. Steve and Sis. Jenee) and Bro. Justin Gherian (Bro. Paul and Sis. Sharon, Junction, OH) of our Akron congregation was announced. May the Lord continue guiding their lives as they plan for their upcoming wedding and marriage.

Tresa Hartzler (Bro. Dan and Sis. Jennifer) and Bro. Bob Boltz (Sis.

Marjorie) had surgery this month. We are thankful that they are both doing well. Sis. Arlene Ramsier was also hospitalized this month; our prayers continue to be with her as she continues to recover.

Po-Okela was born to Aukai and Tiffany Costanzo. He was welcomed home by older siblings, Madison and Ahna. Po-Okela's grandparents are Allan and Rose Bauman; great-grandparents are Marion and Sis. Delores Bauman.

God provided a way for several visiting ministers to be with us again this month. Bro. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH) was with us on a Sunday. Bro. Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL) and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) were here visiting one Wednesday evening. Bro. Gary Sinn (Latty, OH) was with us over Labor Day weekend. For Bro. Sam and Sis. Joy's wedding, there were also several visiting ministers. Among them were Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis, OH), Bros. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Ron Palitto and Paul Gasser (both of Akron, OH).

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

O hallelujah, sing God's praise!  
Your harps and voices to Him  
raise,

His holy name exalting!  
Draw near unto His holiness  
His might and power to confess,  
Sing praises without halting!  
Love Him, praise Him all ye na-  
tions,

Congregations, honor bringing,  
Joyfully the new song singing.

*Zion's Harp #1*

Our congregation has much for which we can praise and thank God! We are thankful that while Sis. Janet

Indermuhle (Bro. Allen) and Bro. John Figel (Sis. Paula) both required medical care, they have recovered and are doing well.

We are thankful for the willingness of our ministering brothers and praise God for the Word He brings to us through them. Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago, IL) was with us over Labor Day weekend.

Another reason to praise God and be thankful to Him is for the freedom and peace of our land. Prayers are for each one who serves our country in the Armed Forces. Ben Zollinger (Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry) has returned home safely after serving two years in Kuwait.

## **OHIO, SMITHVILLE**

### **Edith Miller Ruth Gasser**

Up then, comrades; wend your  
way

Through the wilderness with cour-  
age;

Look to Jesus, watch and pray!  
God prepares you for the conflict;  
In the weak He shows His might,  
And through Christ we'll win the  
fight.

*Zion's Harp #99, vs. 4*

We are currently listening to the Conference tapes, and we appreciate the exhortations given to us by our Elders. May we continue to "look to Jesus and watch and pray" so that we can "through Christ win the fight", as stated in the above hymn.

We've had several visiting ministers this month. Bros. Curtis Kaufman (Tucson, AZ), Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Ron Steiner (Rittman, OH), and Don Manz (Junction, OH) each had a part in bringing forth the Word. May God bless the efforts and may He continue to inspire our ministers to bring forth the truth.



We welcome to our congregation Bro. Jason and Sis. Lori Whitman and their two daughters, Lindsey and Elise, formerly from Latty, OH. They will be assembling with us for a time, as Bro. Jason continues his education in this area. We wish them God's blessings and trust they have been made to feel welcome here.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Rhea Beery (Bro. Ted) for surgery and Jon Dotterer (Bro. Dave and Sis. Luanna) for medical assistance. We wish a return to good health for both of them.

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### **OREGON, PORTLAND** **Brianna Strahm**

*Note:* The correspondent apologizes for inadvertently omitting last month's Silver Lining article. The following information will include news from the end of July through the beginning of September.

Recent visiting ministers included Bros. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA) and Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Indianapolis, IN). Also in our midst from our Silverton congregation were Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty), Bro. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judie), Bro. Don Sinn (Sis. Linda) and Bro. Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michele).

We continue to remember in prayer those among us who continue to struggle with various ongoing health issues. May the Lord heal and strengthen where it would be His will. We especially remember our friend, Tristen Jones (Bro. Ron and Sis. Liz), who suffered a recent accident. We are thankful that he was not seriously injured and is recovering. Tristen is currently residing in Phoenix, AZ, where he is attending school.

We recently began listening to the

Conference tapes and will continue to do so for the next few weeks. May we continue to remember our dear Elder brethren in prayer as they labor in the Lord's vineyard.

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

Bro. Shawn and Sis. Kimberly Schurter are thankful to welcome their first child. Kidron Shawn was born on August 18. His grandparents are Bro. Lynn and Sis. Marilyn Kuenzi and Leonard and Cheryl Schurter, all of Silverton.

We appreciate Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN) and Bros. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy) and Ron Jones (Sis. Liz) of Portland ministering to us in the past month.

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

We are thankful to our recent visiting ministering brothers who have so willingly shared with us encouragement from God's Word. These visitors have been: Bros. Howard Plattner (Sis. Kristen; Alto, MI), Dean Steffen (Sis. Carol; Belvidere, IL), and Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol; Gridley, IL); and Elder Bros. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie; Rittman, OH) and Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen; Bluffton North, IN). We have also been richly blessed by the fellowship with brethren and friends visiting from Athens, AL; Belvidere, Cissna Park, Congerville, Fairbury, Goodfield, Gridley and Princeville, IL; Bluffton, Bluffton North, Indianapolis and Remington, IN; Bern and Manhattan, KS; Alto and Detroit, MI; Kansas City, MO; Rittman and Smithville, OH.

If you are traveling in or through the Nashville area, please plan to

worship with us. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: LaCrosse, IN (10/22); Taylor, MO (10/29); Oakville, IA (11/5); Goodfield, IL (11/12); and Lamar, MO (11/19). We do not have a visiting minister scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend (11/26), but there will most likely be some local brethren here, and we will meet at church for a tape service. If you are planning to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. We also usually meet on Wednesday evenings for a song service 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**

We thank our visiting ministers who were Bros. Gary Maibach (Sis. Maryann, Smithville), Jerry Wagenbach (Sis. Bonnie, Oakville), Dan Beer (Sis. Deb, Milford), Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Fairbury), Kent Mogler (Minneapolis), and Ken Schneider (Remington). Other visitors were from Latty, Junction, Oakville, and Forrest.

For next month, the churches serving us are these: Wolcott (Nov. 5), Winthrop (Nov. 12), Phoenix (Nov. 19), and Francesville (Nov. 26).

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 ac-



commodate 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 DALLAS/FORT WORTH

Effective October 1, the services at Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, are being discontinued due to health issues in the families that attend there. We want to sincerely thank everyone for your faithful support of these services through the years.

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## TEXAS, McALLEN Joyce Nohl

Summer is over and we can see and feel that fall is upon us. We have been

having nice rains the past few weeks. It's so refreshing to see everything green as it has been brown from lack of rain. As fall approaches us, we look forward to our winter residents and visitors that will be coming back for the winter season. We have noticed a few already have come and our hearts warm to think that soon our family in faith will be coming. We encourage any that have plans to come south to visit, that you would include a trip to McAllen for a Sunday of worship. We will be having services two Sundays a month for the winter months.

Our ministers this past month have been Bros. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA) and Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX). We thank these brothers and their wives for taking the time and effort to serve us. May God bless each one who so willingly give of themselves for others.

Our upcoming services will be held October 21, November 5 and November 19. Our address is: Holiday Inn Express, 1921 South 10th Street. Turn South 1 1/2 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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## VERMONT, NORWICH Areli & Kirby Reutter

Greetings dear ones in Christ!

This month we were to privileged to have ministering Bro. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie) from our beloved con-

gregation in Mansfield, OH, lead us in worship. May the Lord bless his time spent with us and prosper his ministry in the 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 Bros. Dan Stoller (Sis. Diane), Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay), and Dan Goric (Sis. Mary Lou) also 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.







## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN World Relief

To bring glory to God, we plan to send brethren to serve with the Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf (CCCD) in Jamaica. While working with CCCD, our brethren will have opportunities to observe other physical and spiritual needs while assisting with other World Relief activities. It is our belief that Jamaica is an appropriate next step for Apostolic Christian missions based upon the national English language, ease of travel, friendly government, physical and spiritual needs, and the historical interest and involvement of our brethren.

Our goal is to seek understanding and favor from God as we attempt:

\* To bring glory to God by demonstrating His love to the Jamaican people in word, deed, and lifestyle. (I Jn. 3:16-18, Jn. 13:34-35) We are called to be examples of holy living in a culture that knows little of practical holiness. (Matt. 5:13-16, I Pet. 1:15-16)

\* To expand upon current opportunities for brethren in the Apostolic Christian Church of America to serve in Jamaica in humility and love, (Matt. 9:35-38, 25:40; Lu. 10:2) and do good to all men as we have opportunity. (Gal. 6:10)

\* To testify of the Gospel message of salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12), including repentance and conversion as lead by the Holy Spirit. (Acts 3:19, Eph. 2:8)

\* To send individuals to serve the Jamaican people by:

- Supporting CCCD activities
- Supporting World Relief work teams or individuals spiritually and logistically.
- Assisting with logistics associated with WR humanitarian aid shipments.

- Conducting Bible studies in homes for interested individuals.

- Conducting VBS programs in schools, orphanages, and infirmaries as opportunities might arise.

### Background

This is being prayerfully pursued in response to interest and involvement with the Jamaican deaf ministries and the perceived need for more structured and approved missionary opportunities for Apostolic Christian members around the world. Work team opportunities have given our members a taste of missions and created an interest in long term possibilities. We believe this direction submits a prayerful and unified vision for expanded Apostolic Christian World Relief opportunities in Jamaica.

The Jamaican people are poor financially and especially spiritually. While we acknowledge there are many other countries with greater physical and spiritual needs than Jamaica, we believe that Jamaica may be an appropriate next step for full time Apostolic Christian service

### Matthew 9:37-38

#### Missionary Personnel & Support

As the Lord provides, we will send an initial team of four brethren (consisting of one lead couple and either a second couple or two other singles of the same gender) to serve in this original capacity. Further assignments will be considered if and when more opportunities become known.

Our brethren will be spiritually accountable to their local home church, and will benefit from ongoing spiritual support via church tapes, periodic visits by ACWR work and aid distribution teams (Avg. 6-8 / year), and attendance at Apostolic Christian church services when teams are present.

Willing and able to become proficient in sign language is required for all team members planning to serve at CCCD.

### Financial Support

The Caribbean Committee of Apostolic Christian World Relief will assume direct responsibility for the team's financial requirements.

### Apostolic Christian Church Involvement

This proposal would require no change in the current involvement of our brethren in Jamaica work teams and material aid shipments.

### Job Description – Authority and Daily Responsibilities

The missionaries would be under the authority of the Apostolic Christian World Relief board and directly report to CCCD. The Caribbean committee would assume responsibility for primary oversight and counsel, and would cooperate significantly with the brethren's local churches to provide all the necessary support during service.

Possible assignments are: Campus Manager, Woodwork Production and Construction Manager, Catering Supervisor, Farm Manager, Nurse, Teacher, Accounting Clerk, Assistant Principal, Secretary, Special Administrator at Knockpatrick, and Guidance Counselor.

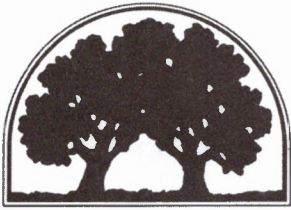
### Conclusion

It is with great joy and peace that we provide this opportunity for your consideration, trusting in faith that God will direct your hearts in a time and manner that brings Him the most glory. All couples, families, and individuals who have a heart to serve God through the deaf in Jamaica should pray for God's direction and then counsel with their elder. If they continue to be led to this ministry and have received their elder's support, they need to submit an application to the Caribbean Committee for review. Please contact Bro. Tom Hitz at [tchitz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tchitz@sbcglobal.net) or 734-454-9229 for an application.

### John 4:34-35

Prayerfully submitted,  
The Caribbean Committee of Apostolic Christian World Relief





## 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:

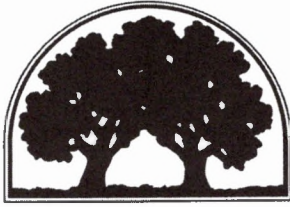
1. Be a member in good standing of the Apostolic Christian Church with approval of his/her local elder.
2. Have at least a Master's Degree in Social Work from an accredited school and three years work experience in social work administration OR a Master's Degree in a human services field from an accredited 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)







## 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.

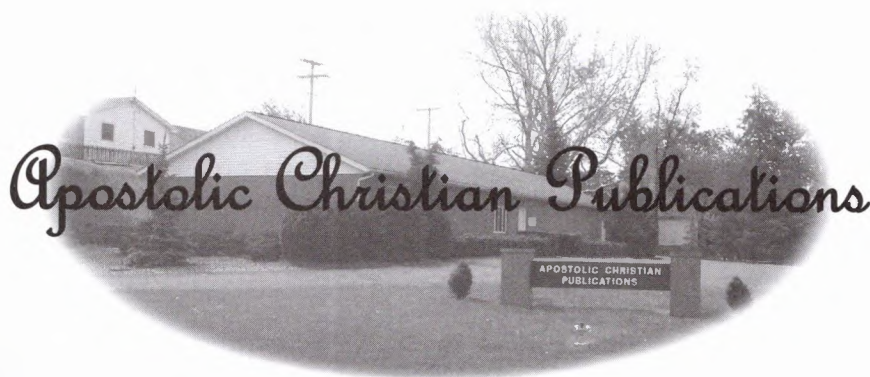
## Assisted Houseparent Needed

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





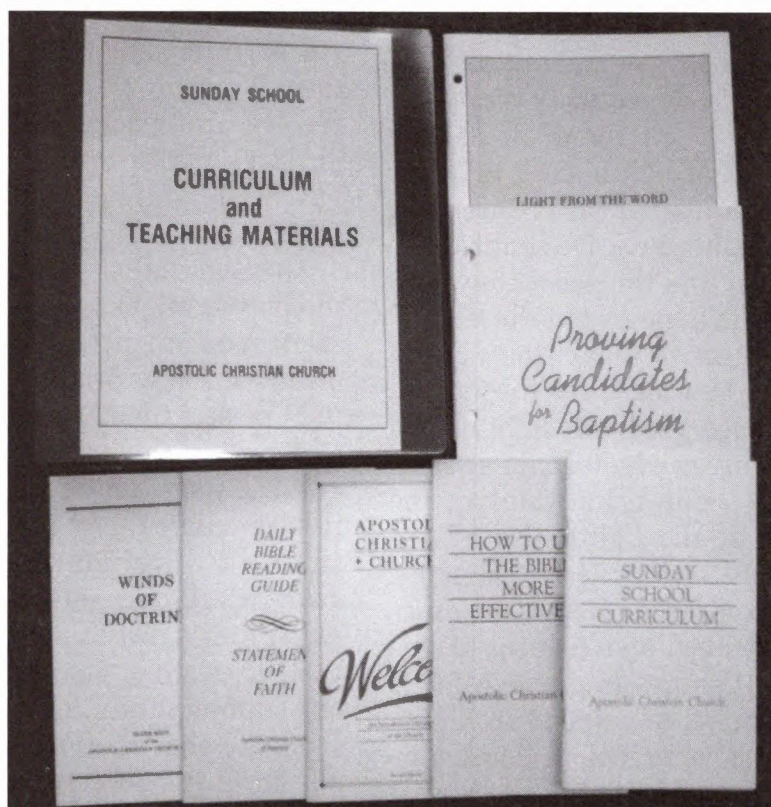
805 W. Cuger Street, Box 52  
Eureka, IL 61530  
Ph. 309-467-3611  
Hours: Mon.—Fri. 8:30 to  
11:30 CST/CDT

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*Sermon continued from page 2*

It is so important that we would not bite and devour one another. That would destroy us, that will fracture us. It will make us more susceptible to damage. And our ship, we want to strengthen the undergirding of it. That's the most important part of a ship, except for the sails. Because there are dangers out there, there are rocks out, there's quicksand out there. And what are these rocks called that we have to guard against, that we have to watch? It is called sin. It's called adultery. It is called many things, many areas of sins that we could spend a whole hour on. We all know what they are. Those little rocks out there, and we have to guide our ship in and out of these rocks. How do we do it? We need a lighthouse out there, don't we? Who is that lighthouse? It is our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He is that lighthouse. He sends those beams across the wave...for us to watch the dangers out there.

We think of many times of the gulfs and the lakes and the fog. We cannot see good. The light from a lighthouse can be seen far away as 40 or 50 miles. But think of the power of the lighthouse of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ our God. How far can we see? It shines from Heaven above down to this earth. It shines in our lives. It is there for us, to guide us, to direct us. We have to look at that Lighthouse from time to time because it shows us the way. It shows us the way to Heaven. It shows us the way to that yonder shore.

In times of a storm, though, how good is a lighthouse? When there is driving winds, driving rain, clouds...many times we cannot see that lighthouse. Then what do we do in our lives? It is called faith. We have to live in faith. Believe

that the Lord is there to help us. Believe that the Lord is there to encourage us. The faith that we have, it's necessary in our lives because those storms will come up.

Old times, the method of traveling by ship, so antiquated. They had up there in the northern skies, they have the North Star up there. They used that North Star there directly above the North Pole. That star does not move. It is there - all the other stars revolve around that North Star. They could guide their ships by looking at that North Star. What about the north star in our lives, in our spiritual lives? What is unmovable? What doesn't move? Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He is steadfast. He is unmovable. He is always there. You know, everybody's lives revolve around Jesus Christ. All our lives revolve around Him! We have to put our faith and we have to put our trust in Him.

There are other stars out there today. We might call them movie stars. You might call them star athletes. They arise, they have their peak in their lives in their 20s and the 30s. A lot of people look up at those stars. Try to follow them, try to emulate them. But everyone shall die. Everyone shall pass away. Everyone gets old. Those stars, they slowly start to fade in their lives, they fade beyond the sunset mountains...no more to be seen. So what comfort can we really have in those type of stars? The only bright and the only shining star that we have that we can put our trust in is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He is always out there. He is like that north star. It won't arise, it won't set. But it was always there, and can always be seen in the night skies.

You know, nature is very interesting because, I wonder what

about the southern hemisphere. What about the southern hemisphere? They can't see the north star in the southern hemisphere. They have another constellation out there. Maybe many of you know what that is. It's called the Southern Cross. It's the shape of a cross. In the southern hemisphere they look upon that cross, the Southern Cross, to guide them. And in that cross, in that constellation of that cross there's a sagging star that remains very close to above the southern pole. We think of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as He died upon that cross, He sagged there - His lifeless body. He gave His body for us. His life for us and they follow that Southern Cross, and we follow the cross of Jesus also. The cross of Jesus is there for us. Jesus is there for each and every one of us. He will guide us and show us the way. He is that gentle Shepherd. He is the Shepherd of our lives. And sometimes we have to live by faith, when these storms come. We put our faith in Jesus. He is there for you and me.

We read here how they had to lighten that ship. (Acts 27:38) Weight on a ship in a storm does not equate to safety. They had to throw all their goods overboard to lighten the ship to make that ship more nimble, so it could navigate easier so the weight would not cause it to be a burden in a storm. Oh, there's weights in our lives that we have to get rid of also. Those weights are called sin. We have to remove sin in our lives especially in those times in which there is darkness, there are storms. But Jesus is there. He'll help us get rid of those weights. He'll lighten the load, He'll level the road for us. He'll be there for you and for me. He is there for us.



Put our trust in Him. Empty ourselves of this world and what it has to offer. Put our trust in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Follow Him. He'll be there for us.

We'll read about Paul. He had a dream, there, and he came up and he said "...be of good cheer..." Acts 27:25. I think it is so important to be of good cheer. Because there are so many out there that are faced with storms in their lives. That are faced with troubles. We do not understand many times what souls go through. We cannot understand their tears. We cannot understand of the things that they have to face in life. For us to go up there and be of good cheer to those people is so important in our lives. To cheer up those despondent souls that are going through so much. Well I believe that we have Jesus in our hearts. We can be of good cheer. We have a lot of reasons to be of good cheer. We don't have to be sad. We do not have to be despondent. Jesus is there for us and we can be of good cheer.

We read here of this ship that was nearing land. (Acts 27:27) You know it seems like high above these ships, way above the sails there, they have a watchman up there...and they watch for land. Many times they have this telescope out there, and they are constantly moving that telescope, looking for the enemy, looking for dangers. There were pirates in those days. There were those that came, they stole from these ships...and so they had to be on guard. I believe far above us we have Jesus that is looking out for us. He has eyes that can see afar. He has eyes that can see us. And then we have our elders looking out for us also. Eyes, watchmen, looking out for our faith!

And then we read something

else this ship had. It's amazing to me even those many years ago they had this sonar system. As they knew that they were approaching land, they had this instrument there that they would echo off the bedrock of the ocean there, and would come back up to the ship and they could tell in fathoms how deep the sea was. What about the bedrock of our lives? Who is the bedrock of our lives? Jesus Christ! Jesus Christ the solid rock. We sing that hymn, 'On Christ the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.' (The Solid Rock, Hymns of Zion #99) How often do we sound our sonar - our spiritual sonar? To see how far we are from the heart of God. To see how far we are from Jesus Christ. We have to sound that sonar in our lives. We find the sea getting too deep. And us getting too far from Jesus Christ. We need to sound that sonar, and find ways drawing our hearts closer to God. Coming to church. Reading His Word. Pray. These are all ways that we can shorten that sonar sound wave. We can be brought closer to the heart of God.

To think of our spiritual ship - think of our church today. Think of the church of God. Think of all churches and what is happening out there. Then think of this ship, and where it was heading in the time of Apostle Paul. It was heading to a place where two seas met. (Acts 27:41) It's usually in a bay. The water and the waves, they would come in and they would form together right there where they met. It was kind of a violent place. And then in the midst of the storm it was even more violent. It could really shake a ship. That's where that ship was heading. It was heading for certain destruction. It was heading to where two

seas met. You know, I've only been to one place where two seas met. I was out in California - Beautiful city called Carmel, on the ocean there. There was a bay there, and I saw those two seas as they come in, as they met there. I saw tree limbs, I saw debris, where those two seas met there. I could see the churning there and I could not imagine a violent storm, what that would be like.

But one thing I remember, going back up the coast where those two seas met. I saw a sign there. It was kind of like a danger sign and it says, "The point of no return". So if you sailed past that point of no return, you were heading directly toward that place where two seas met. And I believe that this is where our church is today. We are past the point of no return. We're heading to this place where two huge forces are meeting; the force of sin - the force of Satan, and the force of God. We might call that the tribulation times. But we're past that point of no return. I don't think we can go back, we as a nation, we cannot go back to the times that we once enjoyed. Many people call it the good ol' days in which, in every community there was a church. That church was the center point of everybody's lives. We go across the prairies, and many times we see that old church out there - abandoned! Well, now we only see, probably less than 25% of our nation going to church. We're past that point. I believe we can't return back without intervention from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I believe that our faith, I believe our ship is heading directly to that point where those two seas meet, where there is going to be a lot of violence some day. We have to have our faith in

*Sermon continued on page 46*



*Sermon continued from page 45*

Jesus. One nice thing about this story that we read, not a soul lost their life.

This ship called Christianity may break up. We know that the government, out there, we know how much they are trying to do to try to break up Christianity. We see Hollywood. We see a lot of things out there that are trying to break up our ship of faith. It's only going to get worse. We've seen it over the last 10, 15, 20, 30 years. We've seen how much the ship of faith called Christianity has broken up. Probably, us that are older, could see things start to take shape back in the 1970s. Late '60s, early '70s – Vietnam war – we think of the time that drug use became prominent. People started questioning. I believe that was probably the point we crossed that point of no return.

There are still a lot of Christians today. There is going to be a great war waged. Our ship will probably break up more and more as time

goes on. But let's grab a hold of that bark. Let's grab a hold of that piece of wood. What is that piece of wood? We think of the piece of wood that Jesus Christ died on. That old tree. The cross. Let's grab a hold of that cross. It will take us to that yonder shore. It will take us to heaven above. It will take us there where we can live in joy and happiness, where Satan will not be forever and ever.

Just closing here... you know if we would read in the next scripture, next chapter in the scripture here, we'd read about how Paul and all those people came to the island. (Acts 28:1) They were cold. They were dripping wet. The wind was probably still blowing. They were shivering. They built a fire. (Acts 28:2) Paul reached in there, probably with a piece of wood, into that fire. There was a venomous snake there, a serpent, that jumped out and bit Paul on the hand there. (Acts 28:3) Everybody thought that Paul was going to drop over dead there. They

thought his life is over with. There's no way he can live. But that snake did not have any harm. (Acts 28:5) Paul lived. The venom of that snake had no power.

When we reach that shore some day, when we reach yonder shore called heaven, where will that venomous snake called Satan, called the devil be? He will be cast into that hole there, and the bottomless pit. His venom will not have any more power. He will have no more power over us. His bite, his venom will be useless. He cannot cause any more harm.

What greater reason would there be than to cling to the cross? To look at Jesus Christ, the center of our lives, today, so that we can be in such a glorious place someday in which Satan will not be there to harm us, to take from us our lives. Heaven above. What a beautiful place that shall be. A place that we should all strive for. We all look forward, each and every one of us, to being there someday!



## **"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:

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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
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	Dec. 30 - Jan. 6, 2007	Montego Bay	Ken Hoerr	Deaf School	40/50
CCCD	March 23-31, 2007	Kingston	Terry Miller	Deaf School	40
CCCD	May 19-26, 2007	Deaf Village	Ted Hirstein	Work Place	40/50
CCCD	June 23-30, 2007	Knockpatrick	Bluffton S.S.	Deaf School	40/50

COORDINATOR	PHONE	FAX	E-MAIL
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Ken Hoerr	309-243-7750		<a href="mailto:khoerr@mtco.com">khoerr@mtco.com</a>
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 2006/2007

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>
Agua Prieta	March 24-31, 2007	Construction	Sam Kaehr	260-565-3200	<a href="mailto:sckaehr@adamswells.com">sckaehr@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	Rod Schmidt	303-774-7913	<a href="mailto:rschmidt@Acosta.com">rschmidt@Acosta.com</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:rnepp@verizon.net">rnepp@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 9-16, 2007	Construction	John Ricketts	309-444-9061	<a href="mailto:jonr@grimmauto.com">jonr@grimmauto.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  
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**Iowa:** Martin Zaugg  
 Phone/Fax: 515-379-1693  
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**Illinois:**

**Indiana:** Tom Neuenschwander  
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 E-mail: [tsneuen@adamswells.com](mailto:tsneuen@adamswells.com)

**Ohio:** Ken Zollinger  
 Phone: 330-669-2415  
 Fax: 330-669-8520

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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### SPECIAL NOTE:

#### TEXAS DALLAS/FORT WORTH

Effective October 1, the services at Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, are being discontinued due to health issues in the families that attend there. We want to sincerely thank everyone for your faithful support of these services through the years.





# REMEMBERING

## *Our Spiritual Heritage*

*In 1878 our brethren sent a statement of their beliefs to the German government. The following continues from the last issue.*

Concerning the suffering, dying and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ: We believe and teach according to the all wise council and will of God. It was God's will that Jesus Christ should suffer and die, and through His death should bring eternal redemption for all nations on earth if they believe on Him.

In that same night before He was betrayed and sat at the table with His disciples, He had the last supper, the Holy Communion with bread and wine, and did institute the New Testament. Then afterward through shedding His blood on the cross and through His victorious resurrection, He sealed the Eternal Truth.

We read in the Holy Scriptures that Jesus was accused by the high priests and scribes as a deceiver and evil worker, and they condemned him to death. He had to suffer on the cross under Pontius Pilate (Luke 23:10, John 18:30).

And after He died, Joseph of Arimathaea, who was a counselor and a good man, did not take part with them in their wicked deeds; he begged for the body of Jesus. Also, Nicodemus was there to help place the holy body of Jesus in a new sepulchre (John 19:38-39).

On the third day Jesus rose from the dead, for death could not hold Him. He who had conquered death and the devil, and as the prince of

life, will give life to all who believe on Him. Then, as conqueror over hell, death and the devil, He declared unto His disciples, "To me is given all power in heaven and on earth. Go ye, therefore, and preach the gospel to all nations (Matthew 28:18-20), baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." After the Lord had spoken these words unto them, He was received up into heaven and sat on the right hand of God (Mark 16:19).

Regarding the holy baptism: We believe and teach that baptism is an outer and visible order from Christ Himself to incorporate into the congregation all those who hear and believe and obey the Gospel of Christ. And through faith on the Word of God repent and feel sorry for their sins and then receive forgiveness for their sins through Christ, who came for this purpose to forgive sins and transgressions to all who obey His Word.

Everyone who wishes to be baptized must have a clear conscience so that his former sins do not burden him any more before he is baptized in order to be a believing Christian. Otherwise, baptism would not only be in vain for him, but such a one who does not have a clear conscience would be found guilty before God and would be punished as a hypocrite. Because baptism is not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the

answer of a good conscience toward God (I Peter 3:21). According to the Scripture it is necessary before man is baptized to put off the old man, which is corrupt according to deceitful lust (Ephesians 4:22-24), before he can put on the new man which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

As Christ said, "Verily, I say unto you, except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the spirit is spirit." And furthermore, Jesus said unto those who were around Him, "Unless ye turn and become like children ye cannot enter the kingdom of heaven."

When man seeks to become innocent as a child he will find that in his past life there are many things which trouble his conscience, and he will find great reasons to repent and mourn and to pray and seek forgiveness for his sins. Then, when he receives peace with God he can make a covenant of a clear conscience in baptism with God. And then, as one who has been redeemed can follow the Lord as a true Christian.

*Compiled by  
Perry A. Klopfenstein*

**Next Issue:**  
*This Statement of Faith continues*



# *The Light Of Hope*

## *From Across The Ocean*

### 希望の光

#### **“The Temple of the Holy Spirit”**

*Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan*

The tabernacle was spoken of as a temple. I Samuel 1:9 “Now Eli the priest sat upon a seat by a post of the temple of the Lord.” I Kings 6:17 refers to Solomon’s temple. “And the house, that is, the temple before it, was forty cubits long.” King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon destroyed that temple at the beginning of the 70 year Babylonian captivity, but Ezra was permitted by King Cyrus to rebuild the temple, and was given vessels from Solomon’s temple to be placed in the new temple. Ezra 5:15 “And said unto him, Take these vessels, go, carry them into the temple that is in Jerusalem, and let the house of God be builded in his place.” There was a temple in Jerusalem when Jesus was on earth, reportedly built by King Herod of the Roman Empire, to get better cooperation from the Jews, who were under the occupation of the Roman army. Jesus was standing near that temple in John 2:19, which reads, “Jesus answered and

said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” Jesus considered His body to be a temple. In I Corinthians 3:16 we read, “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?” This verse teaches us that our bodies are temples of God where the Holy Spirit dwells, hence the human body is sometimes referred to as the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Temples, as mentioned in the Bible, are important and will be until there is a new heaven and a new earth. Revelation 21:22 reads, “And I saw no temple therein, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.”

The Lord Jesus Christ called the temple a house of prayer and He was strict about it. “And said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer; but ye have made it a den of thieves.” Matthew 21:13.

We presently use our church buildings as temples in which

to worship God. We dedicate them to the honor and glory of God. At the very least, it seems to me, we should do the same with our bodies.

It is important that we remember the bodies of believers are temples of God where the Holy Spirit dwells. We may forget and think our bodies belong to us. The Bible teaches otherwise. “What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?” I Corinthians 6:19.

Would it not be good for us to at least try, not to overextend our bodies? Surely it is good to work hard but not to overdo it.

As to what we put into our bodies, spiritually it is all right to eat and drink anything, in moderation, although we do draw the line when it comes to using tobacco. However, I believe God would like for us to be kind to our bodies, in every way. They are temples.

# 希望の光



*As the hart panteth after the water brooks,  
so panteth my soul after thee, O God.*

*Psalms 42:1*



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