

The Silver Lining



*But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately
he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.*

Mark 4:29

November 2006

Sermon by Bro. Ed Sauder, Roanoke, IL

Nehemiah 8 and St. Matthew 7

Wonderful testament of victory. How that the Israelite people finally got to come back to Jerusalem, rebuild the walls, get ready to rebuild the temple and time to celebrate and look into the law. It is wonderful how God made it so that there were teachers there so that every person could not only hear the law, have a desire to be there, but that they all understood what was said. Let's just pray that we as believers today, when the Word is put in front of us, whether it is in church or whether it is in our own individual homes, in our personal reading or our family reading around the table, that we can seek and have a desire, no matter how long it takes, that we would understand that Word, so we could imbed it, so we can embroider it into our heart.

It is good to be in the Lord's house tonight. I've got a little bit of a burden on my heart. I don't know if you have been watching in the news - and sometimes it would be almost good if we didn't know what's going on out there today. But in the media, in the entertainment industry, there's a movie coming out, it's going to be premier showing tonight while we're sitting here. I think it has been shown in France. It is going to depict terrible things about Jesus Christ. It is going to try to undermine the gospel and the foundation which our faith is built on.

And this is not the first one. I think if we look back into the history of the entertainment industry there, it's been a constant assault on Christianity and on the teachings of God. But now with the power and the leverage of the audio-visual system, the ability to influence a tremendous amount of people at one time, sensitive, young fertile minds that are going to have the potential to see such garbage and such false teachings, it deems our prayers in that we need to be alert. Not that we take an interest in it. But we need to be alert as to what is going on so our prayer would be vigilant. That we could prepare our young people, that they would avoid this type of temptation, this type of evil.

There again, as I reflect back, I think it was back in the eighties, there was different productions come out of,

garbage that came out of Hollywood with different depictions of Jesus Christ and His life and what one person's opinion was. What's really interesting is so many of the productions that are coming out, especially the one right now, is it even admits that this is a fictional account. And yet sometimes innocent minds and people who are unbelievers and those who have never been, had the gospel explained to them, can easily be influenced. So with that in mind, let's look to the Word so we can be strengthened, so our faith can grow. Like it is mentioned earlier in Matthew, where it says, I believe Lord, but help my unbelief (St. Mark 9:24).

We all have little times in our lives where maybe we question things. We've got to be strong. We've got to have our foundation rock solid here today for every believer here so we can grow in the Lord, so we can be prepared for these onslaughts that we are about to face. Yet at the same time we would have passion and love. So this would be an opportunity for us, whether it would be in the work place or you young brothers and sisters in the school system, these topics are going to come up. You've got to be prepared. You've got to purpose in your heart ahead of time and not only be able to talk about these things but that our life would be the real reflection - talk is pretty cheap. But if your life can show that there are changed hearts out there and we as believers are different people, that when someone hates us, we turn the other cheek. When our enemies do those things that are wrong, that we can, in love, pray for that abortionist, we can pray for that person who is dealing drugs, we can pray for that pimp who is out there, who is promoting prostitution. We've got to have that love within that changed heart in Jesus Christ, which I'm confident we do as born again believers.

If we are going to have purpose and we are going to have meaning here in these United States right now, the true church of Jesus Christ, those true people who are converted, now more than ever, our light and our example has to be steadfast. We have to really strive for Christ-like perfection in our life.

Because if we can't show something different, people are going to fall for this false teaching that Jesus is going to talk about in the fifteenth verse here in Matthew seven.

So if there has ever been a time within the work place, brothers and sisters, that we've got to be honest, that we've got to show proper priority, that by our association and by our desires, what we strive for is not the things of

Sermon continued on page 44

The Silver Lining subscriptions are due from the following churches. Please collect in:

December

1. West Bend, IA
2. Latty, OH
3. Bradford, IL
4. Akron, OH

*Suggested Donation: \$14/subscription
(Beginning January 1st, 2007)*

Next correspondence due:

For December Issue
(16 Oct. News - 15 Nov. News)
Due: 20 November 2006

The Silver Lining (Vol. 61, #11)

1389 County Road 1600 N
Roanoke, IL 61561

USPS 496780

Published Monthly By The Apostolic
Christian Church of America

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(e-mail is preferred)

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Roanoke, IL, 61561

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309-923-7359 (fax #2)

Periodical non-profit - postage paid at Roanoke, IL 61561, and additional offices. The subscription rate is a donation. Send zip number with address. Remember to send changes of address. Send both old and new addresses (with both zips). Postmaster send address changes to:

The Silver Lining

1389 County Road 1600 N
Roanoke, IL 61561

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

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

November 2006

Why Should We Be Thankful

The scripture instructs us "In every-thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (I Th. 5:18). We are also reminded in other passages to be thankful: "Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him and bless his name" (Ps. 100:4). Many more passages could be cited.

The world is so full of sin, violence, greed, etc. that it would be easy to become cynical and question whether it is possible to give thanks "in everything". Satan is so ruthless and sly that he could convince a child of God that there are few reasons to be thankful. In the sin sick world where we live, we must keep things in perspective. The world is sinful, but God is good. The world is dark but God is light. Many people are wicked, but the Lord promised us "...Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved: For he will finish the work..." (Rom. 9:27-28). The prophet Elijah became so discouraged when he was fleeing from Jezebel that he thought he alone was serving God. "...I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life to take it away ...but God said... yet I have left me seven thousand in Israel, all the knees which have not bowed unto Baal, and every mouth which hath not kissed him" (I Ki. 19:14 & 18).

How can we keep from getting discouraged in such distressful times when the world seems to be wicked and violent? We are reminded in a hymn, "When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed, When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost, Count your many blessings, name them one by one, And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done." ("Count Your Blessings", Hymns of Zion #118).

While it is not possible to list all of the reasons to be thankful in one brief article, we can list a few and encourage each one to count our blessings and think upon the things that are good. Perhaps the first reason for us to be thankful is simply that there is one God who is good and full of mercy. "O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever" (Ps. 107:1). In Psalm 136 we are re-

mindful twenty-seven times that the mercy of God endureth for ever.

We can also be thankful for the love of God. "And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love..." (I Jn. 4:16). In fact, He loved us so much that He gave us His Son as a gift: "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (Jn. 3:16). The gift of God's Son to mankind included, of course, the shed blood of Jesus Christ which was shed for many for the remission of sins (Mt. 26:28).

How can we ever be thankful enough for the grace He has given us and for the redeeming power of His blood? This allows us to have victory over death and the grave. We were all under the sentence of death. The Lord God said to Adam that "...in the day that thou eatest thereof (of the tree of knowledge) thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:17). We are reminded in the New Testament "...the wages of sin is death..." (Ro. 6:23). We can be saved from sin's death sentence if we follow God's plan for us, knowing that "...the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Ro. 6:23). "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" (Ro. 8:1).

If we suffer from the same fear that Elijah had—that we are alone in serving God—we can be thankful to know there are others who are saved. "But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you" (Ro. 6:17). As a result of our conversion, we have a faith that is encouraging: "...because that your faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one of you all toward each other aboundeth" (II Th. 1:3).

God put us in a land where we can freely worship as we are instructed by His Word. The Bible teaches us how we should live. Although we are not all "ministers" in the formal sense, God has put us in a place where we can share our faith: "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry" (I Tim. 1:12).

When we feel discouraged, alone, or far from God, we have many promises that

God is near. "I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved" (Ps. 18:8). "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit" (Ps. 94:18). "That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us" (Ac. 17:27). Even in times of distress, these promises give us reason to be thankful.

Undoubtedly none of us expect to be as wise as Daniel. We do, however, have the same God to guide us as Daniel had. When we need answers, we have access to God for direction. It may not be revealed to us as quickly as to Daniel, but we can be thankful that we have the "...God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: ..." (Da. 2:23).

The faithfulness of God is everlasting. It has been recognized for generations. At the time of Moses' death, God showed him the promised land and repeated the promise He had made earlier. "...This is the land which I swore unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, saying, I will give it to thy seed..." (Deut. 34:4). David also recognized God's faithfulness when he wrote "I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread" (Ps. 37:25). The everlasting promises of God should make us thankful.

It is not necessary to think very long for one to realize we are a most blessed people and have much to be thankful for. Our helplessness in expressing it fully is well summarized by the author who wrote "Could we with ink the ocean fill, And were the skies of parchment made; Were ev'ry stalk on earth a quill, and ev'ry man a scribe by trade; To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry; Nor could the scroll contain the whole, Tho' stretched from sky to sky." ("The Love of God", Hymns of Zion #289, verse 3).

The goal of each of us to be thankful is not completely achieved in this life. Those who remain faithful will understand what it means to be thankful when they enter heaven to spend eternity 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

Opportunities In Small Churches

Much effort has been made in the past to seek ways to help the brethren located in smaller congregations. In the late 1980's efforts were made to address some individual circumstances. The last several years a number of brethren have approached the Mission Committee with various ideas and programs that could assist the small churches.

In August 2004 the Mission Committee formed a Small Church Study Committee (SCSC) and asked them to study the unique needs of small churches and recommend steps by which our Brotherhood can nurture and be of assistance.

The SCSC began the process by undergoing a detailed scriptural study regarding examples in the Scriptures of this type of work. Questionnaires were sent to each of the elder brothers requesting input regarding their perception of the special needs of small congregations.

In depth questionnaires were then distributed to all those who worship in our small churches. Over four hundred surveys were returned. Appreciation is expressed to each one for their time and effort in this matter. This data was used to determine what the needs truly are.

Analysis was done on the results regarding the differences in the small rural and the small urban churches. From this research many possible solutions were explored. There were many good suggestions and these were reviewed with the Mission Committee and with a gathering of retired elders.

From those suggestions the following three recommendations have

been made for first year implementation steps. The first two programs focus on ways small churches can help themselves grow, and the third includes ways those in large churches can assist those in small congregations.

Engage in formal outreach programs locally

The purpose of this outreach is to reach those with connections to our church (local Apostolic alumni) and those with no Apostolic background (community)... to present the Gospel message of salvation based on faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ and a true repentance and conversion. "God our Savior... will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim. 2:4).

An outline containing steps for carefully moving forward with these outreach programs has been developed and is available.

Encourage increased local activities and fellowship opportunities

The purpose of this focus is to strengthen the faith and encourage the sanctification of the believers through added fellowship and concern for one another's welfare. A list has been developed which includes a number of recommendations, many of which are already being utilized effectively within our Brotherhood.

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Formalize church adoption programs

The purpose of this program is to provide assistance to small churches and opportunities for formally identifying brethren to serve. Current missionary opportunities will also be expanded to help meet some of the unique local needs.

- a) Adopting churches or "sending" brethren to smaller churches.
- b) Church function support, focused ministry support, youth fellowship connections and financial support where applicable.

Each of these recommendations have been implemented in isolated instances in the past within our Brotherhood, but it is felt that with a focus in these areas and by informing the Brotherhood of these initiatives, expanded assistance efforts can be developed.

A presentation was made at the 2006 Brotherhood Conference in Goodfield, IL covering the survey results and the first year implementation steps. Additional assistance can be provided to those congregations interested in implementing these steps in the near future.

Much support and input was also received regarding the current minister rotation program. Several suggestions were collected into a document entitled "Recommendations for Minister Rotations" which was approved by the Elder body and distributed to all ministering brothers.

The SCSC consists of Bros. Andrew Klaus, Loren Schrenk, Matthew Rassi, Justin Moser, Frank Sauder, and Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle who serves as chairman. If you have input regarding these programs please contact one of these brothers.



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

ACWR Child Sponsorship

May our Lord richly bless the more than 1,200 members and friends of the Apostolic Christian Churches who sponsor children in economically depressed areas of the world. The Lord has touched many hearts to give generously so that these children may attend a school where the gospel is taught and the love of God is demonstrated.

A Haitian student's story

Rosaline woke up early to begin her school day. She lived in a grass thatched home with hard packed dirt floors. It was clean and neat. The only two books her family owned were on a small table beside her parent's bed. These books were cherished. One was a Bible and the other was a Bible Story Book. She lived with her mother and father and two brothers. Her father farmed a small front yard garden that produced some corn and grapefruit for the family.

Rosaline loved school. She walked 1/2 hour up the mountain-side to reach it every school day morning. It was a beautiful area with lush green hills under a brilliant blue sky. At school she not only learned reading, writing, arithmetic, and history; she also learned about Jesus. She and her classmates memorized many passages from the Bible. Her school consisted of one big classroom with several grades in the same room. Each class faced a wall with a blackboard. There were about 30 students per class with 120 students in the room. It got very noisy, especially when they were all reciting their lessons. But oh could they make the rafters

ring when they sang praises to the Lord. Although Rosaline liked her classes, she also liked lunch time. She had classes from 8:30 to 12:30 and before she started for home, all the children were served a lunch of beans and rice.

Rosaline is a sponsored student. Her parents could not afford the tuition for the school or for her uniform, books and school supplies. Sometimes her sponsor sent her a letter and a gift of money. Her parents used the gift to buy shoes for her and her brothers or some chickens. Sometimes there was money left over from tuition to buy food for the family. Rosaline's friend, Pierre, spent gift money from his sponsor to buy goats. From his birthday and Christmas money he bought four goats. The goats would have babies and Pierre would have a fine herd to help provide for his family. Pierre loved his goats. He said if his sponsor ever visited him he would give him a goat!

Rosaline's cousin, Jeanne, lives in a small village close to the ocean. As she sits in her school room she can hear the ocean waves surging on the beach. During the night she appreciates God's creation as she gazes at the billions of stars that cover the sky. Since she has graduated from primary school, she now attends a sewing class. She hopes she will be able to make a small amount of money with the skill she is acquiring. She is thankful for the opportunity made possible by her sponsor.

Most of the children in Haiti could not afford to attend school if it were not for the faithful giving of their sponsors. They are taught to thank the Lord for touching the hearts of their sponsors.

Please prayerfully consider sponsoring a child. A sponsorship provides tuition to attend a Christian School, school uniforms, books, supplies and in some cases money left to go to the student's family. Sponsors will receive periodic pictures and letters from their student, and sponsors are encouraged to write to their students. Prayer for the children is vital.

To apply for a student

The cost to support a student is \$21 to \$35 per month. To apply for a student to sponsor please fill out the following. A student will be assigned to you and you will be sent further information.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ St _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Please check preference:

Haiti Guatemala

Mexico Jamaica

Wherever needed

If possible I would prefer:

Boy - Age _____

Girl - Age _____

No Preference

Child Sponsorship Office

ACWR Child Sponsorship

PO Box 36

Morton, IL 61550

Phone: 309-266-6080

E-mail: childsponsorship@acwr.org

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

On October 1, we celebrated 35 years of service. At a recent staff appreciation dinner, we mentioned a few facts from October 1, 1971: minimum wage was \$1.60, gas was \$0.36 per gallon, and a postage stamp cost \$0.08. Obviously some things have changed over the past 35 years but more importantly, many things have stayed the same. We continue to serve according to God's purpose, believing His promises are true. The staff members that were here in 1971 are not the same employees that are here today. However, as did past employees, present staff members believe that all people have dignity and potential and serve with the same love and compassion as those who served years ago. We are truly thankful for the blessings God has provided over the years and for the opportunities we have had to give our best to help others achieve their best.

"Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations."

Deuteronomy 7:9

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Jan Baumgartner

As we renamed our three residential homes here at Gateway Woods to Maple, Oak, and Hickory, over the last few months it made me reflect on a verse we use in fos-

ter care which is "For there is hope of a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that the tender branch thereof will not cease." Job 14:7. This verse has real meaning to us as we see children's lives cut down to the core when their family is broken up due to the abuse and neglect that often comes from unstable living conditions, alcoholism, drug abuse, sexual abuse or a variety of other problems or combinations of these problems. However, with a stable loving Christian home we have seen children's hope revive, and gradually we have seen them begin to trust and sprout and grow in many areas including physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

I also reflected recently on our adoption program of grafting children into a family with a real example in this illustration from the book, *Loved by Choice*. An adoptive parent grew up in an orchard and knew all about tree grafting. He brought home three tender buds, each from a different kind of apple with each tender slip representing each of his three adopted children. He made the proper cuts into the bark of the trunk and set a tiny branch into each slit. Then he tightly wrapped each branch to the trunk until a union of living cells formed between them. The branches drew water and nutrients from the tree's roots. One spring the family apple tree burst forth with blossoms and each branch had different colored blossoms. His eldest daughter's was dark pink, while his son's branch was creamy white and his baby's branch had dewy pink blossoms. In the fall each branch produced a dif-

ferent variety of apple. The branches were nourished from the same tree's roots, but they each carried within the beauty and flavor from which they came. There's a saying that blood is thicker than water, but this shows what makes up a real family — unconditional love and acceptance make the difference.

NEWS

Residential:

We are thankful for each resident that God brings to Gateway Woods. Please continue to pray that God will use us to plant seeds in each child's heart so that they can come to know Him as their Lord and Savior. The Oak House is completely full now with 4 girls and their 4 babies. Please pray specifically for the girls that each will be a good mother to their children as they attempt to raise them as single parents.

The Maple House was converted into an all girls house on October 24. Please pray for the 2 boys who were moved to the Hickory House. Please also pray for the Houseparents as they adjust to this new setting.

Adoption/Foster Care:

Our adoption program has been quite busy with 10 inquiries in the last month. We also completed five home studies for domestic adoptions, and with families wanting to adopt from Ethiopia, China, and Guatemala. We have several families matched with a child and one with twin infants internationally who are waiting for their travel dates. Two families are in the process of adopting infants domesti-

cally. The Richisons adopted 2 1/2 year old Gavin from China on September 20, and the Blocks adopted 4 year old Mya from Guatemala on September 18.

We are waiting for our application to be accepted in order for Gateway Woods to be licensed in Illinois. This means that we would be able to work with adoptive families in Illinois towards a domestic or international adoption.

Our foster program has two new placements of foster children. McKinsey who is 7 years old was recently placed with the Plattners, and 2 year old Brandon was placed with the Morgans. Michelle went from our foster home to an independent living program. The Bremers are a new foster family now in the licensing process. We are in need of more foster parents especially since we are losing some of our foster parents as they are adopting their own foster children.

4th House Update:

We are making encouraging progress on the new home called the Cypress House. A huge thanks goes to the volunteer roofers led by Bro. Dave Beard (Toledo) and masons coordinated by Bros. Joe Braker, Mel Baum (Morton). In early-mid December we will need the skills of finish carpenters to install cabinets, doors and trim. We know that there are many brothers in our churches with these abilities who can help. Please call Bro. Bruce Schafer 260 433-6799 or Bro. Tim Sauder 888 443-4283 X112 and plan to share a few days with us.

Other:

“The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” (James 5:16b) We thank you for your continual prayers. Please continue to pray for:

All Gateway Woods staff as they willingly give of their time and efforts to make a difference in the lives of these children.

For God’s continual provision for residents, staff, and financial resources.

It is God’s will that all men be saved (I Timothy 2:4); that the children in our care can repent and become truly converted in the way of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We thank you Board Members, Representatives, and supporters. May God bless you for your service!

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL Athens, AL Melissa Slagel

In the fall there are so many fun things to do with children. This month we took the children on a field trip to the pumpkin patch. They each got to pick a pumpkin, pet and feed the animals, play in some corn, and so many other fun farm activities. It was a great experience for them and they are still talking about our fun ‘pumpkin day’. Back at school we cut open some pumpkins and got to see, taste, smell and feel what pumpkins are all about.

We just have to chuckle so often with our preschoolers because they say the cutest things. It is a combination of how they say the sounds of their letters, and also how their minds perceive things. Here are a few little stories that brought us smiles in the past month.

- It can be a chore some days at naptime, trying to get all the children settled down and asleep. One day we had all their energy controlled and they were lying down. I remember being a little stressed and I had a thought something like “ahh finally!” The little guy I was beside looks up at me with his beautiful eyes and says “I wuv you.” That alone put things in perspective but then I asked him “who gave you such cute eyes?” His answer was without any hesitation at all, “Dod did, up in heben.”

- Our Bible story one day was about Balaam and the donkey. We have a flannel board and I was showing them the angel that God had placed in front of the donkey and I told them that the donkey could see it but Balaam couldn’t. Balaam was getting frustrated because the donkey kept going off the road and he didn’t understand. I asked the children “why did the donkey keep going off the road?” I heard this reply from the back of the group “because there was a car coming.”

- One of our little girls was sitting on the floor playing. Her foot must have fallen asleep because when she went to stand up she said “oww, my feet are sparkling.”

ALABAMA, ATHENS Louise Hall

We have been blessed this month by many visitors. Ministers that traveled here to speak God’s Word were Bro. Tim Gerber (Sis. Wendy, Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Paul Zimmerman (Sis. Loretta, Forrest, IL). We thank them and know the Lord’s blessing will be upon them for their labors.

The last weekend of this month we had our Homecoming weekend. It was a neat weekend of singing and fellowshiping with those who have lived in Athens before as well as many others. Bro. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy) from Gridley, IL, preached the Word to us on Sunday. Our Athens congregation is small and we could not have had this event if each one of you would not have traveled the distance to be with us. We were so encouraged by your love and hope that you were as blessed as we were. Most of all our thanks and praise go to the Lord for having His hand upon us.

Our prayers and sympathy are with the family of Henry Hall. Henry passed on to eternity with a hope in his heart to see Jesus. It had been just a short time ago that he had given his heart to God. It gives a peace and comfort to know that he is no longer suffering and we will meet him again. Henry was the brother of Sis. Kat King and Bro. J.R. Hall.

We had a few from our congregation in the hospital this month. They are Olivia Coulter (Bro. David and Sis. Barbara) and Arnold Haggemaker. They are recovering and we pray for God's healing hand upon them.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX Ron and Ev Hoerr

"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

John 9:5

Oh, the joy and beauty we had the weekend of September 23. Three repenting souls gave their testimonies and we felt so close to

our Heavenly Father. Abby Freed, Amy Emch and Bethany Knochel gave their testimonies before the church. Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Altadena) was here to assist Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich and Deacon Bro. Herb Knochel for the weekend. They were baptized on Sunday and we welcomed our three new sisters into God's Family. Sis. Abby's parents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Kelly Freed, Sis. Amy's parents are Bro. James and Sis. Gina Emch, and Sis. Bethany's parents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Laurie Knochel.

We bid farewell to Sis. Ruth Wuthrich as she moved to our church home in Roanoke, IL. Though we miss her, God's love keeps us close.

Bro. Brad Baurer (Tucson), and Bro. Tom Klotzle (Altadena) served on our pulpit this month. We thank God for the blessings of the written and spoken Word.

Hospital patients were Sis. Bertha Miller and Sis. Katherine Laukhuf.

As we write to you, it is mid October and we are ready to delight ourselves in our visitors and God's love.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT Jane Hodges

Several members of our church family have been traveling in September and October to Indiana, Ohio, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and even Germany to visit families and for weddings. We are thankful that everyone has returned safely.

The brothers who visited to help Bro. Dan Dubach with the ministry from September 24 - October 22 included Bros. Ken Hoerr (Sis.

Darlene, Peoria, IL), Jerry Meeks (Sis. Christine, Sabetha, KS), Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville, IL), Dan Stoller (Sis. Diane, Rockville, CT), James Emch and Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (both of Phoenix). We ask the Lord to bless them and their families for giving of themselves to serve us and the Lord.

"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure they are created."

Rev. 4:11

ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

Work is progressing on our church remodel. We now have beautiful new bathrooms to use, a definite improvement over our old bathrooms with their leaks, overflowing toilets and mold infested walls. Our kitchen countertops are being installed as I write this and new flooring has been installed so our kitchen is looking much better. We will enjoy cleaning up after ourselves on the new stone floors versus carpeting. Our benches, pulpit and new carpeting will come in a few weeks and will be wonderful with our newly painted walls. We are feeling excited and truly blessed!

Our mornings are downright cool and we are starting to need a light jacket in the evenings (well, the women are anyway), so fall is arriving but taking it's time as usual. Our temperatures are in the low 80's during the day which is beautiful and very enjoyable. Should be perfect weather for our

annual Sunday School Picnic this Sunday. Wish you all could be here!

**CALIFORNIA
ALTADENA
Tina Jackson**

“Where there is no vision, the people perish.”

Proverbs 29:18

Desiring to have vision and purpose for the Altadena Church congregation, September 16 was set aside, as a church body, to participate in discussion on Vision and Purpose for our small church. The Holy Spirit was very present as we encouraged one another to support opportunities for church fellowship, growth, outreach and service.

The book of James has been our topic of Bible study led by ministering Bro. Justin Moser during the past few Wednesday evenings. We were reminded to “be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only.” (James 1:22) We are thankful to all who participate and for Bro. Justin’s willingness to serve in this capacity.

We enjoyed the fellowship of the Phoenix Young Group on the weekend of October 7-8. Saturday morning was spent packaging food at the local Children’s Hunger Fund facility. It’s always exciting to see young people willing to help those in need with their time and resources! We were thankful to have Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) here with us as well and we appreciate his willingness to minister to us about God’s working in our lives even in

His “apparent” silence. Bro. Frank used the captivity of the Israelites to illustrate that God is always working even over long periods of what we would consider to be His silence.

We are thankful that Dorothy Vermillion, who recently celebrated her 90th birthday, still finds the strength to worship with us often.

The Altadena church would like to invite all those who have family or friends residing in the Greater Los Angeles area, and those who perhaps were raised in or fellowshiped for a time with us in the Apostolic Christian Church, to send contact information (e-mail and mailing address) of those individuals to jscottmoser@juno.com. The purpose of the information would be to ensure that these individuals receive our ongoing church calendar with notification of upcoming church events and to welcome them to worship with us.

**KITCHENER, ONTARIO
CANADA**

Johanna Fortenbacher

This month God faithfully supplied us with ministers. They were: Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit), Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sis. Linda, Sardis), Bro. Mike Bauman (Sis. Florina, Mansfield), and Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto).

Columbus Day weekend was a tremendous blessing for us. We were able to host a bus load of wonderful people from various Central Illinois churches. The passengers ranged in age from 7 weeks to 65 years. They even brought a minister from Goodfield with them - Bro.

Nate Wieland (Sis. Suzanne). What a splendid weekend of fellowship it was, renewing old friendships and making new ones. Many thanks to all who made the effort to come and make the weekend such a special one.

**COLORADO, DENVER
Ann Gonglach**

We appreciate Bro. Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL) and all those who helped with our Bible Class weekend in the mountains. Some high school classes from Kansas came and joined our high schoolers on the weekend of October 7-8 for fun, fellowship and spiritual instruction.

Many of us have been experiencing some of the trials of this life.

Several are having problems with their health. Bro. Norm Geyer (Sis. Eleanor) is doing well after surgery. Gabriella Wiegand (Bro. Chuck and Sis. Naomi) is continuing physical therapy after back surgery in Minnesota. Sis. Marlene Leman (Bro. Tom) is convalescing after surgery on her heart. Sis. Ruth Pfeiffer has been preparing for surgery.

Several have lost loved ones in the past couple of months. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Katanic family who laid their sister to rest. Millie Mrksich, 37, was a wife and mother of three little girls. The Meyer family lost their brother-in-law, Bro. Dale Strahm (Sis. Shelby), of Bern, Kansas. Bro. Bob Gonglach’s grandmother also passed away.

We’re thankful for the love and prayers of our brethren in these difficult times.

Without love the burden great
 On our shoulder
 Would our weak and feeble state
 Crush and smolder;
 But in love it groweth light,
 And we offer
 Still to toil and suffer.
 Thus with grace our soul and
 mind
 Is inspired;
 In our labor joy we find
 As desired,
 Meeting kindred-minded souls
 Is reviving,
 Humbling and enliv'ning.
 - *Zion's Harp, #70, verses 2 & 4*

Note of Thanks:

Just a short note of thanks to the many who have prayed and helped in so many ways at time of my heart surgery. May God bless you all!

Sis. Marlene Leman

**CONNECTICUT
 ROCKVILLE
 Laura Virkler
 Amber Rocke**

Though Satan should buffet, tho'
 trials should come,
 Let this blest assurance control;
 That Christ hath regarded my
 helpless estate,
 And hath shed His own blood for
 my soul.
 HZ # 55

May we harbor in our hearts this blessed assurance that God will take care of our needs through the darkest of days, and the most glorious of moments. We as a congregation have experienced both the trials and joys of life throughout this past month.

It was such a privilege to hear the testimonies, and witness the

baptisms of these two dear souls: Sis. Beth Wagenbach (Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary) and Sis. Ashley Yurgel (Jack and Donna). We pray that these two souls will never lose courage in the midst of their pilgrim journey, for "Blessed is that man that maketh the Lord His trust...." (Psalm 40:4). We thank Elder Bro. Duane Farney (Sis. Karen, Croghan-Naumburg, NY) for serving our congregation throughout this uplifting weekend. We want to also thank the many visitors that made the effort to travel to our area for such an occasion. We are so thankful for all of your love and support.

"You will pray to Him, and He will hear you...." (Job 22:27). This is a comfort to each, especially to young families as they adjust to the responsibilities of parenthood. We rejoice with Bro. Jonathon and Sis. Elisa Goric as they welcome their first child, Julia Kate, into their home. Julia's grandparents are Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie Zahner and Bro. Dan and Sis. Mary Lou Goric. Our prayers continue to extend to Bro. Derek and Sis. Darla Reutter, as their newborn, Addison, continues to await surgery. May God be with these two families, and answer their many prayers.

This past month, our congregation has been impacted by the death of two loved ones. Sis. Irma Luginbuhl peacefully passed away, surrounded by those she loved so dearly. Her children include Bro. Rick (Sis. Sue), Sis. Joan (Bro. Steve) Hoffman, Joe (Wendy), and Amy (Ray) Bateman. We pray for them, their children, and close family, that the love of a mother and grandmother would continue

to shine through them. We also pray for the family of Frank Boynton at his recent passing. May Ken (Sis. Jan) Boynton, and his many siblings, feel the love and prayers from our congregation.

Our Sis. Barb (Bro. Alfred) Reutter has recently undergone surgery. May the Lord bless her with a full recovery. Our prayers also extend to Sis. Carol (Warren) Gottier as she continues to battle the onslaught of cancer. We trust the Lord will be a comfort to her and her family through this difficult time. The needs of a congregation are more than can be written in these few paragraphs. May we take comfort in God's Word, that encourages us to, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

Note of Thanks:

Thank you each one in the Rockville congregation for the warm reception that you have given me. I am so thankful for the opportunity to spend time among the Brethren here, and feel the love of God flowing through each heart. May God richly bless you for your love, hospitality, and kindness.

Sis. Elisabeth Nagy, Switzerland

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
 WASHINGTON
 Henrietta Meyer**

The leaves are getting close to "peak" when their colors are brightest. The weather is getting cooler and while some in the mid-west are having their first snow, that should be at least a

month away for us.

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Bro. Nile Bucher (Sis. Phyllis, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandra, Alto, MI).

We are always glad when a former resident comes back to visit. Sis. Renee Steffen came with Bro. Ted and his family. Sis. Renee had lived here for three years. Other visitors this month were from Rittman and Smithville, OH; Peoria, IL; Philadelphia, PA and Bay City, MI.

Services are usually held the first, third, fourth and fifth Sundays of the month at the Tysons Corner Westpark (Best Western) Hotel, located about one-mile west of the Beltway (I-495) on Route 7. Song service begins at 10:15, worship service at 10:30; afternoon service begins at 12:15.

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

**FLORIDA
FORT LAUDERDALE
Renee Mangold**

We were happy to have with us for a few weeks Bro. Joe Braker (Sis. Shirley, Morton, IL) to share God's Word with us. Also visiting was Bro. Ron Jones (Portland,

OR). We pray that God would bless the ministers and their families for the good service they perform.

Sis. Katherine Fulop fell and broke her ankle. After a short stay in the hospital and three weeks in a rehabilitation facility, she is now home. We pray that God would place His healing hand on her and grant her a full recovery soon.

We are currently scheduling Wednesday night church on a week to week basis, depending on how many of our local brethren are away. If you are in town visiting, please contact Roger Sauder at (954) 584-0947 to verify that there will be a mid week service that week.

**FLORIDA
NORTH FORT MYERS
Naomi Vogel**

Our church renovation (the result of a water leak in early July) completion target was October 1. With God's help and some prodding, that goal was reached just in time. Our congregation increased from 14 the first Sunday of October to 38 the next Sunday, so, as expected, the "Snowbirds" are migrating. By the sounds of the forecasts up north, it is not surprising!

We are pleased that Bro. Ray and Sis. Jeanie Haerr have decided to take up permanent residency in Cape Coral. Maybe others will follow their example and help increase our summer attendance! There are many opportunities for employment for young couples, also!

Get well prayers are needed for Sis. Carolyn Siegle, Sis. Rhea Steffen, Sis. Jeanette Yergler, and

Bro. Art Keller. May the Great Physician heal you quickly!

We were saddened to hear of the death of Bro. Glen Hodel's brother, Bill Bauer, in Cissna Park, IL. Bro. Glen and Sis. Sue had just arrived in Ft. Myers the night before his death, so they drove back to Illinois the next morning. We praise God for keeping them safe during those travels!

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Robin Wiegand**

Greetings to all. We have been blessed to hear the Brotherhood Conference recordings during the past several weeks and to share in Holy Communion. Our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann and Bro. Jeff Streitmatter led us in this sacred rite.

The guest speaker at our annual Lakewood Weekend gathering was Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO). We were so thankful for his willingness to lead us in consideration of the topic, "Spiritual Backsliding". Bro. Neal Widmer and many others from West Lafayette blessed us with their presence also. All who attended were once again refreshed and renewed in body and spirit.

Sis. Betty Siladie underwent knee replacement surgery and Bro. Howard Zobrist had to have some surgical treatment following an auto accident while traveling to Florida. We are thankful that both are experiencing a good recovery.

May God continue to show us His almighty majesty.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Sheila McCoy
Doreen Moser**

“The bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is upon the earth.”

Genesis 9:16

We recently saw a spectacular, double rainbow arcing across the eastern horizon, radiating a full spectrum of colors. It is amazing how God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ blesses and encourages His creatures here on earth! Let us radiate His love to all those around us.

We felt the love of many visitors this past month. Otherwise, it has been a quiet month in Belvidere.

We started our Bible study this fall in Madison, WI. Bro. Art Mueller is our minister and the plan is to focus on Romans this year. We discussed faith and righteousness in the first few chapters.

**ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

**Ann Nussbaum
Jen Heiniger**

We were blessed to have two visiting ministers this past month: Bro. Mark Gerber brought us the Word on October 1; Elder Bro. Mark Bahr shared the pulpit October 8.

As the time of Thanksgiving approaches, we are reminded we have much to be thankful for. We rejoice as Carrie (Joe) Kieser has expressed her desire to join our church family.

We extend our sympathies to those in our congregation who have lost loved ones. Sis. Leota (Bro. Jim) Byrd of Roanoke, a sister to Sis. Ann (Bro. Roy) Maurer, Sis. Rose Huetten, and Hank Aberle, passed away October 7. Also, Bro. Wayne (Sis. Linda) Steffen has laid to rest his mother, Sis. Fannie Steffen of Fairbury, who passed away October 14.

The approaching Central Illinois winter means that we will lose a few “snowbirds” to warmer climates soon. Bro. Ray and Sis. Jeanie Haerr will be making their Florida residence their permanent home, and so with sadness we have said farewell. We send them off with our love, and sincerely hope they will return often to visit.

**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Steve Endress**

Bro. Matt and Sis. Becky Elsasser are rejoicing at the birth of their second daughter. Shelby Joy was born on September 21 and is welcomed home by her sister, Brittany. Her grandparents are Bro. Jordan and Sis. Sharon Elsasser and Bro. Roger and Sis. Ila Bradle (Eureka).

We extend our appreciation to ministering Bros. Dan Moser (Elgin, IL) and Ben Walder (Congerville, IL) for visiting us during the past month.

“Give thanks unto the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people.”

I Chronicles 16:8

Our national day of thanksgiving to God draws near once again. Although we should

not have to be reminded to be thankful and to give God praise, yet we are in need of reminders throughout our days. May thankfulness, gratitude, and appreciation flow from our hearts and lips to our great God in the coming year.

**ILLINOIS
CHAMPAIGN-URBANA
Karla Aberle**

“Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.”

Ephesians 5:24-28

September 24 was the day our Sis. Krista Banwart and Bro. Doug Stoller chose as their wedding day! Sis. Krista is the daughter of Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Charlen Banwart and Bro. Doug is the son of Bro. Gale and Sis. Sonia Stoller from Princeville, IL. Sis. Krista and Bro. Doug have made Chicago their home while Bro. Doug finishes his medical training. We wish them God’s richest blessings as they begin this new life with Christ as their compass. We are thankful to Elder Bro. James Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) who had

the morning service.

Sam and Dawn Finch welcomed their 4th child, Tyson Urban, on September 13. Excited siblings include sister, Kirsten, and brothers, Dawson and Braden. Paternal grandparents are Wayne and Mary (deceased) Finch from Mahomet, IL, and maternal grandparents are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Darlene Steidinger from Fairbury, IL. Praise God for another healthy child!

Every fall we have a Fall Picnic at Illini Grove, a small park located on the University campus. The students are usually able to walk to the picnic as they live close by. We are hanging on to the last days of warm weather.

It always seems that Fall zooms right by and we are faced with the cold blustery days of winter too soon.

The first weekend of October saw the annual Mangers' wiener roast. This year marked the 27th year! Everyone enjoyed the beautiful weather, roasting wieners and marshmallows, eating some tasty homemade caramel apples, and taking a hayrack ride through the countryside. We are so appreciative for the efforts of Bro. Dennie and Sis. Cheryl to put this on every year. It is a wonderful tradition!

This month marks the 50 year anniversary of Wednesday night Bible Class being held at the Illini Student Union. The first Bible Class was held November 7, 1956. At that time the President of the Young Group was Bro. Jerry Cargill; the vice-president was Bro. Tom Klaus; the secretary was Bro. Jerry Steffen; and the treasurer Sis. Dorothy Gudeman.

We thank Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) for his help with the Memorandum this past month. We also are very appreciative for our other visiting ministers: Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO).

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO Rachel Meyer

A World Relief workshop evening was enjoyed by many with kit-making, quilts and good fellowship. We were also blessed with an inspiring Topical Bible Study by our Bro. Virgil Metzger on "The Arm of God." We thank Bro. Arnie Gerst (Taylor, MO) for bringing us the Word of God and coming back "home" for a visit.

Many from here attended the wedding in Champaign of Sis. Krista Banwart and Bro. Doug Stoller. We rejoice to welcome Sis. Krista to our Chicago church family. We also extend a welcome to Amanda Fehr (Morris, MN) who has moved to this area for employment.

God is faithful in answering prayer. We have appreciated our dear LaVirra Lehman as a faithful friend in our Chicago congregation from its early years as a church. We praise God that she has confessed her desire to answer God's call and experience the full blessing of repentance and conversion. May she continue to feel our prayers and love and the Lord's abundant grace.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK Pam Walder Andrea Walder

Dearest child, we bid thee welcome
In our blessed brotherhood;
From the wild tree thou art
grafted
On this holy tree and root.
Zion's Harp #34, vs. 2

We were thankful to be able to hear the provings and witness the baptisms of five dear souls on the weekend of September 23-24. We welcome Bro. Reid Walder (Bro. Steve and Sis. Kathy), Bro. Michael, Bro. Ben and Sis. Julia Kaeb (Bro. Max and Sis. Beth) and Bro. Chad Kaeb (Bro. Eric and Sis. LouAnn) into our brotherhood and pray that God will be near to them all the days of their life. We appreciated having Elder Bros. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN) and John Lehman (Bern, KS) with us to help in this important work, and thank them for their labors.

Our other visiting ministers this month were Bros. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Don Sinn (Silverton, OR), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) and Mark Gerber (Bluffton, IN). We thank them for their willingness to serve and pray that God might bless them for their labors.

We rejoice with Bro. Arlyn and Sis. LaNae Rudin in the birth of their grandson, Adam Blume. Adam's parents are Bro. Brent and Sis. Erica Blume (Wolcott, IN).

We extend our sympathy to the family of our friend, Bill Bauer,

who passed away this month. Our prayers are also with Bro. Max and Sis. Donna Yergler with the death of his sister-in-law, Nancy Yergler. May God comfort and uplift these dear families during this time of sorrow.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Rachel Schrock

In a couple recent sermons we were reminded that this earthly life is not a playground, it is a battlefield. We are in enemy territory and need to keep our armor polished, sharpened and ready.

Our thankfulness is extended to those who faithfully minister God's Word to us so that we can inspect our armor carefully. We especially wish to thank those who have visited us recently, including Bros. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern), Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont), Greg Stoller (Sis. Jill, Forrest), Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl, Eureka) and John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville). We also enjoyed all those who assembled with us for our recent Fall Invite a Guest Sunday. What a joy we can feel as we commune with our brethren from all across the land!

We rejoice when a newborn babe enters this world. Bro. Zachary and Sis. Karla Anderson welcomed Caiden Zachary into their home on August 13. Grandparents include Bro. Jon and Sis. Cynde Anderson and Robert and Cheryl Kaisner (Fairbury).

Mollie Kathleen made her presence into this world on October 11 into the welcoming arms of Bro. Josh and Sis. Kate Virkler. Grandparents include Bro. John and Sis. Maureen Virkler and Bro. Kim and

Sis. Carol Craig.

Sometimes joy flows just like a river! We wish to extend our congratulations to our Sis. Wendy Rinkenberger (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pat) as her engagement to Bro. Brian Cottrell (Eureka) was announced. Bro. Brian's parents are Bill Cottrell and Sis. Judy Cottrell (Eureka). May God be with them as they begin to join their earthly lives together. They are planning to wed on December 10.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Amy Gasser
Miriam Gasser

A Song of Autumn

I walked out in the field today
And heard the song of autumn
play;
I found the golden kernels there
Beneath the husk of ripening air.

I could not estimate the yield,
The moneyed value of the field,
But found sustaining beauty there
And in the heart a thankful
prayer.

—*Edith Fassler*

Our family recently enjoyed a few days at a cabin in the rolling hills of southern Wisconsin. Echoing the thoughts of the poet, we found beauty in the sight of grazing cattle, drying bales, and the quilt-like patterns of the farmland. They are symbols of God's bounty in this season of harvest, and we are thankful for His provision.

The visiting ministers who helped to plant and water the good seed of the Word in the past month were Bros. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN), Dan Koch (Tremont, IL),

Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), and Garth Steffen (Portland, OR). May God give the increase to their labors.

On September 3, James Wonneberg (Gerry Wonneberg and Sis. Gail) married Lisa Himrod of St. Charles, IL. We wish them much happiness!

Between September 13 and October 5, we listened to the recordings of the Brotherhood Conference in Goodfield, IL. We are grateful that our Elder brothers watch for our souls and were again able to bring us this special encouragement. May we faithfully persevere on the pilgrim way!

It was cause for rejoicing to hear that our convert Kirk Schambach (Bro. Les and Sis. Alison) has found peace with God and man. His testimony and baptism are tentatively scheduled for the weekend of November 4-5.

Sis. Marge Wewetzer (Bro. Bill) is healing, after suffering a broken shoulder in a fall. "He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater..." Gospel Hymns #403

Note of Thanks:

We wish to thank each one for all the prayers, support, and gifts of love shown to us during the loss of our dear daughter-in-law, Lori (Glenn's wife). May God bless each one of you.

In Christian Love,
*Bro. Elvis and Sis. Marilyn
Kellenberger and Family*

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Lisa Metzger
Cindy Stoller

Bro. Rod and Sis. Cindy

Kupferschmid are happy to welcome their new little Tory Jaye to join his siblings, Rebecca, Sarah, Jed, Naomi, Luke, Mahlon and Dwight, at home. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Maribeth Kupferschmid and Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol Luginbuhl (Roanoke, IL). We wish this couple God's grace and blessings as they raise their children in the nurture and admonition of Him.

We have recently shared the sorrow of Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol Zobrist in the sudden death of their son, Doug. Our prayers are with them in this time of deep grief. May they feel the precious comforting ointment of the Holy Spirit.

Our medical and hospital patients this month include Bro. Marvin Schmidgall (Sis. Dorothy) and Sis. Donna Kupferschmid (Bro. Ed). We pray for God's healing and helping hand for them in this time.

We are very thankful for the visiting ministers we had recently, including Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL), and Bros. Tony Manz (Junction, OH), Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Brad Gudeman and Gary Endress (Bradford, IL), Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL), James Knapp (Congerville, IL), Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL) and Glen Braker (Princeville, IL). May God bless them for their service in His vineyard.

Weddings this month include Bro. Mark Wiegand (Bro. Don and Sis. Jane) to Sis. Danielle Leman (Bro. Kent and Sis. Chris); and Bro. Bob Schieler (Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa, Goodfield, IL) to Sis. Ashley Edelman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Nadine). We also had three more engagement announcements

recently, including Bro. Brent Blunier (Bro. Roger and Sis. Wendy) to Sis. Trudy Zimmerman (Bro. Dale and Sis. Sue); Bro. Brian Cottrell (Bill Cottrell and Sis. Judy Cottrell) to Sis. Wendy Rinckenberger (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pat, Congerville, IL); and Bro. Daniel Knecht (Elder Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandy) to Sis. Kelly Blunier (Bro. Kurt and Sis. Livy). May God be in the center of these marriages as new Christian homes and families are established.

The most wonderful news of all this month is that our friend, Lonnie Kupferschmid, has made an open confession of his faith, and begun his repentance. We are so thankful for him, and commit him to our Lord to guide and provide for him through this sacred step of life.

Note of Thanks:

I want to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for the cards, gifts and prayers that I have received since my recent surgery. May God richly bless each and every one for all your love.

In His love,
Sis. Clara Kempf

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Lila Fehr
Anna Schmidgall**

We appreciated the labors of several visiting ministers this past month. Bros. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA), Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Gary Endress (Bradford, IL), and Matt Steffen (Princeville, IL) brought God's Word to us.

Our prayers continue to be with

Bro. Duane Kilgus, Sis. Arlene, and their family as he has spent several weeks in the hospital. We are thankful Sis. Linda Fehr (Bro. Ken) is at home recuperating following surgery. We continue to pray for Nita Moser (Keith) for God's healing.

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of Fannie Steffen who passed away. She leaves behind four sons: Bros. Henry (Sis. Lola) and Chris (Sis. Kay) from our congregation, Bro. Wayne (Sis. Linda, Bloomington, IL), and Herb (Georgia). She had several grandchildren and great-grandchildren that will also miss her.

Blest be the tie that binds,
our hearts in Christian love,
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.

Hymns of Zion #156

ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Jill Wenger
Lori Leman**

We are so thankful and humbled that God is still calling souls to Him and giving them grace to repent and be converted. We welcome our new Bro. Vernon and Sis. Ruth Edelman into the fold as we were able to listen to their testimonies and witness their baptisms this month.

We also rejoice that Erika Mueller has answered God's call and turned to Him in repentance. We are thankful that she and her husband, Mark, can walk together on life's pathway, striving together for that heavenly goal.

We also welcome several new babies into our congregation. Bro. Matthew and Sis. Katie Schneider were blessed with the birth of their

firstborn, Lauren Kate. Her grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra Schneider and Bro. Bob and Sis. Sally Rinkenberger.

Aaron Jacob is the third son of Bro. Jacob and Sis. Brooke Kuntz. Siblings, Levi and Lucas, and grandparents, Bro. Rollin and Sis. Brenda Kuntz and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Wendy Gutwein, are thankful for another little boy to love.

October 10 was the birthdate of Jordan Troy Aberle, the son of Bro. Shawn and Sis. Tami Aberle. He is also welcomed home by siblings, Aaron, Abigail and Laurel, and grandparents, Bro. Mark and Sis. Laverne Aberle and Bro. Gary and Sis. Jane Brown. May God give these couples grace and wisdom to raise their children to know and love the Lord.

Several in our congregation are mourning the loss of a loved one and we pray that God will be near and comfort them. Bro. Ken and Sis. Deb Roth said farewell to her mother, Sis. Leota Byrd (Bro. Jim, Roanoke, IL). Sis. Velma Koehl's brother, Jim Honegger, passed away; and Verne Sanders, the father of Rich Sanders (Jeannie), also finished his earthly life. We also extend our sympathy to the family of Elmer Kaisner who leaves his children, Kenneth (Darla), Allan (Carol), Barry (Pam), and Connie Laughlin (Pat). May God fill these empty places in their lives.

We are thankful for the ministering brothers who lent themselves in the work of the Lord this month. May God bless Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL) for their labors.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD
Amber Grimm
Rita Bauman

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

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

We wish to thank our two visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Sis. Judy, Forrest, IL), and Bro. James Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Congerville, IL) who shared God's Word for the baptism of Sis. Anna Bauman. It is with gladness in our hearts to welcome Sis. Anna (Bro. Ben and Sis. Marge) into the fold. May she feel God's Holy Spirit continue to lead and direct her throughout her life.

We offer our sympathy to Bro. Willis (Sis. Betty) Wiegand and Bro. Daniel (Sis. Verla) Wiegand and their families on the death of their brother, Kenneth Wiegand, of Morton, IL. Our prayers and sympathy are also with Sis. Dawn (Randy) Maloney and their families on the death of her brother, Doug Zobrist. May God bring His loving comfort to each of them.

October 7 was the wedding day for Angie Kuntz and Clay Edwards of Larchwood, IA. Their parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Pat Kuntz and Lanning Edwards (Mitchell, SD) and Janet Edwards (Letcher,

SD). We pray that God will bless their marriage.

Also, on October 22, many attended the wedding of Bro. Robert Schieler and Sis. Ashley Edelman. Their parents are Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa Schieler and Bro. Keith and Sis. Nadine Edelman (Eureka, IL). May God bind their hearts with His love and grace. We welcome Sis. Ashley to our Goodfield congregation.

Those spending time in the hospital have been Bro. Ron Wiegand (Sis. Barb) and Sis. Betty Wiegand (Bro. Willis). May God grant His healing powers to each one.

Notes of Thanks:

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks in the loss of our husband, father, and grandfather, Bro. Raymond Wagner. We appreciate the deeds of kindness, cards, flowers, memorials, and especially the prayers! God bless you all.

Sis. Viola Wagner
Jim Wagner & Family
Bro. Greg Wagner & Family

Thank you so much for the many prayers, cards and visits during my recent hospitalization and recovery.

May God bless you all for your kindness.

Sis. Betty Wiegand

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY
Perry A. Klopfenstein

It is a blessing that our nation sets aside an official day to commemorate Thanksgiving. It is certain that all of us have many things for which to be thankful. It would benefit each person in America to

take a legal pad (from time to time) and list the multitude of reasons to be thankful to God. The Word teaches us: "In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (I Thessalonians 5:18)

Although life can get tense, problems may abound and illness can imperil us, there are nonetheless many reasons to be thankful to God, who watches over us from day to day. It is especially important to be thankful for the two powerful companions we have each day — the Bible and the Holy Spirit. We should not take these for granted. And we should daily and hourly be thankful for the Plan of Salvation, wherein a safe and joyous provision has been made for our undying soul in all eternity — for those who have sought God with all their heart.

We should also give thanks for any soul who has found the grace to repent. It is no small matter to find the grace to come out of darkness and penetrate into the light of Christ. Satan's hold is often desperate and his grip difficult to loosen. So, when a soul begins to repent, it is a marvelous thing, and the power of God is manifest in such a miracle. May our prayers be unceasing that multitudes would turn to God in repentance.

The engagement of Sis. Tracy Gramm to Bro. David Massner (LaCrosse, IN) was made known on October 1. Her parents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Darleta Gramm. He is the son of Bro. Randy and Sis. Mary Lynn Massner (LaCrosse, IN). We offer our best wishes to this couple as they plan for their wedding and henceforth.

A baby, Joah Christian Knapp, was born on September 28. He is the son of Bro. Mark and Sis. Kathy Knapp. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary Bradle (Roanoke, IL) and the late Bro. Larry and Sis. Rosella Knapp. A great-grandparent is Sis. Anna Bradle, Eureka. May God give much grace to these young parents as they train up their young son.

Sis. Anna Marie Reutter has returned to her home in the Sunrise Manor apartments, after a stay at the Roanoke home. She had suffered a mild stroke. She is doing much better.

Surgery patients this month were Janet Ellis, and Sis. Beverly Wolf. Willis Aupperle was also hospitalized.

A child was born to Bro. Roger and Sis. Bonnie Funk on October 10. He was named Jonah Harold. His siblings are twins, Joe and Madison, 4, and Jake, 2. Grandparents are Bro. Virgil "Bud" and Sis. Shirley Funk (Congerville, IL) and Harold and Teresa Maubach, Henry, Illinois. May God's blessings shine on this newly-born boy and his parents.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Annette Tanner
Julie Bahr

Morton had the privilege of hosting visitors from Athens, Alabama, for a weekend of fellowship. It was our blessing also when the Peoria church choir agreed to come sing at our monthly hymn sing.

Sis. Emma Dale Baer (the late Bro. Chris) went to her heavenly home on September 21. Her daughters are Sis. Pam Baer and Sis. Christine Kaiser (Bro. Greg),

and sons are Steve Baer (Marion) and Doug Baer (Dawn). As a church, we extend our deepest love and sympathy.

We are thankful to have willing ministers who teach us on special topics on our family Worship Nights. Bro. Bob Pflederer's (Sis. Ellie) topic was entitled "The B-I-B-L-E". The Bible is known for its reliability. As a book on the present, future, and history, there is no other book like it! The congregation joined in singing our hymn from childhood, "The B-I-B-L-E, yes that's the book for me ... His life He gave my soul to save, the B-L-O-O-D."

Visiting ministers we are grateful for are Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Floyd Frieden (Sis. Jan, Elgin, IA).

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Kristin Menold
Carissa Klopfenstein

Our Bible study on the book of Philippians continues to be insightful. Speakers this month include Elder Bro. Tim Funk who discussed Chapter 2, Bro. Ken Hoerr with points from Chapter 3, and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) concluding the study with Chapter 4. We wish to thank these Brothers for their efforts to prepare and present this topic to us.

The Berean Jail Banquet was held on September 30 at the Peoria County Jail. Members of the Peoria Young Group assisted in serving the banquet. Following the banquet, former inmates shared their testimony on how the Lord has transformed their lives

through this ministry. Thank you to those who attended this event, for your continued support of the Berean Prison Ministry, and to the Peoria Young Group for your help.

On October 8 the annual church wiener roast was held at Hoerr's Apple Blossom Farm. Those that gathered enjoyed some delicious fall fare, hayrack rides, a bonfire, and singing.

We rejoice with Kyle and Tammy Eaton as they have begun their walk with the Lord. Tammy is the daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Myrna Hoerr and Kyle is the son of Debbie and John Eaton. Tammy and Kyle have three children, Gavin, Elijah, and Boston. We pray God's blessings be with you as you grow in the grace of the Lord.

We welcome Sis. Sandy Leman, David and Carole Barnard to our congregation. Sis. Sandy has spent the past few years working with our Brothers and Sisters in Mexico and is originally from Roanoke. We are happy that you have joined us and hope that your faith will be strengthened as we grow together in the Lord.

Thank you to those that participated in the annual church clothing drive on September 30. All clothes collected go to the World Relief Distribution Center in Goodfield, IL, and are distributed from there wherever the need is greatest.

Our prayers are with Bro. Ed and Sis. Dana Meister and their family in the passing of Dana's mother, Sis. Neola Nussbaum. Sis. Dana is also recovering from surgery. We continue to pray for the health of Sis. Hazel Geyer, Bro. Dick Binkele, Sis. Ella Plattner,

Grant Rauhaus, Sis. Nancy Herman, and Sis. Mabel Weber.

The Peoria congregation looks forward to hosting College Week-end October 21-22 at the Peoria church. The topic this year is "Being an Example". Speakers include Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Bro. Justin Koch (Washington, IL), Bro. Erik Givens (Princeville, IL), Bro. Tom Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Bro. Curt Kaufman (Tucson, AZ).

Upcoming events include the Senior Citizen's Dinner, which will be held at the Fellowship Hall on November 4 and Lighthouse Academy's Auction and Spaghetti Dinner on November 11. In addition to some great food, we look forward to having Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) as the auctioneer for this event.

May the grace of the Lord be with you as you live for Him in the mundane routine and in the chaotic moments between.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

**Connie Christ
Vera Baer**

We rejoice with Bro. Gregg and Sis. Heather Rumbold in the little bundle God gave them. Her name is Saige Elise. Welcoming her home are her brothers and sister, Deryk, Dayton, and Sadie. Saige's grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Elizabeth Wieland and late Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold.

On September 24, Bro. Doug Stoller (Bro. Gale and Sis. Sonia) and Sis. Krista Banwart (Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) were united in marriage. We pray for them a life together, centered in the Lord.

As Kara Martin (Gerald and Louise) moves to the Denver, CO, area, we wish her God's nearness.

Mary Streitmatter's (Paul) funeral was October 14. Paul and Mary have three children, Steven and Michael of California and Joy (Kirk) Stuaan of Peoria, IL. We pray her husband, children and family will feel God's love and nearness as they face lonely times.

Elder Bro. Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) were our visiting ministers this month. We thank them and their families for coming and speaking God's Word to us.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Doris Fischer
Dee Fehr**

"...be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."

Phil. 2:2

Two young couples recently joined hands and hearts in the bonds of holy matrimony. Bro. Mark Lindberg (Atlanta, GA) and Sis. Laura Vercler (South Bend, IN) were married on September 24 in Gridley. Their parents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg and Bro. Tim and Sis. Sonia Vercler. October 1 was the wedding day for Bro. Caleb Leman and Sis. Erin Hodel. Their parents are Elder Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb Leman (Denver, CO) and Bro. Brad and Sis. Patty Hodel.

We rejoice with Sis. Rebekah Hoffman (Bro. Mike and Sis. Nancy) as she enters the fold as a young lamb of Jesus. Rebekah gave

her testimony and was baptized the weekend of October 7-8. We pray God's guidance and direction for three precious souls who have begun their repentance and conversion recently: Heidi Leman (Bro. Don and Sis. Colleen), Marissa Leman (Bro. Clark and Sis. Lisa), and Wayne Blunier (Sis. Marjorie).

We have been blessed by ministering brothers who have visited recently and allowed themselves to be used by God to bring the message of salvation and grace. These include Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Denver), Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Eureka), Bro. Dave Marquart (Taylor), Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington), Bro. Jedd Rocke (Goodfield), Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley) and Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield).

On September 23, the Women's Seminar was held at the fellowship hall. We are deeply indebted to Elder Bro. Ron Messner and Bro. Ted Witzig Jr. for so freely and willingly giving of their time and talents to present a very interesting and informative seminar. All who attended were enriched and enlightened with much Godly wisdom and insight. On September 27, Bro. Fred Funk (Morton) traveled to Roanoke for our evening of Family Worship. His topic was "For such a time as this", taken from the book of Esther. On October 1, the men's group, the Mortonaires, blessed us with an evening of beautiful and inspirational singing.

Bro. Jason and Sis. Rena Hodel are thankful for the arrival of a precious daughter, Suzanne Nichole, born on September 20. Clara and

Natalie are happy and excited to have a new baby sister. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy Hodel and Bro. Harlan and Sis. Martha Braker. Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary Bradle welcomed a new grandchild on September 28, when Joah Christian was born to Bro. Mark and Sis. Kathy Knapp (Gridley).

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord..."

Rev. 14:13

As we welcome new little ones into our church family, we bid farewell to dear loved ones who have long suffered declining health and the infirmities of the flesh. At such a time as this, it is with relief and a feeling of peace that we say goodbye, knowing how they have longed to be released from this life to enter the glories of heaven. Sis. Leota Byrd slipped from this life on October 7. Her passing was followed by the death of Bro. Richard Bowald later on that same day. Sis. Leota is survived by her husband, Bro. Jim, and children, Sis. Deb (Bro. Ken) Roth, Bro. Steve (Sis. Colleen) Byrd, Brad (Barb) Byrd, and Matt (Marlise) Byrd. Bro. Dick is survived by his wife, Sis. Mardell, five daughters, Donna (Brent) Pflederer, Marj (Larry) Moritz, Peg (Howard) Bessette, Bev (Douglas) Miller, and Lori (Victor) Zimmerman; and one sister, Sis. Anna Bradle. Also mourning the loss of a loved one are Sisters Lois and Dorothy Pfister and Bro. Marvin (Sis. Ila) Pfister, at the passing of their sister, Sis. Irma Luginbuhl (Rockville). May God comfort each of these dear

ones with the glorious hope of a "glad reunion in the sky" some day.

Bro. Alvin Farney extends his sincere thank you to those who remembered him on his 90th birthday. The cards, gifts and well wishes were greatly appreciated. May God bless you.

NOTICE:

Wednesday night services are now being held in Macomb, IL. The next services will be November 29 and December 13 at 7:30 p.m. For further information, call Bro. Norm or Sis. Jan Rechkemmer at (309) 231-0098.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT Teresa Rowell Sheri Allen

We were blessed with three visiting ministers this month. They were Bros. Richard Gramm (South Bend, IN), Alan Schambach (Remington, IN) and Matthew Rassi (Chicago, IL). We are thankful for their willingness to come to our congregation.

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

Psalm 37:5

We are thankful to announce the engagement of our Sis. Sharon Koch to Bro. Rustin Schmidgall (Morris, MN). Sis. Sharon's parents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Sally Koch.

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

Psalm 127:3

Bro. Tim and Sis. Jenny Ropp, along with Asa, joyfully welcome a precious baby girl into their home. Hope Elisabeth was born on October 6. Her grandparents are Ken and Joyce Ropp and Bro. Howard and Sis. Janice Sauder.

“Casting all your care upon Him, for He careth for you.”

1 Peter 5:7

Bro. Bob Frank (Sis. Rose Mary) was a hospital patient this month. Also spending time in the hospital was Clarkey Holden. She is the mother of Sis. Amy Koch (Bro. Ken). We continue to pray for God’s healing touch for each of them.

Mourning the loss of their loved one are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Melba Hangartner and their family. Sis. Melba’s brother, Bro. Dick Bowald (Roanoke, IL), recently passed away. Our prayers go out to each of them. May they find comfort in the Lord during this difficult time.

We want to bid farewell to our Bro. Dean Rocke as he is planning to move to Elgin, IA. While he will be greatly missed here, we wish him the best and know he will be a blessing to the Elgin congregation. Our love and prayers go with him.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to everyone who remembered us with cards, prayers and gifts on our 60th wedding anniversary. Our hearts were touched by your prayers and thoughtfulness.

Bro. Walter and Sis. Vera Aberle

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Elizabeth Heinold

Nancy Knepp

God is good! It is very encouraging to hear the Word of Truth expounded powerfully by both beginning and experienced servants. We rejoiced that “Surely, the Spirit of the Lord is in this place” with exhortations from Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Sis. Lillian, San Diego, CA), Bro. Trent Schrock (Sis. Heidi, Leo, IN), Bro. Joe Klotzle (Sis. Sue, Altadena, CA), Bro. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judith, Silverton, OR), Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) and Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington, IL).

Thank you to all our visitors who made our day special on Invite-a-Guest day. We are also enjoying two foreign exchange students attending church with their hosts. Hailey Kim from Korea is living with the Bro. Russ and Sis. Sally Plattner family and Julia Bodnavara from Slovakia is living with the Bro. Steve and Sis. Susie Jones family. We also welcome the presence of several couples and single people that have chosen to worship with us in Washington. Each one is unique to God and brings a gift to the church.

“Love suffereth long.” Many in our church family are well acquainted with long-suffering. We continue to pray for our loved ones battling cancer. Also, Sis. Sue Ruppert had a relapse and is facing surgery again. Sis. Cheryl Ricketts (Bro. Jon) injured her ankle and needs to be in a wheelchair for a while. We also pray for those suffering agony over wayward family members or issues known only to

God. Life is hard, but God is good! Even when He seems silent and far away, His plan is perfect and He is working. “Be of good courage!”

Found: A taupe 100% wool woman’s coat, size 6, with a black velvet collar, was left at Washington church. Also, a man’s 40 regular tan trench coat (John Weitz brand). If you are the owner, please call 309-444- 9915.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Amber Steffen

Amy Gerber

“But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: thou art my help and my deliverer; make no tarrying, O my God.”

Psalms 40:17

This verse can bring such comfort to all who are in need, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual. There are so many hidden treasures buried in God’s Word; He just seems to wait to reveal them right when we need them. We can cling to these verses through the duration of our struggle. Bro. Rick Stucky (Sis. Cathy) has been in our prayers as his recent leukemia is no longer in remission. We are asking God to be with him and to give strength and comfort.

October 1 was a blessed day as four souls were baptized. We cheerfully greeted Sis. Sadie Steffen (Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen), Bro. Spencer Lewis, Bro. Dan Kaehr (Bro. Sam and Sis. Connie), and Bro. Nathaniel Aschliman (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Beth) as our new sister and brothers in Christ.

We also rejoiced with one soul

who gave his heart to the Lord this month. John Magnin is a senior at a local school and has been working with many of our church people. We are so thankful to see God working in the lives of those in our community.

We were blessed to have four visiting ministers in our assembly this month. On September 27, Bro. Bob Meyer (Sis. Ann, Bluffton North) joined our congregation. Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH) stood before us on October 8, and Bro. John Baumgartner (Sis. Tammy, Bluffton North) was with us October 11. Bro. Dan Dubach (Sis. Bethany, Prescott, AZ) preached to our congregation October 15. We always appreciate willing ministers, ready to travel as God leads to share the Word with us.

We rejoiced with two happy couples as they were joined in marriage this month. Bro. Zach Bertsch (Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmen) and Sis. Jenny Rufner (Bro. John and Sis. Janice Rufner) of Smithville, OH, were wed September 24 in Leo, Indiana. October 15 was the special day for Sis. Shauna Fiechter (Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie) and Bro. Alex Neuenschwander (Bro. Terry and Sis. Jean) as they pledged to follow His will united as one. We are prayerful for these new couples, as they seek to lead Godly lives together.

We were blessed with six converts who have found peace and are ready for baptism. We delighted with Katie Gerber (Bro. Jay and Sis. Deb) and Holly Walburn (Bro. Jim and Sis. Lora) who are scheduled for baptism October 29. No-

vember 19 will be the monumental day for Nick and Jessica Fiechter (Bro. Dave and June), Ryan Neuenschwander (Bro. Tom and Sis. Sue) and Adam Neuenschwander (Bro. Dee and Sis. Laura). Prayers for these souls will be plentiful as they approach such a special road mark on their journey with God.

We have also been prayerful for the recent pulpit nomination and were blessed to feel direction towards one of our brethren. Bro. Troy Leyse (Sis. Kelly) was supported by our ministers and congregation and was put into the ministry October 15. We continue to be prayerful for Bro. Troy and Sis. Kelly and their family as they willingly follow where God leads.

There always seems to be many people and issues to pray for, but prayer is such a blessing. What a loving and merciful Father we have who has made this possible for us. A Father who takes the time to listen and commune with us through each plea. Let's delight in our prayers, for we are truly blessed!

**INDIANA
BLUFFTON NORTH
Tiffani Schladenhauffen
Darren Drayer**

The brethren of Bluffton North issue you a hearty greeting in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Mary Jo Gerber are the new grandparents of Brayson James, born September 6 to Bro. Brent and Sis. Rachelle Tonner (Bluffton, IN).

Our Sis. Evelyn Meyer passed away on October 11. She is survived by two brothers, Bro. Bill

Troxel (Bernice, Bluffton) and Dwight Troxel (Beverly, Bluffton); two sisters, Sis. Alice Troxel (Bluffton) and Mary Jan Sprunger (Indianapolis). She is also survived by two sons, Larry of Wellston, MI, and Bill of Fort Wayne; two daughters, Marlene Stewart of Laguna Woods, CA, and Mrs. Roger (Carole) Lane of Fort Wayne; and daughter-in-law, Sis. Kathy Meyer, the wife of the late Ron Meyer.

Sis. Alice Honegger and Bro. Dave Bussel each spent a short time in Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. The Lord has favored them both with a good recovery.

The beauty and color of fall is surrounding His creation and "God saw that it was good".

**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE
Barb Huber
Jessica Murray**

Greetings loved ones in the name of our Father. We had the privilege of having Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago, IL) for a topical Bible study of "The God Shaped Hole In Our Hearts." What a way to look at the way our lives and hearts are not whole without the Lord. We need to not only know we have Him in our hearts, but to live for Him in our daily walk of life. The way we appear in the daily events of our lives shows to others the way we fill that hole in our hearts. Thank you, Bro. Brad, for your love and prayers that went into preparing this topical for us.

As I thought on how we live today with all the technology we have, we should not be void of the Word of God. We can use tapes and

CD's to hear services at any time, as well as the phone system to hear Sunday and Wednesday services by dialing up. As in all things, we can take what we have and use it for the good instead of the bad. Life is so much like that also. We can take the situation we are in and use it to glorify God or to tear Him down. The choice is always rewarded one way or the other.

We pray for the comfort of the Lord on the dear families that have lost a loved one this past month. Sis. Carol Howat went to meet her Maker and we rejoice that she is now in a better place. Helen Hild has also passed on and now is at rest.

As the days go past we pray for the ones in our community that are making changes in their lives. Whether it be moving into a nursing home or just to another location, we pray that all things can be looked upon as being the will of the Lord.

**INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS
Gail Bradford
Sandy Lichtle**

We were pleased to hear of the engagement of Bro. Mitch Schlatter and Sis. Anna Pfister. They both moved to Indianapolis for their work, and we hope they will make their home here after their marriage.

On October 11, Bro. Joe and Sis. Tricia Zeller, and "big" brother and sister, Parker and Madison, welcomed little Hunter Christian into their home. Grandmother Ginny Zeller (Indianapolis) and grandparents, Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson (Atlanta), rejoice

along with all of us.

The joy experienced by parents when a child makes a step of faith is unbounded, as Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty Baltic know. Their son, Steve, was baptized in Rittman, OH, on October 15. Steve will attend the Indianapolis church as he begins his studies at Indiana University.

We thank the following ministers who visited us recently: Bro. Kevin Knapp (Sis. Dixie, Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI).

On a recent Wednesday night, Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton, IN) and son, Bro. Matt Ringger (Indianapolis), gave a very interesting presentation on Revelations, and what the Bible says about the "end times."

We appreciate our visiting ministers and teachers who lend themselves for our education and edification.

During these weeks, we experienced the birth of a child, a baptism and an engagement announcement. We are thankful for such happy events. Sometimes the news isn't so joyful. No matter what life may bring, however, we know we can rely on our Savior to hold us close...in joy and in sorrow.

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

John 16:33

INDIANA, LACROSSE

**Bethany Johnson
Julie Rocke**

Standing on the promises of Christ
my King
Through eternal ages let His
praises ring;
Glory in the highest, I will shout
and sing,
Standing on the promises of God.
Standing on the promises that
cannot fail,
When the howling storms of doubt
and fear assail,
By the living word of God I shall
prevail
Standing on the promises of God.
Tabernacle Hymns, 164

In a recent sermon, we were reminded of the following: When it seems that God is not near, stand on God's promises and remain true and faithful. Remember what He has already done for you and in His perfect time, His glory shall be revealed.

Emily Lynn Johnson arrived on September 23 bringing much joy to the home of Bro. Josh and Sis. Bethany Johnson. May God's blessings rest upon them as they strive to bring her up in His love. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Luann Gerber (Wolcott, IN) and Jeff and Gwen Johnson (Alabama).

We wish God's richest blessings for Bro. David Massner (Bro. Randy and Sis. Marylynn) and Sis. Traci Gramm (Bro. Roger and Sis. Darleta, Gridley, IL) upon their engagement. May they seek His will as they prepare to join hand and heart.

Our Bible class recently spent the day at Camp Mack in Milford, IN. Many thanks to those who or-

ganized and spent the day teaching and leading the youth for the day.

Bro. Doyne and Sis. Dorothy Stewart recently celebrated their 90th birthdays as well as their 65th wedding anniversary. Many family and friends gathered to remember these milestones with them.

Our thoughts and prayers are with several of our loved ones that have been unable to gather with us due to health reasons and to those who are under a doctor's care. May God be near to each of them and heal where it is His will.

**INDIANA, LEO
Ethelyn Schlatter**

Heartfelt Thanks

Thanksgiving Day has come again
With its golden harvest time.
Our season's handiwork is blest;
We enjoy these gifts of Thine,
And in the comfort of our homes
Happy family circles dine.
Oh, God! We give Thee thanks.

Remember those in poverty
Whose blessings are so few.
May we with them our bounty
share,

And think of those in sorrow, too.
For parents who did sacrifice,
And loved ones dear and true,
Oh, God! We give Thee thanks.

—Bro. Henry Kipfer

We give thanks for God's plan in the lives of Sis. Jenny Rufener and Bro. Zackary Bertsch (Bluffton North, IN) as they were united in marriage on September 24 by Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz. Their parents, Bro. John and Sis. Janice Rufener (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmon Bertsch (Bluffton North, IN), were joined

by a large group of family of friends.

Other visiting ministers who took part in services on that day were Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), Bro. Ronald Palitto (Akron, OH) and Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN).

Welcome Sis. Rachel and Bro. Nathan Mueller, who have come to serve at Gateway Woods as alternate houseparents.

We also welcome two new babies. Bro. Shane and Sis. Laura Stieglitz welcomed a daughter, Kiera Jae, born October 6. She has a brother Gage. Her grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane Stieglitz and Bob and Leann Siegle (Oakville, IA).

First-time parents, Bro. Paul and Sis. Nichole Suvar, rejoiced in the safe arrival of Owen George on October 12. His grandparents are George and Becky Suvar (Ohio) and Bro. Donn and Sis. Karen Steffen (Latty, OH).

**INDIANA, MILFORD
Carlton Beer
Carol Haab**

We appreciate ministering brothers taking the time to worship with us. This month we were blessed to have Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lyn, Indianapolis, IN) and our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily).

Although harvest has been somewhat slower this year due to all the rain, we have truly been blessed once again. May we always remember to give praise and thanks to our Heavenly Father for all He bestows upon us.

The changing temperatures, the colorful leaves, combines in the

fields and birds heading south are just a few of the signs of autumn. Soon the cold winds of winter will be here. How wonderful it is to experience all the wonder and beauty of God's world around us during each season of the year. Thanksgiving will soon be here. May we always give thanks to our Father all year round, not just at Thanksgiving time, for all He does for each of us.

There are wonders all around us
To see, to touch, to hear –
God's handiwork surrounds us
And reminds us He is near...
So every time you smell a flower
Or see a starlit sky,
Or hear a cricket chirping,
Or feel a breeze blow by,
Or witness all the splendor
A changing season brings,
You've touched the hand of God
above –
The Creator of all things.
—Alice Joyce Davidson

**INDIANA, REMINGTON
Tammy Waibel
Beth Virkler**

We are continually thankful for visiting ministers who lay aside their earthly cares to come share the Word with us. To Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL) and Bro. Steve Martin (Sis. Vicki, Eureka, IL), thank you from the Remington congregation.

The following story seems fitting to ponder over Thanksgiving as we take an opportunity to thank God for owning a Bible. We know how to have our sins forgiven while millions still languish in spiritual darkness.

“When the Emperor of Con-

stantinople arrested Chrysostom and thought of trying to make him recant, the great preacher slowly shook his head. The Emperor commanded his attendants, 'Put him in prison.' 'No,' said one of them, 'he will be glad to go, for he delights in the presence of his God in quiet.' 'Well, then let us execute him,' said the Emperor. 'He will be glad to die,' replied the attendant, 'for he wants to go to Heaven - I heard him say so the other day. There is only one thing that can give Chrysostom pain, and that is, to make him sin; he said he was afraid of nothing but sin. If you can make him sin, you will make him unhappy.'" Oh, that God would make us like Chrysostom!

—*selected*

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND
Craig Langhofer
Rachel Langhofer

Greeting and salutations to all. As the fall harvest has come and gone we are reminded of Deuteronomy 28:47-48, "Because thou servest not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the abundance of all things; Therefore shalt thou serve thine enemies..." We certainly have an abundance of all things, and thus should serve the Lord with joyfulness and not out of duty.

We were blessed this month to celebrate our 25 year anniversary. We appreciated all those who attended including ministering Bro. Joe Klotzle (Altadena, CA) and Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN). It was a great time to reflect upon the blessings of the past, rekindle old friendships, and be reminded of the value of each individual.

Sis. Amy Gerst moved to Iowa City recently. We will miss her but realize the blessedness of being close to family.

Much thanks to Bro. Fred Witzig (Indianapolis) who blessed us with a visit and shared in the ministering duties for the day.

Don't forget to give a thanks offering to the Lord this month for all He has done.

INDIANA
VALPARAISO
Marguerite Hoerr

In last month's report I wrote that our friend, Millie Williams, would be leaving us to live in California. She's changed her mind about that move and surprised us by coming to church this past Sunday. We're thrilled we won't be losing her from our congregation.

Bro. Garry Bucher held the funeral services for our 90 year old Sis. Aldene Frieden who has left her earthly home and has gone to her rightful Home in Heaven. She recently lived at Parkview in Francesville and suffered a stroke this past month. God called her to His presence on October 11. Her husband, Bro. Roy, preceded her in death. Survivors are her children: Darlene Biddle, IN; Bro. Byron of our congregation; Lynne, whose home is in Arkansas; and Gail, who lived nearby in IN; and her grandchildren. We extend our sympathy to her family. We have many happy memories of Aldene and the times she worshipped with us. She was a most gracious lady who showed her warm and loving personality to everyone she met.

We failed to mention Bro. Ken Susdorf's shoulder surgery in our

last report. He's healing nicely and hopes to be back to normal within a month. While wearing his appliance during his lengthy recovery, he never ceased having a smile on his face as he worshipped with us.

Dale Bucher, son of Sis. Gwen Bucher, has recently been hospitalized for a length of time with severe heart problems, but is back home with his family. He's found the courage to find work that suits his disability, and seems to be getting along much better. Our prayers are with him now and will continue.

Sis. Josephine Meiss underwent angioplasty and is feeling well enough to be taking care of the dining room dishwasher again. Some jobs in church are done so faithfully by the same persons time and again that we fail to thank them. Jo, we thank you for your help each Sunday noon.

Ministering Bros. Brian Huber (Sis. Jacki, Francesville) and Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lynn, Indianapolis) worshipped with us in this past month. On October 15, Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago) shared the pulpit with Bro. Garry. He shared in the reunion of the Chicago and Valparaiso high school students, their teachers and others of our members that helped with a work project in Mexico. We also were blessed with Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus's (Sis. Jenna, Remington) visit during the past month.

Bob and I have shared many good moments with our son-in-law, Dick Pelath, recently. Dick and our daughter Becky and their family are near and dear to our hearts. Recently Dick was diag-

nosed with multiple Myeloma and is undergoing chemotherapy at this time. There have been anxious moments but we've felt the support of prayer from family and friends and our beloved Valpo church. We've found, at times like this, God seems very near.

We send our wishes for a bountiful and beautiful Thanksgiving season. As the psalmist says in Psalm 95: "Let us sing unto the Lord.....Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms."

**INDIANA
WEST LAFAYETTE
Andria Sprunger
Hollie Meister**

We are looking forward to the testimonies and baptisms of Kim Furrer (Bro. Irvin and Sis. Shirley, Wolcott, IN) and Laura Ridge. We pray and are assured that the weekend will be a blessing to both the girls and to our congregation.

We are also thankful for the engagement of our Sis. Ashton Bahler (Bro. Ed and Sis. Annette, W. Lafayette, IN) to Bro. Bryan Steffen (Bro. Mark and Sis. Lori, Bluffton, IN). We pray for God's continued grace and provision to be with them throughout their engagement.

We are grateful to all who came to serve us in this past month, sharing God's Word. We wish to thank Bro. Ron Bollier (Sis. Edie, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Tom Troxel (Sis. LuAnn, La-Crosse, IN), and Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN).

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Elaine Bahler
Lowell Bahler**

"The harvest truly is plenteous,
but the labourers are few."

Matthew 9:37

As the harvest season is upon us, we think of our Saviour's words and His desires that all would be garnered in.

Bro. Brent and Sis. Erica Blume were blessed with the arrival of a new baby boy, Adam Reid, born September 21. He is welcomed by brother and sister, Dustin and Rachael. Grandparents are Bro. Arlyn and Sis. LaNae Rudin (Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynell Blume, and great-grandparents, Bro. Glenn and the late Sis. Norma Blume.

On September 23, Bro. Josh and Sis. Bethany Johnson (Lacrosse, IN) became the new parents of a baby girl, Emily Lynn. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Luann Gerber; great-grandparents are Bro. Alfred and Sis. Frances Bahler.

The Jr. ACYF was held at Wolcott on September 24 and was attended by the Sunday Schools from Milford, Francesville, and Remington.

October 1 was a most blessed day for us as the Lord has answered prayers and has provided us with two new ministers, Bro. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi) and Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Sis. Erica). We are thankful and want to assure them of our sincere support and prayers.

We were blessed by visiting ministering Bro. Dan Beer (Sis.

Deb, Milford, IN) on October 8, bringing us the Word so clear and plain. Thank you, Bro. Dan.

Our prayers are with Sis. Merri Schieler (Bro. Dave) who has recently undergone lung surgery. May the Lord provide through His love and healing powers.

**IOWA, BLOOMFIELD
Barbara Schock**

We give Thee thanks , Oh Lamb of God,
That on the cross beam Thou hast bought
For us salvation, peace and grace
With Thee in heaven's resting place!

We give Thee thanks!

Zion's Harp # 199, vs 2

We are thankful that Bro. Nathan Wieland (Sis. Suzanne, Goodfield) was able to come out and share the Word of Life with us. We thank him and pray that the Lord will bless him for his willingness and effort put forth on his part.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Cleo Rinkenberger (Sis. Esther) and Bro. Russell Wuthrich as they were both in the hospital this last month. May they feel the hand of the Great Physician as they regain their health. We always miss those that can't assemble with us from time to time, and are always glad to see them again.

With Thanksgiving approaching, it serves as a reminder for us to think back on all the blessings that the Lord has given us in the past year. Are we truly thankful for all that He has given us, good and bad? Are we even able, using the dis-

cernment of the spiritual mind, to know what is good for us? Or what is not to our welfare? Does it take a special day designated by civil authorities to make us stop and thank Him who has the over-ruling power of all that is in heaven and earth? If we would be a truly thankful people, we will not let the sacrifices and hardships that our forefathers endured, both of our earthly countrymen and spiritual pilgrims, go unremembered. We, too, will be thankful always, "as seeing Him that is invisible".

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Krystal Knapp
Laurie Schulz

We are thankful for the many brethren who offer themselves to bring forth the Word of God. We were blessed with visiting ministering Bros. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA), Ron Joos (Bloomfield, IA) and Dale Frank (Oakville, IA) this past month.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Philip Schulz as he has begun to share the Word with our flock. May God be with his family, Sis. Kelli and little Quinn, as he begins his duty in the ministry.

IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden
Heidi Butikofer

Thankful for health, thankful for life,
 Thankful for guidance in sorrow and strife.
 Thankful for food, and ripe golden grain,
 Thankful all that is needful our life to sustain.
 Thankful for friends, who trust

and stand by,
 Upon whose help we can rely.
 Thankful for home with comforts blest,
 Where peace abides with love and rest.
 Thankful for those who daily impart,
 Strength for the journey, cheer for the heart.
 Thankful to work in rich moist soil,
 Where roses bloom to compensate toil.
 Thankful to hear the still small voice
 Making our hearts in life's sorrows rejoice.
Gospel Hymns #480

As we near another Thanksgiving season, we have much to be thankful for here in the "Little Switzerland of Iowa". We are thankful that Bro. Dean Rocke has moved to our area from Tremont and Bro. Aaron and Sis. Sharla and little Keanna have returned to our area from Oakville. What a boost to our small church here in Elgin! May God provide for them as they make this change in their lives.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Paul Pulfer (Sis. Evelyn) who has recently undergone major surgery and continues to be hospitalized for strengthening and therapy. May he feel God's nearness.

We rejoice with the angels in heaven that Melanie Stettler (Mark) has found the grace to repent and has been granted peace. We look forward to hearing her testimony of faith and greeting her as our Sister in faith.

We were also thankful to have our Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis.

Rose, West Bend, IA) with us recently. We appreciate his love and concern for this small flock here in Elgin.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Willa Clark

"Be filled with the spirit; speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Ephesians 5:17-20

What joy believers can have in this life, if we remember to give thanks to our Lord at every turn.

Bro. Arnie Gerst (Taylor), Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Bloomfield) and Bro. Myron Knobloch (Lester) have visited our small congregation this month and shared the precious Word of God with us.

Our prayers are with Sis. Dawn and Bro. Tom Moser and their family, at the death of Sis. Dawn's father, Ken Mengler.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Diana Butikofer

We welcome Sis. Amy Gerst back to Iowa City. She has been living and working in South Bend, IN, for a couple years and we are very glad to have her move back here.

Special thanks to Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Sis. Judy, Forrest, IL) for serving us on a recent weekend.

At our annual business meeting in October, we elected Bro. Wayne Snodgrass (Sis. Becky) to serve as

trustee and Sis. Sara Hattan (Bro. Chris) to serve on the women's committee. We appreciate the service of each one who is willing to serve.

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

Phil. 4:6

Let's not forget to include thanksgiving in all of our prayers and supplications we make known unto God.

IOWA, LESTER
Gloria Moser
Polly Metzger

"Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit."

Lev. 26:4

We're enjoying a beautiful Fall, and God's blessing of harvest is here. There is so much beauty in each crisp day.

We welcome two new babies to our congregation this month. Aubrey Jean was born to Bro. Jerome and Sis. Jana Metzger on October 2. Kayla, Grant, Brady, Austin and Addison are thrilled to have a new sister to cuddle and love. On October 7, Kyndra Lin was born to Kjert and Michelle Gramstad. Korbyn, Jalyn and Mallory are excited to have a new sister in their home as well. May God bless these parents as they raise their families.

We always want to remember in prayer those who are ill or are in

treatment. Those who have had surgery are: Sis. Rosella Metzger (Bro. Bob), Sis. Lori Popkes (Bro. Greg) and Sam Metzger (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Harriet). Hospital patients were: Sis. Chris Metzger (Bro. Dale) and Cassie Metzger (Bro. Tom and Sis. Deb). May God's healing hand be with each one.

Bro. Ben Wysong (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Larry Bahr (Fort Scott, KS) were visiting ministers. May God continue to bless them for their efforts.

We want to remember Mark Gerber (Bro. Bob and Sis. Nancy) who left to serve in Iraq. We ask God's safety and protection for each one serving our country.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Sis. Alice Metzger and Sis. Esty Metzger and their families in the loss of their brother and uncle, Benji Banwart, of West Bend. May God comfort them in their sorrow.

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Sharla Wiegand

It was a joyous day on September 24 when Bro. Mitch Schulz (Bro. Roger and Sis. June) and Sis. Renee Lanz (Bro. Keith and Sis. Tonya) were united in holy matrimony. Visiting ministers were Bro. Beirne Messner (Morris, MN) and Bro. Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO).

Thank you to other visiting ministers - Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL) preached the Word on October 8 and Bro. Phil Schulz (Burlington, IA) ministered to us on October 15.

We bid farewell to Bro. Aaron and Sis. Sharla Frank and baby Keana as they have moved to Elgin,

Iowa. We are thankful for Elgin's gain, but saddened at our loss.

We sympathize with our Bro. Herbert (Dick) and Sis. Cleo Gerst as his brother, George Gerst, passed away on October 11. Our thoughts and prayers are with George's wife, Pauline, and their loving extended family.

IOWA, WEST BEND
Sue Schneider
Lori Skoglund

"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

James 4:14

At the age of 72, life ended suddenly for Benjamin (Benji) Banwart on October 3. He left behind his wife, Betty; a daughter, Lee Ann of Aurora, IL; three sons, Jeffrey of Brookfield, WE; David (Angela) of Jacksonville, FL; and Scott (LeAnn) of Wind Lake, WE; and four grandchildren. Benji's brothers and sisters also grieve his passing: Sis. Clara Anliker, Mariam Frieden of Ankeny, IA; Bro. Edwin of Mediapolis, IA; Sis. Leona Wulf of Sabetha, KS; Sis. Alice Metzger of Alvord, IA; Sis. Lela Banwart; Sis. Esty Metzger of Hills, MN; Paul Jr. and Robert Banwart. The family has expressed appreciation for the support and sympathy extended them during this time of their great loss.

Cole Kenneth, born September 22, is introducing Bro. Greg and Sis. Denise Fehr to the joys of parenthood. His grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Eunice Fehr and

Bro. Ken and Sis. Janet Lanz of Oakville, IA.

Sis. Edna (Levi – dec.) Banwart was hospitalized for pneumonia and Sis. Frances Zaugg for minor surgery.

Although the heat and dryness in the month of June caused concerns for many whose livelihood depends upon agriculture, the harvest has been most bountiful in this area. However, as we approach the time of year our nation sets aside for giving thanks, may we – most of all – be thankful for our loving Saviour.

All honor and praise to Thine excellent name;
Thy love is unchanging, forever the same,
We bless and adore Thee, O Saviour and King;
With joy and thanksgiving Thy praises we sing.

The strength of the hills and the depth of the sea,
The earth and its fullness, belong unto Thee.
And yet to the lowly Thou bendest Thine ear,
So ready their humble petitions to hear.

Thine infinite goodness our tongues shall employ;
Thou givest us richly all things to enjoy;
We'll follow Thy footsteps, we'll rest in Thy love,
And soon we shall praise Thee in mansions above.
—*Fanny J. Crosby*

JAPAN, SHIODA
Ayako Inoue

Greetings from Shioda. We can feel the change of the season by the

cool air in the mornings and evenings.

We are happy Bro. Akihiro and Sis. Carrie Ito can worship together with us, since they moved to Japan in September. They are a great blessing that God has given us! We are thankful for their presence and hope to fellowship often.

Bro. Matt and Sis. Dawn Brake visited us from Sardis, Ohio, on October 1. We were glad to meet Bro. Matt again and this time, with his dear wife, Sis. Dawn. Bro. Matt had worked in Yokohama for a few years and had moved back to the States. We wish them God's rich blessings and guidance.

We heard of the passing of Sis. Haruko Saigusa's husband this month and pray for their family.

Our congregation will have Holy Communion this coming Sunday, and we pray for God's blessings upon it. Our Savior gave His life and died on the cross because of our sins. That may not always be in our minds in our daily life, but it is so important to once more think of it and be thankful for His intercession.

KANSAS, BERN
Sheri Edelman
Rita Menold

Myron Strahm (the late Bro. Dale and Sis. Shelby) and Barry Stoller (Bro. Darrel and Sis. Gloria) have been announced as having peace. We look forward to hearing their testimonies.

Brecken Lee brought much happiness to the home of Michael and Yalana Edelman and big sisters, Molly and Kendall, on September 20. The beaming grandparents at our Bern church are Bro. Wayne

and Sis. Linda Edelman. May God bless your growing family.

Bro. Dale Strahm was called from this life and entered into eternity. We offer our sympathy to his wife, Sis. Shelby; his children, Sis. Lisa, Bro. Lynn and Sis. Sally, Bro. Lesly and Myron; his brothers and their wives, Bro. Richard and Sis. Edie and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudia; his sister, Sis. Shirley and Bro. Darrel Ruffner (Rittman, OH), and the rest of his family.

Bro. Joe Rokey, Sr. also passed into eternity. Our sympathy goes to his family including his children: Bro. Joe and Sis. Kathy, Bro. Morris and Sis. Arlinda, Bro. Jay and Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger (Sabetha, KS), John and Sis. Margaret Hundley, Greg and Sis. Carol Renyer and Bro. Mike and Sis. Sue.

We enjoyed our annual fall picnic on October 15. Due to the weather, it was held inside but it was good just to be together!

Our hospital patient this month was Bro. Lesly Strahm (the late Bro. Dale and Sis. Shelby).

Notes of Thanks:

We would like to thank everyone for their loving support, prayers, cards, food and memorials when our Dad and Grandpa, Dan Edelman, went to be with our Lord. May God richly reward you.

The Dan Edelman family

We want to express our appreciation to many Brethren who remembered us in prayer and many deeds of kindness during Dale's illness and since his death.

May God be your rich Rewarder.
The Dale Strahm family

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT **Karen Kellenberger**

As we joyfully celebrate the Thanksgiving season, may our Lord's supreme sacrifice at Calvary be our chief object of gratitude. No greater gift was ever given.

We have recently enjoyed several visiting ministers. These included Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL), Bro. Jerry Meeks (Sis. Christine, Sabetha, KS), Bro. David Hartter (Sis. Beth, Sabetha, KS), and Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL).

Elder Bro. John Lehman shared a Bible Study and discussed healthy Christian attitudes. He reminded us that air conditioning is strictly a luxury, but prayer conditioning is a necessity.

We were also admonished, in a Bible Study from Elder Bro. Ted Witzig, to be alert to the tactics of temptation Satan uses to deceitfully draw each of us off the mark. Satan will size up each individual soul much like a fisherman sizes up the species of fish he is pursuing – and reach into the tackle box for just the perfect color and shape of jig for the purpose.

“Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.”

I Corinthians 10:12

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

“But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to

come unto me; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.”

Matthew 19:14

Every Sunday morning here in Kiowa, the church door opens and six children and one baby totally light up our lives. They always have a smile, a wave and a hug for us and they bounce happily down to the front row of the church to sing hymns with the adults before morning church and Sunday school. Our older young people sit on the front row with the younger ones, and you can just feel the love they share. Those shining little faces so full of the joy of singing praises with us to our Lord are an inspiration to all of us. How thankful we are for our children – in the church and in our homes. They fill our lives with a love and joy that leaves a void when they are too soon grown and gone. May we, as parents and grandparents, never fail to show them how much we love them, and that they are a very special part of our lives. And may we daily hold them up in prayer to our Lord, who loves them even more than we do.

We extend our deepest love and sympathy to Sis. Darcy Kisling and family at the recent passing of their father, grandpa, great-grandpa, Vance Lahey, of Moscow, KS. We pray that the God of all comfort will be with them at this difficult time.

With Thanksgiving fast approaching, a Hymns of Zion song (#207) came to mind when I thought of all the lovely things God has given us to be thankful for:

All things bright and beautiful

All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.
Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings.
The purple headed mountain,
The river flowing by,
The sunset and the morning
Which brighten up the sky.
He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

Recently a friend showed me a plaque she had purchased, and I will never forget the words:

“There is always – always – always something to be thankful for.” And I would add, especially for the Child of God.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

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

Sometimes it seems the news gets old – especially when our report is due the 20th of the month. We do appreciate our guest ministers and thank Bro. Darren Fehr and family coming from West Bend, IA, on September 21.

A while back Rudy asked the question: “At what age do we retire from serving church lunch?” (For years he wondered why women get “up tight” when they “serve church”.) It was “my turn” for our Invite a Guest weekend. The “best laid plans” to make the 40 mile trip to Emporia for supplies on Thursday were postponed because of a bad weather forecast. I received a call to please donate blood on Fri-

day as my type was very short. So, I made it back from Emporia in time to give at 6:00. I'd skipped the last blood drive when I was "too busy" as it usually takes me a few days to recover my energy ... but I felt a strong urging I needed to do this. I went to Saturday night potluck but left the singing to make the ham salad. As I headed upstairs and hit the bed, my prayers were not on my knees. The good Lord answered my prayers to get me through - with the generous help of my fellow sisters I survived "serving". Today I received a phone call from a man thanking me for donating my blood. Normally I don't get a thank you call, so it made my day. Was this the Lord's answer to not give up when the going gets tough?

The Lord granted us a delightful fall weekend for our Invite a Guest weekend. Guest ministers and families were Bros. Joe Dotterer (Bloomfield, IA) and Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL).

The sale of Sis. Dorene Metzger's excess home furnishings when she moved to a Sr. Citizens home brought son, Bro. Cory Metzger, and family for the weekend. One of his thoughts: "We look into a mirror to check our hair, etc. Are we looking for the Bible's doctrine to see how we measure up?"

A wiener roast with lots of trimmings was enjoyed by all for the annual fall Sunday School picnic at Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane Isch's.

Our small church was "doubled in size" on October 15 when 61 young members were invited for the weekend. What a joy to have the church benches filled and young voices raise their praise to

the Lord.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Rebekah Beyer

Dawn Strahm

Our congregation is appreciative to those who lend themselves on our pulpit. Ministering Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN), Bro. Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN), and Bro. Edwin Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern, KS) visited us this month and shared the Word of God.

Recent hospital and surgical patients included Bro. Harlan Meyer (Sis. Florence) and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne). They are in our prayers as they continue to gain physical strength.

Bro. Rick and Sis. Komari Aberle, along with daughter Mara welcome home newborn Krae Martin Roger Aberle. He was born on October 5. Krae's grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. LaVonne Aberle, and Sam Neal of Moundridge, Kansas.

I and my house, we are prepared,
As long as to us life is shared....
To serve Thee, Lord, sincerely.
Thou shalt be Master of the house,

Who with His blessing us endows...

And may we love Thee dearly.
Bless all, though small,
As Thy lowly, Pure and holy
Congregation
To Thy great name's adoration.

Zion's Harp #160

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Our prayers have been for Sis. Lillian Bowers who underwent

major surgery and then spent two weeks convalescing at the home of her daughter, Julie Beck, in nearby Derby. Hopefully she will be returning to her home as of this writing.

The seasons are changing as is to be expected at this time of the year. The trees had been thwarted by the hot dry summer so the falling leaves are lacking in color. When an occasional tree flaunts its vibrant color, I am reminded that the beauty of the Lord is still to be found if we but open our eyes to it.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Barb Huber

Christian greetings in the precious name of our dear Lord and Saviour!

As we reflect on the many blessings our dear Lord has provided, we want to express our gratitude to Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Sis. Frances, Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Lisa, Eureka, IL) for their labors of love to minister God's Word this past month. May the Lord bless you, your dear families, and all those who traveled with you making our time of fellowship a blessing together.

"Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name forever and ever."

Psalms 145:2

God's Blessings

God's blessings include family,
Freedom, faith, health and friends
we've known,
But that is just the beginning -
The list goes on and on.
God's blessings include all good

things,
But not just the good alone,
Here's a list of God's great blessings -

Unrecognized and unknown,
Problems without solutions -
Difficulties we can't solve -
Questions without answers -
Conflicts unresolved.
Troubles that we don't deserve -
Pain that teaches no lessons -
Whatever draws us closer to
Christ -

These also are God's blessings.

-P. Tanksley

We extend a warm and hearty welcome to 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.

MEXICO, IXTLAN **Claudia Gonzalez**

"Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy."

Psalm 16:11

Greetings and love to all from the Ixtlan congregation. It is always a delight for our souls when we look at the Lord's promises in His Word. He will fill us with joy if we decide to enter into His presence through prayer, worship, and reading His Word.

Once again we want to thank all of you that have been willing to share the Word of God and praying for the work in the Acapulco area. We appreciate it very much and ask you to keep raising your voice to Heaven for the new believers there

so that they continue growing in the Lord's knowledge and love.

MEXICO, MAGDALENA **Gloria Gonzalez** **Carissa Schlipf**

Greetings of love from Magdalena!

"God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah. That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations."

Psalm 67:1-2

Looking back over the last few months, it is clear that the Lord has blessed us in so many ways for His name's sake and His glory.

This summer we enjoyed the fellowship, hard work, and Christian love of many who came on work teams. In June, the Princeville Bible class shared their time and talents. We appreciated Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) sharing the Word with us. In July, we had three more work teams from Chicago, IL/Valparaiso, IN; Bern, KS; and Fort Scott, KS. Much work was accomplished, but more importantly God's spirit was felt and hearts were touched by the willingness and enthusiasm to serve. We are thankful for the service of ministering Bros. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago, IL), Ed Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern, KS), and Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS).

In July, Yaneli arrived at Casa Vida y Esperanza. She is young and energetic and quickly climbed into our hearts! We pray that she can feel God's love and the security of a

family here at CVE.

In August, we had the opportunity to host Vacation Bible School here at Casa Vida y Esperanza. It was so encouraging to see the response from the surrounding communities as over 200 children attended throughout the week! We pray that God will bless the seeds that have been planted, that they will be watered and one day bear fruit.

"So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase."

I Cor. 3:7

In August we also said good-bye to our summer staff, Bro. David Sceggel (Peoria, IL). We appreciate his selfless service here and pray God's blessings on him as he returns to his teaching position in Normal, IL.

Also in August, siblings, Jaquelin and Federico, joined our CVE family. We are thankful for the opportunity to share God's love and His wonderful plan of salvation with two more precious souls. Along with opportunity comes responsibility, and we appreciate your prayers that we will have wisdom in teaching the children God has placed in our care to walk in Truth.

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

Luke 15:10

We rejoice as Carlos Miranda has made the decision to repent

and follow Christ. Carlos and his family have been attending church here for several months. It is encouraging to see his whole-hearted desire to teach his children of the Truth that he has found.

Special thanks to ministering Bros. Paul Zimmerman (Sis. Loretta, Forrest, IL), Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis, MN), Mark Gerber (Sis. Barb, Bluffton, IN), and Curt Kaufman (Sis. Caroline, Tucson, AZ) for their labors here, sharing God's Word with us.

Also, in early November, the CVE Board and the Mexico World Relief Board plan to meet here in Magdalena. We are prayerful for God's continued blessing and direction in the decisions that will be made.

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

Psalm 67:7

MICHIGAN, ALTO

**Rose Watson
Terri Huber**

Hospitals – what do we think about them? Aren't we glad they exist, along with skilled medical professionals and God-given knowledge and inventions to help us in our times of physical trouble? Yet we are still apprehensive when faced with a trip to the hospital. Fortunately, they can have good connotations as well as bad. While our hearts and prayers go out to those who are hurting, we can also rejoice with Rob and Rachel Cadwallader at the birth of their fourth son, Roman Nicholas, on October 17. Alex, Ryan and Anthony will have another playmate! Happy grandparents are Bro.

Duane and Sis. Cathie Schrenk. As fortunate baby Roman is surrounded by the love and prayers of his immediate, extended and church family, we truly rest assured that he will grow up healthy in mind, body and spirit.

We would like to lift up for healing and comfort those who experienced illness, medical tests and surgery this past month: Sis. Mary Herrmann, Sis. Michelle Blough, Bro. Carl Steffen, Sis. Cathie Schrenk, Sis. Joan Schrenk and Bro. Aaron Steffen. There may be others who were homebound because they were not well, and we lift them up in prayer, too.

One of our less frequent happenings is for a congregation to participate in an ordination. We were blessed and sobered by the reminder of the responsibilities of those who shepherd a church, as Bro. Ted Steffen, along with the love and support of his wife, Sis. Sandy, was put in as an ordained Deacon on September 24. Assisting our Elder Bro. Aaron Steffen in this solemn and unifying event were Elder Bros. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH) and Mark Bahr (Sis. Beverly, Detroit, MI). Other visiting ministers present that weekend included Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Ruth, Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Matthew Steffen (Sis. Deanna, Princeville, IL).

A life-changing event occurred for Carmen Jackson (Bro. Paul and Margaret) as she moved a great distance to her new home at the Apostolic Christian Oakwood Estate in Morton, IL. We had a farewell singing for Carmen, and will greatly miss her cheerful smile at our gatherings.

Bro. Rich Gramm and his wife, Sis. Samantha (South Bend, IN), spent a day ministering to us in October.

Note of Thanks:

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends,

We would like to thank everyone for the past four and one-half years of prayers, cards and gifts. Thanks to all of you for walking close to us throughout this time. Above all, a special thank you for the prayers that brought Ramona to the Lord's heart.

Joshua, Jalen and Jerrod Humphreys, and the Bill Gerst family

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Sarah Knochel
Janelle Ramseyer**

Greetings of love in our Savior's name!

Our sympathy is with Bro. Windsor Mosher's family as he passed away on September 20. We especially want to remember his children, Sis. Marlene, Ken (Shirley, Auburn, MI), and Bro. Neil.

We also want to remember Sis. Marlene Mosher as she has spent time in the hospital. We pray for the Lord's healing on her. Sis. Barb Knochel underwent surgery in the past month and we are thankful that she is recovering.

Lanae and Russ Chambers welcome a second son, Dane Lambert, into their hearts and home. Older brother, Marshall, and grandparents, Gordon and Sis. Lynn Kimmerly, rejoice at Dane's birth as well.

Lord God, we honor Thee

And praise Thy mild compassion,
That Thou so graciously
Dost hear our supplication!
Thy love is truly great;
Thy mercies are untold;
Thou givest food and drink
for Spirit, flesh and soul.

Zion's Harp #13

As families and friends join together to observe Thanksgiving, may we ever be thankful to our Heavenly Father for the blessings He has given us. Whether the blessings are large or small, we know that He answers our prayers and gives us daily such as we have need.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Tiffany Wieland

Kay Rauhe

Our congregation continues to worship at Woodpointe while the interior renovations at our church building progress. We're thankful the facilities at Woodpointe have been able to accommodate us, but we're also looking forward to being able to once again gather in our church next month.

There were several in our congregation that spent some time in the hospital this month. We're thankful that Bro. Jim Barton (Sis. Vi) is home after his hospital stay, and we want to remember Sis. Mary Kaisner (Bro. Hartzell) as she recuperates from recent surgery. We pray that both Bro. Jim and Sis. Mary will feel God's healing presence.

As the children, young adults, and college students return to school and college studies this fall, let us keep a prayer on our heart for each of them. We hear of the many

ungodly influences that bombard the educational environments, and the plight of our children and young people seems so much more perilous now than it ever was before. We're thankful for the grace to be able to raise our children in Godly homes, loving congregations, and Sunday Schools, and we find comfort in the words of the Apostle Paul in his second letter to Timothy: "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his." (II Timothy 2:19) May we each seek God's direction and guidance to do our part in establishing and preserving that foundation.

MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS

LaRae Dill

Our love and sympathy is extended to Paul Katanic and his wife, Jill, as Paul's sister passed away in Ohio. Doug and Dawn Baer and family lost a special mother and grandma. The Baer's recently moved from here to Morton, IL, but our love and prayers are with them.

The annual Sunday School fall activity day at Cleary Lake was smaller than usual this year, due to the cold, drizzly weather. The warmth of the bonfire and Christian fellowship were sweet however, and the children's spirits certainly weren't dampened by the weather!

Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA), and Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) visited and shared in the ministry this month. Bro. Marvin's opening prayer on Sunday morning caught my attention when he

prayed for "the hearers who listen with interest". Since the word interest means "a feeling that accompanies or causes special attention, and a readiness to show such attention", I had to ask myself if I, as a hearer was attentive and ready to receive the Word; or were my thoughts elsewhere.

"But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed."

James 1:25

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Sheila Reuter

Heidi Nohl

Our thoughts and prayers are with Nick Messner (Bro. Beirne and Sis. Joyce) as he begins his repentance. We rejoice to see another soul turn to the Lord.

Our congratulations are with Bro. Quinn and Sis. Kristi Messner on the birth of their twin sons, Trent Andrew and Troy Andrew. Welcoming them home are Dawn and Brandi and grandparents, Bro. Karl and Sis. Marilyn Koehl and Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl Messner.

Bro. Loren and Sis. Melinda Schmidgall welcome Britta Lauren. Excited big sister is Breanna and grandparents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Hildy Koehl and Bro. Denny and Sis. Ruby Schmidgall. We pray God will bless them as they raise their children.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Dave Graf (Akron, OH) and Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) and ministering Bros. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), Galen

Rokey (Bern, KS), Jim Koehl (San Diego, CA), Duane Rocke (Minneapolis, MN) and Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN). We thank these brothers for their willing service and pray God will richly bless them.

On October 8 we witnessed the baptism of three souls, Howard Goll (Edna), Corey Schaefer (Bro. Stan and Sis. Bev) and Katie Jones (Bro. Shane and Sis. Ruth). We pray God will be near them as they begin their walk with Him.

Hospitalized this month was Sis. Kristi Messner (Bro. Quinn), Trent and Troy Messner (Bro. Quinn and Sis. Kristi) and Britta Schmidgall (Bro. Loren and Sis. Melinda). We are thankful they are all doing better and assembling with us again.

Our congratulations and best wishes are with Mark Reuter and Becky Dammann on their recent marriage. Parents of the couple are Bro. Jim and Sis. Carolyn Reuter and Dan and Mary Jo Dammann. We pray God will bless them in their lives together.

Our prayers are with Bro. Corbin Fehr (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy, West Bend, IA) as he leaves our congregation. He will be moving to Prescott, AZ, and assembling there. We pray God will bless him and he will feel welcomed in the Prescott congregation.

Bro. Rustin Schmidgall (Bro. Mike and Sis. Diane) and Sis. Sharon Koch (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sally, Tremont, IL) have recently announced their engagement. We pray God will be with them and bless them as they begin this new step in life.

Note of Thanks:

Our hearts have been greatly touched by the outpouring of support we have received from our brotherhood across the nation in the sudden passing of our dear son and brother, Luke. Thank you to all who have sent a card, remembered us in prayer or were here with us during this difficult time. May the Lord be your rich Rewarder.

Humbly in Christ,

Bro. Beirne, Sis. Joyce, Nick and Annie Messner

Bro. Kevin and Sis. Julie Koehl and family

Bro. Paul and Sis. Heidi Wulf and family

Bro. Matt and Sis. Katie Koehl and family

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP **Rachel Steiner** **Julie Schmidt**

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

Hymns of Zion # 286

Our congregation rejoices over two couples that recently wed. On September 16, Amber Waugh became the bride of Mike Brudelie. Parents of the couple are Wayne and Colleen Waugh and Paul and Deb Brudelie (Alma City, MN). Then on September 23, Ben Schmidt was united to Bobbie Jo Nelson. Parents of the couple are Bro. Dick and Sis. Mary Lou Schmidt and Bob and Becky Nelson (Starbuck, MN). We wish both couples the Lord's richest blessings on their union.

Our congregation was blessed with a precious baby this month. First-time parents, Bro. David and Sis. Bethany Messner, are thankful for the safe arrival of little Justin Leo born on October 4. His grandparents are Bro. Tony and Sis. Nancy Messner (Morris, MN) and Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann Kuenzi (Silverton, OR). May the Lord grant His wisdom as they raise this little one.

Our hospital and surgery patients this month include Ann Lind (Dan), Bro. Roland Messner (Sis. Melva) and Bro. Marlyn Messner (Sis. Lois). May God be with each dear one in ailments that are known, and those that are not as evident.

Safe in the arms of Jesus,
safe on His gentle breast,
There by His love o'er shaded,
sweetly my soul shall rest.
Hark! 'Tis the voice of angels,
borne in a song to me,
Over the fields of glory,
over the jasper sea.

Hymns of Zion #218

Tragedy has struck our small congregation as a little one was taken from our midst. Our fervent prayers go out to Randy and Jean Stresemann as they mourn the sudden loss of their precious 5-year-old daughter, Sarah. Sarah leaves behind an older brother, Samuel, as well. Grandparents are Shirley Demm (late Lowell) and Charles and Marvel Johnson (Gibbon, MN). May the Lord's unflinching love be their comfort.

MISSOURI, LAMAR**Mindy Braker****Becky Marti**

We are thankful that Bro. Dale (Sis. Corrine) Marti has been able to assemble with us again after spending some time in the hospital. May God continue to strengthen and heal according to His perfect will.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS**Betsy Schrenk**

With much joy, many from our congregation attended the wedding of Sis. Krista Banwart (St. Louis) and Bro. Doug Stoller (Chicago) in Champaign. We sorely miss Krista, but are thankful that God brought them together to establish another Christian household.

Lucas Stoller (Gridley) is studying Pharmacy at SIU Edwardsville. We welcome him to the St. Louis area.

We grieve with Sis. Devon Rinkenberger at the death of her mother, Sis. Neola Nussbaum, of Fairbury. Bro. Byron and Sis. Neola visited our church numerous times, the last being in August. We have faith to believe that what may seem like an untimely death to us is not a surprise to our omniscient Heavenly Father. We pray that this dear family feels His comfort.

“Absent from the body... present with the Lord.”

II Cor. 5:8

Visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol, Gridley), Fred Eberhardt (Sis. Kathy, Burling-

ton), and Dennis Rassi (Sis. Dianne, Fairbury). How blessed we are to have these ministering brothers faithfully coming to serve on the pulpit.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR**Sally Haerr**

Isn't it wonderful to wake up each morning, readjust our thinking by reading God's Word – The Holy Bible, and know, without a doubt, that our Heavenly Father is in complete control. How ashamed I am when I act as though this promise is not mine to claim. Read Lamentations Chapter 3 (Holy Bible). Verse 23 stands out to me: “The Lord's mercies are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness.” There is a song in the hymnal, Hymns of Zion #62, “Take the Bible in the morning...”. Read through the hymn and let it bless your day.

We were blessed this past month with a large gathering of young brothers and sisters in Christ. It was so uplifting and such a reassurance of Christ's love and power as they stood before us and sang praises to our Lord. What could be more refreshing than the zeal of young believers. We are so thankful to each one that came and to all those who helped to make this a memorable weekend.

Bro. Jedd Rocke (Sis. Marsha, Goodfield, IL) came for the evening to share God's Word through a topical Bible Study. The topic for the evening was “Fishers of Men”. As I reviewed this topic, I read Matthew 4:19 and Mark 1:17. In both of these accounts Jesus says, “Come follow me and I will make you fishers of men.” That tells me

that if my heart is not right before a righteous God, I can't reach out to others and be a witness of Jesus' love and redeeming power. I have homework to do. How about you?

On October 15, Bro. Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Lamar, MO) spent the day with us. As the Holy Spirit spoke to us through him the message of forgiveness seemed to be what spoke to my heart. Forgiveness is not only a blessing and privilege, it is our duty, a direct command from God to us as believers. Jesus said in Matthew 18:22 that we are to forgive one another seventy times seven. Simple math tells us that is 490 times. That may seem extreme but Jesus said it and He expects us to believe it as His truth. Why would we want to be in bondage with an unforgiving heart? There is freedom in forgiveness.

We thank God and those visiting ministers for sharing the talents the Lord has given them.

Each year the Sunday School children are treated to a “Fall Cook-out” with good food, games and fellowship. This event is held at Bro. Kenny and Sis. Phyllis Knapp's farm. This is an event that is such a blessing to all those who attend it as they make precious memories together.

As was mentioned in a previous writing, the brethren in Macomb, IL, area made a request to the Elders at this year's Conference to hold mid-week services there in Macomb. That request was granted and on October 11, the first service was held in the home of Bro. Norm and Sis. Jan Rechkemmer. Our Elder Bro. Kent Heimer and Sis. Jan and several

others from Taylor, Burlington, Oakville, Congerville, and Tremont gathered for an evening of worship and fellowship. We are praying that many will join this group as they praise and honor our Lord Jesus.

Those sick/hospitalized this month were Gaye Redd (Dean), Sis. Kathy Haab (Bro. Paul), Jack Hoerr (John and Jaime), Sis. Dona Grimm (Bro. Roy), Sis. Ashley Hoerr (Bro. Scott and Sis. Anna), Sis. Emma Dee Hoerr (Bro. Robert) and Zach Sutter (Bro. Jim and Sis. Kris). I am so guilty of taking good health for granted, often forgetting to pray for those who battle health issues day after day.

Our converts are such an encouragement to us. Let's never forget to lift them up to Jesus in prayer. We all know that prayer will improve the outcome of every situation.

NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

We have been in awe once again of the beauty the Lord has created in the world around us. The ever changing seasons always bless us with a reminder of Him and many visitors coming to enjoy it with us. We were thankful to have retired Elder Bro. Ed Ringger (Gridley, IL) and his wife with us on October 1. The following weekend we enjoyed a potluck dinner together before having the opportunity to hear Bro. Perry Klopfenstein speak to us on "Our Spiritual Heritage here in America." That same weekend ministering Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH) was with us to bring forth the Word. May the Lord

richly bless these brothers!

Our prayers continue to go forth for Sis. Anna Mellnitz, ministering Bro. Floyd Graves Jr. and Sis. Lois Virkler who have all been hospitalized recently. May the Lord grant them healing and strength as they recover.

NEW YORK CITY Secaucus, New Jersey

"And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house and when thou walkest by the way and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up."

Deuteronomy 6:7

We were thankful to have some visitors at our last services of the year in Secaucus, NJ. Brethren from Leo, IN, joined visitors from Philadelphia, PA, and our home congregation as we met for services this month. We are thankful when we see grandparents, parents and young children, and are reminded of the most important thing that we can teach and share with our children. How quickly time passes and little children turn into little adults. We are thankful for ministering Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) and Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA) who brought forth the Word of Life this month.

We realize that there are different times in life, and were saddened by the passing our dear Sis. Aurelia Luiba. We are thankful for her faithful example, witnessed by many who worshipped over the years in Union City, NJ. Our

prayers are with the family, her daughters, Sis. Emilia Pancarician and Sis. Ophelia Luiba, and her grandchildren.

Finally, we are sorry to see Nelson, Max and Morgan Haerr leave our little church, as they plan to relocate to Wales in the upcoming year. We trust that they will feel the prayers of the Church, even though they will be many miles away, and will come back to visit us when they are in the States!

While we do not have any additional services planned this year, if there are any who are visiting in the area, please do not hesitate to call Bro. Ben Wiegand at (215) 295-4526. We will be glad to spend some time together in fellowship and will direct you to the closest services.

OHIO, AKRON Mara Henico Rachel Pamer

...Whatever betide,
This promise assures us
The Lord will provide...

What a blessing to totally commit each and every day, hour, and minute to our Lord. He is so very faithful! As long as we keep our focus on Him, we need have no fear, come what may.

Our prayers are with Sis. Janet Graf (Bro. Leon) as she was hospitalized recently. May the Lord be near her and give her grace to continue to be the cheerful light that we've come to appreciate. We are also thankful that Sis. Esther Boleratz has been improving since her cataracts surgery. We also keep her and Sis. Helen Boleratz in our

prayers as they have lost their brother-in-law, Bro. Jesse Delph. May God grant them comfort.

What a blessing we received as the young groups from the churches across Ohio assembled in our congregation for the annual All-Ohio weekend! We are also thankful to Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Tim Gerber (Mansfield, OH) for sharing the Word with us in these past few weeks. We are thankful they were willing to be used of God for our edification. We trust that each visitor felt our welcome and will return to visit us again as they have opportunity.

We have appreciated listening to the recordings from the recent Elder Conference, and trust that God will grant us grace to apply the teachings we've been privileged to receive. We want to thank each one who was willing to be used to speak the Word. We trust that you felt our prayers and continue to feel our prayerful support as you continue in the Lord's service. God be with each of our Elders and ministers, as well as each brother, sister, convert and friend. We do need Him so very much!

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Nancy Banks

Our congratulations and best wishes are with Jonathan and Jennifer Curry on their marriage on August 26. Jennifer's parents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy Banks. We surely wish them the Lord's richest blessings.

Bro. Matt and Sis. Wendy Miller are rejoicing over the safe arrival of their first child, Claire Elizabeth.

Thankful and first-time grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Kay Miller (Latty, OH) and Bro. Paul and Sis. Sandra Manz (Junction, OH). May the Lord grant wisdom and grace to this young family.

We welcome to our congregation Bro. Scott and Sis. Hope Schamback, originally from the Elgin, IL, area, as they have moved to Columbus for Bro. Scott's employment. What a joy to have this young couple in our midst.

The following visiting ministers served us this past month: Bros. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH), Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), and Paul Gasser (Akron, OH). We are thankful for the brethren who are willing to share the beautiful Word of God.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Cindy Schlatter

We were thankful to have several visiting ministers this past month. May our Heavenly Father bless Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), Bro. Gary Sinn (Latty, OH), and Bro. Matthew Rassi (Chicago, IL) for their labors.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Sandra Manz are thankful for the arrival of their first grandchild. Claire Elizabeth was born to Bro. Matt and Sis. Wendy Miller of our Columbus, OH, congregation. Peyton Allen was born October 9 to Bro. Mark and Sis. Cathy Manz. Taylor, Audrey, Bailey, Maggie and Nicholas are Peyton's siblings and his grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Kathy Manz, and Carol Benroth and Thomas Leatherman. We pray for much grace and wisdom to these couples

as they raise their dear families.

It brings gladness to our hearts to hear that another convert has found that precious gift of peace that surely passes all understanding. Lilly Manz (Bro. Russell and Sis. Vera) feels this peace in her heart. We look forward to hearing of the miracle of conversion that has taken place in her heart in the future.

Kyle Schlatter (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Sheila) and Casey Kemerer (Harold and Kim) chose October 14 as their wedding day. May our Father in Heaven be with them each day and bless them as only He can.

New employment opportunities moved Bro. Corbin and Sis. Audrey Schlatter family to Columbus, OH. We miss them here, but know that they are a wonderful blessing to the Columbus congregation. Please forgive me for neglecting to report this previously.

OHIO, LATTY

Amanda Steffen

Carmen Eisenmann

On September 16 our congregation partook in Holy Communion. We were blessed to have Elder Bro. Charles Sauder (Sis. Miriam, Tremont, IL) with us that weekend as we remembered the Lord Jesus and what He did for us. We were also thankful to have ministering Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL) with us this month.

We rejoice with Brent Schlatter (Bro. Tim and Sis. Becky) as he has decided to turn his heart to the Lord in humble repentance. May God give him much grace as he turns his back to the world, and marches towards Zion.

We are also delighted to report that two of our converts have professed peace with God and man. We rejoice with Caleb Stoller (Bro. Bill and Sis. Barb) and Kristy Graf (Bro. Bob and Sis. Joan) and look forward to hearing their testimonies of what the Lord has done for them.

On October 6, Vincent Ronald was born to Bro. Darin and Sis. Erin Laukhuf. His older sister is Anna. Grandparents are Bro. Rod and Sis. Ede Laukhuf and Bro. Ron and Sis. Linda Kipfer (Bluffton, IN). Bro. Roger and Sis. Kay Miller are first-time grandparents this month. Claire Elizabeth was born to Bro. Matt and Sis. Wendy Miller (Columbus, OH). Bro. Donn and Sis. Karen Steffen are also first-time grandparents this month as Owen George was born to Bro. Paul and Sis. Nichole Suvar (Leo, IN). We wish each of these families God's blessings as they raise their children in the love of the Lord.

On October 15, our congregation heard the wedding engagement of Bro. Mitch Schlatter (Bro. Gus and Sis. LeAnn) to Sis. Anna Pfister (Bro. Dan and Sis. Karen, Leo, IN). We pray God will be near these two as they prepare for their marriage.

Latty was privileged to host a choir sing the weekend of October 14-15 made up of many young brothers and sisters from many of our congregations. Thank you to all who made the effort to come and be with us for this blessed weekend.

We also want to wish Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva God's blessings as they celebrated their 50th wedding an-

niversary this month.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Esther Baumann

We are thankful for the blessing of three children who were born this past month. Cole Alexander Ramsey, the firstborn of Bro. Nathaniel and Sis. April, was born on September 18. His thankful grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Laura Ramsey and Bro. Bob and Sis. Mardel Dotterer (Rittman, OH).

Emily Marie Brandt, also a firstborn child, arrived on September 22 to Michael and Elizabeth Brandt. Her thankful grandparents are Tim and Ruth Brandt and Bro. Greg and Sis. Sharon Sabo.

Tyler Robert Hill was born on October 8 to Bro. Tom and Sis. Elaine Hill. Excited siblings are Brianna and Cody; grateful grandparents are Bro. Chip and Sis. Sieda Hill and Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty Baltic (Indianapolis, IN).

We rejoice with Becky Baumann (Bro. Mike and Sis. Lilly) as it was announced on October 8 that she has received God's peace and is awaiting baptism.

Continue to remember in prayer those among us who have been recently hospitalized: Bro. Dave Eyerly (Sis. Edna), Bro. Josh Boliantz (Sis. Jenna), Sis. Elizabeth Walter (Bro. Curt), and Elmer "Bud" Sauder.

Sis. Lucille Groh has moved from Rittman, OH, back to Mansfield. We are thankful to have her home. Pray for her as she adjusts to her new home.

Bro. Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction,

OH) served us in the ministry. May God reward them for their love.

One of the blessed privileges we have is the precious bond of fellowship we experience amongst our brethren. We were able to richly enjoy this fellowship on October 7-8 for our annual "Invite-a-friend Weekend". We thank all who made the effort to join us.

Under His wings I am safely abiding;
Tho' the night deepens and tempests are wild,
Still I can trust Him;
I know He will keep me;
He has redeemed me, and I am
His child.

Gospel Hymns #380

This Thanksgiving season, let us remember to thank God for His protection and keeping power.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Sarah Bauman

Hannah Beery

Ruler of Life! O now rule in my heart and endeavor,
That all my life may be holy and God-pleasing ever;
Thy Spirit give, that to Thy glory I live
Here and in heaven forever!

Zion's Harp #6, vs. 4

With great rejoicing we report that Jeran Stoller (Bro. Eric and Sis. Melanie) is seeking the Lord in true repentance. It is our prayer that each convert can experience an unreserved surrender and find God's abundant peace therein.

Also this month we welcomed four new souls into the brother-

hood. Bro. Benjamin Stoller (Bro. Robin and Sis. Joanne), Bro. Steven Baltic (Bro. Daniel and Sis. Betty, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Evan Gasser (Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary), and Sis. Calla Steiner (Bro. David J. and Sis. Lynn) all gave their testimonies on October 14. We are thankful for the addition to our family of God.

Joining our congregation for services this month were Elder Bros. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), and Bros. Jesse Bedolla (Detroit, MI), John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Todd Stoller (Latty, OH), Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), Steve Pamer (Akron, OH) and Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH). It is always a privilege for us to have visiting brethren sharing in the ministry.

Bro. Nathaniel and Sis. April Ramsey (Mansfield, OH) welcomed home their first child on September 18. Cole Alexander is the grandchild of Bro. Robert and Sis. Mardel Dotterer and Bro. Edward and Sis. Laura Ramsey (Mansfield, OH).

Cruz Jonathan Hartzler was born to Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Mary on September 27. Big sister, Claudia, and grandparents, Bro. Vince and Sis. Jane Hartzler and Bro. David and Sis. Eileen Emch, had eagerly awaited his arrival.

Tyler Robert made his arrival on October 8 to the Bro. Tom and Sis. Elaine Hill family. Siblings of the new baby are Brianna and Cody. Joyous grandparents are Bro. Bryce "Chip" and Sis. Sieda Hill (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Daniel and Sis. Betty Baltic (Indianap-

olis, IN).

Rather belated, we also announce that Adam and Jody Aubrey had an addition to their family with the birth of Laney Joann on July 17. Their son, Jacob, completes the family. Grandparents are Richard and Sis. Karen Hartzler.

Spending time in the hospital this month were Sis. Karen Beery (Bro. Stanley), Sis. Liz Gasser, Sis. Elaine Hill (Bro. Tom), Sis. Mary Jane Winkler (Bro. Andrew), Ginny Hilty (Frank) and Bro. Reinhart Keiper (Sis. Betty). We pray that each of these can feel God's healing touch in times of weakness.

Going "home" on September 16 was our beloved Sis. Helen Kerstetter at age 101. We sympathize with her children, Merlin (Joan) Kerstetter, Trudy (Clint) Reusser and Elaine (Jerry) Garver, and pray they can feel the Lord's comfort during this time of loss.

OHIO, SARDIS Eric and Jami Hartzler

Lord God, we honor Thee,
And praise Thy mild compassion,
That Thou so graciously
Dost hear our supplication!
Thy love is truly great;
Thy mercies are untold;
Thou givest food and drink
For Spirit, flesh and soul.

Zion's Harp #13

Our heavenly Father gave us spiritual food through the efforts of our ministers and visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH) and Bro. Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon,

Lamar, MO). We thank these brothers for allowing themselves to be used on our behalf and ask the Lord to bless them and their families.

We are praising God for His mild compassion as He healed those who were in need of His healing hand. Christa Boltz (Rex) needed surgery and Sis. Jami Hartzler (Bro. Eric) required hospitalization, but both have recovered and are feeling better.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;"

Eccles. 3:1-2

We will miss the occasional visits of a dear friend of our church family, as Ruth Gikler (George, dec.) recently passed away.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE Edith Miller Ruth Gasser

"Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

Ephesians 4:16-17

Certainly this is an evil time, and it seems we cannot be in church too often, whether listening to Conference tapes, testimonies, regular services or singings. Several Elders and ministering brothers visited us for the occasion of four testimonies on September 30. May God bless those who gave

of themselves on that special weekend: Elder Bros. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH), Dave Graf (Akron, OH), Merle Hartzler (Rittman, OH), Bros. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), and Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL). Also visiting us and sharing the Word were Bros. Doyle Frauhofer (Bluffton North, IN) and Don Steidl (Akron, OH).

On October 1, four souls were welcomed into the fold. Our new sisters and brother are Laura Gasser (Bro. Ken and Sis. SueEllen Maibach and the late Bro. Greg Gasser), Julie Widmer (Bro. Jim and Sis. Karen), Alissa Maibach (Bro. Jay and Sis. Marsha) and Derek Nieman (Bro. Denny and Sis. Kay). May they continue to grow in the Lord and follow His leading.

Physical afflictions often beset us, regardless of age, and as a congregation, we have many who need our prayers. Those requiring overnight hospital stays are Nicole Steiner (Kurt and Robin) and Bro. John Dotterer (Sis. Betty).

OHIO, TOLEDO
Teresa Rywalski
Rebecca Beard

“Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;”

1 Thessalonians 1:3

Serving us on the pulpit this month were: Bro. Tony Manz (Sis. Denise, Junction, OH), Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH), Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH), Bro.

Luke Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit, MI), and Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH).

“For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

Luke 19:10

Answering the call of our Saviour are Brad and Holli Shields, and Jim Harmon (Norma). Our prayers are with them that they may build a strong foundation in the Lord.

A beautiful weekend was spent welcoming our college students and their families back for the year. Please remember these dear ones in your prayers.

Little Isaac Shields (Brad and Holli) needs the prayers of everyone as he has undergone some health problems in the past months.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Brianna Strahm

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty, Silverton, OR) and Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton, IL). We thank them for their labors.

We extend a warm welcome to Dan Rudin (Cissna Park, IL) who is working in Oregon for a time. He is staying with Bro. Robert and Sis. Pearl Miller.

Sis. Connie Steffen (Bro. Garth) has been in need of our prayers as she continues to experience health problems. We pray the Lord will strengthen and heal where it would be His will.

Our thoughts and prayers have also been with Bro. Robert and Sis. Pearl Miller with the recent pass-

ing of Sis. Pearl's sister, Sis. Irma Luginbuhl, of Rockville, CT. May God comfort them in their time of sorrow.

OREGON, SILVERTON
Melissa Kuenzi
Cindy Metzger

The Silverton Church is thankful that we were able to use our Fellowship Hall for the first time this month. Once again, we want to thank those in our local congregation, as well as those who traveled to help us for the giving of their time, dedication, etc.

On October 7, Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL) and Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton, IL) were in Silverton speaking on the topics, Anxiety Disorder and Depression, and how they affect us and those around us. On Sunday evening, Bro. Ron shared information with our congregation about the Home for the Handicapped. We appreciate opportunities such as this when we have knowledgeable brethren to help us understand concerns in life better.

Along with ministering Bros. Ron Messner and Ted Witzig, Jr., we were thankful to have Bros. James Ramseyer (Sis. Marlene, Bay City, MI), Ron Jones (Sis. Liz, Portland, OR) and Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR) to minister to us this month.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to our brethren for the many prayers, cards, visits, and acts of kindness shown to us in Stephanie's premature birth and subsequent hospitalization. We're

thankful that she is home after a lengthy stay and that she is thriving in spite of her early arrival. May our Heavenly Father bless each one of you for your support in our time of need.

Bro. Jess, Sis. Kelsey, Stephen & Stephanie Walder

Lost and found:

A ladies' beige colored light-weight coat was left at the Silver-ton church around the weekend of September 17th. If you are missing it, please contact Sis. Barbara Kuenzi at 503-873-4853.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE
Mike and Monica Fritz

We have felt the Lord mightily in our midst in this past month, and we are grateful to our visiting ministering brothers who have brought us God's Living Word: These visitors have been: Bros. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann; Smithville, OH), Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol; Peoria, IL), and Fred Domka (Sis. Connie; Mansfield, OH), and Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN). We have also appreciated the blessed fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Sarasota, FL; Eureka, Peoria, and Roanoke, IL; Bay City, MI; Junction, Mansfield, 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: Lamar, MO (11/19); Bradford, IL (12/3); Gridley, IL (12/10); and Latty, OH (12/17). We are not sure yet whether we will have a visiting minister scheduled for

Thanksgiving weekend (11/26), but there should be some brethren here, and we will at least plan to meet at church for a tape service. We do not have a visiting minister scheduled for 12/24 or 12/31, but once again, if any local brethren are here, we will meet at church for a tape service. If you are planning to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Often we meet together on Saturday evenings for fellowship. We also regularly 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.

TEXAS, AUSTIN
Amy Ringger
Serenity Ringger

"Haste and seek your soul's salvation;
Heed the word of God today!
Haste to flee His condemnation;
Seek the straight and narrow way."
Zion's Harp #52

In a sermon this month, we were exhorted to ponder God's gift of salvation that so many people don't open. Two young men in our congregation, Eli and Gideon Ringger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Amy), were prompted by the Holy Spirit to seek that gift from God through repentance. We pray that God will teach them in His ways. Isaiah 54:13: "And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children."

It was a blessing to have visiting ministers: Bros. Ron Jones (Sis.

Elizabeth, Portland), Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign), Leland Plattner (Zapata), Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville), and Dave Hartter (Sis. Beth, Sabetha). Visitors were from Peoria and Bluffton.

In December, we look forward to these churches serving us: Cissna Park (3), Elgin, IA (10), Morris (17), and Philadelphia (31). We do not have a minister scheduled for the 24th of December, but if you are in the area, please call, because we may have church services anyway.

We extend a warm welcome to anyone who may be in the area to worship with us, even midweek we may meet at times though we don't have a regular schedule for it. Please call ahead to help us plan for serving lunch. Also, because visitors add much to our local fellowship times, it helps if we know about your visit well in advance, perhaps even a month or more if possible, so that we can accommodate you more readily in our weekend gatherings. See the ministers' book for local contact information.

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

In the church, there are two

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

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Mary Plattner

Each Sunday we are pleased to see our church family grow as our winter visitors arrive to worship with us. This time of year the small Zapata congregation begins to grow as we have become a haven for those wishing to avoid the cold winter season of the northern states. As always, we look forward to a blessed season with our visitors. We have been having rains this fall and the desert scene is much greener than other times of the year.

We rejoice that Erica Nohl (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Joyce) has begun her repentance. May God give her the grace to grow in her spiritual walk of life.

We were pleased to have ministering Bro. Darren and Sis. Nora Fehr (West Bend, IA) make a stop in Zapata on their way to serve the congregation in McAllen, TX. Anyone coming to South Texas is most welcome to include Zapata in their plans, whether it be a few days or several weeks.

VERMONT, NORWICH
Areli & Kirby Reutter

“And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room.”

Acts 1:13

Greetings beloved in Christ!

As many of you know, those of us who worship periodically in Norwich, Vermont, rent the upper room of a local Grange hall for our church services. Many times this verse comes to mind as we enter the facility to greet the Friends and Brothers, then climb the staircase towards that “upper room.”

To the rear of our meeting place, there is a stage area that is closed off by a curtain. Recently some of our local sisters suggested that the stage be partially cleared and converted into a nursery. That way, without an extensive sound system throughout the building, parents of young infants can tend to their children’s needs and still hear the service from behind the curtain.

This suggestion arose because we now have two local babies attending church with us in Vermont! We consider this a great blessing from God and a token of His divine care for the future Church. While seemingly minute, this small nursery consisting of donated second-hand furniture was for us Vermont’s very first expansion project! May the Lord continue to add His increase according to His perfect will and pleasure.

This past month two very dear Brothers came from afar to minister the Word: Bro. Ron Steiner (Sis. Ruth) from our congregation in Rittman, OH, and Bro. Justin Moser (Sis. Robin) from our congregation in Altadena, CA. In a single weekend we literally enjoyed a fellowship that spanned both coasts and many Brothers from the Midwest. We also appreciated ministerial support from our dear Rockville Brothers, Bro. Warren Zahner (Sis. Bonnie) and retired ministering Bro. Everett Gerber

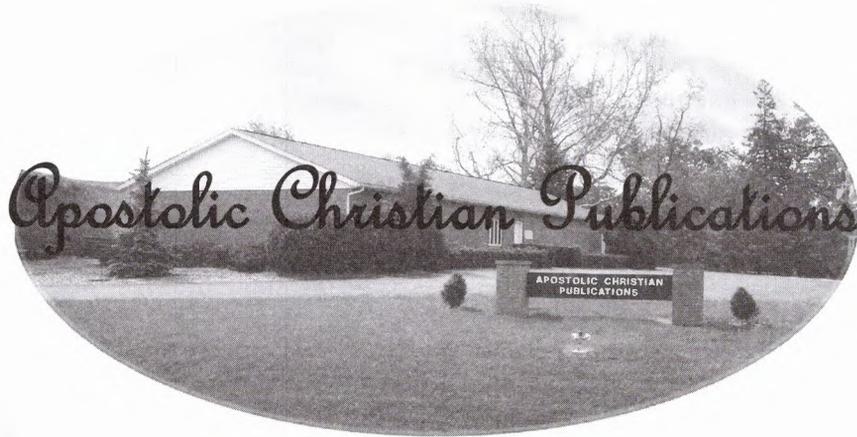
(Sis. Nancy), who graciously reassumed the mantle for the day to serve our needs.

We invite all to come and worship with us this fall and winter. 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.





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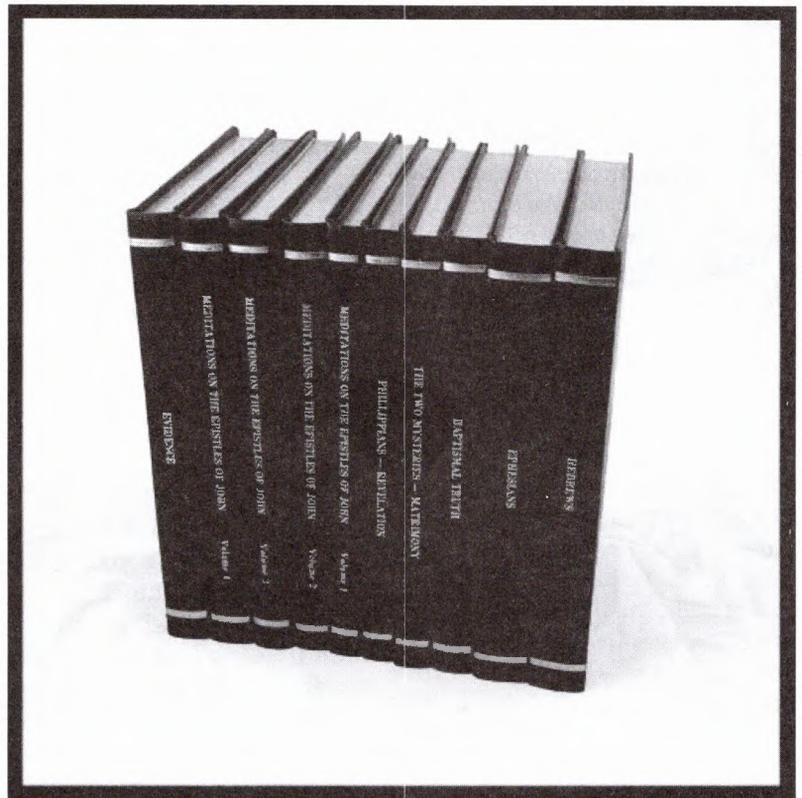
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Sermon continued from page 2

this earth. But they are things that are going to be eternal. By the love and care and compassion we have for our fellow man, our light needs to shine.

I'm sure all through history it has been necessary but we see it right now. It's so, so critical. We wonder a little bit if these United States, some of this, we've all had these thoughts before and I don't want to get redundant, but if we are a Christian nation - and again our definition of Christianity and a Christian can change from group to group, but we know what it means to be a true Christian, a real follower of Christ - brothers and sisters, we cannot let lukewarm, false teachings, false prophets, come in and dilute Christianity as we know it. There are people out there who are struggling. There are people who are going to go to hell if our example is not true, if it is not clear.

We can sit here on Sunday and Wednesday night and say yes, we believe and we believe and we do this. As Christians, we turn the other cheek and we live an example. We are not interested in the world. We don't have worldliness and we have no desire for these things. We can say it but, boy, we've got to walk and let's hold each other accountable. Let's show each other that we love each other. If I do something wrong, show me, tell me that you love me by correcting me. I'll do the same to you. We need to do that to each other where we err.

Sometimes in our family there's no one that can correct us better than our mothers or fathers. Sometimes our wives, between husbands and wives. I know we find that in our family. We really love each other. We are not afraid to correct each other. In the body of Christ, we are a body. We are brothers and sisters. We are a family. Let's make sure we do the same thing so that our light can shine for that world that is struggling.

"Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam *is* in thine own eye?" St. Matthew 7:4. Let's get the junk out of our eyes, loved ones.

"For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." St Matthew 7:8. Jesus said it.

It is written here. We read it. Let's believe it.

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." St. Matthew 7:21. Maybe is this twenty first verse a little bit of a summary of Christianity? Of lukewarm, false Christianity in America? We don't have to judge. We are commanded that in the first couple of verses. But it should be a warning to us. We will leave the judging up to God. But also we've got to look in our own hearts and make sure that we are pure, that we are on the right track.

So many great teachings here, brothers and sisters. Starts out, first of all it says, "Thou hypocrite..." St. Matthew 7:5. Have we ever in our times been hypocrites? Have we said one thing and done something else? We profess to believe something and yet at the same time, do something different? How easy it is, if we are not alert and if we don't have that indwelling of the Holy Spirit all the time, how just in a moment's time we can do something that is exactly wrong.

I shared with the congregation this before, but I distinctly remember a time when my sons were home, it was on a Wednesday night. It was during the fall harvest and I got home from work late. I wanted to get to Wednesday night church. Got cleaned up and I made the kids have a prayer and I am walking out the door and the phone rings: it is probably somebody broke down. I told my sons, if it is for me, tell them I am not here.

I was thinking, after I went to church and I was sitting off to the side, here I just asked my kids to lie for me. Just got done having them pray and read out of the Word and now I am asking them to lie and deceive somebody? It can happen so easy! They are probably thinking, boy what kind of Dad's that? He's off to church being holy on a Wednesday night. At the same time he's telling us to stay home and take the phone call and tell them he wasn't here when he really was. It happened in a moment's time.

Okay. Knowing that, what can we do? We can teach each other. We confess our faults one to another. You've learned from my mistake. Let's make

sure that none of us do that. In the workplace, maybe tomorrow, someone out here is going to be tempted to say something, kind of like the response that I just did. We probably, if we would poll every person here, we probably all can say, yes, I did that one time or I had something similar to that. Knowing that, brothers and sisters, let's move it up to the next level. Let's apply these scriptures. Let's be knowing. Let's be alert so that doesn't happen to us.

What can we do? First thing, it says don't be a hypocrite. Don't be running around looking in your brother's eye. Take care of your own. Before anyone eyes anyone else, let's ask ourselves, do I have that same characteristic?

Now sometimes someone who is really a good carpenter, they can watch another person drive a nail. They can tell, after he pounds about two nails, if that man's a good carpenter. For someone who's really skilled in a craft, he can spot another skilled craftsman just like that. Let's make sure that others can see in us those things that are pure. Those things that are true. That we can see ourselves to know when we err.

Then Christ goes on and gives us a good message on prayer. When He says - and this should be committed to memory - "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:" St. Matthew 7:7. We've heard that time and time again. But brothers and sisters, I can attest, and I know there are many of you here that can do the same thing. This passage *is true. God's Word is true! He never fails us.* It might take a little while. But we have, in my life I think of the times that I've experienced this.

As ministers, we are not trained people. We've not been to any divinity college. We've not had a whole semester in The Acts. We've not studied for three months the Book of Corinthians. We're just regular, every day, normal people. We are farmers and business people and teachers and nursing home administrators. But we've got a real advantage. We have experienced, as all of you have, the conversion. We've felt that peace of forgiveness. We've felt that inrushing glow and joy when we knew our sins were forgiven. When we understood that Christ died for us and

by His resurrection, defeated death and the grave and that we are saved through Him. We've experienced that.

And we have all experienced times when we've had to ask, dear Lord, come in and help. Provide this. Give us guidance. When those prayers have been answered, it strengthens our faith. It doesn't make any difference of how much knowledge we have of all the books in the Bible and where everything is at. Having experienced the Holy Spirit working in our heart and having had our heavenly Father answer prayer, that trumps all the knowledge that the world would love to challenge us with.

So, brothers and sisters, those times when God has answered your prayers, be thankful for them. Build on that. Know that. Understand it. And as we go on to the future, if we are praying for physical restoration of our health, if we are praying for errant children or if we are praying for the evils that are going on out in the world today, God says, you ask. He's going to listen. We're going to knock. He's going to respond to our prayer. It says it. Let's believe it.

Then it goes on to give the parable of a father. You know how we just had Mother's Day and Father's Day is coming up here in June. We know how much our parents love us. Especially once you become a parent. You know how much you love your child or your grandchild. We've got a Father up in heaven that loved us so much that He gave us His Son. When I think of giving my son for some degenerate sinner in downtown Chicago, if I would have to sacrifice my son for somebody else's sin, I'd really have to have a lot of love for fellow mankind for me to give up one of my sons or my grandson. And yet, that's the love, that's the loving Father of the God that we worship. It just touches our heart.

We know that if we ask Him those things, He's not going to send us any junk. He's not going to send us something that is going to hurt us. Sometime we might think it does. Sometimes we can pray for intelligence, wealth or fame or a life of ease here in our earthly walk, but He knows better that, boy I don't think I could handle it if things got too good. We'd become proud and boastful and want to live in luxury and become lustful in our

lives. He knows what's best for us. Let's ask. Let's ask with confidence that He's going to answer our prayer in His way, with His knowledge. He knows what our future is going to be. He knows what we need five years from now. He knows that today. So He'll answer that prayer because He knows the future and how it fits all together.

Then Christ talks about the wide gate. Boy, isn't this the truth! Where it says, "...for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction..." St. Matthew 7:13. You know, it really is easy to follow the way of sin, isn't it? Our fleshly desires, they're vile and they're horrible. It's just our sinful nature. If we just follow the wide way which by our basic human nature, that's where we want to go, don't we? We don't like boundaries and we don't like to be confined. We like to go wherever we want. We don't like someone to tell us that you can go here and go there.

But Christ says, I've got a way prepared. It's pretty small. It's pretty narrow. But it's strait and I've laid out protection for you. I want you to stay in those confines. (St. Matthew 7:14)

I had an interesting experience last summer. Got to go to Alaska and Mount McKinley for three weeks. We're on glaciers, camped every night the whole time. We had a guide that was really good. I shared some of this with some of my friends. This guide was really smart. He'd been to the top of Mount McKinley nine times. Every time he tried to get there, he made it to the top. He knew so much. We were going across these glaciers. Every time we got to a place where we are going to camp, and the glaciers there are half a mile wide and sometimes they are two miles wide and they are eight hundred foot deep. This is a mass of snow and ice that's over time moving down the side of this big old hill.

So we stopped to camp at night. You've got to remember that there's crevasses out there that are eight hundred feet deep. We'd get into an area. We are going to set up our tents. Everybody would be roped up. Nobody could leave the confines of the other people in the group. He would take a big, long probe and he would go around that whole campsite with a big, telescoping

probe and he'd see if there was any air pockets or if maybe we were on a place that was hollow underneath. After that was probed out, he'd go around and take a little piece of bamboo and he'd stick four corners and he'd say, okay men, *nobody leaves* this square. We set up our tent here. If you want to take a picture, you don't leave this square.

I thought, this is kind of bad. Here we've got this beautiful glacier and we are going to be here. I want to walk around and take pictures. I've got some guy who I just met that's telling me I can't walk out of this square. Kind of confined me a little bit. I didn't really like that. While I was on this mountain, I wanted to go look around. But we were confined by someone who was smarter than I was. He had been there nine times. This was my first time. He had known from experience what could happen. Sometimes in history people had fallen through those cracks and those holes and had lost their lives.

I thought a little bit. After about two or three days of this, of course during the day we are walking and being real quiet. I got to thinking about the whole experience of that. I just had a real spiritual revelation that, you know, our faith is a little bit that way. On a big scale with Jesus Christ, God says, I've got a narrow way for you to come. If it's wide, if you were walking around on that glacier, you are going to fall off, you are going to die. In a spiritual sense, if we go out in the wide world that is easy, we are going to go to hell. We are going to die. It's going to be a lot worse death than falling in a hole on a glacier.

On a narrower sense, we've got an Apostolic faith that over time, we have learned that there are certain boundaries that have been good to protect us. In Hebrews 13 it talks about people who are put in spiritual authority over us. Those who have gone before and understood the dangers that are out there in the glacier or the world. So they've had to put four stakes in. We don't like those boundaries, do we? Right at first, I didn't like that guide that put those boundaries in. On the other hand, I don't want to go out and fall in an eight hundred foot hole. I want to go with a guide that is going to

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mark out the boundaries that are going to be safe. I want to be in a church that's not going to let me fall in an eight hundred foot hole. We don't want to lose any brothers or any sisters. We don't want that wide way, that we are going to lose people one way or the other. Probably took me thirty some years of being converted and sitting on that mountain thinking about it to realize the importance of, people don't like to really hear about church this and church that and discipline and traditions and things that hold us together. Yet, when I thought about our physical life, falling in that eight hundred foot hole, I wouldn't like that. And spiritually it is a lot more important.

Later on in the week, the guide would rope us up and there were places where we could get close to these big old crevasses and he would hook us up and extend us on down so we could look into those. I looked in there and as far down as I could see, it was blue and black and I never could see the bottom and I thought about how horrible a death that would be to fall down there and freeze to death and they would never find your corpse. And yet, that was *nothing* compared to a soul being lost. Some person, some brother, some sister, some friend falling into a spiritual void because we weren't loving enough and we didn't have a structure enough or we disregarded the structure that was given to us that had been proven over time to protect us and to guide us. Let us thank God for those teachings that we have, realizing there

are times in my spiritual life I probably jumped outside the four bamboo markers and was a little farther out of that safety of the camp than we probably should be. Let's love each other. Let's follow those boundaries. Let's listen to those who have been put in spiritual positions of authority over us.

"Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." St Matthew 7:14. It is not popular today to belong to a church or to be with a body of believers that's constraining. It's not fun. That's going against our human nature. We want to get out there and we want to decide for ourselves. Just like all of us people, all the guys on that trip. We wanted to go out on our own but that didn't work. There was safety within those confines.

Christ talks about false prophets. He said, "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit." St. Matthew 7:15-17. This is our chance, believers, to follow those teachings that are going to bring good fruits in our lives. Those things that, we are the ones - this talks about people who are prophets. We are not to follow those people that have false teachings or that their fruits are not of value. Remember, for every person we are following, somebody is following us! So our fruits have to be those of value, of spiritual value. Those fruits of love and joy and

peace and long-suffering, gentleness, kindness, meekness. We should look. Are we following those things in our lives that are going to bring forth good fruits? Those things that are going to bless us. Those things that are going to help us to do the work of God's kingdom.

We don't like to talk about, but it says here, "Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire." St. Matthew 7:19. God wants trees that, Jesus wants trees that are fruitful. It says right here that if we don't bring the fruit, in this example, if you don't bring good fruit, you get hacked down. The parallel is you will get thrown into hell. Thank goodness for the shed blood of Jesus Christ that gives us the ability to overcome by His grace, by His mercy. Yet we are still called. We are saved by His grace, we're saved by His shed blood. Yet we are called to bring forth good fruit. Don't you just love Jesus so much for what He did for us? It is a small price for us to follow, to parallel Him. To do exactly what He says.

It's interesting to watch a young child interact with their parents. I watch it here in church. If you see a dad do something, it is interesting, the little child will come along right behind and do just like their dad has done. I think you've all probably seen it in your own families. Let's make sure that our fruit is beautiful and bountiful for the Lord. That we are following Christ. That we are giving an example to each other, to an unsaved world.

"Zion's Melodies" Instrumental CD

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

Phone: (309)448-2422 - ask for Chet

Mail: ZM on Piano, 319 First Street, Congerville, IL 61729

Email: chetrink@juno.com

Zion's Melody Music CD

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

- NOTICE -

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

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Morton, IL 61550
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309-263-6841 (fax)

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

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

To order, contact,

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

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. For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Mike Rassi, Ph. 1-309-359-3020 or E-mail michael_rassi@hotmail.com.

HAITI					
ORG.	DATE	AREA	COORDINATOR	PROJECT	CAPACITY
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 Palitto	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
Dale Frank	319-766-3661		frankfarms@iowatelecom.net
Rich Bertschi	309-467-6110		lemangm@mtco.com
Tom Hitz	734-454-9229	734-454-9259	thitzhome@juno.com
Bill Rager	419-263-2989		
Jon Zeller	309-266-9009		jzeller@mtco.com
Rick Wuethrich	219-567-9488	219-567-2542	topnotch@home.ffni.com
Troy Struber	309-925-2603		tstuber@highstream.net
Ron Palitto	330-336-5373		rcp@lek.net
Ted Habegger	260-694-6765		tjh@adamswells.com
Phil Isabel	219-261-3541		philisabel@earthlink.net
Dean Pashak	989-662-7685		dwpashak@charter.net
Stan DesCarpentrie	309-467-3898		srjed@mtco.com
Rusty Adrian	573-769-3650		radrian@centurytel.net
Ted (Joyce) Hirstein	309-266-8769		hirstein@mtco.com
Ken Hoerr	309-243-7750		khoerr@mtco.com
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

Location	Date	Project	Coordinator	Phone	E-mail
Agua Prieta	March 3-10, 2007	Construction	Mike Fiechter	260-597-7330	mfiechter@onlyinternet.net
Agua Prieta	March 10-17, 2007	Construction	Bob Meyer	260-824-3236	rmeyer@nremc.net
Agua Prieta	March 17-24, 2007	Construction	Denis Fry	260-824-3055	fry.d@mchsi.com
Agua Prieta	March 24-31, 2007	Construction	Sam Kaehr	260-565-3200	sckaehr@adamswells.com
Juarez	Dec. 26, 2006 - Jan. 2, 2007	Construction	Doug Schock	641-929-3377	dcschock@juno.com
Copper Canyon	March 28 - April 5, 2007	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrmann	309-385-1082	cherrmann@verizon.net
Juarez	September 19-26, 2007	Medical/Dental	Cheryl Herrmann	309-385-1082	cherrmann@verizon.net
Magdalena	November 18-25, 2006	Construction	Rod Schmidt	303-774-7913	rschmidt@Acosta.com
Magdalena	Dec. 30, 2006 - Jan. 6, 2007	Construction	Carlos Soto	765-490-6115	los315@hotmail.com
Magdalena	January 13-20, 2007	Construction	Kenny Edelman	217-745-2321	kenedelman@cawi.org
Magdalena	February 18-25, 2007	Construction	Bob Knepp	309-923-7335	rnepp@verizon.net
Magdalena	March 10-17, 2007	Construction	Seth Braker	309-678-4703	sdbrake@ilstu.edu
Magdalena	March 17-24, 2007	Construction	Nic Rassi	217-367-1427	rassi@uiuc.edu
Magdalena	March 24-31, 2007	Construction	Roger Reinhard	260-565-3282	rmreinhard@adamswells.com
Magdalena	March 31 - April 7, 2007	Construction	Pete Aberle	309-925-5969	dpabfrms@hotmail.com
Magdalena	June 2-9, 2007	Construction	Scott Klopfenstein	602-721-7409	scottklop@yahoo.com
Magdalena	June 9-16, 2007	Construction	John Ricketts	309-444-9061	jonr@grimmauto.com
Magdalena	June 30 - July 7, 2007	Construction	Brent Knobloch	815-923-4736	BEKMRH@aol.com
Magdalena	July 21-28, 2007	Construction	Tyler Banwart	620-223-1362	tybanwart@hotmail.com
Reynosa	March 24-31, 2007	Construction	Jeff Leman	260-565-3815	jvleman@adamswell.com

U.S.A. BOARD WORK PROJECTS

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

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

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

Illinois:

Indiana: Tom Neuenschwander
 Phone/Fax: 260-824-4773
 E-mail: 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:

Printed Sermons
102 Lake View Drive
Fairbury, IL 61739
or phone (815) 692-3616

NOTICE:

Wednesday night services are now being held in Macomb, IL. The next services will be November 29 and December 13 at 7:30 p.m. For further information, call Bro. Norm or Sis. Jan Rechkemmer at (309) 231-0098.



REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

In 1878, our brethren in Germany wrote a statement of faith to present to state authorities. The following installment is a portion of that lengthy document.

In regard to the Second Coming of Christ: we believe and teach that Christ will come again, but not as the first time in servant form and as a servant when He came as a Saviour and Redeemer for fallen mankind.

For it is written: "He came not to be served but to serve and gave His life for the remission of man's sins." The second time He will appear in great power and glory, as a King of all Kings, and a Lord of all Lords, as a Judge who will judge the whole world and reward everyone according to his works and how man lived, be it good or bad.

Because no one else could be found in heaven or on earth who could redeem fallen mankind and free them from the power of Satan and his dominion except Jesus Christ. Therefore, has God given unto Him all power to pass judgment on the Day of Judgment. When He will come the second time then all men must appear before Him, before His Judgment Seat. He is the righteous judge, and will then lead all His own to everlasting rest which is promised

to the people of God. And the godless He will deliver, with the power of His Word, into everlasting damnation. *Matthew 25:46*

Regarding the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment we believe: We believe and teach according to the Scriptures, as it is written in Daniel 12:2, many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life and some to shame and everlasting contempt. *John 5:27*

The Church of God and the fellowship of the saints: We believe and confess that there is one Church of God, which Christ purchased with His own blood and did wash and cleanse from sins with His blood.

He did offer Himself for her that He might sanctify and purify her through the washing of water by the word and present to Himself a glorious Church, not having spot or wrinkle, but that it should be holy and without blemish, *Hebrews 5:26-27*. Which Church, we believe, consists of people here on earth who through faith in Jesus Christ and obedience to the Holy Gospel went out from the world and her sins, have denied and humbled themselves, and live in fellowship with God, and His Son, Jesus Christ, their head and Saviour, and all those souls who be-

lieve, even if they are scattered in different parts of the earth.

These are all members of the body of Christ, and He as their head does reign and lead them. He purchased them from the world, led them out of the world, and they are His own people. They have obeyed the Gospel call: *2 Corinthians 6:17-18 and Revelation 18:4*.

Regarding God's people here on earth, no record can be delivered what is the exact number of how many there are because God alone knows how many there are who will stay true and endure until the end — and how many will keep the faith and love their Saviour. But their names are written in the Book of Life in heaven. *Luke 10:20 and Revelations 13:8*. This church on earth is the one of which Christ said, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you." *John 15:16-17*. "Therefore ye will be hated by the world, for if you were of the world the world would love its own."

By Perry A. Klopfenstein

Next Issue:

The above statement of faith continues, including sections on the church, marriage and selection of church officials.

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

希望の光

“Silver and Gold Are Cold”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

The thought has often occurred to me that silver and gold are cold. By that I mean that money alone does not satisfy human beings. The idea that I would be very happy if I had a million dollars probably is not true. We need food, clothing and shelter but beyond that, what we need most of all is peace with God and our fellow human beings, and the love of God and the love of those around us.

Silver and gold is mentioned in I Peter 1:18, “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold.” Money cannot buy salvation, neither can it buy love. Those things are not for sale.

We human beings are at our best when we are with others who give us a warm greeting and let us know by the way they treat us and talk with us, that they love us and respect us, even when we don’t deserve it.

In Acts 3:6, Peter said, “Silver and gold have I none; but

such as I have give I thee.” The lame man was healed and for the first time, he could walk. That was much better than receiving an offering. Can you walk? If you can then that is much better than if you had much money. Maybe you have both, which is all right, but let’s not put too much emphasis on the money. Let’s be thankful we can walk.

The Apostle Paul was very well educated and I suppose he could have had much silver and gold but in Acts 20:33 we find, “I have coveted no man’s silver, or gold, or apparel.” If we can’t pay our bills, I think we all would wish we had more. However, the word “covet” especially refers to a desire for something that belongs to someone else. Wishing we had enough to pay our normal bills required for a decent living is hardly coveting. I notice that the Apostle Paul added “apparel” to the list of things he did not covet. As a tent maker he probably did not always come

up to the standard of being well dressed, but if he could be clean and neat, he was satisfied.

“And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.” Genesis 13:2. Abram can be and often is, cited as a man of God who had much wealth, which can be considered a blessing of God for his faithfulness. We need those kind of people to build our churches and provide funds for all the activities in sharing God’s Word and in helping those in need. Nevertheless, in the New Testament, Jesus was not rich, and His disciples were not rich, but they were content, and they were blessed of the heavenly Father in different ways. If you are not rich, don’t feel badly. The best things in life, salvation, peace and love, you can’t buy.

If you and I suddenly had much silver and gold, I doubt that we would be any happier than we are at the present time. Silver and gold are cold. Let’s be thankful for what we have.

希望の光

*I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift,
nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise,
nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill;
but time and chance happeneth to them all.*



Ecclesiastes 9:11-12

*For man also knoweth not his time: as the fishes that are taken in an evil net,
and as the birds that are caught in the snare; so are the sons of men snared in an evil time
when it falleth suddenly upon them.*

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