

The Silver Lining



And it shall come to pass, if ye shall hearken diligently unto my commandments which I command you this day, to love the Lord your God, and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul, that I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.

Deuteronomy 11:13-14

September 2007

Sermon by Bro. Kim Sutter, Taylor, MO

Deuteronomy 23:1-14 and St. Mark 8:22-38

As we read here, we talked about the Ammonites and the Moabites. They were a people, as we read here, it says they "shall not enter into the congregation of the Lord; even to their tenth generation...Because they met you not with bread and with water in the way..." Deuteronomy 23:3,4. As we know that the children of Israel, God led them out, as the Word says, with a high hand out of Egypt (Numbers 33:3). He led them out through that wilderness, a place that it was hard. But God provided each and every step of the way. There were times when they wondered where their food was going to come from. There was a time when they wondered what they were going to drink. But we serve a mighty God. A God that can give us water out of a rock. He can give us manna when we are hungry.

The children of Israel, they asked to pass through. They wanted to pass in peace, but they found these people. They had no desire to let them through their land. They came out and they even attacked them and they tried to take their life. (Numbers 21:21-23)

In our spiritual life, there's times when we might feel like we are walking through that wilderness ourself. We wonder why. But I pray that we will put our trust and our faith in God because there are going to be times when we are going to wonder where that fountain is that we can drink so freely from. We are going to wonder how we are going to be fed spiritually. But God will provide. God never promised this road is going to be easy and it is going to be a bed of roses for us. But God has promised He will go every step of the way with each and every one of us if we are just faithful and that we trust in Him.

These people, they didn't help. It maybe seemed like a long time. Those children of Israel probably thought, God if you are going to bring us out here, and they even

cried unto God, Why have you brought us out into this wilderness to die? Even Moses pleaded, after they got there to that land and wanted to pass, God repented that He even saved them. He wanted to destroy them. But he said, God, do you want to bring them out and destroy them? Then the people will think that you are not the God of creation. God allowed them to live. (Exodus 32:7-14) But I pray that we will never forget that God in His own time, He will deal with these things.

Do you remember when he came to Saul, he said Saul, you go unto the Amalekites. He said, I want you to destroy all of them because they came out and they did not let you pass through their land. Saul went and had a great victory over them. (I Samuel 15:2-8) Those people who were going through the wilderness probably wanted that victory to be that day, right now. But it wasn't God's way. But it did come.

As we go through our life, we can see that maybe it - and we don't understand why - maybe there are times in our lives where we see those that prosper that we question why God allows them to prosper. But God knows. In His own time He will deal with those things.

As we read here together, we talked about many nations, that they weren't of the chosen race. They weren't God's chosen people but we can see here, He said after a time they will be allowed to enter into the congregation. God, He looked down upon Abraham and He blessed Abraham greatly. It was His chosen people. To this very day, I believe in God's promises and His commandments, that if we are true and faithful unto His chosen people, He said that He would bless those that bless them. And He's going to curse those that curse them. I pray that for our nation, that we will always be a friend of Israel. They are God's chosen people.

But God also, even way back here

in this Old Testament scripture, He knew that there was going to be a day, that there was going to be a day when He was going to open that plan of salvation. It wasn't just going to be for them. But He was going to open it up for all. His Son gave His life not only for the Israelites, for the Jews. But He gave it for you and I. God showed us His ways.

Even back as we just read recently

Sermon continued on page 45

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

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

September 2007

The Final Separation

Someone will enter the pearly gate
By and by, by and by,
Taste of the glories that there await,
Shall you? shall I?
Someone will travel the streets of gold,
Beautiful visions will there behold,
Feast on the pleasures so long foretold;
Shall you, shall I?
Someone will knock when the door is
shut, By and by, by and by
Hear a voice saying, "I know you not",
Shall you, shall I?
Someone will call and shall not be heard,
Vainly will strive when the door is barred,
Someone will fail of the saints reward,
Shall you, shall I?
*("Shall You, Shall I", Gospel Hymns
#309, Verses 1 & 3)*

These two verses of a beautiful hymn serve as a very clear reminder that since the beginning of time God saw that order and disorder, right and wrong, sin and holiness could not abide together. "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters... And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good..." (Gen. 1:2 & 31).

God created the Garden of Eden to perfectly provide everything that Adam and Eve needed, apparently even giving them access to the tree of life as long as they served Him. But Adam and Eve sinned and as a result "...the Lord God sent him (Adam) forth from the Garden of Eden..." (Gen. 3:23).

God and His Son "...had loved righteousness, and hated iniquity;..." (Heb. 1:9). He wants to protect His people from sin and has many times instructed us to separate ourselves from sin. In the Garden of Eden the instructions for separation were so clear that God told Adam and Eve that they should "...not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die" (Gen. 3:3).

God also knew that through evil associations, His people would be contaminated by the sins of those who were around them. Moses, in leading the children of Israel from Egypt to the Promised Land, understood the importance of separation from evil influence. In a discussion with God, Moses said "...So shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the

face of the earth" (Ex. 33:16). Among the instructions and warnings that God gave to His people concerning the importance of separation from evil He said "And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the Lord am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine" (Lev. 20:26).

The need for separation from evil was also made very clear in the New Testament. Paul wrote "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them" (Ep. 5:11). The need for separation was even extended beyond separation from the heathen. We are commanded to separate ourselves from a brother who is disorderly. "Now we command you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us" (II Th. 3:6).

The separations discussed thus far are separations on this earth. They are temporary and are designed to keep us holy. Often the separation on earth is painful. When it is necessary for a family or a church to make a separation from a loved one for a time because of a problem, we feel distressed and wish that it didn't have to be. There is, however a separation coming that is much more serious and will last through all eternity. This is the final separation that will come when God judges our eternal destination.

The Word of God clearly spells out the eternal results of situations brought on by a life of sin. Numerous accounts in the Bible tell us there will be an eternal separation and we cannot hide our sins from God.

There are those who believe they can get away with a sinful life. Many times they seem to prosper. They console themselves with their temporal blessings and believe that all will be well. In the parable of the tares, good seed was contaminated when the enemy sowed tares with the wheat. The tares were permitted to grow with the wheat until harvest "...and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn" (Mt. 13:30). The tares were ultimately destroyed. Luke reminds us that people will likewise be divided in the end. "I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left" (Lk. 17:34).

Unfortunately, not all of those lost are easy

to identify. There are those who try to defend themselves because they think they are doing quite well. Jesus told of those who were not willing to share their blessings with those who were less fortunate. They did not food, clothe nor comfort those who were hurting. "And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal" (Mt. 25:46).

Some will actually believe they were doing God's work. "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils?...And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Mt. 7:22-23). How could they be so deceived? It appears (v. 21) that they were doing their own will rather than the will of God.

Other passages of scripture make it profoundly clear that the separation is final. "So shall it be at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth, and sever (cut off) the wicked from among the just" (Mt. 13:49). "And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats" (Mt. 25:32).

The account of the rich man and Lazarus confirms that the judgment is final. The rich man pleaded that Lazarus could dip the tip of his finger in water and cool his tongue. He neither asked for a cup of water nor for Lazarus to wet his entire finger. All he wanted was what would stay on the tip of Lazarus' finger, and it was not granted to him. Abraham told the rich man "...between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence" (Lk. 16:26).

The final separation will either bring "...wailing and gnashing of teeth" (Mt. 13:50) or it will bring eternal bliss.

Someone will sing the triumphant song,
Join in the praise with the blood-bought throng,

Someone will greet on the golden shore,
Loved ones of earth who have gone before,

Safe in the glory for ever more:
Shall you? Shall I?

*("Shall You? Shall I?", Gospel Hymns
p. 309, v. 4)*

An editorial committee of elder brothers is preparing articles for this section of the Silver Lining to address some of the special needs of our times.

Suggestions for subjects are welcome and can be sent to:

Silver Lining Editorials, 1377 County Rd 1600 N, Roanoke, IL 61561 or by e-mail to cleman@davesworld.net



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

Mission Update

One of the Guiding Principles of the Mission Committee is to provide biblical accountability for those sent to serve in the mission field. Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Schick met with the Committee in May to share their experiences at CVE in Magdalena, MX.

One of the reasons for growing attendance and interest is that it is difficult for the local authorities to oppose the work, because they see the benefits of the care given to the orphans. It is noteworthy that the original purpose in Magdalena was to train young people in the ways of the Lord through the work of the orphanage. This effort has brought additional fruit as evidenced by the growing interest in the Gospel in the community. This has brought about the need for a church building, the walls of which have now been erected.

The Committee was moved to observe the heartfelt dedication for the work which the Lord has given to Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan. Sincere appreciation was expressed for their efforts and for their trust in the Holy Spirit to continue to lead them.

Outreach Committee

A new committee has been appointed to assist in implementation of the scriptural directives:

- To present the Gospel message of salvation to the lost, locally and beyond.
- To teach the commandments of Christ (Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:19-20; Luke 24:47).
- To help develop trust and support from the Church for mission outreach.
- To offer opportunities for Spirit-directed utilization of gifts and callings.

All of these will help to strengthen the church as a balanced (complete) application of its four-pillar mission is enhanced.

The following brothers are serving on the Outreach Committee: Mike Leman (Denver, CO), Chairman, Matt Gerber and Marshall Heinold (Ixtlan, MX), Tom Hitz (Detroit, MI), John Huber (Francesville, IN), Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL). Bro. Mike has also been appointed to serve on the Mission Committee, to which the Outreach Committee will report. This effort to share responsibilities and delegate various duties is being done in the spirit of Acts 6, when the early church enlisted the help of more brethren to carry out the Lord's work.

Communication

The Committee approved a request from the World Relief Board for linkage of its new web site from the official Apostolic Christian Church web site. Review of this web site, www.acworldrelief.org, revealed that it was very well done and will provide an excellent resource of information for all who have interest in World Relief activities.

There was discussion of progress on the Mission Committee web site which is currently under development. Responsibility for various materials to be included was assigned to Committee members. The World Relief Communications Committee updated its "Goals and Guidelines," with special attention being given to providing appropriate direction for the Mission, World Relief and CVE web sites. This provides necessary standards and accountability for materials posted on these official church communications. The Committee reviewed the

updated guidelines and expressed support and appreciation for them.

Reports

Bro. Peter Petrovic reported on a recent trip to Eastern Europe. Conditions in Ukraine and other countries remain quite difficult. There is continued need for assistance and there were a number of requests for building projects. Allocations were made from Mission funds to assist with several church building projects. A full report will appear in next month's article.

Bro. Tom Hoffman reported good progress in the programs underway in Mexico. It is hoped that there will be dedication of the new church building in Magdalena in early 2008. Opportunity is being given for collections in the churches to support this project. There is good progress on the new school being constructed in Ixtlan. Bro. Tom also shared the special blessing of three new converts in Ixtlan.

Support was given for Elder Bro. Mike Leman to assume the oversight of the churches in Mexico. Bro. Tom and Bro. Jon Kokanovich have a deep affection for these loved ones and will continue to give their support to this work.

Reports were also shared regarding the blessings as well as the challenges in the Lord's work in India and Japan. Bro. Wayne Banwart gave a report of ongoing activities of the World Relief Board.

Appreciation

The Committee is very grateful for the growing support in the Brotherhood for fulfillment of scriptural directives to present the Gospel to the lost, both financially and in willingness of brethren to serve. May the Lord add His blessings.



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

Distribution Centers

The World Relief Distribution Center Committee coordinates the overall operations of six distribution centers in the United States. These locations are Goodfield and Fairbury, Illinois; Wolcott and Bluffton, Indiana; Bay City, Michigan; and Sterling, Ohio.

Each distribution center has a local board and a coordinator. The centers receive material donations from individuals and corporations, including food products, medical supplies, clothing, and household items. These donations are distributed locally, shared with other centers for their local distribution or packaged and shipped internationally.



Western Indiana Center

Each center has specialized activities unique to their center. This article will focus on the work at the Western Indiana Distribution Center, located just north of Wolcott, IN which is supported by the churches of the area. This center is the result of an effort begun many years ago to make soap for various areas, and now includes both soap making and distribution of food, clothing, and other items.

Quilts, kits, and clothing assembly

During the winter months, clothing, quilt making, and assembly of health and school kits takes place in the Fellowship Hall at the Rem-

ington Church, only 7 miles from the Distribution Center. At the end of this season, the items are taken to Wolcott, where quilts have also been made and assembled, and from that center are distributed to various points throughout the U.S. and other nations as needs manifest themselves. There is ample storage in this building to hold these items until the need arises for further distribution.

Soap making

For many years the brethren at Wolcott have made soap in various facilities. Now this effort is conducted in a special area of this Distribution Center with equipment and facilities designed to process thousands of pounds of powdered and bar soap. Volunteers are coordinated by local brothers, and the soap is made during the months of January, February, and March, and then stored for distribution as needs arise.

During a normal year about 150,000 pounds of soap are made, much of which is molded into bars stating that this is given in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. This effort involves many people from a wide



area and has proven to be a great blessing to everyone involved. A large portion of the costs of this work is financed by the World Relief Committee. Reports are provided to the Committee as to the places of distribution. As needs

for soap in various areas develop, local brethren are informed and the product is prepared for the specific needs.

Food distribution

Several brothers have been given the responsibility to seek out and furnish food to soup kitchens, food pantries, and other groups that distribute food to the needy. This program has been stepped up within the last couple of years, and with an abundance of supplies, most of which come from the Midwest Food Bank, we are now supplying a substantial and increasing number of organizations.

The Lord provided a 1994 Ford Van that runs quite well and is getting good use in this service. There is a poor rural community about an hour from the facility. A load is taken to three locations there about twice a month. This is a blessing, not only for the recipients, but also for the volunteers who make this rewarding trip. They always come back refreshed because these people know how to use basic ingredients to make something out of very little. It is satisfying to see these products put to good use.

The building also contains a basic kitchen and an air-conditioned room. This is used for quilting and clothing sorting throughout the year. The Center has brought many blessings to various churches in this part of Indiana, and is being put to the best use possible at this time.

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APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

In the March issue of the Silver Lining was an excerpt of an article from the Ohio Coalition for the Education of Handicapped Children. The article is continued here, and an additional part will be included in the December issue. These words could apply to many of the residents at Timber Ridge.

I am the child who cannot walk. The world sometimes seems to pass me by. You see the longing in my eyes to get out of this chair, to run and play like the other children. There is much you take for granted. I want the toys on the shelf. I need to go to the bathroom, oh I've dropped my fork again. I am dependent on you in these ways. My gift to you is to make you aware of your great fortune, your healthy back and legs, your ability to do for yourself. Sometimes people appear not to notice me; I always notice them. I feel not so much envy as desire, desire to stand upright, to put one foot in front of the other, to be independent. I give you awareness. I am the child who cannot walk.

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

John Stoller

"And He said unto them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation." These were some of the last words of Jesus before He ascended to heaven.

At our July staff meeting, one of the staff members reported that they had received a letter from a girl that had been a resident at Gateway Woods over 10 years ago. This resident had been rebellious and had resisted authority almost the entire time she was at Gateway Woods. After staying with us for less than a year,

she ran away and was placed in a more restrictive environment. She wrote to us to thank us for caring for her and showing her the love of Jesus. She stated that even though she was with us for less than a year, what she learned will never be forgotten. God does not always grant the sower to see the harvest! Our prayers and your prayers go with the children long after they leave our care. Thank you for praying for the ministries of Gateway Woods.

I've heard it said that mission work starts at home. There are over 500,000 children in foster homes in the United States. We respect those that open their homes and hearts for the neglected and abused. Gateway Woods has been a home for such children for over 30 years in both foster care and in the group homes on campus as well as those children placed in homes through adoption. Without the financial support and prayers of the church, this work could not continue.

We thank you for the outpouring of love that you have shown to the children we serve through the benefits received from our annual auction! It's difficult to comprehend the countless hours that went into the sale items. We know that many of you sacrificed time and financial support so this "Labor of Love" can continue. The 2007 sale is history, and it was a great success. Again God has provided for us to continue the work that He has blessed in years past. May His blessings be upon each of you!

NEWS:

- We are very thankful to say that this year's 31st Annual Auction on Saturday, August 11, was an overwhelming success. We had a record number of supporters this year, representing over 67 of our Apostolic Christian Churches! God blessed us with over \$390,000 worth of dona-

tions! The Auction success would've been unthinkable without God's help, volunteer participation, and your support. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you for helping to sow "Seeds of Hope" in the lives of these children.

- We are very grateful to God for His continued provision at Gateway Woods. We are very thankful that He continues to provide us with the right staff. Because of our Adoption services expanding into Illinois, certain staff retiring, and other ministry opportunities, there are a number of service positions waiting to be filled. Please see the ads in this month's edition of The Silver Lining. We trust that God will continue to provide us with qualified, mature Brothers and Sisters who will be able to serve Him in a ministry that is Turning Lives Around. Perhaps this includes you!

- Since 1976, Gateway Woods, as an outreach of the Apostolic Christian Church of America, has served as a haven of love and hope for children and families in times of crisis. Our original service providing family-focused residential care for troubled teens is expanding again. Recent action by our Board and Elders opens the way for our 5th group home called the Pine House. Five reasons to build now are: The new Cypress group home was STAFFED and FILLED in record time, faster than we would have liked. All beds on campus are currently FULL. Public agency referrals to the Residential Program have DOUBLED in the past three years. Local social welfare agencies have asked Gateway Woods to INCREASE OUR CAPACITY to serve teen mothers. Gateway Woods has turned away 24 young people in the first six months of this year due to LACK OF SPACE. We are very thankful for this amazing opportunity to continue to

touch more lives. More information to come during the next few months!

-Both our Foster Care and Adoption Programs continue to remain very busy. As a result of new recruiting efforts there are currently over 20 foster children in 16 homes. We are thankful that God is encouraging parents to adopt and to become foster parents. Please continue to pray for these children as they adjust to their new families.

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

When scary things make you afraid,
you afraid, you afraid
When scary things make you afraid,
you can trust God.
He will take your fears away, fears
away, fears away
He will take your fears away, if you
trust God.

With our many new students in the past few weeks we have had some scared overwhelmed little faces. With lots of love and reassurance they have adjusted so well. It makes me smile listening to one of our students, Blake. He is four now and has been with us since he turned 2. He will take nearly every new student and tell them all that's going to happen through the day and all we get to do before mommy comes. It's interesting to me because when he started he had the hardest time getting used to preschool. After crying nearly every day all day for a week, he decided we weren't so bad after all. Now he loves it and doesn't want to go home at the end of the day. It just makes you feel so good to see children displaying compassion.

We have had a great start to the school year. The letters we have been

learning are A, B and C. In our classes we have had some fun tasting apples, making apple pie, playing balloon games, and baking cookies with chocolate chips.

**ALABAMA, ATHENS
Louise Hall**

It is always encouraging to see the Lord work in people's lives. Our congregation has been prayerful over the past few months for God to bring us a family to take care of our Tennessee Fellowship property. God is so faithful and we want to welcome Bro. Ryan and Sis. Hope Stoller from Fairbury, IL, along with their children, Braeden and Kiera. We are blessed to have them here. It is amazing what a difference the addition of one family can make to a small congregation. We know God will bless them for following His leading. Several in our congregation have had health concerns over the past few weeks. We pray for Roslyn Coulter (Bro. David and Sis. Barbara) and Rebecca Em (sister of Sis. Doris Moore). We know that God is the great healer and comforter.

"Fishers of Men" was our Vacation Bible School theme this year. It was a neat experience for the students and teachers alike learning more about the teachings of Jesus during His ministry.

Ministering Bro. Dan Moser and his wife, Sis. Anne (Elgin, IL), spent a weekend with us this past month. God's blessings be upon you for your willingness to serve.

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another."

1 John 4:11

We rejoice to see our fellowship hall being built. We are thankful for

the workers who are willing to work in the 110 degree heat, and most thankful for all that God provides.

Our annual Brother Conference was in August; how grateful we are that the head of our church is Christ! We are thankful to our Elders for their labors in His fold.

We were blessed by the ministries of Bro. John Wiegand (Silverton) and Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia).

Bro. Joe Hinrichsen moved to Washington D.C. where he will be attending school.

Our hospital patient this month was Bro. Herb Knochel.

**ARIZONA, PRESCOTT
Jane Hodges**

Sunday School classes resumed on August 5. The Lord has been gracious and has blessed our small congregation with five little souls in our youngest class.

Adelaye, Ayra and Ahna Furrer welcomed their new little brother, Caleb Daniel, born to Sis. Bethany and Bro. Dan on August 17. We thank the Lord that he was born safely and in good health.

We are also thankful for all the visitors this past month, including ministering Bros. Dale Frank (Sis. Christine, Oakville, IA), John Wiegand (Sis. Jane, Silverton, OR), and Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Debra, Peoria, IL). Our Elder Bro. John Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Phoenix) shared Communion exhortations with us on August 19.

**ARIZONA, TUCSON
Lisa Knapp**

It's that time of year again when our children have gone back to school and the lazy days of summer are over, even if our hot weather continues! This brings many changes to our little church. We were sad to see C.J.

Kaufman head back to Ohio for college to begin his junior year. We miss you already, C.J.! However, we are happy to welcome back Sis. Kaitlyn and Richelle Meiss from Phoenix who are beginning their sophomore and senior years, respectively. We also want to welcome Sis. Lauren Wiegand (Elder Bro. Ben and Sis. Michelle, Philadelphia) who is beginning her freshman year at the University of Arizona. We pray God will bless your time here with us, Sis. Lauren. There are a total of ten young men and women with connections to our little church at the University of Arizona this fall.

We are keeping Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline Kaufman and their family in our prayers as they learned of the death of Bro. Curt's father, Bro. John Kaufman, in Sabetha, KS. They and their children were able to attend the funeral services and have all safely returned home for which we are thankful.

We were privileged to attend the wedding of two very special people on August 3 as Carrie Kaufman became the bride of Travis Brown on a very warm summer evening. A family was formed that night as Carrie and Travis and their respective daughters, Grace and Lexie, started a new life together as a family unit. We pray God will richly bless them as they blend their lives together as one.

Our deacon, Bro. Herb Knochel (Phoenix, AZ), and his wife, Sis. Laurie, were with us recently for Sunday services. We thank them so much for their labor of love on our behalf. God bless you both!

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA **Tina Jackson**

Summertime here in Southern California usually means visitors from the Midwest. This year was no exception as we were blessed with

many travelers. Among them were visiting ministers, Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Dianne, Morton, IL), and Bro. Lenard Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL). We appreciate them traveling across the miles to visit and share the Word of God with us.

On Wednesday, August 1, Bro. Frank Sauder led us in a topical Bible study on 2 Corinthians chapter twelve. He encouraged us to remember that just as each of our hands is invaluable and rendered nearly useless without the other, so we in the Body of Christ all need each other to function properly and effectively. We appreciate his keen insights and challenge to us to work together for God's glory and our ultimate good.

On Sunday, August 5, Dr. and Mrs. Parkhe from RGGMI (Rural Gospel Medical Mission of India) shared information with our congregation about the work being done in India. We appreciate their willingness to share about the spread of the Gospel message in India.

On Wednesday night, August 15, Sis. Stephany Moser shared some of her experiences from her time spent in China, teaching students English and sharing God's love. She is a glowing testimony to the people of China, and each of us, of the joy of the Lord and His redeeming love. After sharing Holy Communion together, Sis. Stephany departed for another year's commitment in China. Our prayers and thoughts go with her as she witnesses the love of Christ to those in need of a Savior.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO **Yasmin Koehl**

The Lord has richly blessed our small congregation with a new addition! Following the promptings of the Holy Spirit and feeling the Lord's direction, Bro. Doug and Sis. Janelle

Brewer have relocated here from Peoria, IL. We warmly welcome them and praise God for His provision! We're already experiencing the blessings of having both of them in our midst and welcome them with open arms. We pray they may also find a blessing fellowshiping and being a part of our little flock here for as long as the Lord shares them with us.

We thank Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane, Silverton, OR) for giving of himself so freely as he shared the Word with us this month. May God's abundant blessings be upon him, his family and his service to the Lord.

KITCHENER, ONTARIO **CANADA** **Kim Leman**

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

Jeremiah 29:11

We continue to be blessed by the ministers who come to serve us from the pulpit. We appreciated the labors of Bros. Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit, MI), Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL), John Hartman (Sis. Rosemary, Fairbury, IL), and Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT), and also Elder Bros. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) and Art Nohl (Sis. Sandra, Morris, MN).

We are thankful for our Elder brothers who care for the flock and watch for our souls. May we give earnest heed to their warnings, and follow as faithful sheep, looking to our Shepherd, Jesus Christ.

COLORADO, DENVER **Ann Gonglach**

Another busy summer is over, and we appreciate our many visitors and visiting ministers who took time out

of their vacations to worship and fellowship with us. Recent visiting ministers have been Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN), Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Bro. Dave Hartter (Sis. Beth, Sabetha, KS), Bro. Joe Dotterer (Sis. Rose, Bloomfield, IA) and Bro. Tom Baylor (Sis. LaNae, Rockville, CT).

We bid farewell to Bro. Eric, Sis. Marcel and Tucker Huber who have moved to Austin, Texas, after living in Colorado for over 20 years. We will miss them and wish them God's blessings and continued leading in their lives.

We're glad to have Sis. Maggie Schrenk from Gridley, IL, with us. She is planning to work in Denver for the next few months.

Students are heading back to school. Let's remember to pray for them as they are sure to face many different challenges.

In this life, all of us have varying difficulties and trials. It helps to remember "that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28)

O, willingly endure!
For God's Word doth assure
That thou shouldst suffer still,
According to His will.
To suffer as God wills
Our life's design fulfills;
It leads to God's domain,
Christ's likeness to attain.
Zion's Harp, #156

**CONNECTICUT
ROCKVILLE
Laura Virkler
Amber Reutter**

Greetings! Another summer has come and gone. We have been so blessed with many visitors throughout the past month. For this we are so thankful. We welcome you each one into our area! We are also thankful for

Bro. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi, Wolcott, IN) for ministering to us this past month. May God bless his labors.

We have had several loved ones pass away throughout this past month. Sis. Lora Zahner passed away peacefully, leaving behind her beloved husband, Bro. Ed. Their son, Craig, Mary, and grandchildren, will greatly miss the example of this godly woman. Sis. Michelle Virkler (Bro. Wayne) lost her Aunt Vera Trela. Our friend, John Dombek (Hazel, dec.), was laid to rest recently. His children include John (Vicki), Paul (Beth), Sis. Jane Moser (Bro. Jim), Stanley (Bonnie), and Bob (Sis. Lorraine). Bro. Gardy Moreau (Sis. Suzanne) lost his father, Gregoire Moraud, within the last few weeks. We pray that these families will continue to feel our love and prayers.

It was an encouragement to hear that the Conference was a blessing, and an uplifting experience to all that were able to attend. We are so grateful for all the efforts the Bluffton congregation made on behalf of the many visitors. We are thankful as well for the tremendous amount of time and effort all of the Elders have made for the welfare of our Faith.

"For this God is our God forever and ever: He will be our guide even unto death."

Psalms 48:14

Our congregation has certainly felt the guidance of the Lord throughout this past month. Whether through joy or sorrow, sickness or health, encouragement or a humbling experience, the Lord has touched our hearts at a very personal level. May we continue to pray for one another as we strive onward.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

"All things work together for good to them that love God."

Romans 8:28

Normally we like for our caretakers to commit to a month, but both Sis. Luann Martin from Princeville and Bro. Ernie and Sis. Freida Aberle from Tremont could not give the entire month of August, but their times complimented each other so we get to know even more folks.

Ministers serving us this month were Bro. Shawn Metzger (Sis. Sandy, Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Sis. Sharon, Bay City, MI), Bro. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH), and Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA).

Other visitors were from Congerville, Fairbury, Forrest, Roanoke, Princeville and Bloomington, IL; West Bend and Lester, IA; Rockville, CT; and Phoenix, AZ. We are glad to have so many vacationers while we locals are also on vacation.

We will probably see visitors from Phoenix more often as Bro. Joe Hinrichsen has moved to this area to further his education. Welcome, Bro. Joe.

Directions to our new location depend on which way you are coming. The best suggestion is to contact the folks listed below or the contact in the minister's book for detailed directions; we have the directions near our phones. Due to the limited parking in the residential area, we need to know ahead of time how many visitors we will have. We may need to arrange for off-site parking.

If you are planning to visit Washington, D.C. area for vacation or business, please contact Bro. Joe and Sis. Holly Bohart at jbohart@gmail.com or Sis. Henrietta Meyer at (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 grateful to have visiting ministers, Bro. Ron Jones (Portland, OR), Bro. Gene Lehman (Sis. Verna, Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Cory Metzger (Sis. Jodi, Wichita, KS), this past month.

“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching.”

Romans 12:6-7

Our prayer and belief is that God will bless His ministering servants. Bro. Gene gave a presentation of some of the Eastern Europe projects. Our prayers are for God's comfort to be with Bro. Ed and Sis. Vi Gerber whose sister-in-law, Gladys Gerber, recently passed away.

As our students are preparing to begin their fall semester, we pray that God would guide them and keep them close as they pursue this next chapter in their lives.

**FLORIDA
NORTH FORT MYERS
Naomi Vogel**

We find ourselves wondering what God has in store for us the next few months with hurricanes forming and heading our way. We are relieved that “Dean” seems to be staying to the south of us, but then we find ourselves feeling sorry for those who are in dan-

ger, including some of our brothers and sisters who are serving our God in these areas. Let's remember those victims in our prayers!

Our summer attendance continues to be sparse, but we are surprised with unexpected visitors just about every Sunday. We miss our dear Sis. Sarah Hunyady who is unable to worship with us. May God keep you in His care and comfort you, Sis. Sarah!

We were saddened when we learned of the death of Sis. Teresa Bruellman's father in Iowa. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Larry, Sis. Teresa and their family!

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA
DiAnne Brown
Robin Wiegand**

God be with you till we meet again;
'Neath His wings protecting hide
you

Daily manna still provide you
God be with you till we meet again.

Hymns of Zion, #216

This month we found ourselves saying “Not goodbye, but until we meet again” to some very beloved sisters and brothers in the faith.

Over the summer we have enjoyed the company of Bro. Ned Troxel while he participated in a college internship in Orlando. We were fortunate to spend time with him and our young group really enjoyed having him with them. We wish Ned many blessings as he continues his education and hope his travels bring him back to Sarasota in the future.

Sis. Colleen Reardon has accepted a new position that required her moving to Jacksonville, FL, this month. She has been such a big blessing to our congregation and we will miss her helping hands in so many ways. Mostly, we are grateful she will travel to worship with us regularly and wish her well with her new endeavor.

Bro. Jeremy Calame has moved to Tampa to begin working on his Master's degree. While he is only an hour “down the road” and will continue to be with us each Sunday, we will miss him being a couple of minutes away. We will pray for him as his life takes many new roads, including his marriage to Sis. Elizabeth Rieker on November 11 at the Peoria Church.

We also bid farewell to Sis. Deborah Sauder. Debbie graduated from Florida Hospital (M.D. – Family Practice) in July. While still calling Orlando home, she will be working as an interim physician the rest of this year in Arizona and New Mexico. We will miss her greatly and eagerly await her return.

With the small number of permanent residents at our congregation, these leavings are especially noteworthy. This month we were reminded that each one plays an important part of the “whole” worship experience. There are no small duties in the body of Christ. The hands holding a newborn so a mother can enjoy the service, someone sitting with an elderly member who usually sits alone, those who prepare the bread we break together each week and those who clear it away, those who clean God's house, he who leads the worship or song, the one who lifts another in prayer, she who finds time to visit with someone who lives alone, and those who teach Sunday school... it all works together to build our church and none would be successful by itself. Each of these is as great as the other...in the eyes of our Lord.

We have enjoyed cooler weather than we have seen in the Midwest over the past weeks, but now must be vigilant in our hurricane preparedness. We have seen “Erin” flood the southern U.S. and “Dean” menacing Mexico at this writing and know our turn could be coming. While we have a healthy concern for these storms,

we remember the mighty hand that guides it all, and we should know without a doubt if the "big one" does come our way where we will spend eternity. This is the most important preparation we can make.

God be with you till we meet again.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Melinda Gramm

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

Psalm 19:1

Our Sunday school children and several of our congregation were blessed to be a part of a VBS weekend held in the Smoky Mountains. Bro. Randy Gudeman (Sis. Becky) ministered to us on faith, first to have the "saving faith", and then to continue in our Christian walk having a "living faith". We enjoyed the beauty of the mountains, campfire singing and Christian fellowship.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth, Wolcott, IN), Bro. Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL) and Bro. Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH).

We said farewell to Joshua Lindberg, son of Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg. Joshua is relocating to Roanoke, IL, for employment and we pray for God's guidance and direction in his life.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Doreen Moser
Sheila McCoy

Trust and Obey, for there's no other way...

Teachers we were given this month
Readers of God's Holy Word

Unity of the brethren was preached
Sharing of the love of the Lord was proclaimed
Touching the hearts of the believers and hopefully those still lost in sin

Trusting the Lord and the power of His Word, Bro. Gerald Wagenbach (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Wayne Leman (Roanoke, IL), along with their families, spent a recent Sunday amongst the Belvidere congregation.

Obeying the Spirit's call
Brethren and Bible class went to Magdalena
Everyone did their share
Yes, the love of the Lord was shown

Obeying the call of the Lord and providing much needed labor for the mission work in Mexico, the Sunday school shared their pictures and a meal with us this month. So much progress can be made with many willing hands and loving hearts.

May we TRUST the Lord as we send our children off to school in whatever grade they may be in and may our children OBEY their teachers and their Lord as they strive to attain their goals.

Our lives here on earth could be so simple if we could just Trust and Obey every step of the way - denying self and looking above - The Lord has the answers, we need to be patient and trust He will answer our prayers in His time, not ours.

To be happy in Jesus, but to Trust and Obey.

ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Jen Heiniger
Betsy Zimmerman

We enjoyed having Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Masters (Ft. Myers, FL) home for the summer. Bro. Bill

shared in the pulpit duties several times during his visit.

We rejoice with three new converts in our congregation. They are Evan Greiner and Brett Greiner (Bro. Doug and Sis. Jean) and Allison Metz (Bro. Brad and Sis. Karen).

We have several new babies and grandbabies in our congregation. Kabir and Lisa Rattan welcomed their first child, Joy Elisa, on June 25. Her grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Jeannine Mariani. Congratulations to Bro. Andy and Sis. Marla Hodel on the birth of their daughter, Nicole Isabella, on July 17. Welcoming Nicole are big sisters, Kaitlyn and Abigail, and grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine Hodel and Bro. Loris and Sis. Pat Knobloch (Peoria). Bro. Ryan and Sis. Amber Prevo welcomed their first child, Ava Cherise, on August 9. Her grandparents are Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev Bahr (Detroit) and Bro. Mike and Sis. Barb Prevo (Gridley). Elle Adalyn joined the family of Bro. David "Tater" and Sis. Haley Kieser on August 12. She joins big brother Landon. Her grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Wilma Kieser and Bro. Doug and Sis. Gerry Kruse (Morton). Bro. Dave and Sis. Brenda Kaeb added a grandson to their family. Jackson Timothy was born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Christa Wiegand (Leo) on July 9. Bro. Ben and Sis. Mary Daily also have a new granddaughter. Chloe Margaret was born to Clayton and Natalie Daily on July 13.

We said a fond farewell to Sis. Lindsay Gramm as she is moving back to her hometown in Minnesota. May God bless her new endeavors.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Philip and Donna Nenadov

"How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth

good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth Salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God Reigneth!"

Isaiah 52:7

We are thankful that these visiting ministers did bring the good tidings of Salvation to our congregation this month. Bros. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Lisa, Eureka), Beirne Messner (Sis. Joyce, Morris), Darrel Stoller (Sis. Gloria, Bern), and Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend) were willing to spend themselves on our behalf. We are always thankful when we have visiting ministers and invite these brothers to feed us from the Word of Life.

Sis. Teresa Gudeman (Bro. Brad) was our hospital patient this month. We wish her the Lord's nearness at this time of healing. Those of us who have ever been hospitalized can appreciate the opportunity to receive our strength and freedom again.

We trust that our Elder brothers felt the presence of the Holy Spirit as they gathered in Bluffton, IN, for the annual Brotherhood Conference. May they continue to lean on the Word of God as they continue to strive to lead the church towards our heavenly goal.

We thank Bro. Steve Endress for his labors of love as he has finished his term as our Silver Lining Correspondent.

God be with you 'til we meet again.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO **Rachel Meyer**

Greetings from Chicago. We were blessed this past month by several visiting ministers. Our sincere thanks goes to Elder Bros. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), John Laukhuf (Latty, OH), Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN), and Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA). Bro. Darren Price

(Milford, IN) also shared the Word with us. Thank you and may God bless all.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to several in our congregation who have lost loved ones. Sis. Julie Westfall (Bro. Dave) laid to rest her mother, Marjorie Brooks. Greg Carder (Rachel) said farewell to his grandfather, James Bolton; and Sis. Rachel Meyer (Bro. Rick) said goodbye to her grandmother, Sis. Arlene Stock (Bro. Les, Cissna Park). The passing of these dear ones stands as a constant reminder that there is no continuing city here. Let's remember to keep these dear families in prayer as they adjust to changes.

Allison Rager and Julie Eisenmann have started their repentance and walk with the Lord. We rejoice with these young ladies and their parents, Bro. Kent and Sis. Jill, and Bro. Brad and Sis. Cindy, respectively. What a blessing this is for their families and our congregation.

We are happy to welcome convert Julie Herold to our Chicago church family. We are thankful to have Julie with us and pray she may feel at home in our congregation.

Sis. Carrie Stoller has agreed to serve as a new Sunday School teacher starting in September. Thank you, Sis. Carrie, for being willing to teach the children about Jesus and His love.

On July 26 and 27 we were blessed to host Elder meetings at church. We thank everyone who helped with the meetings.

Our Bro. Dale shared a Topical Bible Study entitled, "Spirit-Filled vs. Self-Willed" on August 15. We thank him for this message.

Over the summer, I spent time with many young children in a summer camp. Their honesty and lack of self-consciousness is refreshing – and they truly enjoy talking. One day during play time, a dear 6-year-old boy turned to me and said, "Did you know

that we come from apes?" Taken by surprise, I paused, not wanting to contradict his parents yet not willing to deny God as our Maker. So we had a chance to talk a little and then he was on to his next subject.

My prayer is that someday soon that little boy will know without a doubt that God made him and everything he sees. That sweet little boy touched my heart that day...and I feel immeasurably blessed that I have been taught to believe, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth..." (Genesis 1:1).

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN **Jackie Eisenmann**

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

Acts 3:19

Joshua Schumacher (Bro. Greg and Sis. Shelle) has started his walk with the Lord. We rejoice to hear of his repentance and our prayers are with Joshua.

"And of some have compassion, making a difference"

Jude 1:22

Wednesday, July 25, Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) and Bro. John Knobloch (Morton, IL) were with us to give us a presentation on the Apostolic Christian Services. It was a very interesting evening for all of us, even for our children that were with us. We pray that God will bless all of the efforts of love and compassion that go into serving the less fortunate and making a difference in their lives.

We were blessed by visiting ministers who came to help out on the pul-

pit this month. Bro. Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL) served us on Sunday, July 29. Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL) worshipped with us the next Sunday, August 5. We thank them both for their efforts and ask that God would bless them for their ministry.

“Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble.

Psalms 41:1

Our church held a World Relief work week August 14 – August 18. This gave many of us the opportunity to serve others in our community that are less fortunate. Work included home maintenance and repair projects.

We have been prayerful for our Elders as they gathered at the summer Conference. We appreciate the many countless hours they spend on our behalf. May God richly bless each one!

Our little church is looking forward to the arrival of three couples who plan to move to our community in the next few weeks. We look forward to them worshipping with us and wish them God’s blessings and guidance as He is directing changes in their lives.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Pam Walder

Janie Waldbeser

Babies are truly a blessing from Heaven above! We have three new grandbabies to report this month. Urban and Sis. Judy Edelman have a new grandson, Evan Jacob Haas, born to Sally and Jerrold Haas of Fairbury; Bro. Arlyn and Sis. LaNae Rudin have added another granddaughter, Ailey Nicole Leman, born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Traci Leman (Eureka, IL); and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Gloria Laubscher are grandparents to little Isaac Wayne Heinold, born to

Bro. Thadd and Sis. Elizabeth Heinold (Morton, IL).

Hospital patients this month include Bro. Alvin (Sis. Dorothy) Rudin, Bro. Eldon (Sis. Melba) Steffen, James Kaufman, and Bro. Ken (Sis. Sharon) Eisenmann. Bro. Eldon Steffen is now at Asta Care Nursing Home in Paxton, and Bro. Max Yergler is at Heartland Nursing Home in Paxton. We continue to pray for these loved ones, and commit them to our Lord’s care and keeping, that He will heal and strengthen them as is His will.

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

Matthew 5:4

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost loved ones this past month. We extend our sympathy to the family of David Hofbauer of Rankin. He was the brother of our Sis. Caroline Gudeman and brother-in-law of our Sis. Mary Hofbauer. Also our dear Sis. Arlene Stock was called from this life into eternity. She leaves her beloved husband, Bro. Lester; four sons, Steve (Lori) Stock of Towanda, Stanley (BJ) Stock of Danville, Elder Bro. Tom (Sis. Karol) Stock and Ed (Dawn) Stock, both of Cissna Park; and three daughters, Sis. Gloria (Bro. Wayne) Laubscher of Cissna Park, Sis. Pat (Bro. Morris) Young of Elgin, IL, and Donna (Kurt) Mitchell of Champaign. She had 22 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Also surviving Sis. Arlene is her sister-in-law, Rosie Martin, of our congregation. May God’s comforting hand be upon each dear one who has lost those near and dear to them.

Bro. Eldon and Sis. Melba Steffen’s daughter, Terri, was married to Tom Young on June 9 at Red Rock in Colorado.

This is the time of the year that our children and young adults will be

heading off to school or college. We pray a special prayer for them, that God will watch over them and give them sound minds that they may make good choices in this life, and always trust in God to direct their every path.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Rachel Schrock

If we took an old-time balance, put weights on one side that represent the instructions given in the Bible, would the other side be in balance if we filled it with the weights representing the fruits of these instructions that we exhibit in our lives and church? If not, with what have we replaced these Biblical instructions? Are we watering down the Word of God? These were questions asked of us during a recent sermon, causing us to reflect deeply upon our spiritual lives.

We are grateful for our brethren who help us to keep our lives focused on Christ and His Word. Our visiting ministering brethren this past month included Bros. Gene Lehman (Sis. Verna, Wolcott), Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha), Paul Kilgus (Sis. Carmen, Fairbury), and Wayne Wiegand (Sis. Rosemary, Goodfield).

Our elderly brethren also have much wisdom that they can impart if we but ask them. When they have gone on to their Heavenly rest, we miss them. Our prayers are with the family of Bro. Glenn Knapp (Sis. Jeanette) as he went to be with his Lord on July 15.

As some leave this world, others are born. Bro. James and Sis. Carrie Tate welcomed Mary Lynn on July 25. She is being shown much love by her siblings, Jonathan, David, and Catherine.

There are so many reasons to rejoice – from souls being released to the joys of Heaven to the miracle of a new soul being born into this world to the

blessing of souls turning their lives to Christ. Dawn and Heather Knepp (Bro. Doug and Sis. Lynnette) recently recognized their need for salvation. We pray that they can experience God's nearness as they begin to walk upon the narrow path of life.

Note of Thanks:

Words cannot express our deep appreciation and heartfelt thanks for all the prayers and deeds of kindness shown to us during Glenn's hospital stay, time in the Apostolic Christian Home, and since his passing from this life. Your love and support has been such a comfort during this time. May God bless each and every one of you.

In His Love,
The Glenn Knapp family

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

**Amy Gasser
Miriam Gasser**

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

Psalms 127:3

It has been a joy to see another new babe brought to church in his mother's arms. Bro. Eric and Sis. Erica Humbracht became first-time parents of little Jadin Isaiah on July 20. His grandparents are Bro. Les and Sis. Alison Schambach and Lyndon (Susan) Humbracht and Phoebe Hayes. Sis. Kay Kellenberger has assumed Sis. Erica's remaining term in Sunday School.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held July 29 at the Fellowship Center. The following week, teachers and students met for Vacation Bible School. Along with our students, parents, and local teachers who contributed to this effort, we thank the

ministers who came from a distance: Bros. Matthew Rassi (Chicago, IL), Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL), and Ed Sauder (Roanoke, IL). On Wednesday evening, Bro. Ed presented a special all-church program entitled "Lessons from the Mountain."

Two of our young couples have felt directed to relocate: Bro. Travis and Sis. Jaclyn Blunier to Champaign, IL; and Bro. Keith and Sis. Emily Schambach to Magdalena, MX. They will be missed by family and friends alike. We wish them well, as they establish roots in their new communities.

Bro. Delbert Schmidt (Sis. Jeanette) was a hospital patient this month, and Sis. Marie Hugh had surgery. She spent some time at Rosewood Care Center but was recently able to return home. Please keep her in your prayers.

Loved ones in our congregation have again suffered loss in the deaths of family members. Sis. Louise and Sis. Lenore Steffen's sister, Rosemary Rechkemmer, passed away in Tarpon Springs, FL. Sis. LeAnn Schambach (Bro. Don) laid to rest her dear mother, Sis. Edna Banwart, of West Bend, IA. Recently, Sis. Pat Young (Bro. Morris) also bade farewell to her beloved mother, Sis. Arlene Stock, of Cissna Park, IL. May the One who knows all about our sorrows gently soothe each aching heart.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Cindy Stoller
Heather Beutel**

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

Psalms 127:3

Bro. Merle and Sis. Rachel Stoller became parents with the birth of their son, Corbin Joe. Grandparents are

Bro. Stan and Sis. Lola Stoller and Bro. Mark and Sis. Benita Bahler (Remington, IN). Welcoming little Kaiya Leigh are first-time parents, Bro. Randy and Sis. Lindsay Huber. Kaiya's grandparents are Bro. Gary Huber and Karen Huber and Bro. Mark and Sis. Carolyn Hoerr. We wish these young parents God's guidance and wisdom to "train up a child in the way he should go."

As in God's time, babies are born; so in God's time His children are called home to Heaven. Our dear retired minister, Bro. Vernon Leman, went to be with the Lord on August 7. We extend our sympathy to his three sons, Gene (Kedge, South Dakota), Howard (Diane, Champaign, IL), and Bro. Keith (Sis. Dort, Goodfield, IL). Then on August 20, our dear Bro. Lewis Martin was called home after battling bodily afflictions. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Sis. Arletta; and his children, Sis. Teresa Schieler (Bro. Brian, Goodfield, IL), Bro. Bruce (Sis. Sheri), Sis. Tina Wiegand (Bro. Brian), Sis. Tami Vierling (Bro. Eric), Sis. Teri Vierling (Bro. Brian) and Sis. Tarla Gibbs (Steve, Peoria, IL). Also, we extend our sympathy to his siblings, Sis. Helen Wiegand (Bro. Bob), Bro. Nelson (Sis. MaryEllen) and Bro. Lester (Sis. Ruth). Then, too, our dear Bro. Herman Baer finished his race and we have a hope these souls are all together in Heaven. We pray for his dear wife, Sis. Mary, and all his loved ones.

Our visiting ministers this past month include Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL), and Bros. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Dan Beer (Milford, IN), Floyd Frieden (Elgin, IA), Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Nate Wieland (Goodfield, IL), Richard Gramm (South Bend, IN), and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL). We appreciate them giving of themselves so willingly.

We are thankful to hear of the engagement of Bro. Jared Ehnle (Bro. Gary and Sis. Carole) and Sis. Marsha Stoller (Bro. Stan and Sis. Lola). We pray they will feel the Lord's nearness and blessings as their two lives blend into one.

On August 19, Bro. Jarod Leman (Bro. Chris and Sis. Marlene) and Sis. Heidi Schmidgall (Bro. Paul and Sis. Kris) were united in marriage. We wish them God's richest blessings in their union.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have been hospitalized or are seeking treatment for various reasons. They include Sis. Gretchen Zimmerman (Bro. Mike), Sis. Marge Rocke (Bro. Rich), Phil McCanless (Wilma), Bro. Dietz Wiegand (Sis. Loretta), Bro. Ben Ehnle (Sis. Audrey) and Ann Leddergerber (Dan).

Last, but certainly not least, we are thankful for the beginning of repentance in the lives of Amy Sinn (Mark) and Ernie Wiegand (Dale and Sis. Friedora). We wish them much grace and humility to submit to and follow our loving Saviour, all the way to peace and Heaven. Oh, how we pray for many more to follow!

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Elisabeth Fehr

Anna Schmidgall

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Dale Mowery's family as he passed from this life to eternity. We will miss his smile and joy in the Lord that so quickly shone forth. He leaves behind his wife, Sis. Elaine, and sons Lance, Brent, and Chase. Sis. Kathryn (Kaisner) Gerber also passed away this month. She resided at Fairview Haven. Two loved ones from our congregation laid away parents. Sis. Lila Fehr (Bro. Anthony), Landon and Levi said farewell to her father, Gene Schmidt (Winthrop, MN). Bro. Dale Banwart (Sis. Donna) and family also bid farewell to his

mother, Sis. Edna Banwart (West Bend, IA). We lift these dear families up to our Heavenly Father in prayer.

Bro. Bruce, Sis. Bev, Lori, Evan, and Ashley Young welcome Tyler Henry to their family circle. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Norman and Sis. Lollie Young and Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane Steidinger.

We appreciate the labors of Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Morris, MN) as he brought forth God's Word to us.

Our congregation will miss Bro. Ryan, Sis. Hope Stoller, and family as they have moved to the Athens, AL, area. We pray for God's nearness and guidance in their lives.

Bro. Ned Bahler has been elected to serve in Sunday School teaching our youth. We are thankful for every teacher as they share God's love with the children.

Sis. Darlene Steidinger spent time in the hospital and we are thankful she is assembling with us again.

We look forward to hearing the recording of the Brotherhood Conference recently held in Bluffton, IN. We pray for our Elder brothers as they labor together for our benefit.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Jill Wenger

Lori Leman

Two families in our congregation have had to say farewell to loved ones this month. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Mike and Sis. Jeanette Zimmerman and their family as Sis. Jeanette's mother, Ruby Rayson, passed away. We also extend our sympathy to Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber in the passing of his stepmother, Sis. Kathryn Gerber (Fairbury, IL).

Justin William has come to bless the home of Marcus and Bethany Aberle. His grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Laverne Aberle and Kevin and Laurie Edelman. May God grant Marcus and Bethany much

grace and wisdom to raise their dear son to know of God and His ways.

Our prayers have been with several in our congregation who have spent time in the hospital this month. We pray that God will grant His healing strength to Isaac Steidinger (James and Sis. Marlene), Sis. Edna Wiegand (Bro. Paul), and Bro. Larry Bachman (Sis. Donna).

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who have shared with us the Word of Life. May God bless Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Elder Bro. Art Metz (Silverton, OR), Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH), Bro. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), and Bro. Don Sinn (Silverton, OR) for their willingness to be used in His vineyard.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Rita Bauman

Amber Grimm

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

Kristen Davis (Bro. Noel and Sis. Molly) and Adam Leman (Bro. Terry and Sis. Shirley, Eureka, IL) were married on August 11. May God bless their union and be with them in their new life together. Leisa Maloney (Randy and Sis. Dawn) was engaged to Luke Wuthrich (Bro. Mark and Sis. Cheryl, Morton, IL). They are planning an October 27 wedding. Abbie Rocke (Mark and Connie) and Tyler Getz (Bro. Tim and Sis. Kim) were also engaged, and they are planning a February 9 wedding. We pray that God will be with both of these couples as they prepare for their weddings.

Thus it is our Saviour's pleasure,
as His footprints plainly show.
May God's love, our greatest treasure,

richly every heart bestow.

Our prayers are with Bro. Tadd, Sis. Jill, and their daughter, Laynie Gerst, as she was hospitalized again this month. We pray for healing and God's continued strength in their lives.

We are also prayerful for the families of Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Lewis Martin (Eureka, IL) who passed away this month. Goodfield connections are Bro. Keith Leman (Sis. Dort), who is a son of Bro. Vernon; Sis. Teresa Schieler (Bro. Brian) who is a daughter of Bro. Lewis, and Sis. Verna Hartter (Bro. Richard) who is a sister of Bro. Lewis. We pray for comfort and peace in their loss.

Only He is called a brother
whom the tie of love does bind;
And the love of God, the Father,
fillet soul and heart and mind.

We are always so thankful for our visiting ministers. Special thanks to Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL) and Bro. Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO) who were with us this month. May God continue to work through His servants.

With the love of God inspired,
there is joy for us on earth;
May the Spirit, we've acquired,
grant us blessing, peace, and mirth.

Clayton Monfre (Tony and Deonne) was announced for peace on August 26. We are so thankful that God continues to work in the lives of converts and look forward to his baptism.

God has been faithful in bringing two new babies into our congregation. We rejoice with Bro. Josh and Sis. Carolyn Knapp in the birth of their son, Jude Joshua, on August 10. Jude is also welcomed home by his brother, Job, and his sister, Gabrielle.

We also rejoice with Joe and Abbie Tabor in the birth of their son, Brennan James, on August 15.

Erin Davis has accepted a position for mission work in Jamaica with World Relief. Our prayers are with her, and may she be blessed for her servant heart.

We are thankful to be able to listen to the Conference tapes. May God be glorified in all that we hear.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

On August 26, four souls were taken into the fold, following proving and baptism. They were Bro. Curt Wettstein, and Sisters Courtney Funk, Sarah Drake and Rachel Young. These four gave sincere testimonies on their calling, and subsequently finding grace and peace in the Lord Jesus. Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO) was here for the occasion. Also present was Bro. Dennis Kaufman (Bloomington).

On August 12, Bros. Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO) and Bruce Endress (Bradford, IL) were visiting ministers. Bro. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN) also labored here at Gridley during August. May God bless these brothers, now and in all eternity.

Sis. Marjorie Schlipf, 91, passed away on August 3. She was the widow of Bro. Elmer Schlipf. He had passed away on April 28, 1992. They were married for 39 years. She is survived by two sons, Ed Schlipf, (Lancaster, CA) and Bro. Steve Schlipf (Gridley); one daughter, Sis. Kathy Wyss (Washington); and one brother, Bro. Bill Romersberger (Gridley); also, ten grandchildren. Sis. Marge possessed a quiet friendliness, and a gracious reserve and godliness when we greeted her in church. We will all miss her.

Sunday School began in late August. Serving as Superintendent this

year will be Bro. Brandon Endress. Assistant superintendent will be Bro. Eric Zehr. We wish much grace to each and every teacher — and to each parent who can thence supplement their teaching on a day to day basis at home. It is gratifying to realize that the one big hope for our youth, in these days of moral decline and drift, is the foundation found in the Bible, and the salvation it offers in Christ Jesus.

Sis. Natalie Stoller became engaged to Bro. Tom Hoerr, III of Bloomington. She is the daughter of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Elaine Stoller. His parents are Bro. Tom, II and Sis. Rebecca Hoerr (Peoria). Lord willing, they plan to be married on January 13, 2008.

Bro. Tom Miller again underwent surgery for skin cancer, and the physician gave him a promising report. Sis. Rosemary Gramm also had surgery.

We extend our sympathy to John Yoder over the passing of his mother, Zetta Yoder, 86, of Forrest on August 26.

ILLINOIS, MORTON Annette Tanner Julie Bahr

Morton had several visiting ministers worship with us this past month. Bro. Stephen Baner (Sis. Donnalou, Gridley) offered himself to speak at our Family Worship Night. His topic was "Reading the Word". Other ministers included Bro. Glenn Funk (Wichita), Bro. Bill Schick (Magdalena), Bro. Tim Roecker (Peoria), Bro. Scott Schaefer (South Bend) and Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington). Thank you for sharing the scriptures with us. We appreciate you!

On July 30, Sis. Debbie (Bro. Scott) Warner's mother passed away. Her mother was Jean Smith. Our

sympathy is extended also to our Sis. Rhonda Gerst's family. Sis. Rhonda passed away on July 31, after a seemingly short bout with cancer. Three sisters and one brother survive; Sis. Helen (Bro. Paul) Michel, Sis. Janet Gerst, Marilyn (Cliff) Kaufman and Wayne (Jolene) Gerst.

God has been gracious to bless several families of Morton with additions to their family unions. Sis. Abi Witzig and Bro. Jimmy Huber have announced their desire to become one in Christ. Sis. Abi is the daughter of Bro. Phil and Sis. Cindi Witzig. Bro. Jimmy is the son of Bro. Jim and Sis. Jean Huber, Peoria.

Another exciting engagement announcement made known was of Bro. Dane Zeller to Sis. Kim Dill, Tremont. Bro. Dane is the son of Bro. Will and Sis. Dannelle Zeller. Sis. Kim is the daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Anne Dill, Tremont.

Sis. Heather Rassi and Bro. Trent Barth solemnized their wedding vows on August 26. Sis. Heather is the daughter of Sis. Deb and Bro. Gary Rassi. Bro. Trent is the son of Bro. Jim and Sis. Julie Barth, Washington.

Little Elle Adalyn came into the hearts and home of Bro. Tater and Sis. Haley Kieser and big brother Landon. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Doug and Sis. Gerry Kruse and Bro. David and Sis. Wilma Kieser, Bloomington.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA
Carissa Klopfenstein
Kristin Menold

Greetings, Brothers, Sisters, and Friends! It's hard to believe but summer is over and it's time for school again. Whatever your situation in life, be it student, parent, or grandparent, remember, God is with you and will help you face every day with courage and candor.

The Peoria congregation wishes to

thank Bro. Mike Rieker for speaking at our Family Night on July 18. We are grateful for the effort you put into this and the countless hours you have given for our congregation. May God bless you and your family.

The Peoria Young Group wishes to thank all who prayed for the Young Group retreat, which was held at the Old School Center in Farmington, IL, on Saturday, July 21. Those who attended felt the speaker and activities were uplifting and an encouragement in their walk with the Lord.

Congratulations to Sis. Erin and Bro. Sam Sauder who were married in Peoria on May 20. Sis. Erin is the daughter of Bro. Dennis and Sis. Cindy Aupperle of Peoria, and Bro. Sam is the son of Bro. Tom and Sis. Mary Sue Sauder from Roanoke. We wish you God's blessings as you begin your lives together.

On Sunday, August 5, Bro. Jimmy Huber, son of Bro. Jim and Sis. Jean Huber of Peoria, was announced for engagement to Sis. Abi Witzig, daughter of Bro. Phil and Sis. Cindi Witzig of Morton. Their wedding is scheduled for November 18.

We wish to thank Bro. Erik Givens (Princeville, IL) for speaking at our Family Night on August 1. His message was inspiring and convicting and we thank him for sharing with us.

The Peoria AC World Relief has been helping the South Side Mission to remodel their apartments, an ongoing project that has taken several weeks to complete. Thank you to everyone who has helped to do this. Your work is greatly appreciated.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Bro. Clarence Herman who passed away this past month. We pray for the quick recovery of Bro. Steve Suttor, who was in a bicycle accident, and for improved health for Sis. Mabel Weber, Bro. Walter Feucht, Sis. Ruth Huthmann, and Bro. Wayne Wieland.

Before we conclude this month's edition, we would like to share a few verses that have been meaningful to us.

"Nevertheless I am continually with thee: thou hast holden me by my right hand. Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but thee? And there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee."

Psalm 73:23-25

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE
Connie Christ
Vera Baer

"Haste and seek your soul's salvation; heed the Word of God today!"

Zion's Harp #52

Lena Christ (Bro. Kurt and Sis. Connie) and Brooke Streitmatter (Bro. David and Sis. Crystal) have heeded God's call. We rejoice with them and their families that they have started on the straight and narrow way.

Bro. Rod and Sis. Cathy Stahl are also rejoicing. Kassie Lyn was born July 24. She was welcomed home by her brothers and sisters, Kelsie, Kendall, Kristi, Kaylie, Kourtney, and Kami. Also giving thanks are her grandparents, Jan Hoehn and Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty Stahl.

There have been several of our loved ones in the hospital this month. Bro. Marvin (Sis. Dianne) Knobloch, Gerald "Pouch" (Louise) Martin, Sis. Teresa (Bro. Dale) Martin, Sis. Mary Lou Streitmatter and Sis. Janet Joos have suffered ailments of the body. They still appreciate our prayers.

We have been blessed with many visiting ministers. We are thankful for each of them and their families. They are Elder Bros. Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington-Normal,

IL) and Ted Witzig, Sr. (Morton, IL), Bros. Fred Witzig (Indianapolis, IN), Tim Hohulin (Roanoke, IL) and Ted Witzig, Jr. (Morton, IL).

The Ft. Sam Reunion was hosted here on July 29. The ministers attending were Bros. William Brake (Sardis, OH), Gary Brown and Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Bill Dotterer (Lamar, MO), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington-Normal, IL), Beirne Messner (Morris, MN), Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL), Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS), Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), Tim Zimmerman (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and retired Elder Bro. Charles Sinn (Eureka, IL). May each have felt God's blessings for being His servant.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Judy Sauder
Dee Fehr**

"Heart with heart in love united.....In true fellowship we grow."

Zion's Harp #33

On July 26, the Sisters of the young group hosted a brunch for the Sisters of the Roanoke congregation, with the theme being "Singleness of Heart". We appreciate the love they have shown in desiring to serve others in this way.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Marjorie Bertschi became parents of Samantha Rose on July 31. Samantha's big brother is David, and her grandparents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Bev Bertschi and Bro. Clark and Sis. Lisa Leman.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Matt and Sis. Jennifer Mangold and their children, Andrew, Benjamin and Zachary, who have recently moved here from Chicago. We're glad to have them assembling with us, and hope they will feel blessed as they be-

come accustomed to their new surroundings.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are undergoing medical treatment at this time, including Bro. Harland (Sis. Martha) Braker, Bro. Dick (Sis. Ann) Hoffman, and Sis. Margaret (Bro. Gene) Fehr. May they feel the nearness of the Holy Spirit and God's all-powerful strength each day anew.

We are currently listening to the tapes of the recent Brotherhood Conference. As we read and meditate on God's Word, may we ever be mindful to heed the warnings and follow the commandments, so that we may reap the promises in this life and in the life to come.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell
Sheri Allen**

Hot! Hot! Hot! These three words are the only way to describe the past couple of weeks in Tremont. I recently read in a Reminisce magazine that before there was air conditioning, "We suffered!" How thankful we are that air conditioning is available to us these days and that we don't have to suffer the heat. Unfortunately, this life still brings suffering even in a very convenient world of ease. Bro. Dick Miller (Cindy), Sis. Miriam Frank (Bro. Marv) and Sis. Lori Wagenbach (Bro. Si III) have suffered afflictions of the flesh. We are thankful Sis. Lori is able to assemble with us, and our prayers are with Sis. Miriam and Bro. Dick at this time as they are confined at home.

We were blessed to have Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin with us on a Wednesday evening for the proving and baptism of our convert, Betty Hild. We welcome Sis. Betty into the household of faith. Other ministers who preached the Word to us were Bro. John Rowell (Sis. Nelda, Burlington,

IA), Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marsha, Washington, IL) and Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL). May God be their rich rewarder for being in service to Him.

The joy of new life has come to two families. Bro. Matt, Sis. Jenni, Daniel, Trevor and Adam are excited to have their first girl, Elise Janelle. Elise's grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Joann Sauder and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Ruth Grimm (Goodfield, IL). Bro. Rob and Sis. Marcia Dennis have also added a girl to their family. Leah and Joshua are excited to have Hannah Elizabeth to play, love and hold. Bro. Fred and Sis. Jeannette Beutel are Hannah's grandparents.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Bro. Paul and Sis. Helen Michel on the death of her sister, Sis. Rhonda Gerst (Morton, IL).

We welcome Bro. Bruce and Sis. Loretta Schafer to our congregation as they have moved here from Leo, IN. They are Sis. Laurie (Bro. Chad) Keever's parents.

As I sit here writing this Silver Lining, it is Wednesday and our Elder Bro. Charles announced on Sunday that we will begin listening to the Conference tapes tonight. It is something to hear these tapes and know that these undershepherds have been given the responsibility to warn, chasten, and encourage us as we walk this pathway to Heaven. Do we really listen to them? Do we look forward to hearing their gentle message? Remember, it is a message from God, and we would do well to take heed.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Nancy Knepp
Elizabeth Heinold**

We were blessed with several visiting ministers this month. Sharing God's Word with us were Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Sis. Lillian, San Diego, CA) and Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis.

Bev, Detroit, MI). Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS) shared a Bible Study on the Fruit of the Spirit reminding us that Christian character is produced by the Holy Spirit, not by self effort. It was special for our church to have Bro. Bill Schick (Sis. Joan, Magdalena, MX) minister to us. Our prayers are with him and his family as he has been given the responsibility and privilege of being in the ministry.

Our prayers are with Bro. Ed and Sis. Kathy Wyss and their family as they said good-bye to Sis. Kathy's mother, Sis. Marge Schlipf, from Gridley, IL. We also hold Sis. Ann Meiss up in prayer as she is experiencing health concerns.

We rejoice with Bro. Dave and Sis. Tara Prather as they welcome a baby boy, Derek Robert, into their family. This little boy will be showered with love by his grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Marlene Prather and Joe and Sis. Karen Baker.

We want to extend a welcome to Bro. Doug and Sis. Peggy Hoerr and their children as they have joined our congregation.

As I write this article, there are two days before school starts. Let's pray for our children that they may learn, grow and make wise choices this school year. May they choose their friends wisely, have teachers who care and have praying parents!

Note of Thanks:

Thanks for all the cards, visits, food, love, care, concern and prayers while Harold was fighting cancer and at his passing.

Gratefully,

Loretta Wettstein and family

INDIANA, BLUFFTON **Amber Steffen** **Jan Schwartz**

"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye."

Psalm 32:8

What a wonderful blessing it was for our Bluffton congregation to host our Elder brethren as they gathered on our behalf this past August 7-10. Also we were pleased to welcome all who attended the Brotherhood Conference on Friday, August 10. Our thanks go out to Elder Bro. Duane Farney (Sis. Karen, Croghan-Naumburg, NY) who brought forth the Word to us in our Tuesday evening church service. Also ministering to us that evening were Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (Sis. Marian, San Diego, CA) and Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL). Likewise, we appreciate many other visiting ministers who brought forth the Word to us this past month. They include Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH), Bro. Tom Waldbeser (Sis. Susan, Atlanta, GA), Bro. Virgil Kaeb (Sis. Suellen, Sarasota, FL), Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL), Bro. Roger Sauder (Sis. Judy, Fort Lauderdale, FL), and Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Liz, Portland, OR).

The weekend following the Conference we were privileged to support our brethren in Leo, IN, for the Gateway Woods Children's Home Auction. Our congregation was thankful for the many visitors from various young groups and their families who joined us here in Bluffton for the remainder of the weekend. We appreciate all who traveled across the states to not only support Gateway Woods, but to spend time in Bluffton also.

We rejoice with a new convert this month. Vince Snider (Bro. Mike, dec.

and Sis. Deb) has given his heart to Jesus and has made a beginning in serving our Lord.

Five converts have been announced for baptism due to take place on the weekend of August 19. They are Alyssa Eisenmann (Bro. John and Sis. Trudy), Luke Frauhiger (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Jenny), Shelby Aschliman (Bro. Derryl and Sis. Peg), Lena Kaehr (Bro. Keith and Sis. Lou Ann), and Rachele Grube (Bro. Jay and Sis. Ronda). We are prayerful for these dear converts as they continue to walk with Christ and anticipate their baptisms.

Our hearts were saddened to say farewell to our dear Sis. Gladys Gerber who went to be with Jesus on Saturday, July 28. Our prayers are with her husband, Bro. Floyd; her sons, Bro. Mike (Sis. Cheryl), Bro. Leon R. (Sis. Pat), and Bro. Keith (Sis. Kay); her daughter, Sis. Connie Kaehr (Bro. Lyle); her brothers, Bro. Luster Heyerly (Sis. Martha) and Bro. Simon Heyerly (Sis. Delores); and her sisters, Sis. Jeanette Tonner, Sis. Dula Heyerly, and Sis. Rosella Heyerly.

Our prayers are also with the family of Sis. Ellen Fiechter (Bluffton North) as she went home to Jesus on July 30. Those mourning her loss are her daughters, Sis. Louise Reimschisel and Rinda Ulrich (Paul); her sisters, Sis. Martha Heyerly (Bro. Luster), Sis. Joyce Baumgartner (Bro. Howard, Bluffton North), Sis. Lucille Grandlienard, and Sis. Betty Frauhiger (Bro. Bill, Bluffton North); and her brothers, Bro. Chuck Neuenschwander (Sis. Doris), Bro. John Neuenschwander (Sis. Irene), and Bro. Bill Neuenschwander (Sis. Mildred).

Our prayers are also with Bro. Mike Meade (Sis. Mary Dean) as his brother, Greg Meade, passed away July 28.

We rejoice with Bro. Ron and Sis.

Linda Kipfer as their son, Bro. Kevin (Atlanta, GA), and Sis. Erica Stoller (Morton, IL), daughter of Bro. Linn and Sis. Brenda Stoller (Atlanta, GA), were united in marriage on July 15, in Atlanta, GA.

Also promising a lifetime together in Christ were Bro. Tyson Frauhiger (Bro. Kris and Sis. Ann) and Sis. Amanda Isch (Bro. Jim and Sis. Rachel) as they were united in marriage on July 22.

July 29 was the joyful wedding day for Brant Gerber, son of Bro. Jay and Sis. Deb, and Brittany Fillman, daughter of Joel and Anne Fillman.

Bro. Adam McAfee (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Linda) and Sis. April Fiechter (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Ronda) were united in marriage on August 5. Our prayers are with all these couples and we wish them an abundance of God's blessings and joy throughout their married life together.

We rejoice with Bro. Mike and Sis. Carmon Bertsch as they were blessed with the birth of little grandson, Zion Michael, born on July 15. Our congratulations go out to his parents, Bro. Zach and Sis. Jenny Bertsch (Leo, IN).

Likewise, Bro. Zach and Sis. Miriam Geisel were blessed with the birth of their son, Daniel Harold, on July 22. Also excited about little Daniel's arrival are big sisters, Leah and Ruth. Daniel's grandparents are Bro. Barry and Sis. Imogene Isch and Bro. Stan and Sis. Cindy Geisel (Bluffton North).

On July 29, Bro. Luke and Sis. Jamie Rinkenberger were blessed with the birth of a daughter, Brinlee Jade. Her siblings, Jaxson and Saige, were excited to welcome her. Her grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeanne Rinkenberger, Gary Johnloz and Candy Inskeep.

And finally, our thoughts and prayers have been with those hospitalized this month. Our continuing

prayers are with Sis. Lou Rager (Bro. Bill), who was hospitalized this month due to complications from her chemo treatments. Likewise our prayers are with Jimmy VandenTop (Rhonda) as he is still hospitalized in Indianapolis battling cancer. Sis. Josephine Schwartz also spent time in the hospital. Also hospitalized in the past month and in our prayers following separate traffic accidents were siblings, Bro. Rodney and Sis. Regan Reimschisel (Bro. Todd and Sis. Lori) and Bro. Jason and Bro. Randy Gerber (Bro. Gene and Sis. Becky).

INDIANA BLUFFTON NORTH

**Kelli Bucher
Sherry Pfister
Darren Drayer**

With the Brotherhood Conference taking place in Bluffton this month, we were blessed with many visiting ministers. On August 10, Elder Bro. Joe Klotzle (Sis. Jody, Altadena, CA) was with us. The following Sunday, Bro. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL) and Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (Sis. Marian, San Diego, CA) shared the Word with us.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Cindy Geisel are the grandparents of Daniel Harold. Born on July 22, Daniel's parents are Bro. Zach and Sis. Miriam Geisel of the Bluffton congregation.

Sis. Lyla Fischer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Joyce) will soon be leaving for Boston, where she will be studying at M.I.T. for computer science.

We hosted the National World Relief Meeting on Saturday, August 11. What a blessing to share in the Lord's outreach to the less fortunate.

We grieve with Sis. Betty Steffen, who lost her grandson, Josh Winters, on August 1. Josh is the son of Joe and Cindy Winters. May she feel God's tender hand during this time of tragedy.

Sis. Ellen Fiechter passed away on

July 30. She is survived by two daughters, Sis. Louise Reimschisel (Bluffton) and Rinda Urlich (Paul); four sisters, Sis. Martha Heyerly (Bro. Luster, Bluffton), Sis. Joyce Baumgartner (Bro. Paul), Sis. Lucille Grandliendard (Bluffton), and Sis. Betty Frauhiger (Bro. Bill); three brothers, Bro. Chuck Neuenchwander (Sis. Doris, Bluffton), Bro. John Neuenchwander (Sis. Irene, Bluffton), and Bro. Bill Neuenchwander (Sis. Mildred, Bluffton); four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and four step great-grandchildren.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

**Jessica Murray
Barb Huber**

Greetings dear loved ones. Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein presented a topical Bible Study on Wednesday, July 18, on "Intercession". We are all inspired to be intercessors, and to be more like Jesus.

After a day of worship with visiting ministering Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN), he joined us for a boat ride on the Madam Carroll for more singing, fellowship, and an inspirational message. This annual trip was such a blessing. Thank you, Bro. Scott, and may God bless you and your family.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Andria Gutwein gave us an update on the mission work they are involved with in India. We want to express a special thank you to all who work in the mission field. What a blessing it is that you are sharing and doing His will. May you be richly blessed, and keep us updated with your work.

On Saturday, August 11, many friends and family attended the wedding of Tanessa Washburn (Bro. Doug and Sis. Margaret Leman) to Dan Eberhardt (Bro. Joe and Sis. Ruby of Oakville, IA). We wish them

God's richest blessings as they begin their lives as one.

All who attended, once again enjoyed the Gateway Woods Auction. Our many thanks to all who had a part in putting this together.

Our love and prayers go out to Bro. Wally Bucher (Sis. Rosella) and Bro. Wayne Putt (Sis. Paulette), who are both home recovering from recent surgeries. May you continue to feel the healing of the Lord's hand as He gives you daily strength.

**INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS
Penny Schroeder
Gail Bradford**

The Sunday school teachers and students, along with parents and friends, welcomed the beginning of a new school year at a picnic. Recently elected teachers are Bro. Mitch Schlatter and Sisters Karla Aberle, Cindy Schieler, Anna Schlatter and Rachel Ringger. Bro. Joe Sprunger (Sis. Tara) is the new assistant Sunday school superintendent.

We appreciated the visiting ministers this month: Bro. Marvin Leman (Sis. Jane, Bradford, IL), Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) and Bro. Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton North, IN).

We bade farewell to Bro. Stan and Sis. Andrea Gutwein, along with their four children, who departed for India where they make their home. They have been visiting in the states this summer.

Although there is not as much "news" to report this month, there are many things to pray about and people to pray for. Perhaps a sister or brother is laboring under a burden, and would benefit from a kind listener. Maybe a neighbor would appreciate a friendly voice on the telephone or over the fence. Perhaps a shut-in would enjoy a warm smile or

soft touch. Let's look around us. Opportunities abound!

**INDIANA, LACROSSE
Bethany Johnson
Julie Rocke**

When peace, like a river, attendeth
my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught
me to say,

It is well, it is well with my soul.

Hymns of Zion #55

It is with great joy that we heard that our convert, Sharla Heinold, is at peace with God and man and is ready for baptism. We are looking forward to her testimony and baptism sometime in the near future.

Our Sunday School students and teachers are enjoying a break this month before our new teachers start in September. Sis. Melinda Sawyer and Bro. Calvin Schneider will be serving a term as teachers. We send a special thank you to those teachers who have served their term and welcome the new teachers in. May God bless each who takes part in the responsibility of teaching our children.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA), Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI) and Bro. Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH). We appreciate their labors on our behalf.

Our thoughts and prayers were with the Elders this past week as they met for the Conference in Bluffton. May God's grace be with each for their time and efforts in serving Him.

**INDIANA, LEO
Elizabeth Schrenk
Abigail Schrenk**

"Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye

should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you."

John 15:16

It is really neat and humbling to see that God has a purpose for each and every one of us. We are excited to welcome Sisters Kristen Zimmerman (Gridley), Tammy Sauder (Tremont), Kristi Wiegand (Goodfield), Chalise Steffen (Champaign), and Marty Hinrichsen (Detroit), as they all have come to work at Gateway Woods. We hope they feel at home here!

The Gateway Woods Sale was a big event for us here at Leo. We had many visitors who stayed over for church on Sunday. Among them were ministering brothers, Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Sis. Jody, Altadena), and Bros. Jedd Rocke (Sis. Marsha, Goodfield), Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy, Roanoke), Tom Schambach (Sis. Connie, Elgin), and Doug Wagenbach (Sis. Lillian, San Diego).

During the month, we were also blessed to have Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North) and Bro. Greg Stieglitz (Sis. Lisa, Indianapolis). We want to thank each of you for sharing the Word of Life.

**INDIANA, MILFORD
Carol Hurd
Carol Haab**

The weekend of July 28-29 we enjoyed the fellowship of many couples who came to an army reunion hosted by Bro. Ray and Sis. Paula Haab. It was wonderful to see God's house full and the singing was truly a glory to our Lord. Thank you to all who made the trip to reminisce of the time spent together years ago.

We rejoice with two of our ministering brothers and their wives as they welcome new grandchildren.

Bro. Nelson and Sis. Shelby Beer were blessed with a grandson, Tanner Jay Laukhof, and Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb Beer were blessed with a granddaughter, Kat Kristine Beer. Happy parents are Bro. Chris and Sis. Rachel Laukhof (Latty, OH) and Bro. Barry and Sis. Myra Beer (Austin, TX).

Visiting ministers who have lovingly shared God's Word with us this month are Bro. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH), Bro. Paul Eisenmann (Sis. Elaine, Burlington, IA), Bro. Lennie Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL), Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH), Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL), Bro. Matt Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago, IL), and Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara, Bloomfield, IA).

The Lord called Home our dear Sis. Eleanor Beer on August 17. She touched the lives and hearts of many people over the years with her love and service. Our prayers and sympathy go out to her dear children and their families, Bro. Nelson and Sis. Shelby Beer, Bro. Bob and Sis. Barb Beer, Bro. Stan and Sis. Linda Wuthrich, and Jerry and Jane Templin.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Tammy Waibel
Beth Virkler**

This week finds many of our youth surrounded by boxes as they pack for college. Bro. Dave Bahler will be moving to attend Ellsworth Community College for a nine month term. His address will be: Thompson Hall, 917 Elm Street, Iowa Fall, IA 50126 — (641) 648-6177. Bro. Jesse Stoller and Sis. Valerie Bahler are attending Purdue University locally. May we remember our college students in prayer.

Remington/Wolcott brothers and sisters worked hard the last week of July with several remodeling projects

using the World Relief tool trailer. Because of the love of Jesus Christ, several widows and families were served with a little remodeling done in their homes or some maintenance brought up to date. It truly is a blessing to work together, even in high humidity, as a witness to our local community.

Dave and Charity Pratt have moved. Their new address is: 3265 S. 700 W. Winamac, IN 46996.

Bro. Phil Isabell spent some time in the hospital. May he experience God's grace with physical healing.

Visiting ministers were: Bros. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Wayne Wiegand (Goodfield, IL), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) and Ken Weerts (Cissna Park, IL).

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Becky Langhofer
Natalie Virkler**

"Blessed is the man who walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord and in this law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water that bringeth forth his fruit in his season. His leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. The ungodly are not so but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish."

Psalms 1

These verses hold so much promise for the righteous. What joy to think that if we delight in the law of the Lord, He will cause us to bring

forth fruit for His glory!

We send our thanks for the visiting ministers who shared God's precious Word with us this month: Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl; Eureka, IL), Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy; Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Walter Rager (Sis. Sharon; Toledo, OH).

Our love and prayers go with Sis. Kara Beebe as she will be working in California until December. She will be attending the Altadena Church while out there.

We also extend our love and prayers to Bro. Mark Sauder from the Tremont congregation. Bro. Mark finished his internship here in South Bend for the summer and we will miss him very much!

We had our Sunday School picnic on August 19. It was a very blessed time although we were stuck inside because of the rain!

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Marguerite Hoerr

When LaCrosse church has a remodeling project, it becomes a boon to our Valpo church. Many members drive to be with us for our services and accompanying them are ministers, who share the pulpit with Bro. Garry. On July 22, Bros. Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla) and Tom Troxel (Sis. LuAnn) were with us and enriched our worship services.

On Saturday, July 28, Bro. Will Schieler (Sis. Sue) shared in a Bible study with the Valpo church. Times like this are memory times for Bob and I. We worshipped with Bro. Will and Sis. Sue often in our Milford church and we remember them with a great deal of fondness and respect. We regretted not being able to be with them during that evening.

Sunday, July 29, ministering Bro. Daron Price and his wife, Sis. Monica, from the Milford congregation joined us in worship. Once again our hearts

were turned back to the years where Daron and Monica were small children growing up in our Milford church. It's heartening to see them with their three small, beautiful children, as adults and as servants to our church. We felt a deep joy in meeting them again.

After church the Sunday school picnic was held at the dunes. It was an excited bunch of children who exited the church to begin the picnic. We don't want to forget to thank the teachers and parents who made this day possible with their planning and hard work. They will observe a well deserved month of rest and vacation until school starts again.

Our granddaughter, Mariana Hoerr (12), of Canton, OH, is spending some time with us this summer. We wondered if she would find us too quiet and would therefore be bored in her stay. Instead the three of us find ourselves talking about so many things in which we share a common interest, and we are overjoyed at the meeting of minds that has taken place between us. I've often heard that the very old and the very young can bridge the gap of years. We're finding that to be true. Bob and I are also privileged at the ages of 86 and 80 to have a vast age difference in our grandchildren; the oldest being 37 and the youngest being 4. We enjoy every one of them; including two great-granddaughters who are older than our youngest grandchildren. I'm sure we're not unique in this experience and those of you who share a common bond will understand our feelings of gratefulness to God for His goodness. We also were happy this month to have visiting us our oldest son, Bob, his wife, Lilliam, and son, Matt, and daughter, Allison, from St. Paul, MN. Times like this make our hearts sing.

On Sunday, August 5, we had visitors from the South Bend congregation. Ministering Bro. Bob Beebe (Sis.

Sue) shared the pulpit with Bro. Garry. We ask God to bless Bro. Bob for the time and the inspiration shared with us through his ministry, and for Sis. Sue to accompany him and to share in our fellowship.

August 12 found our church full of visitors and how we loved the sound of the singing with all those voices blending. Ministering Bro. Trent Schrock and his wife, Sis. Heidi, of the Leo congregation and their children visited Valpo, along with his parents, Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary Schrock, of the Washington congregation. Also visiting was ministering Bro. Herbie Knochel who came from Phoenix with his wife, Sis. Laurie, and their children. Joining them was their daughter, Sis. Natalie Virkler, and her husband, Bro. Nathan, from South Bend. The Word was spoken with clarity and sincerity as these two Brothers shared the Scriptures with us, and we're grateful for their generosity and love.

We had two Elder Brothers with us on August 19: Bro. Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN) and Bro. Steve Gutwein and his wife, Sis. Linda, from Francesville. We valued their visits with us and thank them for giving of their time and their love. May God richly bless them for their devotion to us.

**INDIANA
WEST LAFAYETTE
Darlene Walder
Hollie Meister**

Over the past seven years, our little church has experienced families moving in and families and others being led by God to move away. Bro. Brent, Sis. Marty, Heike, Vic, and Jacob Gutwein have moved to W. Lafayette and will be assembling with us. We certainly want to welcome them! Along with their family, we also want to welcome Bo, a foreign exchange

student living with Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorene Furrer.

Recent visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), and Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN). We thank you for your willingness to share God's Word with us.

Sis. Reva Waibel fell and has had a slow recovery. We certainly want to hold her and Bro. Leon up in our prayers.

This summer has brought new life into open arms and we want to welcome those new little babes. Jude was born to Bro. Luke and Sis. Andria Schafer and is welcomed by big brothers, Noah and Adrian, and grandparents, Bro. Ed and Sis. Annette Bahler. Also, Bro. Nathan and Sis. Kelly Pritts welcome wee little Alivia into their arms and big brother Avery is very pleased. Bro. Gerry and Sis. Marcia Waibel are grandparents and Bro. Leon and Sis. Reva Waibel are great-grandparents. Bro. Dick and Sis. Sharon Meister also are pleased to announce the birth of a precious baby grandson; Mason, born to Rob and Kristin Meister. "Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord!"

We extend prayers on behalf of Bob Meister regarding different health issues. God be with you and provide your needs.

Our support and prayers reach out to our new Sunday school staff. Sis. Hollie Meister, Bro. Grant Gudeman, and Bro. Doug Hoerr have served faithfully and are now being replaced by newly elected teachers. The new teachers are Bro. Stu Gutwein, Bro. Jeff Moser, and Sis. Mara Leman. We want to thank those going out and appreciate the willingness of the new teachers coming in.

Welcome, Purdue students, for another year of study. W. Lafayette congregation extends our love and support for each of you, and hope and pray your year with us will be enriching, as we know, we will be enriched

by you!

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lowell Bahler

Erica Blume

On Wednesday evening, July 25, in lieu of our regular Bible topic, Bro. Dick Meister (Sis. Sharon; West Lafayette, IN) presented an in-depth background and comparison between authentic and historical Christianity. Based on his years of experience as a history teacher, along with considerable research, he pointed out many interesting occurrences. We were encouraged to strive to preserve our precious faith. Thank you, Bro. Dick.

On Saturday, August 4, Eric Bahler and Marissa Schwab exchanged wedding vows and are now living as one. We surely wish them God's blessings throughout their lives. Parents of the newlyweds are Bro. Mark and Sis. Shari Schwab and Chris and Sis. Teresa Bahler.

Visiting ministering Bro. Dave Hartter (Sis. Beth; Sabetha, KS) favored us by being here on Sunday, August 12, on his way home from the Brotherhood Conference. We thank him for sharing the Holy Word with us.

We warmly welcome Bro. Neil and Sis. June Knobloch's family, who has recently moved to our community from Champaign, Illinois. We pray that God will guide them as they make their choice between attending the Remington or Wolcott church.

And just in time to make this issue, Niki Harris (Mike and Sis. Nancy Scott) and Nick Pilotte (Duane and Roberta Pilotte; Wolcott, IN) announced their engagement! May God's hand be upon their lives as they plan for their wedding.

IOWA, BLOOMFIELD

Barbara Schock

In some way or other
The Lord will provide.
It may not be my time,
It may not be thy time,
And yet in His own time
The Lord will provide.

Gospel Hymns #7

We are thankful that the Lord did provide for us a visiting minister. On August 5, Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago) and family stopped in for the weekend on the way back from "out west". May the Lord bless them for thinking of us and laboring on our behalf.

As a brotherhood, may we be prayerful that the Lord will continue to provide for our Elder brothers. May they always be able to feel the prayers of the brotherhood and the guidance provided by the Lord above.

IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden

Heidi Butikofer

Ye messengers of peace shall bring
The glorious gospel of the King
To man in accents truthful.
How great your blest reward shall
be,
When Jesus Christ, the Lord, will
see
That ye were true and faithful!
Zion's Harp #210

We are thankful for all who are faithful in their calling to preach the Gospel. We have been thankful for the blessing of two visiting ministers this past month: Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA) and Bro. Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda, Winthrop, MN). May God bless them and the teachings that have gone forth.

At our annual election we elected three new Sunday School teachers. Sis. Sandy Butikofer (Bro. Lon) will

replace Sis. Maria Butikofer (Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy) for the primary class. Bro. Phil Waldbeser (Sis. Charlotte), who is currently teaching the Junior/Senior Bible class, will be replaced by Bro. Wade Halverson for the Jr. Bible class and Bro. Jim Knobloch (Sis. Marcy) for the Sr. Bible class. We thank those who have fulfilled their terms and encourage those who have been elected to this very important duty. Bro. Wade Halverson was also re-elected as usher and Bro. John Schupbach (Sis. Janet) as head song leader.

We are thankful that Aaron Butikofer (Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy) has returned safely home after spending the past several months in Iraq. Jack Hanson (Albert and Trudy) is also back in his home base at Guam after spending some time in the Iraq area. God truly does hear and answer our prayers.

We rejoice with Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy Butikofer as they welcome a new grandson into their family circle. Anthony Paul (Bro. Tim and Sis. Melisa Gerst) arrived on August 8.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

Willa Clark

The 3-year-old stood by his father during Sunday School singing. His father, the song leader, tapped his foot. The boy tapped, too. Observing carefully, the boy stuck his little hand in his pocket, just like Dad's. As the song went on, the boy assumed the same tilt of his head, leaned back just a little, carefully checking to be sure he was doing "just like Dad".

The father, concentrating on the hymn, was unaware he was a role model at that moment. The boy, in his innocence and eagerness to follow his father, was unaware that he, too, was being observed.

The scene brought two thoughts to mind. As Christians, we should work

just as hard as this lad to follow our heavenly Father. And the second, fathers and mothers here on earth, our children are watching our every move, even to the tilt of the head. They often grow up to be "just like Dad" or "just like Mom". We need to model the kind of person God wants them to be.

Those sharing the Word of God with us have been Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara Schock (Bloomfield), Bro. Dale and Sis. Tina Frank (Oakville), Bro. Bill and Sis. Sharon Dotterer (Lamar), Bro. Dewayne and Sis. LaRae Dill (Minneapolis), and Bro. Dan and Sis. Julie Koch (Tremont). Our thanks to each of them for the love they shared with us.

IOWA, IOWA CITY **Diana Butikofer**

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy, Roanoke, IL), Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edie, Elgin, IL), and Bro. Floyd Frieden (Sis. Jan, Elgin, IA). We appreciate their willingness to serve and pray the Lord will continue to bless them.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Melisa Gerst, Ane, Joseph and Jenna welcomed a precious baby into their family on August 8. Grandparents of Anthony Paul are Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie Gerst and Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy Butikofer (Elgin, IA). We pray the Lord will guide and bless this couple as they raise and nurture their recently-expanded family.

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

We have three new babies to welcome to the Lester congregation. On July 21, Luke Arthur was born to Bro. Jared and Sis. Carla Metzger. Leah, Logan, Laban and Laura are all happy to have another brother in their fam-

ily. His grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Ilene Hartter (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Art and Sis. Kris Metzger. Taylor Jean was born July 31 to Bro. Matt and Sis. Rosalee Anderson. Her grandparents are Bro. Brian and Sis. Bev Mogler. On August 9, Drendon Ray was born to Bro. Mychal and Sis. Dawn Van Wyhe. Welcoming him home are Megan, Jordan and Devan. His grandparents are Bro. Arnie and Sis. Sharon Koehl (Morris, MN) and Bro. Pete and Sis. Susan Van Wyhe. Luke and Drendon both spent some extra time in the hospital, and both are doing well. May God bless these dear parents as they raise their children.

Those spending time in the hospital this month were little Seth Leman (Bro. Cory and Sis. Rachel), Brent Leuthold (Bro. Doug and Sis. Char) and Sis. Vicki Leuthold (Bro. Chuck). We keep them in our thoughts and prayers and all others who need medical attention.

We want to thank Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO) for sharing the Word with us. May God continue to bless them for their efforts.

"For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace..."

Isaiah 55:12

On August 12 it was shared that Kent Moser (Bro. Donn and Sis. Joyce) has found his peace with God. May we all strive to trust God, and let Him work in our hearts.

On that same day we bid "farewell" to Sis. Betsy Doorneweerd (Bro. Butch and Sis. Kathy). She has taken a teaching position at Prairie Meadow School in Sabetha. May she feel God's nearness as she takes up residence there.

August 18 was the wedding of Evan Metzger to Kristi Lonneman. Evan is the son of Bro. Marvin and

Sis. Joleen Metzger. We wish them God's blessings as they establish their new home.

August 19, the betrothal of Sis. Abby Metzger (Bro. Mark and Sis. Audrey) and Bro. Steve Lindean (Bro. Tom and Sis. Vera) of Oakville, IA, was announced to the congregation. We pray God's blessings on all these dear souls as they make plans for their life together.

We think of the students and teachers as they head back to school, college and here in Lester, Sunday School. May God be with each one as they begin a new year of learning.

IOWA, OAKVILLE **Sharla Wiegand**

We were privileged to have visiting ministers, Bro. Matthew Rassi (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL), on July 29. Thank you for your willingness to be used in the Lord's service.

Congratulations to Ashley Wiegand (Bro. Brian and Sis. Cindy) and Ben Stoltzfus who were married in Peoria, IL, on July 21. Also uniting hand and heart, Dan Eberhardt (Bro. Jody and Sis. Ruby) and Tanessa Washburn were married in Francesville, IN, on August 11. We wish both couples many years of happiness as the Lord wills.

We were saddened by the passing of Sis. Rhonda Gerst of Morton, IL, on July 31. She grew up in Oakville and moved to Morton in 1988. Our sympathy to her family, including Sis. Janet Gerst of our congregation.

IOWA, WEST BEND **Janet Fehr** **Sue Schneider**

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me be-

side the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Psalm 23:1-4

On July 26, Sis. Edna I. (Bro. Earl, dec.) Banwart peacefully passed from this earthly life into a heavenly rest. She will be missed by us all, but especially by her surviving family, which includes her four children and their families: Bro. Eldon (Sis. Karen) Banwart and Bro. Ken (Sis. Marlene) Banwart, both of West Bend; Bro. Dale (Sis. Donna) Banwart, of Fairbury, IL; and Sis. Leann (Bro. Don) Schambach of Elgin, IL. Sis. Edna was a gentle, loving Christian example, and we appreciated how she supported our faith and her husband especially during the approximately 40 years Bro. Earl served our congregation in the ministry.

Our thoughts, sympathy and prayers go out to Sis. Edna's family and also to several other families in our congregation who have lost loved ones. Linda (Jamie) Schmidt lost her mother, Kay Helleseth, from West Bend. Sis. Leona (Bro. Scott) Fehr lost her father, Eugene Schmidt, from Winthrop, MN; and Sis. Teresa (Bro. Larry) Bruellman also lost her father, Russel Frazee, from Des Moines, IA. Sis. Evie (Bro. Gene) Bruellman's sister, Leona Feucht, passed away in the Portland, OR, area, and Sis. Ella Schneider lost her sister, Evelyn Fisher, during the past weeks. May our Heavenly Father comfort hearts, fill voids and put a peace in the hearts of those who are left behind.

Surgical patients this month were Sis. Doris (Bro. Martin) Zaugg, Bro. Gene (Sis. Evie) Bruellman, and Bro. Harley (Sis. Adele) Bruellman.

"Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer,"

Romans 12:12

The West Bend church has been blessed with many visitors, including two ministers who broke open the Word of Life with us. Bro. Floyd Frieden (Sis. Jan, Elgin, IA) was here as well as Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR).

We are thankful and blessed to have had the opportunity to listen to the Conference tapes. How appreciative we can be to the Elders of our congregations for their dedication and commitment to our precious faith. May God continue to bless each one.

Go to your Bible regularly;
Open it prayerfully;
Read it expectantly;
Live it joyfully.

—author unknown

JAPAN, SHIODA Carrie Ito

Both of our Japanese churches gathered together the last weekend in July for our summer fellowship meeting. It was a special blessing to spend time together at a resort near the base of Mt. Fuji. We gathered on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning for a Bible lesson by Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy) of Roanoke, IL. The topic for the meeting was "God's Silence and His Love". We were refreshed as we discussed how we as humans can't understand God's ways and that He has a bigger and wiser plan for our lives. We may not understand why He is silent, but still we can trust Him and His love. We enjoyed much time singing together—even early Saturday morning outside under a tree with a beautiful view of Mt. Fuji. Bro. Frank and Sis. Kathy also joined our Shioda congregation for one Sunday and shared the Word with us. We

were greatly encouraged by their visit!

We also enjoyed a visit from the Ehnle's son, Tom, who is visiting for a short time.

We continue to discuss remodeling/renovating our church. For me, growing up in a large church, it is very interesting to sit around a table with almost all of the members present and discuss the situation. It really feels like a family, and we are thankful that we can work together in love and unity.

We had a repeat visitor to our church and I tried to ask her (in my broken Japanese!) if she could understand the message (translated from Bro. Frank). I'm pretty sure what her response was and it was such an encouragement! "I'm not sure if I understood all of it, but I know that when I come to church, it just feels good!" How thankful we can be for the power of the Holy Spirit to speak to each heart—no matter what the language!

JAPAN, TOKYO Jana Klaus

Greetings of love from hot and sunny Tokyo. We had a blessed Shuyokai (fellowship meeting) just at the end of the rainy season when the days turn sunny and very humid. It was held this year at the base of beautiful Mt. Fuji, but we could not see the beauty the first day; however, the next morning, it was an amazing sight, so close up! It does strike awe in you to see such a perfectly shaped mountain, the tallest in Japan, situated by itself and reaching up to the heavens. Our Creator, the only God of the universe, placed it there—He is more than amazing! Perhaps year by year, more of those who hike it during the open season of July and August, will come to realize the One who created it and worship Him instead of the

mountain itself. We were honored to have Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) who lived in Japan for around 10 years and had a view of Mt. Fuji from their home, as our main speaker for the meeting. He spoke on "The silence of God" and how even when God seems silent, He is working on a bigger, more beautiful plan. It touched our hearts, as many are going through severe trials right now in our congregations. We all enjoyed the usual singing, fellowship, hiking, and deluxe Japanese supper. Thank you to Shioda Church for all the planning and efforts.

It was difficult, but the Klaus family (and extended church family) had to say good bye to Sis. Bethany Gerber (Bro. Dean and Sis. Jaci, Bluffton, IN) in early August. She had finished her 2 month visit helping in the Klaus home and supporting our churches here. A warm "Thank you!" to Sis. Bethany for your cheerful and servant heart. You were a blessing, and you are missed!

It was so good to have our dear Sis. Marie Inoue back in church again after being away for a month. Below is a note of thanks.

"We would like to thank each one for the love and kind deeds received at the time of Marie's hip surgery and recovery. Each step of the way was an adjustment, and I often reminded myself of many faithful brethren and friends who were praying for me which helped cross every hurdle. May God bless each of you in a special way."

Akito and Marie Inoue

KANSAS, BERN
Sheri Edelman
Rita Menold

We rejoice with Brady Strahm (Bro. Ed and Sis. Ramona) as he begins his repentance! May God be with him.

Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Max Reimschisel (Sis. Judy, Wichita, KS) came to preach God's Word to us. We thank them for their labors.

Kade LeRoy was born on August 13 to Bro. Ryan and Sis. Tiffany Menold. Big brothers Kellen and Nate welcome him home! His grandparents are Bro. Joe D. and Sis. Kathy Rokey from our congregation and Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Kellenberger (Sabetha, KS).

We welcome Bro. Michael Kaeb (Cissna Park, IL) to our congregation as he attends Kansas State University. We hope he feels right at home!

Sis. Mavis Meyer passed from this life and into eternity. David and Marci Reist from our congregation, as well as the rest of her family are in our prayers as they lay her to rest. She was a special lady with a quiet and peaceful way. We will miss her.

Our prayers are also with Bro. Carroll and Roberta Plattner and their family on the death of her father, Ivan Wenger. May the Lord lift them up!

Our surgical patients this month were Sis. Helen (Bro. Matt) Edelman, Bro. Waymer Esslinger and Sis. Michelle (Bro. Brad) Strahm. We hope they all have a speedy recovery!

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Karen Kellenberger

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

Genesis 2:24

August 12 was the joyful wedding day of Sis. Nicole Scott (Steven and Beverly) and Bro. Timothy Banwart (Bro. Lon and Sis. Debbie). Assisting our local ministers in this blessed occasion was our Elder Bro. John

Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS). May this new couple enjoy a three-fold cord in their relationship to each other and with their Lord.

Sis. Aleta Banwart (Bro. Don) is recuperating from knee surgery. Our prayers are with her.

We heartily thank our visiting ministers for sharing God's Word. They were: Bro. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL) and Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA).

Alyssa Banwart (Bro. Don and Sis. Aleta) and Levi Arnold are engaged to be married. They are planning a December wedding.

While recuperating from a rare medical condition, my medication was errantly underdosed for a couple weeks. For that entire timespan, I experienced a very strong, unquenchable thirst for water like I had never known. It put new light and meaning on this verse in the Scriptures:

"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness..."

Matthew 5:6

KANSAS, KIOWA
Janice Bahr
Jenny Stewart

"Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded. Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?"

John 13:3-6

In our Kiowa Church, because we are a small congregation, we often

have breakfast at the church on Sunday morning when we have a large group of visitors. One event often comes to mind when I think of being a servant in Christ. We were feeding one such large group of brothers, sisters and friends when someone came saying that the toilet in the men's restroom had run over and we had water everywhere. The next message we received was that our visiting Elder had taken off his suit jacket, rolled up the sleeves on his white shirt, and was in there helping clean up the mess! Of course, we were all horrified to think that our visitor was involved, just as Simon Peter was to think that His Lord and Saviour Jesus was going to wash his feet! As children of Christ, we aren't to stand back and watch, but to get our hands dirty – working, praying, caring, serving. Thanks to our dear Brother for the lessons we learned that Sunday (not only from the pulpit)!

Make me a servant, humble and meek,
 Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
 And may the prayer of my heart always be,
 Make me a servant today!

For the sick, the discouraged, the dying, the lonely – keep praying. We all need those prayers!

Thanks to the visitors who shared their Sunday with us this month!

Our precious children will head back to school this month and we, as parents, have the God-given duty to bring them up in the fear and admonition of the Lord, and to hold them up in prayer that when the winds of temptation and worldly allure are set before them, they may have the courage and the strength to resist the devil and keep their eyes on the Lord!

KANSAS LAMONT-GRIDLEY Ester Knobloch

“Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and right way: Only fear the Lord, and serve him in truth with all your heart: for consider how great things he hath done for you.”

1 Samuel 12:23-24

Sunday School has resumed and our new teachers have taken their post of duty. We pray that God will grant them wisdom in instructing the young and tender hearts in the “good and right way”, and that the seeds which are planted may some day bring forth fruit of repentance.

We welcome Sis. Kayla Kellenberger (Lamar, MO) to our congregation. We are thankful that her work has brought her to our area and trust the Lord will provide so that she may soon feel settled and at home here.

KANSAS, SABETHA Rebekah Beyer Dawn Strahm

“Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.”

Philippians 4:4

Our congregation rejoices as two new babies have been born. On August 1, Kyler James was born to Dan and Cheryl Wenger. His siblings are Lexi, Kirsten, and Kellen. Grandparents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta Wenger and Phil and Alice McClain of Sabetha. Martha Elaine was born on August 6 to Bro. James and Sis. Sandy Hartter. Her siblings are Jesse, Elijah, Andrew, Mary, and Rachel. Grandparents are Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie Hartter and Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karla Bahler (Wolcott, IN).

We have been blessed with an abundance of visiting ministers this month. They included Bro. Wes Moser (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA), Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN), Bro. Larry Bahr (Sis. Julie, Fort Scott, KS), Bro. Don Sinn (Sis. Linda, Silverton, OR), and Bro. Curt Kaufman (Sis. Caroline, Tucson, AZ).

Our prayers and encouragement are extended to Galen Grimm as he has been announced for peace and is seeking baptism. His parents are Bro. Doug and Sis. Jeryl Grimm.

As is our yearly tradition, our Sunday School is taking a summer break for the month of August and will resume on September 9.

Todd Strahm and Kara Walter were united in marriage in Silverton, OR, on July 13. A reception was held in Sabetha on July 28. Parents are Bro. Carl and the late Sis. Sharon Strahm and Bro. Chuck and Sis. Karen Walter (Silverton, OR). We hope Kara will feel at home here in Kansas.

The annual General Church Conference was held in Bluffton, IN, in August. We are so thankful that we have the freedom to gather as we wish for religious reasons in our country. We lift up in prayer our Elders and ministers as they have met to make many decisions regarding our church future.

May the Lord be with the family of Bro. John Kaufman as he has passed from this life. Our thoughts and prayers are especially with his son, Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol and family, who attend our congregation.

Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Kellenberger welcomed a new grandson on August 13. Kade Leroy was born to Bro. Ryan and Sis. Tiffany Menold (Bern, KS). Kellen and Nate are his siblings. Bro. Joe and Sis. Kathy Rokey (Bern, KS) are his paternal grandparents.

KANSAS, WICHITA**Emma Miller**

Bro. Howard and Sis. Anna Marie Warner will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary on August 29. This long enduring union has seen God's merciful hand guiding them through the pitfalls of rearing a large family. While they had the trials, they also shared blessings from above. They continue to live in Hutchinson which means they must travel for an hour to get to church which they faithfully do. Sis. Ann can be depended on to work in the kitchen over the noon hour and is known for baking the most delicious cinnamon rolls.

Our prayers go out to Bro. Jonathon and Sis. Ruth Long and their family and the special challenge that has afflicted their daughter, Candace, and her husband. The young couple recently welcomed their second child into their home. This special baby, Aurora Sendhol, was born with a cleft palate and its related complications. Sis. Ruth, a registered nurse, has spent much time in Garden City, Michigan, helping with the special care her granddaughter needs. The family trusts God's provision to see them through the anticipated surgeries that will be needed to correct the affliction.

After enjoying a rainy, mild introduction into summer, we are now experiencing a heat wave that shows no mercy. We are grateful for the modern conveniences that allow us to cope with the extreme weather. Schools in our area are starting this week and students and teachers alike will have to cope with their lot. We pray for all concerned to be patient and to endure, believing that this too shall pass.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON**Barb Huber**

"Now the God of hope fill you with

all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

Romans 15:13

We have again been blessed by the inspiration of God's Holy Word as the following visiting ministers came to lend themselves in the Lord's service: Bro. Dave Zehr (Sis. Vicki, Gridley, IL), Bro. James Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Congerville, IL), Bro. Kenny Eisenmann (Sis. Sharon, Cissna Park, IL), and Bro. Kenny Dietz (Sis. Mardell, Bradford, IL). Among the many wonderful teachings brought forth, we were reminded to so live our lives that when we come to the end of life's pathway, we may hear those words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." It's always a special time of fellowship when the ministers bring their families. We especially enjoyed the families of Bro. James Knapp and Bro. Kenny Dietz. Thank you, ministers and your wives, for all your efforts of love, and may the Lord bless you richly as you seek to further His kingdom in the hearts of men.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with our dear friends, Dan and Denise Henderson. Dan fell and broke his ankle. May Dan feel God's healing power and be restored to a full recovery soon.

Other brethren who assembled with us were represented from churches in Chicago, Elgin, Eureka, Fairbury, Forrest, Morton, and Washington, IL; Bluffton and Leo, IN; Akron, Junction, and Rittman, OH. It's always a blessing to have visitors worship with us.

Again, we extend a warm welcome to come and visit us in Lexington. You may contact the Germann's (859) 223-0294 or Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541.

MEXICO, IXTLAN**Claudia Gonzalez**

"So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it."

Isaiah 55:11

Greetings to all! How quickly the summer is passing, and school days are nearly here again!

This year we had the privilege of teaching many little ones about God and His wonders. Vacation Bible School was attended by many students again this summer. Here in Ixtlan we had nearly 300 children, over 100 in Barra Vieja, and 40 in Morelia. The focus was "God walks with the Israelite people". It took many willing hands to help make this year's VBS successful and we sincerely thank all those who assisted. A special thank you, too, to all the Apostolic churches in America who sent gifts to be used as awards. This was a big help to all of us and a big incentive to the 440 children!

"But the liberal deviseth liberal things; and by liberal things shall he stand."

Isaiah 32:8

Once again we want to thank ministering Bro. Loren Schrenk for giving time to serve on our pulpit and at the eye clinic this summer. He was assisted by his wife, Sis. Betsy, and also Sis. Julie Hoerr in the surgeries. Thank you so much for your labor!

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

¡Saludos de amor en el nombre de Cristo, nuestro Salvador!

The month of August began with the meeting of our CVE Board. Elder Bros. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ), and Bros. Marshall Heinold (Ixtlan, MX) and Jerry Tooley (Phoenix, AZ) met here in Magdalena to make decisions regarding the future of this casa hogar (children's home) and the church. Also attending was Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Sis. Deb, Denver, CO). We praise God for the time and effort they put into the work here at Casa Vida y Esperanza.

"As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them."

Acts 13:2

We are thankful to God that He has provided two brothers to minister to our congregation here in Magdalena. On Sunday, August 5, a special service was held to dedicate Bros. Bill Schick (Sis. Joan, originally from Washington, IL) and Seth Gerber (originally from Bluffton, IN) to the preaching and teaching of the Word of God. We appreciate the willingness of these two brothers to serve our congregation and pray for God's grace to be upon them as they take on their new roles. Taking part in this special occasion were Elder Bros. Wayne Banwart, Tom Hoffman, Jon Kokanovich, and Mike Leman. Special thanks to Bro. Mike for conducting the service in Spanish.

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:19

Taking comfort in God's perfect plan for His people, we trust His guidance as the duties of the Eldership here in Magdalena are transferred

from Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich to Elder Bro. Mike Leman. We are so thankful for Bro. Jon's service to our young congregation over the past few years. We also appreciate the willingness of Bro. Mike to take on this extra responsibility and to use his gift of Spanish for the furtherance of the Kingdom.

"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

Ephesians 3:20-21

August 6-10, we held our third annual Vacation Bible School here in Magdalena. Our theme this year was "Fishing in the Bible" and being fishers of men. We were overwhelmed by the number of children that God brought this year to hear His Word being taught (250-300 each day)! May the seeds of Truth that were planted in their hearts grow and bring forth fruit in His time. Special thanks to all of the volunteers that came to help out during this busy week!

"And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And they straightway left their nets, and followed him."

Matthew 4:19, 20

We praise God that He is calling more laborers into the harvest and we welcome Bro. David Sceggel (Peoria, IL) as he joins in the work here in Magdalena. Last year Bro. David helped at CVE as summer staff and will now be moving into a full-time mentor position working with the boys. May God give him much wisdom and grace as he mentors these young lives.

We were happy to host a group of

specialized laborers this month. We are grateful for their willingness to share their talents to continue the progress of the church and new group home and pray that God blesses them for their labor of love.

In the past month we were blessed by three visiting ministers, Bros. Marshall Heinold (Ixtlan, MX), Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis, MN), and Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Fairbury, IL). Thank you, brothers, for sharing the Word with us!

"All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name. For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone. I will praise thee, O Lord my God, with all my heart: and I will glorify thy name for evermore."

Psalms 86:9, 10, 12

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Sarah Knochel

Janelle Ramseyer

We rejoice with Bro. Wade and Amanda Meylan as they welcome little Corbin into their hearts and home. Siblings, Devin and Paige, and grandmother, Sis. Marilyn Meylan, are thankful for his safe arrival.

We are thankful that a reasonable measure of health has been restored to those who have spent time in the hospital during the last few weeks. They include Gary (Cindy) Knochel, Sis. Leanore (Bro. Norman) Knochel, and Bro. Sam (Sis. Lorraine) Wackerle.

May our Heavenly Father continue to comfort Sis. Edith Meier on the passing of her husband, Jerry. We also want to remember his children and grandchildren during this time of sorrow. His warm smile and friendly nature will be missed by all.

We appreciate Bro. Jesse Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie, Detroit, MI) spending

the Sunday after Jerry's funeral with our congregation. Thank you, Bro. Jesse, for allowing the Spirit to work in your life.

Adam Ramseyer (Bro. Neil and Sis. Sharon) has moved to Hawaii. We entreat the Lord's blessings on Adam, as he is a great distance from his home and family.

Our congregation has started listening to the Conference tapes. What a special blessing this is to hear the kind counsel of our dear Elder brothers.

We are looking forward to Bro. John (Sis. Peggy) Jackson's ordination as Elder of our congregation. May we continue to uphold and support him as he faithfully accepts this responsibility.

As the school year begins, we pray that the Lord will guide our children to be true servants of His and a light to those they come in contact with.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Manuela Denes
Kay Rauhe

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever."

Psalms 23:4,6

Our congregation was deeply saddened to hear about the death of our dear Sis. Rosie Wieland. Our deepest sympathy, continued prayers, and love to her husband, Bro. Guy; and may you find comfort in knowing that the wonderful woman you loved so much is now with the Lord and will be missed and fondly remembered. We want to remember to continue praying for their children, Sharon Lenk

and Bill Wieland, and the grandchildren and great-grandchildren as they will miss her, and may they all feel the Lord's peace and know the gentle comfort of His healing touch. Also grieving Sis. Rosie's death is her sister-in-law, Sis. Perseda Wieland (late Bro. Floyd), and the many family and friends who will miss her. May they find comfort in the promise of Jesus to restore hope and peace to their souls. Gerry Meier (Sis. Edie) from Bay City, MI, recently died, and our love and sympathy to his brother-in-law, Bro. Guy Wieland, and sister-in-law, Sis. Perseda Wieland. Bobbi Kaisner (Ken) is saddened over the death of her father, Robert Bruckner, and our love and prayers are with them as they go through this difficult time.

We are so joyful to announce the birth of Selah Brooke on August 7 to happy parents, Bro. Eric and Sis. Jodi Strassheim. Selah was welcomed home with kisses and hugs from Tatton and Landon. Her excited grandparents are Bro. Wes and Sis. Joyce Hohulin (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol Strassheim (Bloomington, IL). We are so thankful that our prayers were answered after Selah was hospitalized for a short time with high jaundice levels and is going home to be with her loving family. Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev Bahr are grandparents to precious granddaughter, Ava Cherise, born on August 9 to first-time parents, Bro. Ryan and Sis. Amber (formerly from Detroit) Prevo (Bloomington, IL). Ava's paternal grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Barb Prevo (Gridley, IL). Children are such a joy and a blessing from God, and we rejoice with these happy families as they add new little bundles of joy to their lives.

We tearfully said goodbye to Sis. Marti Hinrichsen as she moved to Leo, IN, to begin working at Gateway Woods first as an assistant house-

parent and then as a foster care case manager. We will continue to pray for her and the wonderful ministry for children that is taking place there.

We are continually praying for Michael Reardon, son of John and Sis. Linda Reardon, who remains hospitalized. Our love and prayers to Sis. Perseda Wieland and to Sis. Ella Schlatter as they were recently hospitalized, and we are so thankful as they continue to recuperate at home. Sis. Lois Belsley was also recently hospitalized, and now is making Woodhaven her home. Sis. Lois is a wonderful addition to the Woodhaven family.

Bro. Tom Hitz and daughter, Sis. Kristen, recently went to Haiti on a work team, and we are glad to have them back home. What a wonderful time they had helping others who need it so much.

Jon Meyer, son of Sis. Kristie, is undergoing knee surgery this month in North Carolina, and we want to pray for him and for a speedy recovery.

Our heart-felt thanks goes to visiting ministers, Bro. Howard Plattner (Sis. Kristen; Alto, MI) and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne; Sabetha, KS), for sharing the Word with us. We also appreciate visiting ministering Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna; Toledo, OH) for conducting church services at Woodhaven Retirement Community recently. They also brought along their son, Bro. Ben Harmon; Sis. Lanna's parents, Bro. Gale and Sis. Janet Stoller; and Sis. Jill Maibach to help with the singing. We sincerely appreciate their willingness to "serve the Lord with gladness." (Psalm 100:2)

As our Elder body gathers this month, we were encouraged by our Elder Bro. Mark Bahr to pray because it's a "huge blessing knowing everyone at home is praying".

The Woodhaven Retirement Com-

munity celebrated its 20th birthday by joining with the residents, staff and volunteers for a worship service at the Home followed by cake and ice cream with toppings. This year the 20-year old building is being renovated and totally redecorated. Simultaneous with the renovation is the addition of a multi-purpose room in skilled nursing for dining-chapel-activity needs and a brand new assisted living neighborhood. The new assisted living neighborhood will allow the creation of more private rooms in assisted living, memory services and skilled nursing, consistent with the desires of the residents. Your continued prayers are so vital and so very much appreciated.

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

1 John 4:12

**MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS
Mary Mogler**

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

Greetings in the Saviour's name.

Hymns of Zion #7

We truly welcome all those who have assembled with us in the past month. We are thankful you've included us in your summer travels and the additional voices in our singing and a full assembly. It lifts our hearts when we come to church and find unexpected visitors.

July 28-29 we held our Invite-A-Friend weekend. The blessings of fellowship was ours as we gathered for a meal and singing Saturday evening and again as we wor-

shipped on Sunday. We appreciated Bro. Randy Gudeman (Francesville, IN) as he was inspired to bring forth God's Word.

Also, this month, Bro. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL) was in our midst and we were given many applicable teachings through his inspired message.

We appreciated Elder Bro. Ron Messner's willingness to visit and give a presentation on the Home for the Handicapped in Morton, IL. It is always good for us to learn of ways we can be of service and we are grateful for the opportunity to be informed of the work that other's lovingly carry out.

Our love and sympathy goes out to our dear Sis. Ethel Bednarski as her brother, Gene Schmidt, of Winthrop, MN, was laid to rest.

For those who may have the need to be at Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, from time to time, but are unable to assemble with us, our toll-free call in number is 1-877-905-1480.

**MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Heidi Nohl
Sheila Reuter**

We were thankful for the visiting ministers that shared God's Word with us this month. They were Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Bro. Jim Koehl (San Diego, CA), Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Bro. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), Bro. Galen Rokey (Bern, KS), Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. John Bradle (Roanoke, IL). May God bless them for their labors.

We rejoice with Anthony and Amy Ekren and Mike Koehl (Bro. Guy and Sis. Lynette) as they did give their testimonies and were baptized into the fold. May God be with them and bless them.

Our hearts rejoice with John Koehl (Bro. Guy and Sis. Lynette) as he has begun his repentance. We

trust he will feel God's nearness as he makes this new beginning.

Hayden Leonard was born to Bro. Byron and Sis. Amy Wulf. Excited to welcome him home were big sister, Haley, and grandparents, Bro. Doug and Sis. Joyce Wulf. Also thankful for the arrival of Tabitha Kay are Bro. Adam and Sis. Rachel Bjerketvedt. Excited to welcome her home were big brother Titus and grandparents, Bro. Aldean and Sis. Charlotte Luthi. May God bless these families as they raise their children.

Hospitalized this month were Bro. Harv Koehl, Bro. John Zeltwanger and Darren Schafer. We trust the Lord will heal according to His will.

**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP
Rachel Steiner
Julie Schmidt**

Greetings in the Lord!

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

Zion's Harp #237

Many prayers were offered up as our Elders gathered together for the annual Brotherhood Conference. May God grant wisdom and guidance to our shepherds in this day and time. Many thanks to the Bluffton congregation for hosting this year's Conference.

The Sunday School is our delight.
We love it more and more;
'Tis here we learn to do the right
And live forever more.
We hear the truth so pure and clear,
of Jesus' love so sweet and dear;
There we are taught to lift our eyes
to Him who lives on high.

Hymns of Zion #73

Our Sunday School year began on

August 5. A picnic was held after church for the students. Our prayers are with the teachers as they plant the seed in these young and tender souls.

"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;"

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Eugene Schmidt as he passed from this life on August 1. He is survived by three sons, Bro. Verl (Sis. Jamie), Bro. Wesley (Rhonda), and Sidney (Dulci), all from Winthrop; and three daughters, Sis. Marcy (Bro. Larry) Schmidgall from Lamar, MO, Sis. Leona (Bro. Scott) Fehr from West Bend, IA, Sis. Lila (Bro. Anthony) Fehr from Fairbury, IL; 16 grandchildren, 1 great-grandson; a sister, Sis. Ethel Bednarski from Minneapolis; and three brothers, Bro. Delbert (Sis. Jeanette) Schmidt from Elgin, IL, Bro. Elmer (Sis. Hazel) Schmidt and Bro. Darrel (Darlene) Schmidt, both from Winthrop. Eugene was married to Sis. Ella Mae for 36 years before Sis. Ella Mae passed away on July 9, 1996. May God comfort these families during this difficult time.

Our hospital patient this month was Sis. Sue Sward. May she feel God's nearness during her time of recovery.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

**Becky Weiss
Brittany Fehr**

Our dear convert, Grant Meyer (Bro. DeVere and Sis. Michelle), was announced for peace and looks forward to baptism the weekend of August 19. Our prayers are with him as he takes this next step.

Bro. Bruce Endress (Sis. Eliza-

beth, Bradford, IL) shared God's Word with us this past month. We are thankful for the efforts of our ministering brethren.

The end of July brought an end to another Sunday School term. We appreciate the efforts of the teachers on behalf of our children.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Mindy Braker
Becky Marti**

We enjoyed precious fellowship with many visitors this past month. We appreciated the willingness of Elder Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), Bro. Don Miller (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Glen Braker (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Jim Koehl (San Diego, CA) to serve us in the ministry.

We are thankful that Ben Braker (Bro. Roy and Sis. Judy) is seeking the Lord in repentance. May God grant him the needed grace in this most important step. We pray that many more will answer His call to repentance.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Larry and Sis. Marcy Schmidgall and family in the loss of her dad, Gene Schmidt, of our Winthrop, MN, congregation. May the Lord be their Comforter.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Betsy Schrenk

Elder Bros. Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN), and Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS), and Bros. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi, Wolcott, IN) and Kim Sutter (Sis. Vonette, Taylor, MO) were our visiting ministers this past month. We thank them for their services, and appreciate them and their families for blessing the St. Louis church with their fellowship.

How should we defend ourselves against the onslaught of Satan? In the wilderness after His baptism,

Christ responded to Satan's attempts to entrap him by quoting from Deuteronomy 6:16, 8:3, and Psalm 91:11-12, and His answers silenced Satan. In the Garden of Eden, Eve made the mistake of misquoting God by adding to His directions in her answer to Satan. Satan then enticed her to eat the forbidden fruit by denying that God meant what He said (Genesis 3:1-6). If we have the Word hidden in our hearts, we can recognize Satan's deceitful tactics and protect ourselves.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Sally Haerr

MAYBE TODAY ... How often do we start our day with the thought ... "Maybe today will be the day that our Lord Jesus will come again"? I Thess., chapter 5 (Holy Bible) tells us plainly that His second coming is not "if" but "when". In last Sunday's service, we were reminded to be prepared. A favorite old hymn in the "Hymns of Zion" (#121) entitled "Watch and Pray" gives us much Bible-based, solid instruction.

Our final Bible study in a series of five on "Encouragement" was given by Bro. Jeff Thames (Sis. Brenda, Washington, IL). A simple assignment was given ... (as we read/study the Bible) "Think and Do"! Why are we so amazed at the simplicity of God's Word? Things become especially clear when the Holy Spirit speaks through a ministering brother. I often chide myself when I do not take time to study/search the Bible more ... it is so accessible for all of us. Thank you, Bro. Jeff; we were blessed by the presence of all your family.

We want to thank ministering Bro. Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver, CO) for making Taylor a stop off on their way home from the Brotherhood Conference. What a wonderful

heritage our forefathers have left for us to enjoy, as we greet visiting brothers and sisters and immediately feel a oneness.

Our congratulations and best wishes to John and Jaime Hoerr on the birth of their third son, Ryan James. He is welcomed by big brothers, Jack and Wyatt, as well as grandparents, Bro. Don and Sis. Elaine Hoerr, and great-grandmother, Sis. Loida Hodel.

Our Elder Bro. Kent has a "heart to heart" talk with our congregation from time to time ... often after an Elder Conference. These meetings help us all to realize just how much our shepherds care as they "watch for our souls" (Hebrews 13:17, Holy Bible). May we all walk in obedience to God's Word so that these brothers can "give an account with joy".

The sick/hospitalized this month were Dean Redd (Gaye) and Lester Reiman (Jane). We continue to pray for healing and comfort for them as well as strength for their families as they give them constant support.

NEW YORK CITY Secaucus, New Jersey

"This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will be glad and rejoice in it."

Psalm 118:24

We had many reasons to be glad and rejoice, as we were able to worship together and have blessed fellowship this last month in Secaucus. We were blessed with visitors from Bluffton, IN; Tremont, IL; Rockville, CT; and Philadelphia, PA. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Sis. Michelle) with us to minister the Word. We are constantly reminded that Jesus died that all men would come to the knowledge of salvation, and be a new creature created by

the Master unto good works.

We have been blessed with the presence of Sis. Alicia Steffen (Bluffton, IN) this summer as she has worked in the New York City area. We have appreciated her willingness to help us with singing, Sunday School and all the things that a little Church needs to function. May God bless her for her willingness to be used in His service. We certainly welcome any who would want to come out to the New York City area for any length of time. There are plenty of employment opportunities!

We have additional services planned this year on October 21. They will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Secaucus, New Jersey. We begin singing at 10:15 am in the morning with pulpit service beginning at 10:30 am. We have a lunch break, and then begin afternoon services at 12:30 pm.

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

NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

"Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands. Sing forth the honour of his name, make his praise glorious."

Psalm 66:1-2

Our congregation was blessed beyond measure as we worshipped together with a busload from our Columbus and Mansfield, OH, churches on the weekend of July 28-29. How wonderful it was for us to hear so many voices raised in song to

our great God and to see our small church filled for the weekend. We were glad to have ministering Bros. John Grimm (Columbus, OH) and Tim Gerber (Mansfield, OH) share the Word with us Saturday evening and again on Sunday. Following our potluck dinner and Saturday evening service, our Elder Bro. Duane Farney reviewed some of our church history with the group. May we always remember the foundation that our church was founded on and keep persevering so that this same faith can be found for future generations.

Faith of our fathers! We will love
Both friend and foe in all our strife,
And preach Thee, too, as love knows
how,

By kindly words and virtuous life.
Faith of our fathers! Holy faith!
We will be true to Thee till death!

Hymns of Zion #85, vs. 3

May the Lord bless these brethren that put forth so much planning to be with us as much as we were blessed to have them. We were all sad to see the bus pull out of the parking lot!

We were given a beautiful day for our church Sunday School picnic at Whetstone Gulf State Park on August 4. The Sunday School truly is our delight as we see these young children coming to church and hearing of Jesus' love. What a wonderful day it was to be able to fellowship with each one.

We would like to extend a warm thanks to our Bluffton, IN, congregation for their outpouring of love over the Conference week. What a blessing it was for those of us who could attend the General Conference on August 10. Surely a blessing awaits for each as we listen to the tapes as well. May we each apply what we hear in our Elder Brothers' exhortations of love.

Our prayers went out to Meghan McGillvray who was again hospitalized this month. We are thankful that

she is now home and feeling much better.

OHIO, AKRON
Mara Henico
Rachel Pamer

I place myself in Jesus' hands
 And there abide forever
 No griefs, no joys shall loose the
 bands
 Nor yet our union sever
 In these dread days when earth de-
 cays
 Who stays in Him and thus obeys
 Shall be preserved forever...

How thankful we can be that we have a Lord that does provide for each and every need!

We recently enjoyed our annual Invite-A-Guest weekend. Among our many visitors we were blessed to have ministering Bros. Tony Manz (Junction, OH) and Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS). Other visiting brothers who served us in the Word were Bro. Tim Ramsier (Rittman, OH), Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO), and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA). We are so thankful that our ministering brothers so often allow themselves to be used by God to bring forth His message to us, and trust each felt our prayers and support.

We are thankful to have Bro. Wes Dotterer (Sis. Kathy, Forrest, IL) and Bro. David Zimmerman (Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta, Forrest, IL) assembling with us as they undergo occupational training in the Cleveland area.

Our prayers are with Bro. Art (Sis. Audrey) and his family, as he recently was admitted to Hospice to receive care in that facility. We know that God is more than able to comfort and provide if we commit our way unto Him. We also remember Sis. MaryAnn (Bro. Al), Bro. Leon Graf, and Judi Steidl (Les Steidl) as these three have recently undergone sur-

gery. It has been good to see them in church since their procedures, and we trust that God will continue to grant healing.

We were thankful to hear that Victor and Tammy Botosan and Les and Judi Steidl wish to bring a testimony before the church. We trust that God will give them grace and courage. We also rejoice with the angels that Adrian Craiu (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Veronica) has answered the Lord's call, and continue to pray that he, and all of our converts, will find grace to build a firm foundation that will hold firm through the storms of life.

OHIO, COLUMBUS
Nancy Banks

A special thank you to our many visitors this summer. Almost every Sunday we have had a full church and it is truly a blessing to meet and greet so many loved ones. Our sincere appreciation to our visiting ministers this month: Bro. Craig Martin (Princeville, IL) who traveled with a group from Princeville and Bradford, Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH) and Bro. Jesse Bedolla (Detroit, MI).

A bus trip to the Croghan-Naumburg church was enjoyed by brethren from the Columbus and Mansfield churches. No one seemed to mind the 10-hour trip as fellowship and singing abounded. We appreciate so much the love and hospitality extended to us by the Croghan church. "God be with you 'til we meet again".

OHIO, JUNCTION
Cindy Schlatter

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you, Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

John 14:27

Our convert, Andy Manz (Bro. Don and Sis. Connie), feels this peace in his heart, and we rejoice with him. May God continue to be with Andy as he looks forward to the weekend of his testimony and baptism.

We lift up in prayer our Sis. Marge Schlatter and Bro. Ken Manz (Sis. Gwen) as they have been given the responsibility of teaching Sunday School. May God give them the needed strength and patience. We would also like to thank Bro. Sam Manz (Sis. Shelby) and Sis. Jennifer Manz as they have completed their terms. May God richly bless them both for their many efforts.

Travis Schlatter (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Laurie) had an appendectomy this month and our Sis. Madeline Manz suffered a fall. We are thankful our Heavenly Father was watching over both situations and has granted healing to each one.

We were blessed with the visits of ministering Bros. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH) and Mike Ursu (Kitchener, ON). What a blessing it is to have brethren come from many miles and yet still feel the true Word proclaimed. May God richly bless them as they minister His Holy Word.

The weekend of August 11-12 was a very blessed weekend for us as we were able to add two brothers into the fold. We appreciate the efforts of Elder Bro. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) in helping with this work. We rejoice with Bro. Jim McCullough (Sis. Julie) and Bro. Klint Manz (Bro. David and Sis. Kathy) and continue to pray for them as they continue on living for the Lord. May we all earnestly pray for the sinner who wanders to and fro still lost in sin — God still does hear and answer our prayers! We also thank Bro. Larry Wenninger, Bro. Todd Stoller, Bro. Gary Sinn (all from Latty, OH), Bro. Jesse Bedolla (Detroit, MI) and Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH) for sharing this weekend

with us.

“And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.”

Genesis 2:18

Sis. Janice Manz (Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen) and Bro. Chad Kaeb (Bro. Eric and Sis. LouAnn Kaeb) of Cissna Park, IL, shared the news of their wedding engagement. May God give them wisdom and direction as they make plans for their wedding and their future lives together.

August 19 was the wedding day for Bro. Tim Manz (Bro. Paul and Sis. Sandra) and Sis. Joy Stoller (Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth) of Latty, OH. May God be ever present in their marriage to lead, guide and direct them. We welcome you to Junction, Sis. Joy!

OHIO, LATTY
Amanda Steffen
Carmen Eisenmann

We were thankful to have several visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Pat, Congerville, IL), Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL), Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL), Bro. Bill Waibel (Sis. Carol, Bay City, MI), Bro. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH), and Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA).

Our prayers are with Sis. Tam Stoller (Bro. Jim) and her family on the death of her father, Earl Utterback. Our prayer is that the family would feel our love and prayers and that the Holy Spirit would comfort them during their time of loss.

We were thankful to hear that our convert, Brock Williamson (Bro. Jason and Sis. Wendy), was announced to our congregation as having the wonderful peace of God. We pray that God will continue to bless him with

grace as he prepares for baptism.

We rejoice with Bro. Chet Wenninger (Bro. Larry and Sis. Joyce) and Sis. Amanda Steffen (Bro. Donn and Sis. Karen) on their engagement. May God bless them with peace and joy as they prepare to become one in the Lord.

June 19 was the birthday for Lance Russell, born to Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Mandy Whitman. Lance's siblings are Lydia, Landyn, and Laryssa. Grandparents are Bro. Dick and Sis. Eileen Whitman and David and Mary Lou Pitney. Tanner Jay was born to Bro. Chris and Sis. Rachel Laukhuf on August 8. He is welcomed home by siblings, Gracie, Carson, and Brooks. Tanner's grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Marcia Laukhuf and Bro. Nelson and Sis. Shelby Beer. We pray that God will be with these families and that He will give them the strength they need for each day.

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Esther Baumann

Our congregation was encouraged to learn the good news that Luke Tucker (Dan and Sis. Barb) has begun his repentance. Continue to pray for him as he grows in God's ways.

Our Annual Youth Fellowship Weekend was held on July 21-22. We thank all who assisted with the weekend. Special thanks to Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH) for ministering to us.

Sis. Maria Tucker (Dan and Sis. Barb) has followed the Lord's leading to move to our Bluffton, IN, congregation. We hope she will return often to visit us.

Bro. Elmer Oesch (Doris) has been hospitalized and is in continued need of our prayers.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Sarah Bauman
Linda Zollinger

“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.”

Eccles. 3:1-2

Bro. Rodney and Sis. Jill Steiner are the parents of a son, Jed David, born August 3. Jeremy, Jessica, Riley, Reed and Justin welcome Jed home. Bro. Ronald and Sis. Ruth Steiner and Bro. John and Sis. Joyce Schamback (Akron, OH) are the grandparents.

Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy Schar welcome a new grandson, Isaac Thomas Stoller, born July 30 to Bro. Tom and Sis. Gretchen Stoller (Smithville, OH). Isaac joins Esther, Reuben and Amariah. May God bless these precious children and their dear families.

Our faithful loving Sis. Mary Stoller, 93, passed away on July 16. She is survived by her dear husband, Bro. Lawrence, and children, Bro. Harlan (Sis. Jean), Sis. Linda and Sis. Judy Stoller, and son-in-law, Bro. Dale (Sis. Carolyn) Hartzler; a host of grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. A daughter, Sis. Joyce Hartzler, preceded her in death.

Bro. Glenn Miller, 86, passed away on August 16. He is survived by children, Sis. Judy (Bro. Rowen) Schar, Bro. Larry (Sis. Edith, Smithville, OH), Bro. Dennis (Sis. Doris, Sardis, OH), Bro. Randy (Sis. Carolyn, Akron, OH), Sis. Karen (Richard) Hartzler, Sis. Kimberly (Tim) Hanzie; a brother, Bro. Richard (Sis. Melba); a sister, Barbara (Boyd) Ack-er; and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. We rejoice and are comforted Bro. Glenn could share his testimony and be baptized at his home on August 12 with Elder Bros. Merle Hartzler and Bro. Andy Stoller

(Smithville, OH). We pray the Lord will send the Spirit of comfort and peace to all those who are sorrowing.

We were blessed to hear the testimonies and witness the baptism of three precious souls the weekend of July 28-29. We welcome Sis. Esther Rupp (Bro. James and Sis. Sharon), Bro. Eric Steiner (Bro. Richard and Sis. Patricia) and Eric's sister, Sis. Myra (Mike) Pierce, into our brotherhood. We were thankful for the labors of our dear Elder Bros. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL) and Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) who assisted our Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler.

The Lord provided rich blessings to us through our visiting brothers. These include Bro. Dwight Stoller and Bro. Gary Sinn (Latty, OH), Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle and Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH), Bro. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH) and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA). May God richly bless them for their labors.

Hospital patients were Bro. Robert (Sis. Betty) Steiner, Arlene Rupp, Sis. Ruth Beery and Sis. Ruth Ingold. We pray God will comfort and heal according to His will.

OHIO, SARDIS

Eric and Jami Hartzler

O, faithful Lord, Thy love and truth sincerely
Thou dost bestow on us each day so clearly,
So grant that we also each day anew
Become more faithful, loving, kind
and true!

Zion's Harp #172, vs. 5

As time marches on, so we, as soldiers for Jesus Christ, march onward also, striving to do His will in all things. We bid farewell to Sis. Kim Lanz as the Lord has directed her to move to Philadelphia. We miss her but know that she is surely a blessing to the Philadelphia congregation.

May God bless her as she strives to do His will.

The Word of truth was brought forth through Bro. Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Lamar, MO) on a Wednesday evening. We are thankful for Bro. Bill's willingness and effort spent to be with us and teach us.

We appreciate the efforts made by our Elder brothers at the annual Brotherhood Conference in Bluffton, IN, to encourage and teach us. We look forward to listening to the recordings in September, Lord willing.

"Behold, a sower went forth to sow; and when he sowed ... but other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit..."

Matthew 13:3, 8

Our older Sunday school classes were in Mansfield for Ohio/Michigan Youth Day. It is our prayer that the seeds sown fell on good ground and will bring forth good fruit in due season. May the Lord bless those who worked to make this weekend possible for our young people.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

**Edith Miller
Ruth Gasser**

We truly are blessed that we so unhindered may gather around God's Word, when so many in the world cannot even own a Bible. We thank the visitors who shared the Word with us this past month: Bros. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Mike Ursu (Kitchener, Ontario), Joe Dotterer (Bloomfield, IA), and Bill Brake (Sardis, OH). May we continue to pray for our ministers that they be led by the Holy Spirit as they proclaim God's Word.

On August 5, we welcomed two lambs into the fold: Bro. Doyle and Sis. Lynelle Stoller (Bro. Scott and Sis. Charlene). Elder Bro. Merle

Hartzler (Rittman, OH) assisted Bro. Andy with this work. We pray they will continue to grow in grace, feeling the Spirit's guidance day by day. We are thankful that two more souls are seeking their salvation through repentance, Brad Klotzle (Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley) and Nicole Wagner. May they find grace for a true conversion and peace of heart and mind.

Isaac Thomas Stoller arrived on July 30 to bless the family of Bro. Tom and Sis. Gretchen and siblings, Esther, Reuben and Amariah. Grandparents, Sis. Luella Stoller (late Bro. Harold) and Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy Schar (Rittman, OH), will also share in the joys and responsibilities for this added blessing.

Ron and Candy Hartzler also experienced a family increase as their son, Dustin, was joined in marriage to Melody Hall. May the Lord bless this union.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane Wuthrich and Sis. Kyra Klopfenstein have completed a period of employment in our area and are moving on to new endeavors. May God bless them in their new locations as He leads them onward. Bros. Wesley Dotterer and David Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) are pursuing educational degrees in our area. We welcome them to worship with us so often as they can.

Sis. Carol Schuster (Bro. George) and Sis. Delphine Nieman have suffered some health difficulties and were hospitalized. We are prayerful for their recovery, entrusting them to the Great Physician to heal and restore.

Some of our congregation have experienced sorrow, as Bro. Glenn Miller (Rittman, OH) was relived of his earthly burdens on August 16. Grieving this loss are son, Bro. Larry (Sis. Edith) and family; and granddaughter, Sis. Gretchen Stoller (Bro. Tom).

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me."

Psalms 23

OREGON, PORTLAND
Brianna Strahm

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane, Silverton), Bro. Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth, Lester, IA) and Bro. Chris Kuenzi (Sis. Mary, Silverton). May the Lord richly reward these brothers for their labors on our behalf.

Harrison Kuenzi (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Sarah) spent some time in the hospital this month. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with him and his family during this time.

OREGON, SILVERTON
Melissa Kuenzi
Cindy Metzger

Congratulations to Sis. Kathryn Kuenzi and Bro. Eric Wuthrich as they were wed on July 22. We wish them God's blessings as they make their home in Bloomfield, IA.

We welcome two new babies this month. Brad Kuenzi and Candice Childress had a little boy named Trevon Dean who was born on July 30. His grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Mary Beth Kuenzi.

Layne Charles was born to Bro. Harvey and Sis. Jennifer Kuenzi. Layne's siblings are Sis. Nicole, Lorraine, Logan, Janelle, Leanne, Byron, Jerome and Noelle. His grandparents are Bro. Lee and Sis. Janet Kuenzi and Chuck and Connie Mueller (Hudson, IL).

The Bible class hosted and enjoyed an invite-a-family weekend on July 28. It was really a special time for Silverton to meet so many families from across the nation.

Our prayers are extended to Phil, Sis. Jan Gudeman (Bro. Richard),

Bro. Harold (Sis. Linda), Howard (Sheree), and Dale (Sherry) at the death of their mother, Ida Hari.

We wish to express our farewell to Bro. Aaron Luthi who was with us for a time for an internship program. Also, we wish the Lord's blessings and guiding hand to Sis. Emily Sinn (Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie) and Sis. Audrey Kuenzi (Bro. Todd and Sis. Melissa) as they attend college in Iowa.

We want to thank Bros. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend), Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth, Lester), Lenard Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago), Ron Jones (Sis. Liz, Portland) and Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland) for their service on the pulpit this month.

PENNSYLVANIA
PHILADELPHIA

Our children are our future church. The time that they spend together now lays the foundation for the Christian fellowship that will be with them through their entire life. This was the motivation for our Sunday school picnic which was held this month. In our small church in Philadelphia, the picnic includes our whole congregation - a blessed time to share our love for each other. We trust that each child will remember this time and have a yearning to someday be part of the brotherhood.

Our prayers and expressions of sympathy are extended to Bro. Bob and Sis. Rika Allen and their family. Bro. Bob's mother has passed from this life into eternity.

We are so thankful this month for visitors from the congregations at Sardis, OH; West Lafayette, IN; Cissna Park, IL; Remington, IN; Bloomington, IL; and Rockville, CT. We are grateful for each one that comes to worship and fellowship with us.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE
Mike and Monica Fritz

In the past month, we have been encouraged from God's Word, and strengthened in His service by our visiting ministering brothers: Bros. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy; Alto, MI), Alan Schambach (Sis. Sarah; Remington, IN), Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon; Francesville, IN), and Earl Beery (Sis. Susie; Rittman, OH). We always appreciate fellowship with visiting brethren and friends. This month we have enjoyed visitors from Champaign, Cissna Park, Congerville, Elgin, Eureka, Forrest, and Morton, IL; Francesville, La-Crosse, and Remington, IN; Lamont-Gridley, KS; Alto, MI; Rittman, OH; and Silverton, OR.

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: Congerville, IL (9/23); Taylor, MO (9/30); Sardis, OH (10/7); Morton, IL (10/14); Bluffton, IN (10/21); Lamar, MO (10/28). If you are planning to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Often we gather on Saturday evenings for fellowship. We also meet on Wednesday evenings for a song service at 7:15 p.m. and would welcome any mid-week visitors. Contacts are Bro. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder, (615) 373-8928; Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz, (615) 866-5543; and Sis. Gwen Leuthold, (615) 356-5755.

TEXAS, AUSTIN
Amy Ringger
Serenity Ringger

Greetings from Texas! Some from here were blessed to attend the Conference in Bluffton, hear the words of exhortation from our Elder brethren, and greet so many of you.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington), Bros. Brian

Huber (Sis. Jacki, Francesville), Roy Koehl (Sis. Janell, Morris), Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata), Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria), and John Jackson (Sis. Peggy, Bay City). We also had visitors from Eureka, and a Brother who did some work on our church sound system.

We're looking forward to the following ministers in October coming from Princeville (7), Minneapolis (14), Remington (21), Silverton/Portland (28).

We extend a warm welcome to anyone who may be in the area to worship with us, even midweek, though we don't have a regular schedule for midweek services. 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, per-

Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services

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

877-370-9988 (toll free)

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- Information and presentations on Biblical financial stewardship
- Materials and presentations on other specific topics
- Mentoring for students in mental health-related fields
- All calls are confidential

haps 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 the 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.

CLARENDON/NORWICH VERMONT

Nathan and Miriam Reutter

We have some very encouraging news this month! After much prayer, and God's direction, Bro. Chad and Sis. Jenny Virkler, formerly from our Rockville, CT, congregation, along with their sweet little children, Abigail, Caleb, Ethan, David, and Hannah, have recently relocated to Vermont. We welcome them, and are very thankful to have them added to our fellowship. With this move our Sunday school has doubled in size!

Thank you to our visiting ministers, who so faithfully proclaim the message of salvation. This past month they were as follows: Bro. Todd Graf (Sis. Lydia, Akron, OH), Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Sis. Cheryl, Rockville, CT), and Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT). We are grateful to each and every one who makes an effort to come and support us, not only

from the pulpit, but also those who plan for the added fellowship of singings and spending encouraging time together.

Our annual business meeting was also held this past month. We want to thank everyone who has had any part in helping things to run smoothly in our rented facilities. There have been many from the Rockville congregation, and local brethren and friends, who tirelessly help with serving in many areas and we would like to thank you very much for all your work and efforts! With many changes and adjustments in the last year, there have been new positions assigned and logistical reorganizations occurring. We pray that God will lead us in these structural changes and will bless our ventures in the future. Even more, we further pray that all we do will redound to the glory of our Creator.

If you are interested in fellowshiping with us here in Vermont, and would like information about service locations and dates, please contact Bro. Chad and Sis. Jenny Virkler at 802-325-2724. We love to fellowship with believers whether it is during the week or on the weekend. Please let us know if you are planning on being in our area so we can accommodate you. Service times are as follows:

Morning Service 10:10 AM

Afternoon Service 12:30 PM

Sunday school is held during the morning service.

If anyone is interested in purchasing beautiful head-coverings handmade from our dear Sisters in Ixtlan, Michoacan, Mexico, please contact Sis. Areli Reutter at 802-776-5293. Inventory is available upon request. This is a wonderful opportunity to support those of the household of faith (Galatians 6:10).



Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services

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

877-370-9988 (toll free) www.accounseling.org

Ways ACCFS Provides Service to All of the Churches

Proverbs 11:14, "Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety."

With Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services' office being located in Central Illinois, some people may not be aware of the services that we provide to individuals who don't live close to us. This month we would like to focus on the ways ACCFS provides support to individuals in our churches across the country and beyond.

Telephone or Email Consultations

People contacting ACCFS (877-370-9988 or info@accounseling.org) can receive a consultation from one of our counselors. Calls and emails are received from people needing assistance for themselves, family members of those struggling, and from elders/ministers who are assisting people. Counselors can help callers understand mental health issues and relationship problems and develop a plan of action to deal with these issues. Getting a consultation with a counselor at ACCFS can be a helpful step when you are working through a difficult situation. This consultation service is available to:

People who are experiencing mental health issues or relationship problems

Family members or friends who are concerned about someone who is struggling

Elders and ministers who are working with someone who is struggling

Some of the requests for consultations are for people who need specific information about a current struggle or who have questions about a topic (e.g., a parent who wonders if a behavior that a child is exhibiting is a 'phase' or a 'problem'). While ACCFS counselors do not provide counseling or assign any diagnosis

over the phone, we do our best to provide information, encouragement, and give direction on how to deal with the issues at hand. This may involve discussing the need to seek professional counseling, spiritual counseling, referral for medication, etc.

Sometimes the requests for consultations come from individuals who are already receiving professional counseling in their local area. They may be seeking direction regarding questions about the counseling they are receiving. ACCFS can help these individuals to (1) understand more about the suggestions they are receiving from their counselor, (2) make suggestions about how to use the counseling more effectively, or (3) help ensure that the counseling advice is spiritually sound.

At times, consultations are requested when there is an ongoing situation involving a difficult mental health or relationship issue. This may involve a number of people from a particular church. An elder or minister may also be involved in trying to assist. An ACCFS counselor may be asked to help sort out the involvement of each of the different parties and to make suggestions about how they can work together effectively.

Consultations are often helpful for elders and ministers who are working with struggling individuals. This is especially true during situations when trying to sort out how mental health issues impact a struggling person's spiritual life.

ACCFS Referral Directory

When a need for a professional counselor arises, people often don't know where to turn. People calling ACCFS can request information regarding counseling resources in their local area. We maintain a database of mental health professionals located near Apostolic Christian Churches throughout the United States. Our

goal in providing this service is to help struggling people find mental health professionals (1) who are located near the caller's home area, (2) have strong clinical skills and good credentials, and (3) will be respectful of their client's religious beliefs and faith backgrounds. The ACCFS referral database includes counselors, psychologists, psychiatrists, specialty clinics, and support groups. In the event we do not have any referral sources in the caller's area, we will help the caller to find one. As these needs arise, our staff interviews counselors from around the country in order to help identify a good match for a particular situation. When possible, we facilitate communication between the local elder and a local counselor in order to further build a working relationship between the counselor and the church. When this type of mutual respect and open communication are present, we find increased understanding and better outcomes for all.

ACCFS Website

Our site at www.accounseling.org is intended to make helpful information available whenever it is needed. The site provides information on a broad range of mental health issues and relationship problems. Under each topic you can find helpful information to read, download, or print. Individuals can learn about how to find help for themselves or for loved ones. Online ordering of brochures and books is available. Information is being added to the site regularly.

Seeking information and support from an third party is often helpful during a difficult time. The counselors at ACCFS are committed to doing what they can to help struggling individuals, families, and churches in their time of need. Thank you for your prayers and support for this ministry of the church.

Child Placement Manager Opening



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

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

For further information and a job description, please contact:

Bro. Jeff Schumacher

Administrator

PO Box 151

Leo, IN 46765

1-888-443-4283 (GATE)

jeff.schumacher@gatewaywoods.org

Bro. Lynn Stieglitz

Counseling Elder

15417 Doty Rd.

New Haven, IN 46774

260-657-1033

lynnstieg@lightningnet.net

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

Indiana: Tom Neuenschwander
 Phone/Fax: 260-824-4773
 E-mail: tsneuen@adamswells.com

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

BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Sharing The Word In Love

*"Where there is no vision, the people perish:
 but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."
 Proverbs 29:18*

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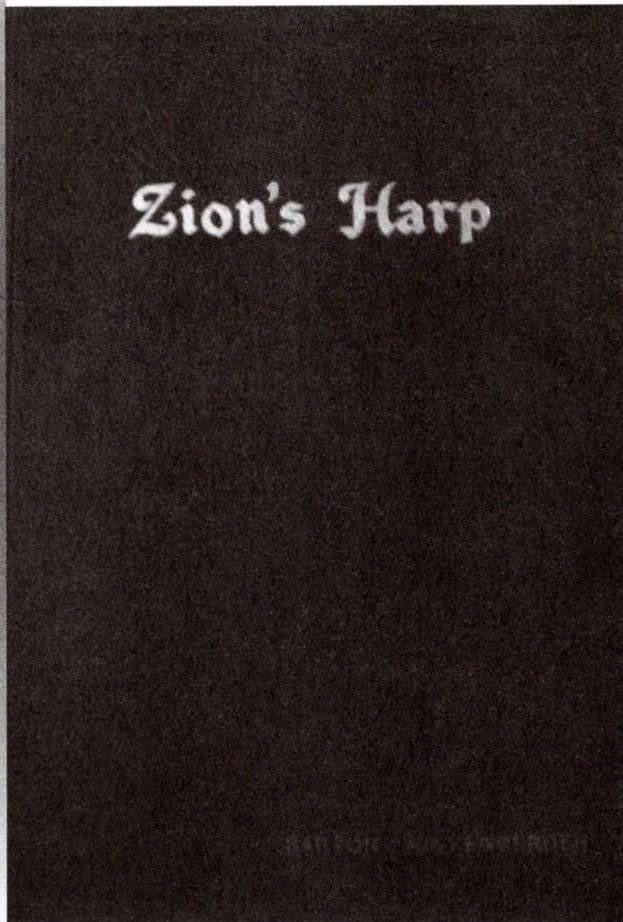
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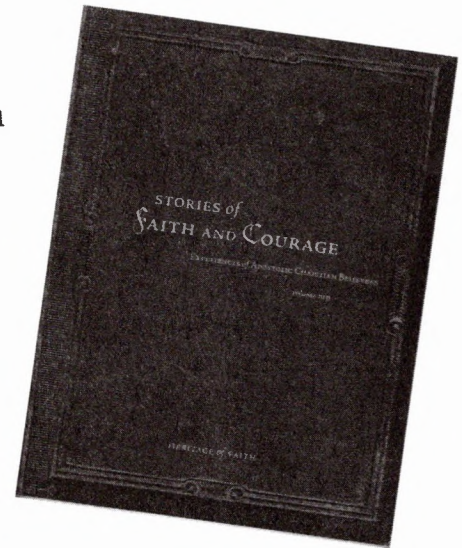
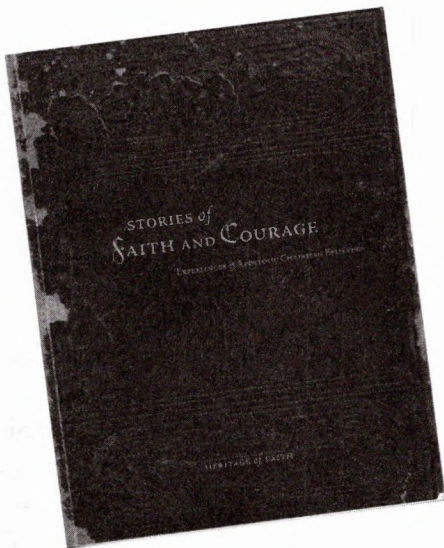
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"Zion's Melodies" Instrumental CD

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 CD is available for a donation. All proceeds of the CD, beyond expenses, will be contributed to The Good Samaritan Fund of Fairview Haven Nursing Home, Fairbury.



Counselor Needed

Gateway Woods, a Christian residential childcare facility, has an immediate opening for a male or female counselor. Qualified persons for this position must hold a minimum of a Bachelors degree in Social Work, Counseling or related field. A Masters degree is preferred. Responsibilities include individual and family counseling, case management, and consultation with the treatment team.

Jeff Schumacher
Residential Program Director
PO Box 151
Leo, IN 46765
(219) 627-2159

Lynn Stieglitz
Counseling Elder
15417 Doty Road
New Haven, IN 46774
(260) 657-1033

Director Of Nursing Position Available

Parkview Haven in Francesville, IN is seeking a Registered Nurse to fill the position of Director of Nursing. This position has come available for the first time in 9 years. Parkview is sponsored by 6 nearby churches— Francesville, Valparaiso, LaCrosse, Wolcott, Remington, and West Lafayette. Please call Steven Stoller at 219-567-9149, or contact by e-mail at parkview@home.ffni.com.

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

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Jerry and Arlene Banwart, 307 First St, Congerville, IL 61729
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Director Of Nursing Position Available

Fairview Haven (Fairbury, IL) is currently seeking to fill the position of Director of Nursing. If you feel you have a calling to share God's Love to our elderly brethren and friends, we would be interested in talking with you. We need someone to join us in our mission of 'Loving and Caring, Peacefully Sharing, That Which Is Good.'

Please contact Bro. Rick Plattner or Bro. Dave Blunier at:

Fairview Haven, 605 N.
Fourth St. Fairbury, IL 61739
(815) 692-2572

NEEDED: **Administrator or** **Assistant Director** **of Nursing**

Country Inn, the assisted living facility affiliated with the Latty, OH church, is seeking either an administrator or assistant director of nursing. The current director of nursing has been filling both roles, and we are in the process of dividing these responsibilities. Please e-mail, call, or fax Lee Klopfenstein at the contacts listed below if you are interested:

lklopfenstein@pol.net
419-238-2397 (phone)
419-238-4557 (fax)

Sermon continued from page 2

around our kitchen table together, we read how Ruth came out. She laid it on the line. She said, I am going with you. Your people will be my people. Your God will be my God. (Ruth 1:16,17) Even back then, God was in control. He knew when Ruth came out of that land of Moab, He knew very good and well that line and that lineage that was going to be laid down there. That some day that David was going to be her great grandson. He knew that out of David and his lineage, was going to come a Savior. So way back then God knew. He knew that there was going to be a day that you and I were going to have this chance at salvation. I pray that we don't take it lightly but as a gift of God.

Jesus, if we would have read the first part of this chapter, it said He had compassion upon the people because they hungered (St. Mark 8:2). Jesus found Himself out in the wilderness and I believe it was three days that these people followed after Him. They had a desire to go out and to see what this man had to say. It was something that they had maybe never heard before. They had been brought up under the law and the prophets. But here was a man that was working miracles. He was teaching in a way that they had never heard before. They had a desire, they had a desire to be fed.

I've asked myself many times, if I was there at that time, would I have been willing to go out into the wilderness and to leave behind my job? I am sure these people had things that they could have been doing. There was probably many excuses they could have made, that they wouldn't have followed Jesus Christ. But they had a desire to go.

So many times in my life, it seems like I become so busy that we cloud our judgment. The things of God, they grow strangely dim. I believe it is in that song, you know, if we look upon the face of Jesus, the things of this world would become strangely dim and they won't mean those

things to us anymore. But so often we find ourselves, do we not, so busy with the things of this world. But these people, they had a desire. They knew that there was something special about this man. They had a desire to go to see what He had to say. They had followed Him and they become hungry. Jesus wanted to see the faith, I believe, not only of those people, but of the disciples. He had a desire that they would be fed.

The disciples, they said, how can we do this (St. Mark 8:4)? We don't have very much. It wouldn't mean nothing for these four thousand people, as it said here, to feed them, but Jesus had a desire, I believe, to show them that He could take care of their physical needs and He could take care of their spiritual needs. It didn't matter to Jesus how many were there. It could have been four, it could have been five, it could have been ten thousand. It didn't matter. But He fed them. He wanted to show them the power of God. But He also, more than just feeding them physically, I truly believe that Jesus wanted to feed them spiritually. He wanted them to understand that He was there to provide for them. He was going to be that living sacrifice. Not only did He have a desire to feed them of that physical food and drink but He wanted them to understand that He was the Bread of Life. That if a man comes unto Him and eats, that He will never hunger again. If he thirst, if he comes unto Him, he will never be thirsty again. They were fed.

How would we have felt if we would have been there and we would have seen that great miracle? There was more left over than what they began with (St. Mark 8:8). God blessed them and God blessed them mightily.

As they went on, as we began reading there, this man was brought. He was blind and they led him there to Jesus. Jesus spit on him. There is no way to make that glamorous at all. But Jesus spit on him and in one story, I don't know if

this is the same man, but it said He spit and He made a clay and He wiped that on his eyes. (St. Mark 8:22,23)

I can't imagine if I was that man there and I had been blind and couldn't see. That would be one of the worst things I think that could ever happen to us, is to have our eyesight taken away. If I had been told that there was this great physician that could give me my eyesight back and He came and He spit upon me, I can't imagine what would have went through that man's mind. But Jesus worked a great miracle. He gave this man his eyesight back (St. Mark 8:25). I believe that man, he had to be so very thankful for what Jesus did for him. Not only, I believe, did He give him his eyesight but He gave him a faith. A spiritual faith that his eyes could be opened.

I believe in all of our lives, we can truly say that we've been blind. There is not one in this room that probably haven't been spiritually blind at one time or another. We brought it upon ourselves. It was a choice that we made to walk the other way from God. Not only walk, but many times we probably ran the other way. There were probably times in our lives, if you were like me, that we made excuse after excuse why we wouldn't come and taste and see.

The Apostle Paul, he found himself in a situation, where he thought he was even doing the will of God, but he was so far from God. Jesus came unto him. Why? Why do you persecute Me? Not those Christians but He said you are persecuting Me when you persecute the church. Saul was blinded that he could see spiritually. On that road to Damascus he lost his eyesight for a time. But Jesus opened up the eyes of his heart, that he could see the things of God and that he could follow after Him. Through that, Paul became a witness for Christ. (Acts 9:4-20) I pray that each and every one of us see that we have been given eyesight by Jesus

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Christ. That He's opened up our heart.

I pray, that as the chapter was finished here, that we're never ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is one thing to say it but it is another to be bold and to speak. I pray that in many ways that we don't have to do it with words. I pray that our life is a light. Jesus told the people there, even on the Sermon on the Mount, ye are the light to the world. A city that is set upon a hill cannot be hid. Ye are the salt of the earth. (St. Matthew 5:13,14) God has a desire that each and every one of us would be that light in this world. He has a desire that each and every one in this room would be the salt of the earth. That when people see our lives, the places we go, the things that we do, that they can see Jesus. Not just doing it out of habit. But that we do it because we have a love of Jesus in our heart. Those things, if we have that love of Jesus, those things will come naturally unto us. They won't be a burden unto us. But they'll come and we'll have a desire.

I do pray that when that time comes when somebody wants to know what the hope is that lies within us, that we're ready to answer. There's going to be times in our lives, and Jesus knew it more than any man upon the face of this earth, that it's not going to be easy. How many times did the scribes and Pharisees come to Jesus and not to learn of Him. They had no desire to learn. They had no desire to believe. But they wanted to find fault in that man. He knew that before they even approached Him. But He was ready to answer. Jesus was always ready and I am always amazed that no matter who came unto Jesus, whether it be the scribes or Pharisees or the woman caught in adultery, He was prepared.

There was times when there were people like the scribes and Pharisees, they needed a harsh answer. They needed to be spoke the truth unto. But yet there were times when like the woman caught in adultery,

they needed love and they needed mercy. Blessed are the merciful, Jesus said, for you shall obtain mercy (St. Matthew 5:7). I pray that we're prepared. That our hearts are always prepared. And it is not easy, I know. I'm faced with that every day. There are those around about us that they watch everything that we do. I can testify to that. I don't work in a big factory but I know there are quite a few people there and they know who I am. They know that what I stand for, hopefully not only on Sundays like right now, but they know each and every day. I pray they do. I know they watch because I've heard that. They watch the things that I do, the things that I say and how I react there in the work place.

I pray that we always stay close to God. If we walk in the Spirit, the Word says that we will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh (Galatians 5:16). I pray that we have our eyes upon the cross of Jesus and not upon the things of this world. Because they see. They're watching. They want to know. But I can also testify to you, that if we walk the walk they want to know. They will ask. They'll ask why we do what we do and say the things that we say. I pray when that time comes that we are not ashamed. Because if it is the other way, what did Jesus say? He says, if you are ashamed of me, I will be ashamed of you (St. Luke 9:26). I believe that is the time that we are before the judgment seat. I can't imagine being there and here's our high priest. Here is our advocate and He is ashamed of us. I wouldn't want to stand there before God and having the one friend that would be there for me be ashamed of me. But I pray that we're bold and we'll speak up. That we'll be ready with an answer.

As Jesus went on and He was walking there with His disciples, He had a desire and He asked the disciples, who do the people think that I am? There were some thought that maybe He was John the Baptist come back. Maybe He was a prophet. Maybe He was Elias. And He asked

the disciples, Who do you think that I am? (St. Mark 8:27-29) And I want to pose that question to each and every one in this room today. Who do you think Jesus Christ is? Only you can answer that question. Do you think He was just a good prophet? Do you think He was just a good man? But I pray and I trust and I believe that you truly know that He is the Son of God. He was the one that came and gave His life for each and every one in this room.

Then that begs the next question. If you truly believe that He is the Son of God, if you are waiting, why? There is not one of us in this room guaranteed that we are going to see the sun rise tomorrow. Not one of us. We may not see it. But I pray that we answer that call today.

Peter, he said, thou art the Christ. He truly believed with all his heart but yet he didn't understand. Because Jesus Christ went on there and told them what was going to happen. He said, there was a purpose and a reason that I came here upon the earth. That was to give His life. He said in verse thirty one, "And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again." This isn't what the disciples had in mind. I truly believe that the disciples, at this point in time, believed that this man was special and that He was the Son of God. But they had no desire that He would be taken from them and that His life would be required. They had a desire, that as He came here, that He would set up a kingdom. They had a desire, and they even argued, as we can read, as they walked together, that who would be the greatest (St. Mark 9:34). They wanted that place of authority. They wanted to be right next to Jesus. They thought He was going to set up a kingdom here upon this earth at that very time. They didn't understand that He was the King of Eternity.

When they heard this, Peter said,

“And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him.” St. Mark 8:32. Peter had no desire that His Savior’s life would be taken. But Jesus said, “...Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God...” St. Mark 8:33.

Jesus came into this world that He would give His life. He didn’t come into this world to condemn it. But He came that the world through Him might be saved. (St. John 3:17) I’ve always marveled that here was the Son of God. He was in heaven. He was able to humble Himself enough. If He would have come as a king on the face of this earth, it would have been a humbling. But He came as a babe. It wasn’t, we know, in a palace. But it was there in a stable. It probably didn’t smell too good. There was no nice clothes. There was no warm bed. But He was laid in a feed trough.

But He was the Bread of Life. He came and He humbled Himself enough to come there and He knew. Can you imagine, as a young man and as He began His ministry, He knew the end. But it didn’t matter. He was willing to give that great sacrifice for each and every one of us. That He would lay down His life for each and every one of us. That tree of life was taken away. We can’t eat of it anymore. Jesus knew He had to conquer death and He had to give His life to do that. But He made them that promise and He told them that I will arise again (St. Mark 8:31). But Peter, he missed that. He only heard the part where His life would be taken. If he would have stepped back and heard that with all his mind, I believe that he would have been in awe and ask Jesus, you are going to die but arise again?

We put our hope in that, do we not? That we worship not a Savior that still lays in the grave. But we worship a Savior that is risen. We worship a living God. Not a god made of stone or wood but a living God.

Jesus went on and He said, He told the people, “And when he had called the people unto him with his

disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.” St. Mark 8:34. God’s called us unto a life where we deny ourselves. Where we would pick up our cross and follow after Him. Jesus, He knew that it wasn’t going to be easy. He knew that our hearts would be drawn away and that it would be awful easy to be caught up in the things of this world. It is written, if we love the world, the love of the Father is not in us. Because the Father is not of this world. Neither does He love the things of this world. (I John 2:15,16)

He also told us that it would be awful easy that we would be caught up in the pride of life. That we would be drawn away by the lust of the eye. It is all something that each and every one of us deal with, is it not? But if we keep our eyes though upon Jesus, if we keep our eyes upon Him, the things that would draw our hearts away, we can do away with those things. Jesus did not ask us to do anything that He was not willing to do Himself. But He picked up, literally, the cross and He carried it for you and I.

We are a blessed people and we are given so much in this land. I don’t believe that there are hardly any of us in this room that knows what it is like to go to bed hungry because we didn’t have. There’s not any of us in this room that are probably worried about where we are going to lay down our head tonight. Because we have been so blessed. I pray that we don’t let the things of this world cloud our judgment. I pray that we don’t trust in these things. It would be so easy for us to trust in our money. Trust in the things that we have. But I pray that we put our trust in God in all things.

As we talked about, even Thursday night, it is so easy for us to get discontent. God has a desire that we’d be content in Jesus. Godliness with contentment is great gain, the Word tells us (I Timothy 6:6). But it is so easy to be carried away with the

things of this world.

As we sat there at that Bible study Thursday night and we went around that room and we asked ourselves, each and every one was asked the question, to name things that they had been discontent about. It wasn’t hard to think of and I was there along with each and every one of them. But God has a desire that we would be content with the things that He has given unto us. There is no easy answer. There is no easy answer but even there unto Timothy, Paul, he told them, you seek after the things of God; if you look after love, and if you look after faith and mercy, if you strive for those things, your heart is going to be content (I Timothy 6:11).

If we are a people that’s willing to give - are we a giving people? It is better to give than to receive, the Word even tells us (Acts 20:35). It’s those times in our lives, I believe, that when we are willing to give the blessings that God has given unto us, if we are willing to share those things, isn’t that the time when our hearts are content?

In closing, I believe that if we truly and honestly believe the promises of God, if we truly believe that He has gone and He’s there preparing mansions, if we believe when we read about the streets of gold and we believe the fact that He is going to light heaven and there is no need of the sun or the stars, if we truly believe that there is going to be a river of life flowing out of the throne of God and we truly believe that there is going to be a tree of life, what else do we need? Why would we be discontent with what we have here upon this earth? Because we know we are just passing through. What God has waiting for us, eye hath not seen, ear hath not heard, neither has it entered into the heart of man what God has waiting for those who love and serve Him (I Corinthians 2:9).



CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2007/2008

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			
Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of September 13, 2007 - www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/			
Project	Date	Coordinator	Capacity
Les Cayes, AWA Water Aid	Nov 2-9, 2007	Troy Stuber 309-925-2603 tstuber@highstream.net	4
Les Cayes, MEBSH School Roof	Nov 9-16, 2007	Ted Habegger 260-694-6765 tjh@adamswells.com	12
Les Cayes, MEBSH School Roof	Nov 30-Dec 7, 2007	Randy Kieser 309-695-6340 kieser84@geckoct.com	12
Les Cayes, FRW Vocational School	Dec 7-14, 2007	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	4
Les Cayes, MEBSH School Roof	Jan 4-11, 2008	Ron Palitto 330-336-5373 rqp@lek.net	12
El Seibo, Lifeline Construction	Jan 8-15, 2008	Jim Koehl 309-377-3201 jmkoehl@yahoo.com	6
El Seibo, Lifeline Construction	Jan 15-22, 2008	Ted Steidinger 309-377-3651 tsteid@route24.net	6
Les Cayes, SEED Agriculture Aid	Jan 25 - Feb 1, 2008	Dale Frank 319-766-3661 frankfarm@iowatelecom.net	9
Les Cayes, AWA Water Aid	Jan 25 - Feb 1, 2008	Troy Stuber 309-925-2603 tstuber@highstream.net	5
Croix des Bouquets, Lifeline Medical/Dental	Feb 12-19, 2008	Russ Manz 419-399-4053 russ_manz@campbellsoup.com	8
Les Cayes, MEBSH School Roof	Feb 15-22, 2008	Dean Pashak 989-662-7685 dwpashak@charter.net	12
Les Cayes, SEED Agriculture Aid	Feb 22-29, 2008	Dale Frank 319-766-3661 frankfarm@iowatelecom.net	9
Les Cayes, FRW Vocational School	Feb 22-29, 2008	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	4
Les Cayes, FRW Simone Orphanage	Feb 29-Mar 7, 2008	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	8
Croix des Bouquets, Lifeline Medical/Dental	Mar 11-18, 2008	Jim Koehl 309-377-3201 jmkoehl@yahoo.com	8
Les Cayes, MEBSH School Roof	Mar 28 Apr 4, 2008	Rich Bertschi 309-467-6110 lemangm@mtco.com	12
Les Cayes, MEBSH Maintenance	Apr 18-25, 2008	Jon Zeller 309-266-9009 jzeller@mtco.com	12
Les Cayes, AWA Water Aid	May 16-23, 2008	Troy Stuber 309-925-2603 tstuber@highstream.net	5
Haiti, MEBSH Caribbean Eval.	Jun 6-13, 2008	Tom Hitz 734-454-9229 thitzhome@juno.com	Invitation
Les Cayes, FRW Vocational School	Jun 20-27, 2008	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	4
JAMAICA			
Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of September 13, 2007 - www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/			
Kingston, CCCD	Mar 8-15, 2008	Terry Miller - 309-696-7804 Roger Stoller - 309-747-3228 rstoller@dtnspeed.net	40
Jamaica Deaf Village, CCCD Bluffton Sunday School	Mar 22-29, 2008	Courtney Pfister 260-824-5151 fizz@parlorcity.com	Bluffton Sunday School Only
Knockpatrick School, CCCD Morton Sunday School	Mar 22-29, 2008	Al Kaiser 309-256-7251 kecinc@kaiserelectrical.com	50
Jamaica Deaf Village, CCCD	May 16-24, 2008	Ted Hirstein 309-266-8769 hirstein@mtco.com	50

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 2007-2008

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

Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of July 7th, 2007 - www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/

Project	Date	Coordinator
Magdalena Construction	Nov 17-24, 2007	Rod Schmidt 303-774-7913 rschmidt@Acosta.com
Magdalena Construction	Dec 15-22, 2007	Kent Levy - Purdue 317-385-0752 kentlevy@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Jan 5-12, 2008	Darl Rassi 815-867-2195 mr.rassi@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Jan 12-19, 2008	Ken Edelman 217-745-2321 kenedelman@cawi.org
Magdalena Construction	Jan 19-26, 2008	Steve Kaeb 217-379-4707 kaebbs@illicom.net
Magdalena Construction	Feb 16-23, 2008	Bob Knepp 309-923-7335 rnepp@verizon.net
Agua Prieta Medical/Dental	Mar 1-8, 2008	Kevin Gerber 260-565-3313 kevgerber@yahoo.com
Magdalena Construction	Mar 8-15, 2008	David Prevo 309-310-8060 daprevo@ilstu.edu
Reynosa Construction	Mar 8-15, 2008	Tristan Herrmann/ICC-Bradley 309-446-3502 ib_yg@yahoo.com
Agua Prieta Construction	Mar 15-22, 2008	Denis Fry 260-824-3055 fry.d@mchsi.com
Magdalena Construction	Mar 15-22, 2008	Matt Wyss/U of I 309-397-5919 mattwyss@yahoo.com
Agua Prieta Construction	Mar 22-29, 2008	Sam Kaehr 260-565-3200 sckaehr@adamswells.com
Magdalena Construction	Mar 22-29, 2008	Curt Hodel/Roanoke Bible Class 309-923-8091 cjhodel@juno.com
Reynosa Construction	Mar 22-29, 2008	Jeff Leman 260-565-3815 jvleman@adamswells.com
Juarez Construction	Mar 22-29, 2008	Jay Grube 260-565-3402 grube@adamswells.com
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REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

Following is an account of the conversion of Bro. Samuel H. Froehlich as he describes portions of his experience. In 1831, he wrote to the English Continental Society in London to apply for spiritual work with that group. His remarks are part of a booklet entitled Individual Letters and Meditations From the Legacy of S. H. Froehlich. He was 21 years old when he sought God in earnest.

Regarding his calling from God, Bro. Samuel H. Froehlich writes,

"It was the month of April, 1825 when I was spending my Easter vacation in Brugg. All the circumstances are as fresh in my mind as if it had happened yesterday. I cannot even recall that there were many previous preparations or any special circumstances to work towards it.

A very soft voice, which was neither terrifying nor depressing, but nevertheless very convincing and penetrating, spoke in the depth of my soul, 'It cannot remain thus with thee. Thou must change.' And at the same time, it drew me irresistibly onward. I knelt for the first time before the hidden God and with uplifted hands solemnly affirmed the oath of fidelity, that from now on it would be different with me.

True, I did not as yet grasp and understand correctly what I said. Indeed, I also did not as yet know the Lord Jesus Christ and the necessity of His atonement and redemption; for it was not yet the burden of my load of sin which had driven me to the Saviour of Sinners, but merely the conviction, 'Thou must change. Otherwise, thou canst not become a Minister.'

From now on, with all earnestness and might, I wished to shun the sin which I now recognized as sin and knew not that it did not lie within my power

to overcome a mastery which had for so long bound me with chains of darkness. But it was as if the Lord, to whom I had made my vow, had taken me by my word, although it was really He who had taken my by the hand and drawn me to Him with all His goodness.

Beginning with this day, the whole scene changed. He left me no more. I found nowhere peace or rest. My own body, indeed the whole world, became too narrow for me. I sought for something which should fill the endless emptiness which had now arisen in my soul and I did not find it.

I went out into mountain and forest, knelt and prayed and cried out in lonesome places. My whole being was longing, sorrowfulness and anxiety. I sought the Lord Jesus Christ with ardent fervor and many tears.

That was the first period of my awakening and in this condition I returned to Basel at the end of April. The first piece of literature that fell into my hands was 'Fenelon's Religious Works,' translated by Claudius. In it I found for the first time a new name for my spiritual condition, for up to this time I had been to myself an inexplicable riddle and I did not know what was to become of me. Therefore, it was a measure of consolation to see that others had experienced similar things.

Especially did I believe to recognize myself in the 14th chapter of the first part, which bears the superscription: 'Concerning the inner working of God, to bring man back to the true end for which he created us.' As yet, I was far from seeking to be represented therein. It was Another who did lead me and He led me into an extraordinary difficult and dark path.

Now for the first time my suffering began. What I had to go through from now on is, in a literal sense, inexpress-

ible. Everything that fire and water, hammer or sword may bring about, is nothing compared with the unfathomable sea of trouble and misery wherein I must sink. I wept day and night and writhed like a worm in the dust, when it is trodden upon. Had I authority over myself, I would have often taken my life through anguish and despair.

But the Lord held me in His hand, in such a way that I could not move. The price that I paid was a higher one than this earthly life. Like Job, I lay in the dust. In no human being, in no friend could I confide, nor could I reveal myself to anyone. All theological or rationalistic lectures became an abomination to me, for I was now in another school.

All of my letters of that date bear the stamp of my inner condition; my sisters feared I was losing my mind because the tone of my letters was so radically different from what it had previously been. They consisted, for the most part, of Scriptural passages. For a long time I remained in this fiery furnace, until at length faith in Jesus Christ, the Crucified, brought me rest, peace and light — and made place within me for a new creation. From then on, Jesus Christ was the center of my whole life and sphere of activity.

However, I was kept constantly under the discipline of the Holy Spirit, for not until now did the struggle against my old nature and against the law of sin which dwelt in my very members, become serious. But even with my new transgressions, the loyalty of the Lord did not forsake me. Both my sin and His grace humbled me."

By: Perry A. Klopfenstein

Next issue:
More on Samuel Froehlich

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

希望の光

“Throw Yourself Away”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

The Lord Jesus Christ said, “If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.” Luke 9:23. In Japanese, the phrase “Let him deny himself,” is translated, “Let him throw himself away.” This has always intrigued me. To deny yourself sounds as if we need to get along without some things we would like to do or have. To throw yourself away sounds more like dying to self. In the latter part of verse 4 Jesus said, “Whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.” This statement is more in agreement with the Japanese translation. There is a big difference between simply denying myself some things, and losing my life, the latter being more complete and all encompassing. What Jesus is saying could be phrased, “Die to Live.” This sounds like a contradiction but it is true, spiritually speaking.

Bro. Emil Schubert, who was my elder when I was baptized,

told me that we must be dead to self before being baptized, that we do not bury anyone while that person is still alive. Baptism is a burial as recorded in Romans 6:4, “Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death.” In verse 6 it is further recorded, “Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him (Christ).” So we are to be crucified with Christ and the old person is to be buried with Christ. At the end of verse 4 we read, “That like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” This all goes along with the idea of throwing yourself away in order to find yourself, and the idea of losing your life in order to live. I may be wrong but so far as I know, this concept is taught only in the Bible. This concept is that we should throw ourselves away in order to find ourselves, and that we should die in order to live.

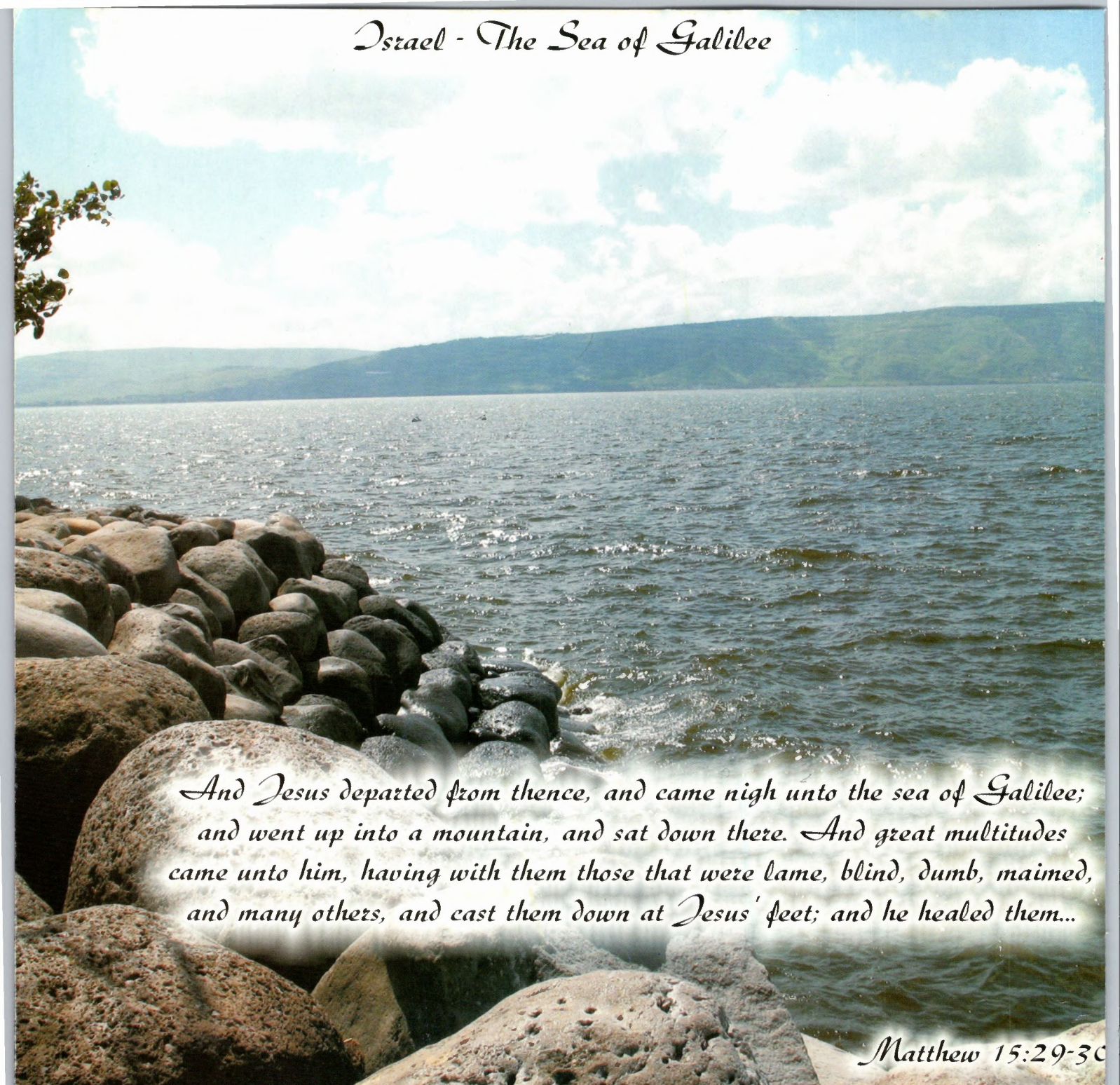
Along with dying to self we are instructed to “Present your

bodies a living sacrifice,” Romans 12:1. By so doing we can preserve our resurrected life and can live above the turmoil of this present world. “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above.” Colossians 3:1.

Let us not be afraid to deny ourselves, to throw ourselves away, to die to self, to give our bodies a living sacrifice, and to avoid everything which is selfish. To do these things is not our loss but our gain, not only in the life to come but right here and now. By throwing ourselves away we tend to keep ourselves out of the picture. What really counts is what God says in His Word. What we like or dislike is also beside the point. We are dead but we live in Christ. We have lost everything in order to win Christ, and all that is entrusted to us is not our own. Dead people cannot own property.

希望の光

Israel - The Sea of Galilee



And Jesus departed from thence, and came nigh unto the sea of Galilee; and went up into a mountain, and sat down there. And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them...

Matthew 15:29-30

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