

The Silver Lining



*The Lord taketh pleasure in them that fear him,
in those that hope in his mercy..*

Psalms 147:11

October 2007

Sermon by Bro. Duane Roche, Minneapolis, MN

Nehemiah 10:28-39 and Ephesians 4

If we go back into Nehemiah here for a little bit, we find this, if we were to flip back to the beginning of Nehemiah and just page through it and skim through it this afternoon, I believe we would recall, it would come to our recollection that this was a time frame in which they had gone back from Babylon. Had returned and had sort of built the wall around Jerusalem back up and had begun to put things back into a reasonable condition. There came this point here in the previous chapter, in which they made this seal or this commitment unto God (Nehemiah 9:38).

I guess I didn't realize this was in this portion of Nehemiah, but actually it went to the extent here in which they wrote down the names of those in which signed the declaration. Maybe similar to that there were a large number of individuals that at one point in American history signed the Declaration of Independence. But there were lots of others that subscribed to the same set of ideals.

We find that that exact pattern is captured here within Nehemiah - in which there was this declaration made and some specific individuals by name signed it (Nehemiah 10:1-27). Then it says, "And the rest of the people, the priests, the Levites, the porters, the singers, the Nethinims, and all they that had separated themselves from the people of the lands..." Nehemiah 10:28. It goes on to include the balance of them.

So you and I probably find ourselves amongst today, those that would be of the porters and the singers and those that have just simply separated ourselves. We are maybe not known by name to too terribly many people, of having committed to some great thesis that has been maybe nailed to this spot or to this spot. Or in which this declaration of that in which we have committed

has been made.

Yet as we made expression in the prayer, there are those today that will make this type of a covenant before a large audience, hundreds of people, in which really their commitment unto God and this commitment to separate themselves from the people of the land, that expression will be made and it will be observed. This covenant, as we make expression to it, it will be made before God in the presence of lots of individuals. So really, in some ways, in that sense, you and I have made this individual seal with God or this commitment or this covenant, having realized that we strayed, we erred, we walked away from God. We found ourselves in Babylon, totally separated from God and His provisions for you and I, in need of repentance, in need of the shed blood of Jesus Christ. In need of just going back to that in which we had been taught. When we finally came to our senses and went back to Jerusalem, when we went back unto Calvary - that in which we had been instructed to go there in the first place - we came to find that, well, we came to the point then which as the scriptures bare out, that there was a time for baptism and there was a time for a covenant before God.

The Israelite people found themselves in very much the same condition at this point in history. Where they had gone back to that in which their previous generations had been taught. They went back to that in which - in fact they summarize it beautifully - the old law. They said, this is what we will do.

Wednesday evening we spoke of quite a number of these as we thought about Proverbs chapter five. One of them, as pointed out here, is they separated themselves from the law of the land. They would be careful who it was that they would marry. That they would not intermarry. But they would stay

with God's people. We see throughout history and throughout the scriptures, when this has been fulfilled, there has been a wonderful blessing. And when there are those that compromised this in the old law or in the times of the Old Testament, we see that in came idol worship and all kinds of foreign thinking. So we are thankful again to be able to observe here that in which God did for

Sermon continued on page 44

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

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

October 2007

Parents, Children and Technology I

"...many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased" (Dan. 12:4). Our older brethren who have lived many years have seen the pace of life increase almost unbelievably and have observed an increase in knowledge at a phenomenal rate. During their lifetime we have spanned from the horse and buggy to travel to the moon. They have experienced a change in technology from paper and pencil to computers, word processing and other high tech equipment that can be overwhelming.

It is nearly impossible to accurately quantify the "amount" of knowledge that exists. Scientists who work on such a concept have made general statements that are very sobering and leave us with at least some concern about how we will deal with the rapid increase in the amount of information that confronts us, and how we will set priorities in an era of high pressure choices.

We are told that the "amount" of information in the world doubled from the beginning of written history until the time of Christ - a period of approximately 4,000 years. It doubled again by about 1750 A.D. The next doubling took about 150 years - by about 1900. The pace increased even more significantly, doubling again by 1950 and then again by 1960. Since then, it is estimated that the amount of information doubles about every two years. Of course, since the "base" of information that doubles is so much larger, we almost lose sense of the "size" of the increase.

How does this impact the "average" citizen? What impact does this have on parents of young people? A few more "bits" of information may bring the concept of rapid change to items that are a little closer to our lives:

- It took a little over 65 years from the invention of the telephone until 75% of American households had a phone.
- It took a little over 50 years for 75% of households to have an automobile.
- It took only about seven years until 75% of households had a TV.
- Cell phones, computers and the internet have come into our households at

an even faster rate.

Not only have new devices come into our homes much more rapidly, but also the power, speed and diversity of the devices have increased almost beyond our capacity to understand. Early personal computers had only limited storage capacity. Information beyond that capacity had to be stored on separate disks, a situation that would now be regarded as a very inconvenient and slow process. Current personal computers can easily store many thousands of pages.

The cell phone has, in reality, become a "mini-computer". In addition to being a phone, it can also be used as a camera, a device for sending and receiving e-mail, voice mail, text/instant messaging, the internet, and other technological advances. The technology is in place and soon will be available for a majority of households to use a hand held device probably no larger than a cell phone for satellite TV/radio, advertising/commercials, movies, Internet, e-mail, digital images and many other things. Change and expansion are so rapid that it is almost certain by the time this article is printed many more "advances" will be made.

Change is not new to our generation, and we know there have always been temptations (Gen. 3:4-6). Although we clearly understand that not all knowledge is bad, there has long been the understanding that not all knowledge is comforting: "...he that increaseth knowledge increaseth sorrow" (Ecc. 1:18).

It is not possible, nor is it desirable, to stop the increase in knowledge or the advances in technology. Many of the improvements in technology have made our lives more comfortable. However, it is necessary for us to recognize that there are many dangers associated with the advances in technology. Parents need to make a concerted effort to know what their children are involved in and the dangers that our young people face as a result of easy access to technology. Young people are much more adept at using these powerful tools and can be involved in spiritually dangerous activities without their parents having any idea what is going on.

Those of us who are older may wish that

technology would just go away. We could take the attitude that we have no interest in it so we will just ignore it. Ignoring the advances in technology might be compared to ignoring a serious illness. Just because we do not like it doesn't make it unreal. Does that mean parents must become technological wizards? No, it doesn't. What it does mean is that parents need to do what parents have always needed to do: talk to your children, listen to your children, spend time with them, and be an important part of their lives.

The topic of technology might even be a good opportunity to open the doors of communication with your child. Have them teach you about some of the possibilities that the advances in technology have brought to our lives. This can give parents a chance to impart "what ifs" to your child as you learn from them. It would provide an opportunity to guide them to understanding the dangers that they may face. If we can see where our children are coming from, it might also allow us to help them see our point of view and to help them recognize the dangers they may face.

It is very easy to justify the use of new technology. Cell phones are valuable for convenience, security, and in some ways economy. The internet is valuable for school work, personal research, business and many other tasks that require gathering information. Medical advances and conveniences of a wide variety have improved our lives. The list of "good" results would take many pages to complete.

It is neither the purpose of this article to make a complete nor even a long list of the changes, nor is it the purpose of this article to be critical or supportive of any specific area of technology. The purpose is to help us understand that all of us, especially parents, need to be aware of the spiritual dangers that can come into our lives and the lives of our loved ones in the name of "technological improvements".

This topic will be continued in the next "Light From the Word" article.

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

Opportunities to Help in Eastern Europe

Several years ago, the European Committee, working in conjunction with both the Mission and World Relief Committees, divided the responsibility for serving the brethren of various Eastern European nations among a number of brothers. During this past year, the Lord once again opened the way for two groups of brothers to visit the beloved believers in Eastern Europe.

Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic led a team consisting of Elder Brothers David Graf and Arthur Metz along with their wives to visit Serbia, Croatia, Hungary, and Slovakia, with a side trip into Romania. Their trip began May 31st and was concluded on June 12th.

From June 21st until June 30th Elder Bro. Andy Stoller, Bro. Rod Stoller, and Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna Lehman visited Romania and Ukraine. The purpose of these trips was to strengthen our relationship with the believers, review various ongoing programs and self-help projects, discuss new needs and proposals and visit as many congregations as possible to view church buildings which we have helped construct or remodel.

Serbia, Croatia, Hungary, Slovakia, and Romania

The brethren flew to Belgrade, Serbia, where they were met by the local brethren on Friday, June 1st. They were able to visit homes and review some projects in the area the first day.

On Saturday the brothers met with the Serbian Relief Committee in Novi Sad. Many pertinent matters were discussed. The economic situ-

ation is still not good, but with much support from our loyal donors, the suffering brethren in Serbia are coping as best they can. This country is home to approximately 2,000 believers.

The entire group attended church at Kovacica on Sunday morning and Padina in the afternoon. Following participation in Sunday School activities, they shared meals together and enjoying a time of singing.

Monday was spent visiting various brethren and churches, with the opportunity to review several projects. On Wednesday, the journey took the group into Bosnia for a short time, once again visiting as many brethren and projects as time permitted.

On Thursday the group visited Croatia, where there are three small churches. After meeting with the Croatian Relief Committee, visiting brethren and observing projects in several places, they were driven to Baja, Hungary where they had evening services.

Friday's schedule took the travelers to Szeged, Hungary, where they were met by Elder Ladi Augustinov and his son Bro. Filip, and driven to Caransebes where they evaluated needs related to the church located in that area to determine what assistance might be provided.

Next the group went to Timisoara to view the local church building, after which they returned to Arad for supper at the Augustinov's. After breakfast on Saturday, the travelers drove to Hungary, visiting several churches over the weekend.

On June 11 they visited believers in Slovakia. Here they learned of needs for a second story addition and window replacements on the church in Bernalokovo, chain saws, and various other things.

Romania and Ukraine

This group met together in Germany and then flew to Timisoara, Romania, where they picked up Filip Augustinov, who serves as our German-Romanian translator.

They then flew to Suceava, Romania, where brethren from Ukraine met them and drove them to Chernovic, Bukovina. While in Ukraine they met with the elders, deacons and local aid brethren, visited 7 church communities, and toured numerous self-help projects.



Romania Self Help Project

There is a great deal of anxiety among the brethren in Ukraine that oppression could soon return. There is fear that we will no longer be able to help them. For this reason, steps are being taken to assist them as much and as quickly as possible.

In Romania the group stayed at Antioch, visited 7 church communities and a number of self-help projects, and reviewed needs of brethren with the Church leadership. Sadly, things are not progressing here as well, and great needs still exist.

Making a difference

It is possible to make a difference in the lives of these dear brethren because of fervent prayer, the generous contributions of our Brotherhood and the boundless provisions from our Father in heaven. May He continue to move hearts to support these worthy efforts.



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

Full Time Service in Haiti and Jamaica

The fourth element of our Church Mission is "To offer loving, humble deeds of service to fellow believers and all mankind in the name of Christ." (Gal. 5:13, 6:10 and Phil. 2:7). The Caribbean Committee of World Relief is carrying this mission out by expanding full time service in Jamaica and Haiti.



Knockpatrick Campus

Jamaica

For many years, World Relief has been sending work teams to Jamaica to work on humanitarian projects with the Caribbean Christian Centers for Deaf on four campuses in Kingston, Montego Bay, Knockpatrick and Manchester. As a result of these work teams, several opportunities to expand our support of CCCD have developed. Likewise, many Apostolic Christian brethren have been moved to seek full time work opportunities in service work, particularly deaf education. For four years, the Caribbean Committee has been working with the World Relief National Board, Mission Committee and CCCD leadership to open the way for Brethren to enter full time work in Jamaica.

In early November 2007 Bro. Chad and Sis. Pam Huber and family, Bro. Kirk and Sis. Keri Plattner and family and Sis. Erin Davis will be relocating to Jamaica to begin

full time service for World Relief. Their primary responsibility will be to support work teams to the CCCD campuses and coordinate the distribution of material aid shipments throughout Jamaica.

Haiti

Apostolic Christian brethren have been working in Haiti on a part time basis since the 1970's. Our support has grown dramatically in recent years. We now support medical programs, trade schools, well drilling, construction programs, material aid distribution, agricultural and veterinary assistance and child sponsorship. In addition to work teams, the Caribbean Committee has supported short term volunteers in Haiti for many years.

In 2006, the Caribbean Committee was presented with a request to assume responsibility for managing the construction department of MEBSH in Les Cayes, Haiti. After prayerful consideration and counsel, the brothers on the Caribbean Committee and the World Relief National Board agreed to take this responsibility. To accomplish this, we would need brethren full



time in Haiti. At the August 2007 Board meeting, the World Relief Board approved sending additional brethren to support the construction department and Child Sponsorship program in Haiti.

In May 2007, Bro. Jan and Sis. Val Gutwein and family and Bro. Tim

and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family moved to Haiti to assume leadership for the work and represent World Relief for all projects we support with MEBSH. Our work is growing and the brethren will be integral to effective use of donated funds and coordination for our work teams traveling to Haiti.

At the present time, we are seeking brethren to fill two open positions in Les Cayes Haiti:

1. A sister to support the construction department and manage the guest house.
2. An individual to work in the Child Care office and support the World Relief Child Sponsorship program in Morton.

A description of responsibility for these positions will be posted on the World relief web site and in the Silver Lining in the near future.

Prayer and support

The Church has brethren in Mexico, Jamaica, Haiti, Japan and other locations serving in the service of the Lord. We request that you pray for our brethren who are serving in foreign locations. Our brethren are many miles from home, in cultures that are vastly different from ours and they have expressed the value of prayer support from the church in their lives daily.

If you would like to contribute to the financial support of brethren in the service field in Jamaica, Haiti, Mexico and other locations, send donations to:

Apostolic Christian Servant Fund
805 W. Jackson St
Suite 305
Morton, IL 61550
309-263-9300 Phone
309-263-8722 Fax

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Caring Because God Cares

We are called to fulfill our Vision by serving with Compassion, acting as Advocates, and by our commitment to Respect, Excellence and Safety.

Compassion
Advocacy
Respect
Excellence
Safety

CARES – this is our daily reminder as we labor in the ACHH facilities providing services for the 153 people who depend on us to be there for them.

When you live in Morton, IL, a fall highlight is always the Pumpkin Festival. Many from our homes again enjoyed the traditional parade.

Our annual Ice Cream Social was held on the Timber Ridge lawn with some good music and fellowship making the ice cream taste even better.

We know what follows autumn so we often see residents being taken outside for walks or rides to enjoy the mild weather. Winter will make outdoor excursions more challenging. However challenges do not stop our dedicated staff from doing things every day to make life better for those who wait on them to do the life activities that most of us don't think twice about.

Our residents are shown a lot of care by the employees of our facilities. And we would like to tell you that we care about you, the Silver Lining readers, also. Your support of our services, so steadfast and generous for thirty-six years, is deeply appreciated. May God's care for you bless your life.

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Rachel Huber

In most jobs it is necessary to develop tough skin. Working on the farm with my dad I had to literally develop tough skin to keep from getting blisters. When I worked in real estate I had to be confident and speak firmly to get the job done. At Gateway Woods we must confront, be firm, and hold high expectations. It is easy to lose patience with uncooperation. I often think, 'They know the expectation, I don't feel bad for them'. It is easy to have no sympathy.

This week I have been challenged by Jesus' mercy for me. In both Matthew 9:36 and Mark 6:34 Jesus sees a multitude and is MOVED with compassion. These people were primarily Jews - whom God had pursued from the beginning of time. He used deliverance, prophets, and even captivity and bondage to reach them. They had no excuse. How could He have compassion when these people had been given all they needed to choose God's ways?

I am so thankful for God's reminder to me of His compassion and mercy! It is so convicting to see how often I come so far from God's expectations for me. When I see myself through God's eyes, I am not so different from the troubled teens I work with daily. I am encouraged to have love, patience and mercy in all I do. May God draw each of us nearer to Him everyday. Please pray for Gateway Woods, and especially that we would be close to God as we seek to draw others to Him.

"But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me."

Psalms 40:17a

NEWS:

- We at Gateway Woods want to thank you again for your incredible support for this year's Auction. We were blessed with a wonderful attendance and we felt the overwhelming love and support of our congregations. The final total for the Annual Auction was \$401,427. We were blessed with a 13% increase over last year's total Auction contribution. May God bless each of you richly for partnering with us in this ministry.

- Our Adoption Program has been involved in the placement of almost 100 children into adoptive homes. The children come from as close as Fort Wayne, and from other states such as Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Massachusetts, and Florida. Internationally we have helped in the placement of children from all over the world including Guatemala, Colombia, Ethiopia, Liberia, China, Vietnam, Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Moldova, and India. However, no matter if the child is from right down the road or across the world, we have been amazed at the hand of God in the placement of each child in the right family.

We were reminded of that again in the recent match of the Rowland family with a child not yet born. We were called by an adoption agency in another state, as they needed a family for a child due to be born next month. The Rowlands had come to us recently interested in adopting a child from Ethiopia. Even though the Rowlands were not looking to adopt domestically, we really felt led to ask them. They immediately felt an amazing peace from God to change course and move forward with this adoption.

The birth mother was very amazed at the match between her unborn infant and the Rowlands. We did not know any of these details

when we asked them except that they were open to adopting a child of another race, which was obvious by their choice of an African country. The birth mother is a recent Christian and was really desiring a solid Christian family to adopt her baby. Gary Rowland is a pastor for a local missionary church and is starting to pastor an outreach church involving people of different cultures and races. Both of the birth mother's parents were born in Trinidad. Gary's niece was on a two-month mission trip in Trinidad this summer and after she returned she asked the Rowlands to adopt a child from Trinidad. The birth mother is a real runner, and Kelly Rowland is a marathon runner. The birth mother is a college freshman in nursing, and Kelly Rowland was also in nursing school and is a medical assistant. God's hand is so apparent in this match.

As this is being written, the Rowlands are on their way to the airport so they can meet this birth mother. The Bible says in Jeremiah 29:11, "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."

- We praise God for the increase in foster parents and children over the last few months. It is wonderful to see loving Christian families use Biblical principles to make a difference in the lives of these children. With the increase foster children, the need for another Foster Care Case Manager has arisen. We are thankful to announce the hiring of Bro. Brian Knudstrup (Leo, IN) to fill this position.

- We extend a heartfelt thanks to Bro. Adam and Sis. Katie Reinbeck and their family for their time spent here as Houseparents in the Oak House. The Reinbecks have moved back to Illinois for a short time and then they will move to Taylor, Mis-

souri, where Adam will continue to work for Homeway Homes. Please continue to keep them in your prayers during this time of transition.

- We are very thankful to announce the hiring of Bro. Shane and Sis. Stephanie Beer (Francesville, IN). The Beers will become Alternate Houseparents in the Cypress House working with the Plattners. Current Cypress House Alternates, Bro. Ryan and Sis. Bethany Donaghy will move over to the Oak House and learn how to be Houseparents for the teen mother program.

- 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!

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

**Athens, AL
Melissa Slagel**

We learned about different jobs in our community during the month of September. We talked about postal workers, firemen, police officers, dentists, etc. The four year old class took a field trip to the police station and the fire station to experience what those jobs are really like. The kids were all pretty thrilled to get to go inside a real jail cell, sit in a police car, see a fireman in his gear and all of his big fire tools, and go inside a fire truck. Some of their eyes couldn't

possibly have gotten any bigger! After all the excitement, we got back to school and I was asking the children what their favorite part was. One of the boys was so excited to tell me that just riding with his friend Devin in his car and with his mom to the police station was his very favorite part of the whole field trip. It sure doesn't take much to excite a child sometimes!

Frisbees are a favorite toy here at the preschool. One day I overheard a few of our boys as they were playing with them. One said to the other "This blue krizme is my favorite." The other one said "Yeah watch me, I can throw my recipe way down there." I never knew frisbee had so many pronunciations.

Some days with a group of 35 children it can get a little interesting. One day in particular a few of our boys were extra mischievous. By the time naptime rolled around I will have to say I was a ready to kiss some little heads goodnight. I leaned down to give one of the boys a hug and with a sigh and a smile I said "Oh, Brady, I love you. Why do I love you?" He looked up at me and without any hesitation said "Tause you have Dod in your heart." Children have the neatest way of keeping your heart soft.

ALABAMA, ATHENS Louise Hall

"There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repenteth."

Luke 15:7

Our congregation is so encouraged to have a new convert. Matthew Moore (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pam) has made the decision to give his heart to the Lord. It is certainly the very best decision he will ever make. Our prayers are with him as he begins his

walk with the Lord.

Thank you to our visiting ministers this past month. Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jackie, Francesville, IN) and Bro. Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT) traveled down to bring God's good Word to us. God bless you and thank you to those who traveled along as well. We enjoyed having you with us!

ARIZONA, PHOENIX **Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"And we know 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

Oh, the power of God's love! Our Junior and Senior Bible Classes were invited to Altadena for Labor Day weekend. We are grateful for the love of the brethren that our young people can develop friendships among various congregations at their age that can last a lifetime! Love isn't love until you give it away; and they do every Sunday. Praise our Lord.

We are grateful for our visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia); Bro. John Wiegand (Silverton); Bro. Jay Knapp (Tucson); Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron); Bro. Justin Moser (Altadena); and Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North). May our dear Lord bless each of you, and do come back soon.

What a blessing it was to go to church September 16 and see our Sis. Kathie Labudde present. We thank God for His strengthening hand.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

Jane Hodges

We welcome Max Knobloch (Bro. Denis and Sis. Jackie) to Prescott from Lester, IA. Max is attending

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, which is about a mile south of our church. More exciting is the decision he has made to give his heart to the Lord. We pray that God will give him the grace and wisdom he needs to make a complete repentance and find peace of heart and mind.

Once again the Lord has blessed us with several visitors, including ministering brothers to help Bro. Dan Dubach. The ministering brothers were Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), Bros. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH), Justin Moser (Sis. Robin, Altadena, CA), Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL), and Dan Stoller (Sis. Diane, Rockville, CT). May God richly bless all of you for serving Him and our congregation.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

We would like to officially welcome Bro. Daniel and Sis. Diane Wuthrich (Morton, IL) to our church family. Sis. Diane's employment by the Tucson Symphony Orchestra has brought them to our area. We are so thrilled to have them and hope they feel welcome.

Bro. Jim Meiss (Phoenix, AZ) and his wife, Sis. Candy, were recently with us for Sunday services. We love seeing them more often now that their two daughters, Richelle and Sis. Kaitlyn, are both attending the U of A. Many thanks to you, Bro. Jim, for serving us on the pulpit.

I neglected to mention that when he brought his daughter, Sis. Lauren, here to attend the U of A, Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA) also spent a Sunday ministering to and worshipping with us along with his wife, Sis. Michelle, and their family. We hope to see them often and get to fellowship with them some more.

Sis. Caroline Kaufman (Bro. Curt) had surgery recently and is recovering nicely. Our prayers are with her for continued recovery and full strength.

Happiness abounds in Tucson at the moment. We have seen the last of our 100 degree days. Our mornings are delightfully crisp and our evenings are cool and pleasant. Daytime highs are forecast in the low 90's this week and we even had a few 80 degree days recently with some rainfall. We had a wonderful monsoon season; we are almost tired of the rain. Almost, but not quite!

We have resumed our Wednesday evening services, monthly fellowship suppers and Sunday School, so fall must be here.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Tina Jackson

We are happy to have Bro. Braden Mogler back with us in California as he continues his college education at Pepperdine University. His family was here helping with the transition and we are thankful to Bro. Kent (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis, MN) for sharing in the teaching of God's Word.

We also welcome Sis. Kara Beebe, from South Bend, IN, as she works and worships with us here in Southern California.

On September 1-2, Altadena hosted Tucson and Phoenix for the semi-annual ACYF weekend. Bro. Matt Steffen (Sis. Deanna, Princeville, IL) and Bro. Brad Bauer (Sis. Sandy, Tucson, AZ) assisted in ministering to the students as well as our local congregation. A special thank you to Bro. Dave and Sis. Janelle Klotzle for their efforts in planning the weekend.

Sunday School here in Altadena started back up again on Sunday, September 9. We appreciate those who are willing to teach our youth the

truths from God's Word. They include Sis. Suzanne Klotzle, Sis. Elaine Graf, Bro. Jim Klotzle and Bro. Dave Klotzle, who is also our Superintendent. On that Sunday we were also privileged to have Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) minister and fellowship with us.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO **Yasmin Koehl**

A new season brings a sense of change in the climate and in the wonders of God's handiwork around us. Bro. Terry and Sis. Yasmin Koehl experienced a new season in their lives as they welcomed a baby boy into their family circle. Brennen Wayne was born on August 22 and was joyously welcomed by his big sister, Brielle. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Peter and Sis. Marian Petrovic (San Diego, CA) and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Mary Koehl (Prescott, AZ).

As Fall arrived, it brought the start of a new Sunday school year for the 12 children in our congregation who attend. To begin the year with a special note, we hosted an "invite a family" weekend. We were blessed with lots of company and our Sunday school classes were full! We were especially grateful to ministering Bro. Don Sinn (Sis. Linda, Silverton, OR) for spending the weekend with us and allowing the Holy Spirit to work within as God's Word was brought forth, encouraging us to contentment and Godliness.

We also appreciated the labors of love of ministering Bro. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH). May the Lord richly bless these two brothers in their work for Him as they humbly served us.

Note of Thanks:

Dear Brothers, Sisters and Friends,

We'd like to express how much we appreciate the prayers and the love we've received since Brennen's birth. Our hearts were touched to overflowing with gratitude. We feel tremendously blessed to be a part of such a loving congregation and brotherhood. May God bless you for your support and may the tie that binds us all to Him only continue to draw us closer together as we follow the footsteps of our Savior.

Humbly in Him,
Bro. Terry and Sis. Yasmin Koehl

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

Matthew Schlauch (Henry and Sis. Astrid) was united in marriage to Carol Whiting on August 24. We wish them the Lord's nearness.

Give faithful servants ever who have but one endeavor,
Thy Gospel to proclaim;
Who heed Thy Spirit holy
and strive and labor solely,
O, Lord, to glorify Thy name.

Zion's Harp #207 v.8

We thank the Lord again for faithful servants who have ministered the Word to us. They were Bros. Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury, IL), Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH), Mike Bauman (Sis. Lilly, Mansfield, OH), and Matthew Steffen (Sis. Deanna, Princeville, IL). May they feel God's strength and courage as they proclaim the Gospel message.

We enjoyed and appreciated a busload of young group and families from Princeville/Bradford, IL. May God bless each one who made the effort to come support our small congregation.

COLORADO, DENVER **Ann Gonglach**

Fall is such a beautiful time of year! As another harvest is gathered in, it's a reminder to us: is my life bearing spiritual fruit?

"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."

John 15:8

Thanks to visiting ministers who have brought God's Word to us: Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) and Bro. Dave Marquart (Sis. Lori, Taylor, MO).

Approximately ¼ of our Young Group (three people) traveled to Silverton, OR, on Labor Day weekend for an invite. Later in the month, one student represented our high-school Sunday school class in Sabetha, KS, at their annual gathering. Especially since we're a smaller-sized group, it's a blessing that our young people are able to fellowship with others of like-minded faith.

It was a beautiful day on September 8 for our annual Sunday school picnic. We appreciate our Sunday school teachers and all who worked to make this day so enjoyable, as well as our Lord who makes all things possible.

Welcome to Kip Fehr who has moved to the Denver area from West Bend, IA.

"Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine."

Proverbs 3:9-10

**CONNECTICUT
ROCKVILLE
Laura Virkler
Amber Rocke**

“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

Believing it is the will of God, the engagement of our Sis. Sarah Gerber to Bro. Brandon Gudeman of the Bradford, IL, congregation was made known to us. We wish them much happiness and the grace of God as they begin to bring their two lives together as one in the Lord. Parents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Anne Gerber, and Bro. Brad and Sis. Theresa Gudeman (Bradford, IL).

Bro. John and Sis. Erin Hoffman welcome a new baby girl into their family. Madison Margaret joins her four siblings: Samantha, Elsa, Lois and Owen. Grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Luella Hoffman and John and Gail Doyle. May God bless them and all who are raising young children, that they would grow and be nourished to love God and desire to serve Him one day

Our prayers and sympathy rest with the family of Wallace ‘Cookie’ Johndrow at his recent passing. He leaves his dear wife, Hazel; his children, Judith Wilkie and her husband, Jack; Richard Johndrow and his wife, Louise; Karen Schamback and her husband, Bro. Gary; and Sis. Sherri LaPlante and her husband, Bro. Leo; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. May this entire family feel the love and peace of God as they lay their loved one to rest.

We have been blessed to have many visitors with us this past month, among which was ministering Bro. Don Gudeman. It was a blessing to have him with us for a midweek service and as always, we

are thankful when the effort is made to fit visiting our congregation into travel plans. May God be the rewarder of each. We hope to see many more as the seasons change and we approach a beautiful New England autumn.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

This month we are again saying “Welcome”. We welcome Sis. Michelle Bachtold from Chicago who is doing a six week clinical rotation in this area.

We also say “Welcome Back” to our caretakers this month. Retired Elder Bro. David and Sis. Ethel Wiegand from the Champaign congregation are again our caretakers. Please see the article elsewhere for more information on the caretaker program. As I write this, Sis. Doreen is still looking for someone for December. We realize it may be difficult to commit to a whole month during the holidays, but a few weeks would be greatly appreciated.

Our ministers this month were Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH), Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA), Elder Bro. Duane Farney (Sis. Karen, Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Bro. Gary Sinn (Sis. Paulette, Latty, OH) and Bro. Gene Metzger (Sis. Delores, Lester, IA).

Other visitors were from Bluffton and Bluffton North, IN; Rockville, CT; Atlanta, GA; and Detroit and Grand Haven, MI. Vacations are over for most folks, but this area also hosts many conferences throughout the year — come a couple of days early to fellowship and sight see.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Roberta Belsley (Ken). She hasn’t been able to attend for several weeks due to health issues. In a small group even one person gone leaves a big

hole.

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 thankful to have with us visiting ministers, Bro. Mark Gerber (Sis. Barb, Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol, Gridley, IL). We pray that God would bless His servants for their works on His behalf. We shared our monthly potluck and were, once again, blessed with good food and good fellowship.

Retired Elder Bro. Joe Braker underwent eye surgery this month. Our prayers are with him for a full and quick recovery.

**FLORIDA
NORTH FORT MYERS
Naomi Vogel**

Again, there isn’t a lot going on here in N. Ft. Myers right now, but by the next writing we will start to grow in numbers. However, we continue to get visitors who come down for a little

get-away or to do some work on their winter home

We were happy that our dear Sis. Sara Hunyady was able to muster up enough strength to worship with us one Sunday this month. Continue to pray for her as she struggles with on-going health problems, that she will find strength and comfort for each day! Others of our transient group that need our prayers are Bro. Ralph Knapp from Bloomington, Bro. Eldon Steffen from Cissna Park, and Sis. Elaine Schmidgall from Morton. May you all feel God's presence in your time of trouble!

On a happier note, two couples celebrated milestone Wedding Anniversaries this month. Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally Neihouser from Francesville celebrated their 50th Anniversary; and Bro. Vic and Sis. Dottie Beer celebrated their 60th Anniversary. May God grant you many more happy years together!

Once more, we find ourselves well into hurricane season without any "hits" in our area. We are truly grateful, but feel sorry for those who have had storms, fires, earthquakes, plane crashes, floods, disease...! It's all part of God's plan, but not always easy to endure.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

**Anne Brown
Robin Wiegand**

"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened."

St. Matthew 7:7-8

As this article was being prepared, I asked my son if God had directed him to any verse this week. Above is his reply. What an awesome and mer-

ciful God we serve.

We have had quite a week at our house. Our son suffered a serious injury to his neck and for a while it seemed there might be some danger of damage to his spinal cord, with potentially horrible consequences. Examination by neurosurgeons revealed an uninjured spinal cord; and what could have been a life changing event will (God willing) be just another part of raising an active teenage boy.

But it still can be a life-changing event. We found ourselves tested in ways we all hope never to be tested and asking, 'Just how strong is my faith? Will it be strong enough?' As we drove to the emergency room, I wondered what my son was thinking about it all and if he understood just how serious this could be. His response was 'whatever God has planned for me to do, He will equip for it.' Pretty humbling to be comforted by the injured one, and I was reminded what lies before us or behind us is never as important as what lies within us through God.

This month we have been blessed to enjoy ministering Bro. Mark Steiner (Sis. Sue, Smithville, OH). It is so kind of those traveling in our area to take time to visit with us.

We welcome newlyweds, Joe and Trisha Kondratek, to our church. They have made their home on the east coast of Florida and have been frequently visiting Trish's grandparents, Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach. We are happy to have them join us for worship.

On the 30th we will celebrate having a centurion in our congregation as friend Bernie (dec. Sis. Juliann) Kittl turns 100.

Our congregation is anxiously preparing for our annual gathering at Lakewood Retreat in October. This is such a wonderful time of spiri-

tual teaching, fellowship, recreation for the children and spending time together to cultivate those ties that bind.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA

Melinda Gramm

Many of our brethren and friends participated in a work project to repair a roof and hang drywall in a shelter for abused women. God has given us many talents and we are thankful we can use them to help others.

Sunday school began for 2007/2008 and with the growth we experienced this past year, it's been necessary to add a third class. Sunday school teachers for the upper class are Bros. Larry Gramm and Phillip Steidinger; middle class, Sisters Julie Maibach and Peggy Camp; primary class, Sisters Melinda Gramm and Laura Lindberg.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Sheila McCoy
Doreen Moser**

Without God, there is an endless hope
With God, there is hope without end.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers this past month: Bro. Dan Beer (Milford, IN), Bro. John Hartman, (Fairbury, IL) and our Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL). Their sermons spoke of this hope.

Bro. Rod Anliker presented a topical Bible study for our congregation on "Grace". We are blessed to have willing brethren to speak God's Word.

God blessed us with a wonderful day for our Sunday School and church picnic. It was the first sunny day after seven days of rain. We appreciate our dedicated teachers, the variety of food we can enjoy and our

ability to gather freely.

Some from our congregation were able to help prepare and serve breakfast at the Rockford Rescue Mission. We want these people to know that with God there is hope.

**ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL**

**Jen Heiniger
Betsy Zimmerman**

As the new Sunday School year begins, our prayers are with our teachers and students. We pray for our teachers as they teach God's Word, and for receptive hearts for our students.

Best wishes to Bro. Jon and Sis. Andrea Knapp, who recently moved to Atlanta, GA. Sis. Andrea is teaching math at the University of Georgia at Atlanta. We will miss having them in our congregation!

Bro. David and Sis. Wilma Kieser welcomed a new grandson into the family. Wesley Malachi was born to Bro. Marc and Sis. Diann Grim (Leo, IN) on August 23. He joins big brothers, Isaac, Micah, and angel Marcus. Paternal grandparents are Earl and Jan Grim, Bloomington.

We thank Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), Bro. Bill Masters (Ft. Myers, FL), and Bro. Ed Sauder (Roanoke, IL) for joining us on the pulpit this month.

Our sympathies go to Steve and Lori Stock, who recently lost Steve's mother, Sis. Arlene Stock (Cissna Park). Our prayers are with you during this time.

**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Philip and Donna Nenadov**

All the way my Saviour leads me;
what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt His tender mercy
Who thro' life has been my Guide?
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort,

Here by faith in Him to dwell!
For I know, whate'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well.

Hymns of Zion # 21

Believing that Jesus does all things well, Bro. Brandon Gudeman (Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa) and Sis. Sarah Gerber (Bro. Loren and Sis. Anne, Rockville) have placed their trust in Him that they should be married in the Lord. We rejoice with them and wish them God's nearness and blessings!

While it is always joyful to see God's hand at work in marriage, we also know that it is a joyful, yet sad, occasion when a beloved one passes from this earth in the Lord. Our prayers are with the Baer family in the passing of Bro. Herman Baer (Sis. Mary) from the Eureka congregation. May the Holy Spirit bring comfort to their hearts during this time of loss.

Sis. Lucille Kieser (late Bro. Sam) and Linda Hoffman (mother of Sis. Paula Gillespie) were hospital patients this month. May the Lord continue to be with them during their time of illness.

We have been listening to the Conference tapes and have been encouraged and reminded to walk a closer walk with the Lord. May this be our every day goal and striving as we work to reach the promised land.

Bro. Ken Schneider (late Sis. Loretta, Remington) was our guest minister this month. We appreciate his willingness to serve us and allow the Lord to be the speaker.

The Single Group (and several families) from Bradford/Princeville area took a bus trip to Kitchener, Ontario, this past weekend. Part of the trip was spent at Niagara Falls where we can see the power of God through the tremendous force of the water going over the edge. It is humbling to think that the weakest part of God's

Grace is stronger than the most powerful current at the falls.

God be with you 'til we meet again.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Rachel Meyer

We were richly blessed by the ministry of a number of visitors who served us in various ways during this past month. Elder Bros. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), Ron Messner Washington, IL), Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Bros. Don Manz (Junction, OH), Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH), Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) and Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO) were all useful vessels for the Lord in our midst.

We are thankful that Bro. Paul Lemman has had successful hip replacement surgery and is now recuperating at home. We express our sympathy to Mildred Siepka who lost her brother-in-law, Bro. Herman Baer, of Princeville, IL. May the Lord provide sufficient grace and strength for these dear ones.

It has been an inspiration to hear the recordings of the recent Brotherhood Conference. We are thankful for the opportunity to learn and grow in our spiritual walk as we seek to apply these good instructions in our personal lives.

A farewell reception was held for Bro. Daniel and Sis. Kasey Messner. Bro. Daniel's work is taking them to Zurich, Switzerland, for a time. We will miss them greatly and hope to keep in close touch, which is more easily done with our modern means of communication. These dear ones were both active and willing workers in our congregation and we thank them for their labors of love. We are also thankful that Bro. Doug and Sis. Krista Stoller and Bro. Troy Blunier will be serving on our VBS Committee. Recent opportunities to help

with various World Relief efforts were a special blessing to all who participated. The Apostle Paul instructed the believers "to maintain good works for necessary uses, that they be not unfruitful" (Tit. 3:14). We have unlimited opportunities to serve the Lord by serving others.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

Jackie Eisenmann

Greetings from Champaign-Urbana! Our congregation is welcoming several who have moved to our area in this past month. We welcome back home Bro. Brent and Sis. Janelle Young. They spent the first year of their marriage in Phoenix, AZ, and we are thrilled that the Lord has directed them back to Champaign. We also welcome Bro. Travis and Sis. Jaclyn Blunier. They have spent the last year worshipping in Elgin, IL. We are excited that Travis' job has brought them to Champaign. It is always exciting for us to see former C-U students move back to our area for employment, as these couples have been students here before.

We also welcome Bro. Neal and Sis. Kim Kellenberger from Kansas City to our area. We are thrilled God has led them to our congregation. They have two little boys, Cailer and Brock. We pray that God will bless them as they all adjust to their big move. Welcome!

Sunday, August 19, was our annual Student Welcome Picnic. It is always an enjoyable day for us as we welcome new students and returning students back after their summer break. We enjoy worshipping and fellowshiping with the students and their families. We had the blessing of Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) being with us that day to share God's Word.

We were blessed this month by two other visiting ministers. We

thank Bros. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) and Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) for allowing God to use them for the purpose of spreading the Gospel.

Wednesday, September 5, the students hosted a cookout at Illini Grove, a park on campus. It was a nice time of fellowship between the students and the home church. We thank the students for what they do to support and encourage our church.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Pam Walder

Janie Waldbeser

"Love of all gifts is the greatest..."

We wish God's blessings on the recent engagement of Sis. Janice Manz (Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen, Junction, OH) to Bro. Chad Kaeb (Bro. Eric and Sis. LouAnn). May God be the center of their lives as they plan for their marriage together.

Thanks to our visiting ministers this month: Bros. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Dan Moser (Elgin, IL), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) and Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT). We wish God's blessings on the labors of these brothers.

Derek Yergler (late Bro. Max and Sis. Donna) was recently married to Bo Youn of Korea. May God bless their home in San Francisco, CA.

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Bonita Frank are thankful grandparents of Loren Edward, born to Bro. Monty and Sis. Bethany Van Wyhe of Lester, IA. We wish God's blessing on their family. Also, God has blessed our congregation here in Cissna Park with two new baby boys. Jamie Michael was born to Bro. Justin and Sis. Jodi Sinn. Welcoming him home are brothers, Carson and Kenton, and grandparents, Bro. Gerald and Sis. Joan

We've been privileged to listen to the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference these last four weeks.

Our hospital patients this month have been Sis. Joan (Bro. Gerald) Rudin and Bro. Eldon (Sis. Melba) Steffen. We're thankful Sis. Joan is home again, and we continue to keep Bro. Eldon in our prayers as he remains at the nursing home.

Our congregation recently laid to rest two brothers. Bro. Max Yergler (Sis. Donna) has finished his earthly race. We extend our sympathy to Sis. Donna; his children, Julie (Mark) Gasick, David (Karen) Yergler, Bro. Darren (Sis. Marie) Yergler, and Derek (Bo Youn) Yergler. Also, we bid farewell to Bro. Alvin (Sis. Dorothy) Rudin. Our prayers are with Sis. Dorothy, Lyle (Lisa) Rudin, Darleen (Ronald) Knapp, and Bro. Arlyn (Sis. LaNae) Rudin. Also, we extend sympathy to Bro. Alvin's siblings, including Bro. Ben Rudin of Cissna Park and Sis. Anna Marie Reutter of Gridley (formerly of Cissna Park). May God's Spirit comfort the grieving.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Bro. Max Yergler wish to express our gratitude and thanks to everyone who remembered our family with prayers, cards, food, memorials, flowers and visits during his illness and passing. Every kindness meant so much during this difficult time. May God bless each kind deed.

Sis. Donna Yergler and family

day. We are also encouraged by all the ministering brethren, including our other visiting ministers this past month namely, Bros. Michael Wagenbach (Sis. Erika, Wolcott), Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Fairbury), Greg Lehman (Sis. MaryBeth, Wolcott), Ed Knecht (Sis. Judy, Silverton), and Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl, Eureka).

Another big change for our congregation this past month was the retirement of our Bro. Vernon (Sis. Judy) Wettstein from the ministry. Bro. Vernon became a minister on November 25, 1973, and has labored diligently for the Lord ever since. May they also feel God's peace and strength as they find a new place within our body of believers.

The family of our Bro. Keith Roth (Sis. Pauline) also have our prayers as he went to be with his Lord and Savior on Monday, September 10. Bro. Keith was a faithful pillar within our congregation and he will be greatly missed. His steadfast example inspired us, especially during recent years when he courageously struggled with cancer.

It seems that oftentimes sorrow is mixed with gladness. On Sunday, September 16, we rejoiced as Bro. Landon Knecht (Bro. Mike and Sis. Lisa, Eureka) was united in Holy Matrimony with our Sis. Martha Hoerr (Bro. Max and Sis. Suzanne). We pray that they will feel God's nearness as they begin to entwine their two lives together.

We also wish to welcome Sis. Melissa Blough from Alto, MI, to our congregation. She has moved to Central Illinois to continue her education. May she find her place among us and begin to feel at home here soon!

Note of Thanks:

We want to thank everyone who

and many deeds of kindness shown to us from the time of our house fire until our move back home. In these past months, we have replaced many of our earthly possessions, but we could never replace the love, mercy, protection, and provision of our great God or the reliable support of our brethren in time of need. May God richly bless each one of you as only He can.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Sandy Steiner and family

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

**Amy Gasser
Miriam Gasser**

"Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth."

Hosea 6:3

Though our August thunderstorms of historical magnitude caused damage and destruction in certain areas, the heavy latter rains were a God-given replenishment of our dwindling water supply.

We thank ministering Bro. Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL) for lending himself in the preaching of the Word, during a recent visit with his family.

Andrew Schmidgall (Rick and Sis. Cindy) and Bethany Krup exchanged wedding vows on September 1. We wish for this couple a loving bond that will grow and endure.

On September 8, the Elgin and Belvidere Sunday School students and teachers prepared and served the annual Pancake Breakfast at the Fellowship Center. The group's efforts and enthusiasm resulted in not only a delicious meal but also a generous donation to help defray the Sunday School's travel expenses.

Carol Kellenberger (Bro. Lloyd) of Gainesville, FL, has expressed her

month our congregation has undergone many changes. After many years of service, our Elder Bro. Bob Walder has stepped down from the Eldership and ministry. Bro. Bob was given the duties of a minister on August 3, 1969, and was ordained as an Elder on September 6, 1981. We humbly thank him and Sis. Gloria for their years of service and sacrifice on our behalf, and trust that God will continue to reward them with peace and strength. We were blessed by the verse Bro. Bob shared with us when announcing his retirement, "'Know therefore that the Lord thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations.'" (Deut. 7:9)

We pray that the Lord will strengthen, inspire, and encourage our Bro. Ben Walder and his wife, Sis. Juanita, as the mantle of leadership has been passed on to him. This took place on Sunday, August 26, with Elder Bros. Dennis Warner (Sis. Esther, Lester), Ervin Knecht (Sis. Sandy, Eureka), Charles Sauder (Sis. Miriam, Tremont), and Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL) assisting. We are deeply grateful for the time these brothers have spent as they carried out the process of selecting and ordaining an Elder for our congregation.

Our prayers were also with the whole Elder Body as they met for the 2007 Brotherhood Conference. We have been uplifted and admonished as we listened to the recordings of this

peace with God and man and plans to give her testimony in Elgin, where she and Bro. Lloyd raised their family.

Sis. Hilde Schumacher made an emergency visit to the hospital, where she was monitored and tentatively scheduled for another stent procedure. Sis. Debbie Sauder recently spent time in California for treatments to help relieve her discomfort. We pray that God will keep both of these sisters in the hollow of His hand and grant healing, according to His will.

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Dorothy Schifferer in the loss of her brother, Raymond Wascher, of Marengo, IL. He passed away on August 28. Sis. Dorothy expressed thankfulness for the nice visit she and her brother had shortly before his death.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Heather Beutel Cindy Stoller

We are thankful for the recent visits of ministering brethren, including Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), and Bros. Greg Braker (Lamar, MO), Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) and Erik Givens (Princeville, IL). How wonderful it is for the Lord to speak to us through faithful and humble brothers.

With mixed feelings, we laid to rest our dear Sis. Helen Rocke. She repented and was baptized later in life, and the Lord granted her a few years to serve Him before she was called home. May each death serve to sharpen our vision of the Heavenly Home for which we are striving.

Bro. Earl Zimmerman recently spent time in the hospital. May the Lord uphold all those who are in difficulty. "Pray one for another..." (James 5:16)

On September 16, Bro. Landon Knecht (Bro. Mike and Sis. Lisa) and

Sis. Martha Hoerr (Bro. Max and Sis. Suzanne) were married in Congerville. Also, on September 23, Bro. Chad Zimmerman (Bro. Tom and Sis. Janet) and Sis. Angie Wuthrich (Bro. Roger and Sis. DeAnn) were united as one in Bloomfield, IA. We are happy for these new couples, and pray the Lord to bless and keep them in all their ways.

"Blessed be the Lord God...who only doeth wondrous things." (Psalm 72:18) It was a joyful occasion to witness the provings and baptisms of Bro. Lonnie Kupferschmid (Sis. Laura, mother), Sis. Lainey Frank (Bro. Scott and Sis. Elaine), and Sis. Jeni Wettstein (Bro. Jim and Sis. Diane). Let them and all of us "onward go" as we serve the Lord with gladness.

Notes of Thanks:

I would like to thank everyone who remembered me during my hip surgery and recovery. Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, visits, and gifts of love. May God bless you.

Bro. Dietz Wiegand (Sis. Loretta)

The family of Bro. Lewis Martin wishes to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the many prayers of love, thoughtful cards, generous donations, gifts, food, and phone calls that were sent during his recent passing. Also, we are so grateful for the past years of support and concern given during Lewie's numerous health afflictions. We truly are thankful for our church family and friends. May God bless you with His loving mercies and His eternal promises.

In Christian Love,

Sis. Arletta Martin, Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa Schieler, Bro. Bruce and Sis. Sheri Martin, Bro. Brian and Sis. Tina Wiegand, Bro. Eric and Sis. Tami Vierling, Bro. Brian and

Sis. Teri Vierling, and Steve and Sis. Tarla Gibbs

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Elizabeth Fehr Anna Schmidgall

Our congregation was blessed to host the Vietnam reunion. Ministers involved who served us were Bros. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann; Smithville, OH), Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie; Rittman, OH), Floyd Frieden (Sis. Jan; Elgin, IA). May they be blessed for their willingness to be used in the Lord's vineyard.

Naomi Kay was welcomed home by Philip, Caleb, Ruth and Hannah. Bro. Ryan and Sis. Lori Hartman are her thankful parents. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Rosemary Hartman and Bro. Gary and Sis. Jane Brown (Forrest, IL). Great-grandparents in our congregation are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Pat Hartman.

Bro. Les and Sis. Sally Fehr welcomed home Tagen Brock. His siblings are Marcus, Wade and Tanya. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn Fehr and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Martha Moser (Washington, IL).

Bro. Ivan Fehr spent some time in the hospital. Bro. Lloyd Bachtold underwent surgery and is recuperating at Fairview Haven. We pray for God's healing hand on both of these dear ones.

ILLINOIS, FORREST Jill Wenger Lori Leman

We welcomed two new little babies into our congregation this month. Klyne Darren is welcomed home by big brother, Kole, and parents, Bro. Trent and Sis. Jennifer Johnson. His grandparents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Til Johnson and Darren and Peggy Kerrins. Leah Ellen came to bless the home of Bro. Ryan and Sis. Tabitha

Honegger. Leah's siblings are Kara, Renee, Lyle, and Aaron, and grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Joyce Honegger and Ron and Laurie Franz.

We pray that God will be near Marcus Aberle (Bethany) as he has taken a step in repentance. May he build on the firm foundation so that he will be able to stand when the tests and trials of life come.

We are very prayerful for those in our congregation who have spent time in the hospital. May God grant His healing power where He sees fit to Sis. Lucy Slagel (Bro. Jim), Blake Hall (Bro. Don and Barb), Bro. Paul Wiegand (Sis. Edna), Jonathan Zimmerman (Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta), and Sis. Lavonne Lanz (Bro. Elmer).

We thank the ministering brothers who have lent themselves in the service of the Lord on our behalf. Those visiting us this month were Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), and Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL). We are thankful for all of the brothers who preach the Word so faithfully.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Amber Grimm
Rita Bauman**

We had several visiting ministers this past month for which we are grateful. Those teaching His ways were Bros. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS), Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL), Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy, Roanoke, IL), Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton, IN), Steph Baner (Sis. Donnalou, Gridley, IL) and Ed Knecht (Sis. Judy, Silverton, OR). May God bless each one for your willingness to serve.

On September 9, a precious little girl was born to Bro. Kevin and Sis. Lindsay Wiegand. Aubrie Lynn is welcomed home by Taylor, Karly and

Austin. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Russ and Sis. Jane DesCarpentrie and Bro. Larry and Sis. Lori Wiegand. May God give them wisdom as they raise their children.

My heav'nly mansion, beyond the sky,
Where they who enter shall never die;

There would I journey this very day,
and with my Jesus forever stay.

Hymns of Zion #77

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Ann (Bro. Dave) Zobrist upon the death of their father, Bro. Keith Roth (Sis. Pauline), Congerville, IL. Also going to their heavenly home was Sis. Laura Steffen. May God be with her brothers, Bro. Melvin Heinold and Bro. Wilbur (Sis. Mildred) Heinold. We pray that God will comfort the hearts of all who have lost a loved one.

"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

September 16 was a special day for Sis. Beth Blunier and Bro. Ty Sauder (Roanoke, IL), as they became one in Christ. Their parents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Eileen Blunier (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Ed and Sis. Bonnie Sauder (Roanoke, IL). May God bless their marriage.

Hospital patients this past month were Sis. Betty (Bro. Willis) Wiegand. May she feel the Lord's healing touch.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Perry A. Klopfenstein

In a recent sermon we were reminded that a godly and upright life is a wonderful testimony for the unbe-

liever to witness each day. The old adage that actions speak louder than words often holds true. As the believer follows the Scriptures and remains true to God and His messages to us, a powerful force can be extended to those in darkness. This is all accomplished by the grace of God.

I had an interesting conversation with an older brother in faith. He and his wife are dealing with health issues. In sincerity, he said he prays for contentment. That was encouraging, since the Bible says that "Godliness with contentment is great gain" (I Timothy 6:6). As people deal with health problems, and with other vexations of life, it is helpful to follow the pattern on the Apostle Paul: "For I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." (Philippians 4:11).

Bro. Brandon Witzig broke his leg in a water-related accident. Also, Bro. Tony Dohman broke his ankle while working. Bro. Bob Hock is recovering from an accident. Bro. Alvin Ringger was to undergo heart surgery on Tuesday, October 2. Also, Bro. J. D. Maurer was scheduled for surgery to remove a tumor from his cranial area. And Bro. Tom Miller began, on October 1, a chemotherapy program for his skin cancer. We pray and plead to God for healing, according to His will.

We offer our sympathies to Bro. Rod Wolf and Sis. Beverly Wolf on the passing of her grandmother.

During this fall season many students are going to college. From our Gridley congregation a total of 22 students are enrolled in eight colleges or universities. They certainly have our prayers as they meet the daily challenges of instruction and learning; and may God protect them, both in body and soul.

As of late September the harvesting of crops was in full swing, with a

long run of ideal weather. The corn yields, especially, have been outstanding as timely rains during the growing season are resulting in a bumper — and perhaps record — corn crop. All credit goes to God above! Man can plant and water, but it is God who gives the increase.

ILLINOIS, MORTON
Annette Tanner
Julie Bahr

We were grateful to have Bro. Ron Kipfer (Sis. Linda, Bluffton) and Bro. Howard Plattner (Sis. Kristen, Alto, MI) with us to minister the Word of God. At one point we were challenged as individuals to have no verbalized murmurings for a period of 3 days; as all through the scriptures people seemed to be overtaken by their weariness and murmurings at various tasks of life. One of our purposes as Christ's children is to make someone else's day be the very best day they can have! Lord, help us to meet the challenge of "No murmuring" and look to help our fellow man in any way we can. We were also thankful to have ministers, Bro. Greg and Bro. Matthew Rassi (both from Chicago) and Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont).

"No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care" was the provoking thought Elder Bro. Ted Witzig Sr. shared with us the eve of Family Worship night in his topic "Learning from One Another".

Sis. Irene Farney (Bro. Earl) and Sis. Lydia Hauter (Bro. Ralph) both lost their brothers this past month. Sam Rumbold passed away, and then Bro. Herman Baer passed away on August 25. Our prayerful sympathy is with them.

A sweet baby girl, Tillie Sue, was born to Bro. Tate and Sis. Melissa Kaiser on August 31. Big sis Lola and grandparents, Bro. Fred and Sis. Chelly Kaiser and Bill and Linda

Hoerr (Peoria), welcome her into their hearts.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA
Carissa Klopfenstein
Kristen Menold

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

Psalms 118:24

Team Kids has resumed for the fall and is now meeting each Wednesday evening. We thank Bro. Mike and Sis. Lori Stratton for their organizational efforts and all the Brothers and Sisters that are teaching or assisting with this ministry. We pray that the Lord will bless you for the time and efforts you are investing into these children's lives.

The Peoria choir has begun rehearsing again. In addition to preparing new music for the Benefit Dinner, they are looking forward to hosting a few choirs and hope to visit a few congregations. CDs of the Benefit Program are now available at Peoria church or you can contact Bro. Skip Meister.

We bid farewell to Bro. Doug and Sis. Janelle Brewer who have relocated to California where Doug is studying law. We wish you the best in this new undertaking and pray the Lord's blessings on you.

We rejoice with our new convert, Lila Stahl. Our prayers are with you as you begin your new life serving Christ.

Please pray for Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and their family serving in Haiti; Bro. David Sceggel, working in Magdalena, Mexico; Bro. Steve Suttor, recovering from his bicycle accident; Amy Diggle, and Sis. Mabel Weber, Walter Feucht, Sis. Sharon Hodel, Sis. Ruth Huthmann, Bro. Dean Thomas, and Bro. Wayne

Wieland for recovered health and strength during illness.

Our prayers and sympathy is with the family of Sis. Vera Irions, as she has passed away; and for Sis. Tarla and Steve Gibbs, as her father, Bro. Lewis Martin, from Eureka has passed away. We pray the Lord will bring you peace and comfort in this time of sadness.

Congratulations to Bro. Jason and Sis. Courtney Strahm on the birth of their baby girl, Mya Elle, who was born August 5. Mya is welcomed by her brother, Jude and her grandparents, Bro. Joe and Sis. Jo Anne Hoerr, and Clayton and Sis. Miriam Strahm (Bern, KS).

Congratulations to Bro. Nate and Sis. Brook Herman on the birth of their little boy, Noah Ethan, who was born August 20. His sister, Mae, and his grandparents, Bro. Greg and Sis. Beth Herman and Bro. Lee and Sis. Patsy Esslinger (Burlington, IA), welcome him.

May the Lord be with you in this upcoming month.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE
Connie Christ
Vera Baer

"Love of all gifts, is the greatest." Abigail Feucht (Bro. Earl and Sis. Margaret) and Caleb Adreani (Anthony and Deborah) were joined as husband and wife, September 1. May their love for each other and their thankfulness to God grow day by day.

Andrew and Bernice Streitmatter have shared this special love of husband and wife for 65 years. May God bless them with His love and peace.

We have enjoyed our visiting ministers this month; we appreciate our home ministers also. Visiting and willing to speak to us through God's Word were Elder Bro. Aaron and Bro. Ted Steffen (Alto, MI), Bros. Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL), Roger Sauder

(Ft. Lauderdale, FL), and Jeff Thames (Washington, IL). May each of them and their families feel God's nearness.

Sis. Janet Joos was in the hospital and now is at Skyline Home for a while. We ask God to let her feel His love and strengthen her.

"Yea, greater love shall be there, more perfect and complete, when freed from pain and sorrow, our Lord and God we meet." Our sympathy goes to Sis. Loretta Rumbold as her brother, Bro. Lewis Martin (Eureka, IL), passed away. Bro. Glen (Sis. Audrey) Braker also mourns the loss of his brother, Bro. Harland Braker of Roanoke, IL. Our prayer is that God will comfort the families while they have hope that their loved ones are freed from pain and sorrow.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Dee Fehr
Judy Sauder**

Acts 10:48: "And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord." We welcome Sis. Heidi Leman (Bro. Don and Sis. Colleen) into the body of Christ. She gave her testimony of faith and was baptized the weekend of August 18-19.

Also, Brittany Onnen has given her heart to the Lord in repentance. We rejoice with both of these young women and wish them God's blessings as they begin their walks of faith.

Romans 15:9: "...as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name." On August 25-26, the Roanoke congregation was privileged to host the nationwide Men's Sing which is held every two years. Bro. Ben Luginbuhl (Bloomington) led over 140 men in singing praises to our great God. Visiting ministers on Sunday included Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Denver), Bro. Nate Lehman (Denver), Bro. Dewayne Dill (Minne-

apolis), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron), Bro. Max. Reimschisel (Wichita), and Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin). We thank all those who participated and helped make it a very inspiring and blessed weekend.

We welcome Bro. Joshua Lindberg (Atlanta), and Sis. Bethany Fischer (Leo) to the Roanoke congregation. They are living with their respective grandparents and are working or attending school. We are thankful to have them both.

Hebrews 6:10: "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." We have been blessed to have additional visiting ministers this month. Elder Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City), Bro. Glen Braker (Princeville), and Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley) were our guests on September 2. On September 9, Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott) ministered to us. We thank all these brothers for their labors of love on our behalf.

Mary Coulombe passed away September 5. She was a sister to Bro. Rich (Sis. Rachel) Leman of our congregation. We extend our love and deepest sympathy to her family.

On September 9 and 16, the Roanoke church was privileged to host the Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship. We thank the high school students and their leaders for bringing us the gospel message through song.

On September 16, Bro. Tyler Sauder (Bro. Ed and Sis. Bonnie) and Sis. Beth Blunier (Bro. Duane and Sis. Eileen, Eureka) were united in marriage in Goodfield. We pray for God's blessings upon this dear couple as they build their marriage upon the Lord. "...and a threefold cord is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:12.

Also on September 16 we said fare-

well to Bro. Kirk and Sis. Keri Plattner (Leo) and their two boys who are planning to leave for Knockpatrick, Jamaica, to work at the deaf village there. They are being sent by World Relief and will work with CCCD.

Also, Bro. Daniel and Sis. Kasey Messner (Chicago) plan to leave for Switzerland shortly for employment reasons. We pray for God's blessings upon these two dear couples as they are away from us for a season. We also pray for God's peace and nearness upon Bro. Bill and Sis. Patsy Kaeb who are bidding their two daughters and their families farewell.

We continue to lift up Bro. Dick (Sis. Ann) Hoffman, Sis. Margaret (Bro. Gene) Fehr and others in our congregation as they face various health issues. Lamentations 3:22,23: "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell
Sheri Allen**

We have several families who have been blessed with a new baby this month. Brody Lynn was born to Shawn and Stacy Rinkenberger. Brody joins siblings, Brice and Blake. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Clea Rinkenberger and Glenn and Kay Heflein. Bro. Maurice and Sis. Marge Schaefer are also rejoicing over the birth of another grandchild. Ryan and Cindy Keith welcomed little Mitchell home. He has two sisters, Lauren and Julia. Bro. John and Sis. Jamie Dill are thankful for the safe arrival of Grayson James on August 19. He joins brothers, Parker and Brady. Grayson's grandparents are Bro. Glenn and Sis. Marilyn Dill and Bro. Ken and Sis. Amy Koch. We pray for each of these families as they raise

these precious children up to know the Lord.

The engagement of Sis. Kim Dill (Bro. Dave and Sis. Ann) to Bro. Dane Zeller (Morton, IL) was announced. We rejoice with them and pray for them as they make their wedding plans.

Our prayers are with Bro. Kerry and Sis. Kelly Baer as they mourn the loss of Bro. Kerry's grandfather, Bro. Herman Baer.

We have had two little ones in our congregation spend some time in the hospital. Thad Steiner (Bro. Todd and Sis. Val) and Neil Moser (Bro. Mark and Sis. Colleen) have been in our prayers. We are so thankful for the miracle of healing for these boys.

We would like to welcome Bro. Adam and Sis. Katie Reinbeck and their children back to our congregation. They have recently moved back and will be worshipping with us for a while. We are glad to have them back.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Elizabeth Heinold
Nancy Knepp

"Don't let the song go out of your life

Though it chance sometimes to flow
 In a minor strain; it will blend again
 With the major tone you know."

From *Streams in the Desert*
 Vol. 1

Only when the song comes back in my life, do I first realize it was gone! We felt like singing in a minor key this month as several from our congregation had health issues all in the same week! Bro. Ed (Sis. Louise) Teubel suffered a heart attack, but is now home on rehab therapy. Sis. Vicki Hodel is facing cancer surgery, and Sis. Sue Ruppert and Sis. Ann (Bro. Harold) Meiss are again recuperating from hospital stays.

"Jesus Knows Thy Sorrow" was a comfort as Bro. Harvey (Sis. Sharon) Martin said farewell to his brother, Bro. Lewis Martin (Eureka); and Sis. Wanda (Bro. John) Kinsinger and Sis. Kendra Baer said farewell to their grandfather, Bro. Herman Baer (Eureka). "Safely He would lead thee, by His own sweet way, out into the glory of a brighter day."

Bro. Trent Barth and Sis. Heather Rassi were married in Morton. We welcome Sis. Heather to our congregation and pray that they will experience God's rich blessings on their union.

Bro. Jim Meiss (Sis. Candy, Phoenix, AZ) exhorted us to spread our cares before the Lord even as King Hezekiah did when threatened by Sennacherib. God provided deliverance through angels. Even so, "deliverance will come" for us, too! Keep singing!

"Don't let the song go out of your life:

Let it ring in the soul while here;
 And when you go hence, 'twill follow
 you thence,
 And live on in another sphere."

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Amber Steffen
Stefanie Dailey
Jan Schwartz

"Give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the people."

I Chronicles 16:8

With the change of another season approaching, the Holy Spirit too has been alive and well, and working mightily in the Bluffton congregation. We give thanks for a new convert this month, Jesse Krizan (Bro. Eugene and Sis. Elizabeth) and continue to pray for Jesse as he grows in his walk with Christ.

September 15-16 was a blessed weekend in Bluffton as we celebrated the rebirth of five sisters. Sara Reinhard (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Shelly), Brooke, Krista, and Wendy Fiechter (Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie) and Hannah Fiechter (Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth) gave strong testimonies of their faith and were baptized. We are thankful for Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna) for being willing to serve our congregation for the testimonies and baptisms.

Jesse Terhune has been announced as having peace and a desire to be baptized. Our prayers go with him as he has made the decision to follow Christ at an older age.

Also this month, we rejoice with several of the young families in Bluffton as they welcome a new member to their individual families.

Bro. Stan and Sis. Genny Isch welcome their new granddaughter, Kat Kristine, on August 12. Kat's parents are Bro. Barry and Sis. Myra Beer.

Following that, on August 29, Bro. Ben and Sis. Tanya Girod were thankful for the birth of their daughter, Vivian Lyn. We continue to be prayerful for complications since then, and rejoice that Vivian is doing well. Vivian's grandparents are Sis. Carla Girod and Bro. Kris and Sis. Ann Frauhiger.

Hannah Marie was born to Bro. Matt and Sis. Tiffany Drayer on August 30. She is warmly received by her grandparents, Bro. Derryl and Sis. Peggy Aschliman and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Lois Drayer.

As we rejoice with these families, we have also been prayerful for others. Bro. Gene and Sis. Becky Gerber and family were very thankful for prayers during the accident and recovery of their two sons, Bro. Jason and Bro. Randy. Recovery is going well, but we continue to lift up this family.

Bro. Eric Tonner is again in Haiti for a short term trip, and our prayers go with him as he serves there.

The High School Sunday School traveled to the Remington and Wolcott area for Christian Endeavor September 8-9. This time provides a great way to form friendships and be more exposed to the love of Christ. We're thankful for those that put forth the effort to host this weekend.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Rose Frauhiger have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this month. We rejoice and are thankful for their faithful example in our church.

**INDIANA
BLUFFTON NORTH
Kelli Bucher
Sherry Pfister
Darren Drayer**

"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 precious promise as we seek the Lord's will for a new Elder to lead our congregation here at Bluffton North. Bro. Phil Stettner has announced his desire to retire after serving as our Elder for 24 years. May God richly bless him and his wife, Sis. Maureen, for the many sacrifices and labors of love given in this position.

Bro. Matt and Sis. Tiffany Drayer welcomed their first child, little Hannah Marie, on August 30. Grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Lois Drayer and Bro. Derryl and Sis. Peggy Aschliman.

Our Bro. Chris Stoller (son of Sis. Erma of Latty) was united in marriage to Sis. Katy Schlipf (Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy) in Milford on September 22. May God richly bless their lives together.

Our Bro. Everett Schladenhauffen went to be with the Lord on September 12. He leaves his dear wife, Sis. Luella, and four children, sons: Bro. Gary, Mark, and Keith, and his daughter, Luann Brock. Our love and prayers are with them in their loss.

Loved ones to remember in our prayers during their hospitalization and recuperation this month are Sis. Delores Shady (Bill) and Sis. Susie Maynard.

**INDIANA
FRANCESVILLE
Barb Huber
Jessica Murray**

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

Ecclesiastes 3:1

As our lovely Fall season ushers in the bounty of harvest, we greet you in our Savior's name!

Two of our beloved converts, Leah and Ryan Kaeb, have been announced for peace. Leah and Ryan are the daughter and son of our Bro. Les and Sis. Christine Kaeb. We are so thankful for God's grace to them and the refreshment of our own spirits as we witness the ongoing miracle of conversion.

With joy, we wish to congratulate our friends, Ryan and Tanya Westfall, as they welcomed their second son who was born on August 29. The baby's name is Cohen Jay and he has a big brother, Cayden. Ryan is the grandson of Bro. Karl and Sis. Donna Westfall of Francesville and the son of Bro. Dave and Sis. Julie Westfall of Chicago.

This dear family circle also experienced the passing away of Marge Brooks, beloved mother of Sis. Julie Westfall and Ryan's grandmother.

So, along with our warm congratulations on the precious new life of baby Cohen, we extend our prayers of sympathy for the family loss.

We are praying for God's peace and comfort for our Bro. Harold (Sis. Sherry) Fritz and their family. Bro. Harold lost his brother, Barry, after serious illness.

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the Lord delivereth him out of them all."

Psalms 34:19

Bro. Morris (Sis. Helen) Aeschliman has also been visited with grief this month at the death of his sister. May God comfort this family circle. How thankful we are to know that our Heavenly Father is over all and that we can "...pray one for another" (James 5:16)

Our Bro. Wally (Sis. Rosella) Bucher continues to recuperate in his home while undergoing further treatment. We are thankful that we are hearing encouraging news for him and will continue to pray that he soon can be among us at church. Both Bro. Wally and Sis. Rosella have expressed their thankfulness and testify of the power of the prayers of the brotherhood.

Herb (Sis. Suzanne) Cook has also spent time in the hospital for testing and observation. We are praying that he is cared for by the Heavenly Physician also and that he feels our love and prayers.

Bro. Jarod and Sis. Molly (Gutwein) Steffen have been blessed by the arrival of their second child, Miles Alan. He was born on September 14 and will be welcomed home by big sister, Marlee. Miles is the grandson of Elder Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein and Bro. Roger and Sis. Vicky Steffen of Remington. We pray God's blessings on this precious fam-

ily circle.

We welcome Sis. Lucille Steffen (great-grandmother of newborn Miles Steffen) to our congregation as she has recently moved from Remington into an apartment at Parkview Haven.

We were privileged to host a young group gathering here on September 8-9. It is so heartwarming to see them together; witness their energy for the Lord, and to hear them sing. They did volunteer work at Parkview Haven and also sang to the residents there. Thanks to all of the Brothers and Sisters who worked to make this week-end possible through their love and hospitality.

Bro. Jan and Sis. Val Gutwein and their precious family are home from Haiti for a few months and we are so thankful to have them with us once again. They plan to return to Haiti at the end of October. Bro. Jan gave us an informative talk on their work there. May we all do our part in this missionary effort by continuing to pray for them and their work of love and service in fulfilling the great commission of Jesus Christ.

We have the privilege of praying for our friend, Nick Leman, who has returned to Iraq for his second tour of duty. Nick is serving in the Marines and is the son of Bro. Larry and Sis. Pam Leman. We pray God's protection of him.

Bro. Chad, Sis. Pam, Paul, Anna, Timothy, Emma and Dylan Huber are leaving for missionary training in Colorado in preparation for their move to serve at CCCD in Jamaica. We sang "Take The Name Of Jesus With You" as a farewell to them after church on Sunday and, indeed, that is our best prayer for them. May we all pray that God will place His sheltering arms about them as they embark on this new journey in their lives.

As powerful testimony to the work

of the Holy Spirit, we rejoice to announce that Amy Looney and her daughter, Elizabeth, are seeking the Lord in repentance. "I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance." (Luke 15:7). We give thanks to God that we can share in this joy and surround Amy and Elizabeth with our love and prayers.

We again have experienced God's faithfulness in our lives through the happenings of these past thirty days. Whatever our experience may be in any given cycle of time, we are safe if we are in Jesus' care. "Now our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, Comfort your hearts, and stablish you in every good word and work." (II Thessalonians 2:16, 17)

**INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS
Penny Schroder
Gail Bradford**

It is always a joy to welcome newcomers to our Indianapolis church. Recently, Bro. Makoto Inoue, Bro. Blake Widmer and Bro. Brian and Sis. Ashton Steffen have all moved to the Indianapolis area.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Connie Witzig and Daniel and Barb Umbough are thankful for the arrival of their grandson, William Daniel Witzig. First-time parents, Anna and Robby Witzig, live in Noblesville, IN.

Many thanks to our visiting ministers this month: Bro. Ken Lawson (Sis. Sharon, Atlanta, GA) and Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue, Francesville, IN).

**INDIANA, LACROSSE
Bethany Johnson
Julie Rocke**

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

Sis. Kayla Heinold (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie) has announced her engagement to Bro. Fred Manz (Bro. Don and Sis. Connie) from Junction, OH. May God grant them His love and blessings as they prepare for their wedding and marriage.

God's might was revealed in the storm clouds that gathered one Wednesday night a few weeks ago, bringing with it wind, rain, and hail. Crops and structures that were in the path of the storm sustained significant damage. We are so very thankful that God spared life and health, and much appreciation has been expressed for all those who took time to help clean up trees, limbs and buildings that were toppled.

World Relief Family Night was held August 31. We had a good turn-out and an enjoyable evening together packing school bags, health kits and knotting comforters. September 13 and 14, we were thankful for the availability of the World Relief Project Trailer as some from our congregation joined others in re-roofing a home near LaCrosse. Many thanks to all who prepared for these projects and to those who helped in one way or another.

Behold, how good and how pleasant
it is,
for brethren to dwell together in
unity.

Hymns of Zion #188

We have had the opportunity to listen to the tapes of the General Conference. It has been good to sit together and listen to the talks given by

our Elder Brothers and to feel God's Spirit working in each of them and amongst us.

Sunday School has resumed again. It is so nice to hear the eager voices of the children as they sing and recite their memory verses.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit, MI) and Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH). We thank both of them for spending and being spent in ministering the Word on our behalf.

Our prayers are with Bro. Don Gudeman as he recovers from surgery to repair a hand injury. May he be restored to full health as speedily as possible.

We had the special opportunity to show our appreciation to Sis. Pearl and Sis. Lucille Nuest for their many years of service to World Relief. For a combined 80 years, they spent many hours sewing comforter tops, preparing for sewing days, and performing the other World Relief duties. We are so thankful for all they have done and continue to uphold them in our prayers.

INDIANA, LEO
Elizabeth Schrenk
Abigail Schrenk

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork."

Psalms 19:1

As summer turns to fall and all around us colors change, it is clear to see that God is truly amazing and ALL His creation is GOOD!

On August 23, Wesley Malachi was welcomed into the home of Bro. Marc and Sis. Diann Grimm. Wesley's big brothers are Isaac and Micah. We congratulate them as parents again and pray they will

know God's wisdom and understanding as they raise these boys for His glory.

Bro. Kirk and Sis. Keri Plattner were with us on September 9. They will be moving to Knockpatrick, Jamaica, sometime in October to begin a full time work for Apostolic World Relief. We encourage you to pray for them. We trust God for His direction as they serve the deaf of Jamaica. Communication with Plattner's is extremely important as they begin this new work. We encourage you to communicate with them at:

kirkkeri@plattnerfamily.com

Bro. Adam and Sis. Katie Reinbeck have served at Gateway Woods for some time. They believe God is directing them into a new ministry. We trust He will continue to give them peace and guidance as they move back to the Tremont, IL, area for a short time. We thank Reinbeck's for their service at Gateway Woods. We will miss them worshipping with us.

Bro. Shane and Sis. Stefanie Beer joined our congregation this month. They have come from West Lafayette, IN, to serve at Gateway Woods as Alternate Houseparents. We welcome them to our fellowship and pray that God will bless them for their service at Gateway Woods.

Bro. Jerry Fessenden's father (Phil) had surgery this month in Chicago. He has requested our prayers during this time. We pray for God's will to be done and that Phil can experience the peace and healing of God during his recovery.

We were blessed with many visiting ministers this month. Among them were Elder Bros. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North), Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL), and Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington-Normal, IL). Also

sharing the Word with us was Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL) and Bro. Alan Schambach (Sis. Sarah, Remington, IN). It is always refreshing to hear from our visiting Brothers and we thank each of them for their service to our congregation.

In a few weeks the trees will fade in color. The grass will develop a brown tone. Nature will begin to prepare for the coming of winter. May we remind ourselves as we see God's creation changing "the Word of the Lord stands forever".

INDIANA, MILFORD
Carol Haab
Carol Hurd

On August 24, Bro. Phil and Sis. Jane Price welcomed a new granddaughter. Moriah Nicole was born to their son, Jason, and his wife, Jenny. Maternal grandparents are Dennis and Susan Replogle. Paternal great-grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Kate Price. This is Jason and Jenny's first child. May God bless this family.

The Milford Potluck Group enjoyed the fellowship of an Invite a Couple weekend on August 25.

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

Hebrews 11:1

Bro. Dan Beer reminded all present on Sunday what a precious faith we have that we can invite couples to fellowship in this faith.

On Sunday, September 2, Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe (South Bend, IN) favored the Milford congregation with a visit. Reading first in Job 2 and then in II Corinthians 8.

"And this they did, not as we hoped, but first gave their own selves to the Lord and unto us by the will of

God.”

II Cor. 8:5

Bro. Bob also shared with us that only one letter changed turns “Disappointment” into “His appointment”.

“Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer;”

Romans 12:12

Bro. Nelson Beer reminded us of this as he read Romans 12.

On September 9, the Milford church was blessed when Bro. Ralph and Sis. Lynn Garber found themselves in our area for the weekend. Thank you for spending the day with the Milford congregation.

“Temperance” seemed to be the message as Bro. Dan Beer read Titus 2 and Bro. Daren Price read Galatians 5 on Sunday, September 16.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”

Galatians 5:22-23

Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter’s topic for the Bible study on Tuesday is “Temperance”.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Becky Langhofer
Natalie Virkler**

“Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate.”

Psalms 127:3-5

We rejoice with Bro. Marty and Sis. Lavilla Langhofer as they welcome a new granddaughter to their family. Chloe Ilania was born to Benji and Ila (Langhofer) Woollet on August 29. She weighed 6 lbs. 11 ounces and was 19.5 inches long. What a blessing each new life brings!

We have begun listening to the Conference tapes and are thankful for the willingness of those who stand to share God’s precious Word with us.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Marguerite Hoerr

On the first Sunday in September we were visited by Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary Ann, Fairbury IL) and his parents, Bro. Pete and Sis. Ella Plattner, of Peoria. Bro. Rick and Sis. Mary Ann were both born in Peoria the year Bob and I moved from there to Milford, IN. Their parents, on both sides, were close friends of ours and it was wonderful to greet them and renew old memories. They all richly blessed our day.

Elder Bros. Dan Kilgus and Steve Gutwein have been spending time with our small congregation; guiding us in our search for another minister to help Bro. Garry Bucher. We’re all prayerful that this can be done in the near future.

Ministering Bro. Warren Schlatter and his wife, Sis. Cindy, and their five children, spent the Sunday of September 9 with us. I’ve mentioned before how ministers’ wives do their own ministry when they visit. Sis. Cindy has been one of many who came to the kitchen area and helped wipe dishes as we cleaned up after lunch. It’s a known fact that women can converse and get to know each other as they do dishes together. I have heard so many good things about the Junction congregation from my loved cousin, Sis. Kathryn Emch, who lives in Archbold, OH. I

think they appreciate Kathryn, too. Groups of them have visited her time after time, and she appreciates those visits so much.

We were blessed with visiting children and grandchildren through the Labor Day weekend. Nothing makes parents hearts sing more than the love of family, and we experienced this to the fullest again this month. We praise God for His goodness to us. Dick Pelath, our son-in-law, since returning to work part-time, has had a bumpy ride but manages to keep his spirits up and his positive attitude healthy.

On September 9, ministering Bro. Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon) spent the Sunday with us. Accompanying them was Chris’s father, Bro. Gene Huber, and his daughter, Sis. Peg Huber. What a blessing this family was to all of us. Bro. Gene noted when we first met that “we go back a long time.” That remark brought back dear memories of them coming to Milford to visit their daughter, Sis. Sandy, who was married to Bro. Glen Price, Jr. Unfortunately we lost Sis. Sandy and Bro. Glen to Florida and so the visits of her parents became less frequent. What a joy it was to meet them all again.

Our very special Sis. Marie Heinold has moved to Bluffton. She is staying at Christian Care, in order to be closer to her daughter, Sis. Mary Honegger, and husband, Bro. Bob. Marie was able to visit us from time to time after she moved to Parkview Haven in Francesville. She told me one time that she will always be a prayer warrior for her dear church in Valparaiso. We trust that Marie’s prayers continue to be offered for us; and we, in turn, will remember her in prayer because we love her very much.

Bros. Byron Frieden and Dale Schneider were appointed as church

trustees to fill existing vacancies, and Bro. Tim Bucher was asked to remain as Sunday school Supt. for another term.

On September 16, ministering Bro. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte) visited from the Chicago congregation and brought the morning message. The second service was given by Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jackie) of Francesville. Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona Bucher sent us CD's of their sermons because we couldn't be present that Sunday. In my grandfather's time, sermons were taken by those who could write shorthand and then would type the message so it could be read. From my father's time on the cassette tapes were available, and we could hear the voice of the minister. Now the Word of God can be burnt onto a CD and the quality is much clearer and can be enjoyed to the fullest. There are so many things in modern technology that are to our benefit and we praise God for them.

By the time this issue of Silver Lining appears in our mailboxes, fall will be here, and here in the Midwest we can enjoy the brilliant changing leaves on our trees and will thank God for another harvest season. Wherever you are, in the North, South, East or West, we wish you the blessings of a beautiful October.

**INDIANA
WEST LAFAYETTE
Hollie Meister
Darlene Walder**

We would like to welcome our Purdue students back. They returned to start classes on August 20; we wish you all well and pray for a good school year.

We had our all church potluck (Family Praise Night) this month. We sang songs, the children played games, and we learned about bugs. We would like to thank Bro. Corey

Gerber for teaching us about "Bugs of the Bible". God blessed us with a beautiful evening of fellowship and fun.

This month we were blessed with several visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Lacrosse, IN), Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Francesville, IN), Bro. John Baumgartner (Bluffton, IN), and Bro. Al Schambach (Remington, IN). We would like to thank you for visiting and sharing God's Word with us.

Our congregation was blessed with two new additions this month. Bro. Nathan and Sis. Kelli Pritts welcomed Alivia to their family. Big brother Avery loves his new baby sister. The happy grandparents are Bro. Gerry and Sis. Marcia Waibel, and great-grandparents are Bro. Leon and Sis. Reva Waibel.

Bro. Ryan and Sis. Hollie Meister were blessed with a baby girl, Jorie Ann. Big brothers, Alec and Kyler, were very happy to have a baby sister. Loving grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Sharon Meister.

**INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Lowell Bahler
Erica Blume**

Blest be the tie that binds,
Our hearts in Christian love:

Sunday, September 2, was a blessed day for us as it was our annual invite-a-friend weekend. We enjoyed having many visitors with us, including two ministers, Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy; Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Randy Gutwein (Sis. Becky; Francesville, IN). We sincerely thank them for their labors of love in bringing forth His Holy Word. It is always such a blessing to meet, greet and be with those of like mind and

faith.

The fellowship of kindred minds,
Is like to that above.

We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear;

We apologize for neglecting to mention that Sis. Colleen Jacoby (Bro. Jon) underwent foot surgery this summer. It has taken some time, but she is recovering well.

And often for each other flows,
The sympathizing tear.

Our sympathies go out to Sis. Erica Blume (Bro. Brent) in the loss of her grandfather, Bro. Alvin Rudin (Sis. Dorothy; Cissna Park, IL). May they feel God's love and comfort now and in the days to come.

Amen.
(*Zion's Harp #156*)

**IOWA, BLOOMFIELD
Barbara Schock**

Seeds of goodness we are sowing
In the hearts of men today.
Bless it, Lord, that it may prosper
And bear fruit for harvest day.
Hymns of Zion # 46

We are thankful that the seed of faith has been planted in a heart and is growing by God's grace. We were blessed to hear the provings and witness the baptism of our new Sister, Sara Teubel (Bro. Paul and Sis. Charlotte), on the weekend of August 18 and 19. We thank Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley) for his laboring on this special weekend. Bro. Brad Funk (Sis. Laura, Garden Grove) was also here for Saturday night, and we thank him also for his effort to be here.

We are also thankful that the

seeds of faith and love have been planted. On August 25, there was a reception here for Bro. Eric and Sis. Kathryn Wuthrich (Bro. Ken and Sis. Lora; Bro. Lynn and Sis. Marilyn Kuenzi, Silvertown) who were united as one in the Lord on July 22. We welcome Sis. Kathryn here and pray she will soon feel at home.

We would also like to welcome Sis. Audrey Kuenzi (Bro. Todd and Sis. Melissa) and convert Emily Sinn (Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie) to Bloomfield. They also are from Silvertown, and have moved to Bloomfield to go to school. May they feel the Lord's guidance as they take this step in life.

Once more, we would like to offer up prayers on behalf of Brian Schaefer (Don) as he has been sent overseas again to Iraq. May the Lord provide His protection and bring him safely home again.

Our prayers are also with Sis. Rose Dotterer (Bro. Joe) as she has needed to have more surgery. We're thankful that it appears to be successful. May she feel the Lord's healing hand through this difficult time.

Once again, we were privileged to hear the Conference tapes. May we all take the direction of our Elders to heart, and not just merely let their words and efforts pass over us. They too are human, but by the Lord's direction, they were made our shepherds. Therefore, it should not be a burden to us to follow their efforts to keep us from the world and our robes unspotted. May we all prayerfully continue on in this pilgrimage here below.

IOWA, BURLINGTON **Laurie Schulz**

"Rejoice with them that do rejoice and weep with them that weep."
Romans 12:15

We rejoice with Sis. Brenda Schulz (currently living in Sabetha), daughter of Bro. Gary and Sis. Melody (and the late Sis. Karen), in her engagement to Bro. Seth Hartter of Sabetha, KS (Bro. Tim and Sis. Charlene). May God continue to guide and bless their lives.

We also rejoice that our friend, Derek Knapp (Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna), of West Bend has found peace with God and man. We'll keep him in our prayers as we anticipate his proving.

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

Inspire, O Lord, each servant,
with love and honor fervent
Thy gospel to proclaim;
That prompted by Thy Spirit,
they work and toil with merit
unto the glory of Thy name.
Thy messengers Thou sendest,
by them to us extendest
the living Bread of Heaven.
That none of us may perish,
arouse our hearts to cherish
the grace and healing to us given.
Give faithful servants ever,
who have but one endeavor,
Thy Gospel to proclaim;
Who heed Thy Spirit holy,
and strive and labor solely,
O, Lord, to glorify Thy name.

Zion's Harp #207, vs. 6-8

We have been listening to the Conference tapes (CD's) and appreciate each of God's servants who were given topics to speak on this year. It has been a blessing to be reminded and encouraged by the warnings, commandments and promises found in God's Word. Also, a special thanks to our Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA) for spending another Sunday with us and for his faithful concern for our small flock

here in Elgin.

IOWA, IOWA CITY **Diana Butikofer**

Congratulations to David and Stephanie Milder on their recent marriage. Their parents are Pat and Ruth Milder and Bro. Roger and Sis. Rhonda Reker. We wish them the best (the Lord's blessing and guidance) in their new life together.

We were blessed to hear the testimonies of our new Sisters in Christ, Rachel and Rebekah Snodgrass, and to have many visitors come to witness and rejoice with us. We extend a special thank you to Elder Bros. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara, Bloomfield, IA) and Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Oakville, IA) for their part in the provings, baptisms and sermons.

We thank the families who came to support their students and our congregation during our annual College Student Welcome Picnic on September 16. This coincided with our hosting of single groups from all of the Iowa congregations for the Iowa Churches weekend. It was another blessed weekend with a full assembly room and beautiful singing and fellowship.

We welcomed the announcement that our convert, Luke Gerst, has found peace and we pray the Lord will continue to uphold him as he looks forward to baptism.

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

I am Jesus' little lamb;
Therefore glad at heart I am:
My good Shepherd watches o'er me
And He tenderly cares for me,
Knows me, loves me e'er the same,
Even calls me by my name.

The Children's Harp #13

The arrival of five precious lambs has brought joy to our congregation and to the following families: Bro. Monty and Sis. Bethany Van Whye, Levi and Lydia welcomed Loren Edward into their lives on August 21. Bro. Pete and Sis. Susan Van Whye and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Bonita Frank (Cissna Park, IL) are the thankful grandparents. On August 22, a little boy, Earl Joshua was born to Joshua and Melinda Moser. Big sister, Paige, is excited for a new playmate. Ross and Heather Metzger are the parents of Jamin Elmer born on September 5. Big brother, Brayden, and grandparents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois Metzger, are happy to have another precious baby to love. Clayton Edward was born on September 6 to Bro. Benji and Sis. Leah Kellenberger. Older siblings, Larinda and Weston, are thrilled with a new baby as well as grandparents, Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley Kellenberger and Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl Messner (Morris, MN). A precious daughter, Abby Lynn, was born on September 12 to Bro. Dustin and Sis. Michelle Knobloch. Isaac and Emma are excited to have a new sister to love and adore. Grandparents include Bro. Meff and Sis. Wilma Knobloch and Ron and Sis. Sandra Feucht. May God grant much grace and wisdom to these families as they raise their children.

Hospital patients include: Drendan Van Whye (Bro. Mychal and Sis. Dawn), Clayton Kellenberger (Bro. Benji and Sis. Leah), Sis. Joyce Metzger (Bro. Glen), Sis. Pam Bosch (Bro. Tony) and Sis. Rosella Metzger (Bro. Bob). May God's healing hand be upon them as they all have returned home to recuperate.

We appreciated the teachings brought forth on September 2. Bro. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL) and

Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Morris, MN) were with us to share the message of truth and salvation. May God be their rich rewarder.

Haste and seek your soul's salvation,

Heed the Word of God today...

Zion's Harp #52

We rejoice with Max Knobloch (Bro. Denis and Sis. Jackie) as he has answered the call of repentance and is seeking his soul's salvation. Max is currently assembling with the Prescott, AZ, church as he is attending college there. May God grant him much grace to establish a firm foundation.

Drew Metzger (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joleen) has found his peace with God and man. We are so thankful and look forward to hearing his proving on the weekend of October 13-14.

Wendi Bajema (Bro. Rod and Sis. Twyla) and Lance Crawford have announced their engagement. May God be near them as they make plans for their January wedding.

IOWA, OAKVILLE Sharla Wiegand

It is encouraging to see the Lord work in our midst. On August 19, the engagement was made known of Bro. Steve Lindeen (Bro. Tom and Sis. Vera) and Sis. Abby Metzger (Bro. Mark and Sis. Audrey) from Lester, IA. We hope Sis. Abby finds a warm welcome here.

The birth of Joel Edward on August 20 has brought much joy to his parents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Stefanie Stoller, and his siblings, Torri, Noelle, Chelise and Brett. Also rejoicing are grandparents, Bro. Ed and Sis. Patty Stoller, Sis. Teresa Marti, and great-grandparents, Bro. Floyd and Sis. Ione Rowell, and Jim and Mabel Kelly.

IOWA, WEST BEND Sue Schneider Janet Fehr

"And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

II Cor. 12:9

Sis. Verda Bruellman (Bro. Don) was hospitalized in August, as well as Sis. Sharon Fehr (Bro. Jim). Due to complications, Sharon is still in the hospital at this writing. We pray for God's healing powers and protection.

Hannah Joy was born into the family of Bro. Jason and Sis. Angie Fehr. May God bless them as they raise their children to know Him. Happy grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy Fehr and Elder Bro. Dennis and Sis. Esther Warner (Lester, IA).

On another joyful note, Betsy Mogler (Bro. Chuck and Sis. Beth) and Derek Knapp (Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna, Burlington, IA) were announced for peace between God and man. We pray God may continue to work in their lives.

Bro. Craig Martin (Sis. Terri, Princeville, IL) and his family came to visit family and friends in our West Bend congregation. We so enjoyed their stay and especially appreciated Bro. Craig's willingness to share God's Word with us.

Two young couples have announced their plans to be married in October. Jason Wickman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Marvella) is engaged to Malinda (Mindy) Erpelding, and Amy Mogler (Eric and Diana) is engaged to Brian Peterson. May God be with both of these couples as they contemplate this very important step

in their lives.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Andy Bruellman (Bro. Larry and Sis. Teresa) and his family. Andy is a member of the National Guard and has been sent on a peacekeeping mission to the country of Kosovo. We Americans take for granted our freedoms and rights and so often don't appreciate the sacrifices made by the men and women who defend and have defended the principles on which this nation was founded. May God protect and bless these individuals. Andy would welcome correspondence. After October 25 he can be reached at this address:

Sergeant Andy Bruellman, Task Force Thunder, B Btry 1st BN 194th FA, APO AE 09340.

The fall harvest is now underway for our area farmers. Some areas have recently been hit by high winds and heavy rainfall causing property and crop damage. We pray for patience and God's protection as the harvest progresses.

"Blessed be God, which hath not turned away my prayer, nor his mercy from me."

Psalms 66:20

JAPAN, SHIODA

Carrie Ito

In a recent sermon we were taught about the Biblical account of Jesus healing the sick man who was let down through the roof because there was no room to receive them in the house. Bro. Willis likened these four men who carried the sick man to we believers. Sometimes it may take the efforts of four people (by God's grace, of course) to "carry" someone to Christ. In our small church with its 8 regular attending members and a handful of faithful friends, we realize that we all must pray for strength to be used of God to draw others to the

true and living God. Please pray for us that we would have strength, courage, and faith to bring glory to the name of God.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Jana Klaus

Greetings from Tokyo! We are thankful for a safe and blessed summer for all, and with the start of September, we are back in full swing with school and regular work schedules. One of the big jobs, which includes all of us, is our annual church cleaning which is held on the fall equinox holiday. It is a blessing to work together on our beloved church building. The Thursday Ladies' meeting, headed by Sisters Haruyo Onoda and Marie Inoue, resumed its once a month gathering, with all the ladies taking a turn telling in English about their summer vacation. There is a different project each month following a short Bible lesson from one of the sisters, ranging from English, cooking or pressed flower lessons to a World Relief project, or an extended Bible study with Bro. Akihiro Itoh. Prayers for these approximately 10 ladies from the community would be appreciated.

We were encouraged by visiting minister, Bro. Galen Rokey (Bern, KS), who was here on business and was able to worship with us on September 9. We so appreciate his gentle manner of bringing forth the Word and that he makes the effort to bless our congregation.

We are thrilled to welcome Sis. Meagan Wuethrich (Bro. Chris and Sis. Carla, LaCrosse, IN) back again to be a support to our congregation for the next two months. She is back for a second time to help in the Klaus household. We thank her for giving of herself once again and pray her stay will be doubly blessed.

KANSAS, BERN

Sheri Edelman

Rita Menold

We thank our visiting ministers this month! Bro. Jerry Meeks (Sis. Christy, Sabetha, KS), Bro. Steve Baner (Sis. Donnalou, Gridley, IL), Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA), and Bro. Greg Braker (Sis. Wendy, Lamar, MO) all came to proclaim God's Word to us.

Bro. Trent and Sis. Rita Menold welcomed home Cole Trenton on September 9. His siblings are Braden and Taylor. Happy grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Kathy Rokey as well as Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth Hartter (Sabetha, KS). May God bless them all!

We extend our congratulations to Rick and Alesha Stoller who were married on September 1. Bro. Arden and Sis. Dar Stoller and Weldon and Joni Aue of Sabetha are their parents.

Bro. John Strahm (Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen) has moved to Lamar, Missouri. Bro. Scott and Sis. Emily Strahm moved to Morris, Minnesota. We will miss them and pray for the Lord's continued guidance in their lives as they worship with their new home congregations.

Sis. Helen Edelman (Bro. Matthew) had surgery this month. Our prayers are with her as she heals and prepares for more treatments.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

Karen Kellenberger

A sweet and precious baby girl, Noelle Lauren, was born to Bro. Trenton and Sis. Kristi Banwart on September 4. Noelle's older brothers are Benjamin (Benji) and Josiah. Joyful grandparents are Bro. Lon and Sis. Debbie Banwart, and Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen Kellenberger.

We are very grateful to the two vis-

iting ministers who lovingly shared God's Word with us. They were Bro. Dale Frank (Sis. Tina, Oakville, IA) and Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA).

The gorgeous days of fall are upon us. It occurred to me that an autumn leaf is the most beautiful...just before it dies. Likewise, when a born again believer is very close to death, a lovely Heavenly radiance beams from his face and countenance.

KANSAS, KIOWA

**Jenny Stewart
Janice Bahr**

Children are a gift from God. Tom and Shawna Sterneker are the first-time parents of a new bundle of baby boy. Nathan Robb is the great-grandson of Bud and Sis. Helen Murrow and the grandson of Gayle Murrow Robb.

God has blessed another family with a new baby. Matt and Courtney Schupbach have a baby girl, Emma Ann. Her grandparents are Bro. Kent and Sis. Darcy Kisling.

The Sunday school traveled to Sabetha this month for a Senior Bible class fellowship. Everyone had a wonderful time and took home great memories. We would like to thank the Sabetha Senior Bible class and their teachers for all of their time and efforts to make a great weekend.

The same weekend was the bi-annual campers weekend. We always enjoy the fellowship and singing voices of the young men that make an effort to come to Kiowa. The invitation is always open to come and visit us in Kiowa. God bless you.

KANSAS LAMONT-GRIDLEY Ester Knobloch

Ministering Bros. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Galen Rokey (Bern,

KS) and Cory Metzger (Wichita, KS) all visited our congregation this past month. May God bless them for traveling to our area and for sharing the Word of Truth with us.

We trust that God will continue to extend His hand of healing to Sis. Lorean Anliker (Bro. Glen) as she recently had surgery and was hospitalized. We are thankful that she is able to assemble with us again and pray that she might continue to be strengthened.

KANSAS, SABETHA

**Dawn Strahm
Rebekah Beyer**

Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN) shared the gospel message with us this month. We thank him and his wife for being with us.

Sabetha had the opportunity to host the Sunday school Bible class youth fellowship weekend for our area churches. We were thankful for each one that was able to attend and for Bro. Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN) who spoke with the young people and ministered the Word to us on Sunday.

Our prayers continue to be with our Sis. Marie Hartter (Bro. Virgil) as she struggles with health issues. May God be near her side each step of the way.

Sunday school has resumed and we have several new teachers that began this term. Bros. Rick Aberle and Clint Beyer were selected to teach, as well as Sisters Andrea Grimm, Carol Kaufman, Nita Grimm, Carrie Strahm, Jeanne Edelman, and Karen Edelman. We pray that God's guidance will be with each one that teaches our youth.

The engagement of Bro. Seth Hartter (Bro. Tim and Sis. Charleen) to Sis. Brenda Schulz was announced. Sis. Brenda had moved to Sabetha for employment and is the

daughter of Bro. Gary and Sis. Melody Schulz (and the late Sis. Karen Schulz) of Burlington, IA. God's blessings are wished to this couple as they look forward to their upcoming marriage.

Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell also welcomed Sis. Betsy Dorneweerd, daughter of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Kathy (and the late Sis. Marlys) of Lester, IA. She has taken a teaching job in our area and we are thankful to have Sis. Betsy in our congregation.

Lyle and Amanda Grimm of Morris have been announced for peace and are looking forward to baptism in the near future. Lyle is the son of Bro. Rod and Sis. Arlene Grimm and Amanda is the daughter of Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy Fehr (Morris, MN). It is a blessing to see God working in the lives of individuals yet today!

A farewell singing was held for Bro. Scott and Sis. Emily Strahm (Bern) on Saturday, September 15. We pray God will go with them as they make Morris, MN, their new home.

KANSAS, WICHITA Emma Miller

Two things are almost a given, weather wise, in Kansas during the months of August and September. School will start and the weather will be hot and dry. This year was not an exception. We had an inch and a half downpour this morning. As I am writing this article this evening, I am wearing a jacket since I am not ready to close the windows and heat the house. My mother often told me her father, an astute weather observer, would encourage his family to be patient concerning adverse weather conditions. Rain was likely to fall during the time of the equinox. I recall those observations and marvel at the wisdom in them.

Bro. Phillip Bowers has been notified that he is being honored for his

contribution to Wichita State University and to his community. Bro. Phil became a quadriplegic during his teen age years and in spite of his handicaps, he turned to God. With the help of his parents and other family members, he completed his education and became a productive citizen. He can be counted on to respond to the pulpit call for a brother to close the service with a prayer. His words of praise are up-lifting.

Wednesday night services are devoted to listening to the Conference tapes.

Again, sadness has come into the lives of Bro. Howard and Sis. Anna Marie Warner. Their youngest daughter, Beth, who lived in Shady Oaks, Texas, with her husband, Robert Deming, died August 18 at the age of forty-nine years. Her favorite songs were listed in the funeral program. Two of them, Onward Christian Soldiers and All Hail the Power of Jesus Name were frequently sung in Sunday School during the time she assembled with us.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON **Barb Huber**

“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 32:7

We're thankful to faithful brethren who lend themselves and bring the good tidings of God's Holy Word. This past month they were our Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH), Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis, OH), retired Bros. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH), and Walt Steffen (Sis. Dorothy, Milford, IN). We pray the Lord to bless each of

them and their labors of love to spread His Word.

Our hearts and prayers are with our dear Sis. Rebecca Germann (Bro. Doug) as she has recently undergone major surgery. May the Lord, our faithful Shepherd and the Great Physician, heal and restore her health to a full and complete recovery. We pray the Lord will be a comfort to her and her family through this difficult time. We continue to remember our dear friend, Dan Henderson, in prayer for the healing of his broken ankle.

Christian fellowship is truly a blessing and encouragement to our small flock, so we do extend a warm and hearty welcome to all who may be in our area or travelling through to worship with us. You may contact Doug Germann (859) 223-0294 or Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541.

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

We would like to extend appreciation to the visiting ministers we had in August and September. Bros. John Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Chris Wuethrich (LaCrosse, IN) and Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) exhorted and encouraged us from the pulpit.

Along with the start of the regular school year, Sunday School is back in session. We really appreciate the hard work and support at our annual fall Sunday School picnic. The fellowship is always beneficial, and we hope the children are developing a love for gathering with God's people. We would also like to welcome the new Sunday School teachers, Bro. Martin Blough and Sis. Laura Pardo. A big “thank you” to those who have completed their terms: Sis. Gina Blough and Bros. Tom Oesch and John Schlatter.

The World Relief committee has been active recently, providing us

with opportunities to learn and serve. We enjoyed a potluck dinner when Bro. Tom Hitz from Detroit and his wife, Sis. Cindy, came for the weekend. Bro. Tom presented a talk and a visual presentation about the World Relief activities in Indonesia and Eastern Europe. It was very informative and touched our hearts with the desire to help. In addition, those whose schedules allow have been busy packing soup and rice pilaf, and spent three days painting the house of a local handicapped woman.

Please continue to lift up the elderly and infirm in your prayers. Those who were hospitalized or had outpatient surgery include Bro. Lloyd Blough, Bro. Aaron Steffen, Sis. Melva Oesch, and Bro. Dennis Koehl.

Our hearts sing praises when a soul seeks God in repentance. Please join us in welcoming Jim McCormick and Tony Delnay into the fold! They were invited to church by school friends, and just kept on coming! Praise the Lord that the Word of the Spirit is not falling on deaf ears!

It is a little late in coming but deserves mention that we had to send some of our young people off to college and we want to publicly wish them well. Sis. Holly Plattner and Sis. Megan Pardo returned to Bloomington, IL, to continue their studies. Also in August, Sis. Melissa Blough and Bro. Allen Huber moved away from home for the first time to attend college in Illinois. There are several others of our recent graduates who are continuing their schooling in Michigan. It is our prayer that this would be not only a time of growing in maturity, knowledge, and independence, but also a spiritually strengthening time in their lives. God bless them and hold them close to Him.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Sarah Knochel
Janelle Ramseyer**

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

Ecclesiastes 12:1

August 25-26 was Michigan Youth Day weekend. Approximately twenty-five Sunday School students and teachers from Alto and Detroit spent the weekend in Bay City fellowship and praising God.

We truly appreciate having visitors in Bay City. We were quite blessed this summer as we had visitors just about every weekend. Labor Day Weekend, we were thankful to have Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI) and Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marsha, Washington, IL). The following Sunday, Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) worshipped with our congregation.

September 15-16 was a very special weekend as Bro. John Jackson (Sis. Peggy) was ordained as Elder of our congregation. We sincerely pray for Bro. John and Sis. Peggy that God's will would continue to be accomplished in their life and that they would feel the support and prayers of the brotherhood. We are thankful for the Spirit-led messages by Elder Bros. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI), Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH), Aaron Steffen (Sis. Loretta, Alto, MI), and Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN). Bros. Jesse Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie, Detroit, MI), Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy, Alto, MI), and Nate Wieland (Sis. Suzanne, Goodfield, IL) were also in Bay City for the ordination weekend.

Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH) and Bro. Ken

Schneider (Remington, IN) assembled with us on Wednesday evening, September 19, and we appreciate their efforts.

Our prayers are with those who had surgery recently. We are thankful for the Lord's healing powers on Lori Bateson (Bill), Bro. Dean Pashak (Sis. Connie), and Sis. Kathy Waibel.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Kay Rauhe
Manuela Denes**

I know that we all feel it—time seems to go so much faster the older we get. It is hard to believe that another summer is ending. Warm days lead to cool evenings, orange pumpkins are appearing on front porches, berries are replaced with crisp apples and the green of the maple trees is slowly giving way to reds, oranges and yellows of autumn. Soon enough those leaves will be falling and the cold winds will start to blow.

Recently the first verse of the Zion's Harp hymn, Redeeming Our Time, has been going through my mind:

The time flies on and death draws
nigh,
Unite us Lord with Thee on high!
Prepare us now to live with Thee
Forever in eternity.

Our love and sympathy go out to Sis. Lois Belsley who lost her sister, Arlene Stock. Prayers were also sent out to Sis. Barb Johnson and her daughter Kyra in the passing of her father, Bro. Herman Baer, of the Princeville, IL, congregation. Also mourning the loss of a beloved wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother are Bro. John Rauhe after the passing of Sis. Esther. The funeral was held in Croghan-Naumburg, NY. How blessed we are

to know that, while we miss our loved ones' presence here on earth, we have the assurance of being together again!

“Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: praye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.”

Luke 10:2

As harvest season approaches, may we as labourers remember those who cannot always be with us at church. Prayers are sent to those who have been hospitalized or just need to be remembered. They include Chuck Leman (Dorothy), Virginia Smiley, and Jon Meyer (son of Sis. Kristie).

Finally, a note of thanks was sent by Sis. Perseda Wieland and she wanted to share it:

Dear Ones in Faith,

I can't thank you enough for the many cards, flowers, and food you so generously gave. Most of all, I appreciate your thoughtfulness and prayers. I am so thankful to be recovering at home now. May God richly bless each and every one.

Sis. Perseda Wieland

**MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS
Mary Mogler**

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

Genesis 8:22

As the season changes and we move from the heat of summer into the cool, crisp days of fall, we are reminded of God's faithfulness and His

enduring promises. No matter what season we are in our lives, His presence is as steadfast as is His promise of the seedtime and harvest.

The school year is well underway as we come to the close of another September. We send our prayers with all the students as they head off to school, whether it be to their local elementary, middle, and high schools, and universities or those attending college far from home. We also welcome new and returning exchange students, Evelyn (Egypt) and Min (South Korea), who are making their homes with the Bros. Dwayne Dill and Sam Moser families, respectively. We enjoy their presence in our fellowship and Sunday school.

We appreciate our Sunday school teachers, who so willingly gather with our children and share God's everlasting redeeming truth and their need for Him for salvation. Our children enjoy this time together and pray God's blessings on them in this time of learning.

Labor Day weekend brought many visitors, along with Bro. Tom Troxel and wife, Sis. LuAnn. It was a blessing to have Bro. Tom bring forth our Sunday morning message and also hear the many extra voices raised in chorus.

Sis. Maxine Larson has been facing some health issues, and we are thankful she could worship with us again. Our prayers continue to be with her.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

**Sheila Reuter
Heidi Nohl**

We rejoice as we see souls turning their lives over to the Lord. Darren Schaefer (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Denise), Michael Nohl (Bro. DeWayne and Sis. Janice), Harlan Koehl (Bro. Arnie and Sis. Sharon), Kyle Feuchtenberger (Bro. Ken and

Sis. Sally) and Amber Rath (Tommy) have all answered the call to repentance. We pray God will be with them as they begin serving Him.

Our congratulations go to Tommy and Amber Rath on the birth of their new daughter, Kylie Marie. Grandparents, Bro. Shane and Sis. Ruth Jones, also welcome a new granddaughter. May God grant them grace to raise their children.

We were blessed to have ministering Bro. Bill Dotterer (Lamar, MO) visiting this month. We pray God will bless him for his willing service.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Lillian Koehl as she has gone to be with the Lord. Our prayers are with her children, Norene (Howie) Pergament, Bro. Karl (Sis. Marilyn), Rita (Gary) Rose, Doris (Kenny) Agans and the numerous grandchildren. May God grant His nearness during this difficult time.

Hospitalized this month was Bro. Anton Schaefer (Sis. Verna). We pray God will provide healing in His time.

Rachel Wulf and Jacob Marthaler were united in marriage. Their parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda Wulf and Steve and Jeanne Marthaler. May God bless them in their married life together.

Notes of Thanks:

I would like to thank family and everyone for the cards, gifts and visits before and following my surgery. Your thoughts and prayers were appreciated. May God bless you all.

Bro. Cork Fehr

We are so thankful for the prayers, love, cards and many gifts from the brethren across the nation. May God richly bless you now and much more in eternity.

Paul, Sis. Bard and Robert Lesmeister

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Rachel Steiner
Julie Schmidt**

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

Ecclesiastes 12:1

We are thankful our convert Lena Steiner (Bro. Glen and Sis. Rachel) has professed peace with God and man. May the Lord continue to guide and direct her along this pilgrim's way.

A farewell singing was hosted as our Bro. Brendon Messner (Bro. Dean and Sis. Wanda) has felt direction in the accepting of employment in the LaCrosse, IN, area. We will miss him in our small church family, yet wish him the Lord's blessings in this transition.

There's a tie of noble kinship
in a soul who loves the Lord.
There's a friendship warm and last-
ing
if he heeds the Master's Word,
There is mutual understanding
and a sympathy so kind
In the tie of Christian friendship
as on earth we oft-times find.

Hymns of Zion #91

Our annual Pork Chop/Invite a Friend supper was held on September 15. We enjoyed the many friends and family that came to share the weekend with us. Among our guests were visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Sis. Shawn, Morris, MN) and Bro. Rod Bajema (Sis. Twyla, Lester, IA) who labored on our behalf.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Geri Messner (Bro. Marvin), Sis. Dorothy Jacobson and Marvin Bruns (Sis. Verna). We pray they may feel the comfort and healing of our Great

Physician.

Note of Thanks:

Thank you for your thoughts, prayers, cards and food during the illness and passing of our father, grandfather and brother. May the Lord bless you for your thoughtfulness.

The Eugene Schmidt family

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

**Becky Weiss
Brittany Fehr**

August 19 we welcomed Sis. Anna Donahue and Bro. Grant Meyer (Bro. DeVere and Sis. Michelle) into the body of Christ. May God bless them and continue to direct them as they journey onward. We are always thankful for the efforts of the brethren that serve us. Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH), Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Jerry Meeks (Sabetha, KS) were here to help with the weekend.

This month also brought another good bye as Bro. Neal and Sis. Kim Kellenberger and their two children, Cailer and Brock, moved to Champaign, IL. We miss them but know that God will be with them as they adjust to their new home and church.

September brought the beginning of another Sunday School term. We pray that the teachers will feel God's direction as they teach our children His Word.

The annual Ft. Scott/Kansas City Sunday School picnic was held Sunday, September 9, in Ft. Scott. Many thanks to all those who put forth the effort of hosting an enjoyable evening.

Matthias Smith (Sis. Diane) was announced for baptism. Lord willing, this is planned for the weekend of October 27-28. May he feel the prayers of the church as he prepares for this wonderful time in a believer's life!

MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Becky Marti
Mindy Braker**

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

Psalm 32:8

On August 26, the engagement of Sis. Rachel Stoller (Bob and Sis. Janice) and Bro. Ben Currier (Art and Sis. Mary) of Congerville, IL, was made known to us. We wish them God's richest blessings as they plan for their life together.

As the angels in heaven rejoice over the repentance of one sinner, we, too, are thankful that Jessica Luthi (Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jodi) has begun her repentance. May she find God's blessings and grace as she begins her walk of faith.

We welcome Bro. John Strahm (Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen, Bern, KS) to Lamar. May he feel God's presence as he assembles with us.

We wish to thank ministering Bros. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Kenneth Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) and Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) for being willing to be used in the Lord's service. May God bless and provide for each.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Bro. Joe Marti (Sis. Evelyn) as he has been in the hospital this past month. We're glad he has been able to assemble with us again.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Bro. Raymond and Sis. LuEtta Braker in the passing of their brother, Harry Marti, of Sabetha, KS. May the Heavenly Father be their Comforter.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Betsy Schrenk

Visiting ministers this month

were Bros. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago), Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign), Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor, MO) and Jeff Grimm (Sis. Ruth, Goodfield).

We sympathize with Bro. Morris Braker on the death of his brother, Bro. Harland Braker of Roanoke. Saying goodbye is heartbreaking, but we look forward to that glad reunion in Heaven...because of Jesus.

Bro. Ken Rinkenberger's father, Bro. Bill Rinkenberger of Cissna Park, was hospitalized with heart problems. We pray for healing.

Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy Schrenk's infant grandson, Noah Schrenk, underwent an MRI to determine if he would need surgery on his lower back. The test results were normal, for which we are so thankful. We are blessed to live in a time and place where medical care can help so many afflictions of this body.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Sally Haerr

Harvest ... what a wonderful time of the year, when we witness the bounty of God's blessings. Are we just as excited about the harvest of souls? I don't even want to verbally answer that question but God and I know that I often need a "priority adjustment". The hymn "Harvest Time" (Tabernacle Hymns #71) reminds us of the need for reapers as the time of Jesus' return draws near.

It has been a busy month with many visitors and among them many ministering brothers. They were Bro. Rustin Meister (Sis. Amanda, West Lafayette, IN), Bro. Virgil Kaeb (Sis. Suellen, Sarasota, FL), and Bro. Nile Bucher (Sis. Phyllis, Bluffton North, IN). Also spending time here with us were Elder Bros. John Laukhuf (Sis. Marcia, Latty, OH), Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL) and Bruce Hohulin (Sis. Charlene, Goodfield,

IL).

Aren't we thankful that the good news of salvation, through Jesus, is preached to us Sunday after Sunday and we hear the old old story of Jesus and His love. We are continually encouraged to press on, "Keep our hook in the water" as we keep our own lives in tune with God's Holy Word, The Bible, so that we can be "fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19 and Mark 1:17).

One Wednesday evening this month we were given an introduction to the Crown Financial Bible Study. In the near future we will all be given the opportunity to take part in this most worthwhile study. Many have testified that it has been life changing for them. The book of Luke (Holy Bible), chapters 12 and 16, has much to say about the way we use God's money ... (sometimes we/I forget whose money we are entrusted with).

Another school year has started and as we guide our children into new realms of learning, no matter their age, we pray that they can feel God's guidance in all they say and do. We also want to pray for our Sunday School teachers as they reinforce what we endeavor to teach our children at home. Thank you, teachers, for giving your time and talents Sunday after Sunday.

We want to express our heartfelt sympathy to Danny and Jody (Sutter) Meyers on the death of his father. He was a faithful father and a good friend to many in the community.

Those sick/hospitalized this month were: John Gerst (wife Julie, and son of Bro. Arnie and Sis. Marge), Nikki Haerr (Bro. Norman and Sis. Sally), and Bro. Jacob Heimer (Bro. Rod and Sis. Barb). We know that God is still performing miracles and isn't it disheartening when we hear it said how "lucky" a person is when they have escaped death or disaster

... Guardian angels are real and someday we'll know just how often our Heavenly Father has surrounded us with those angels. We are so thankful for His protection and healing.

NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

We were blessed to have retired Elder Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA) with us for Wednesday evening services on August 22. We were thankful for his willingness to stand and share God's Word with us.

On Sunday, September 2, we were thankful to have retired ministering Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) with us. Bro. Everett has often traveled to our congregation over the years to help out when one of our own ministering brothers are traveling. We were thankful to again have him share the Gospel with us. May the Lord richly bless both of these brothers for laboring on our behalf.

We have concluded listening to the Conference tapes and have been richly blessed by the many exhortations of our Elder brothers. May we each now apply these teachings to our every day lives.

Meghan McGillvray was joined in marriage to Curtis Bowers on August 18. May the Lord bless this couple in their new life together and may they seek His direction for their lives each day.

Many prayers were answered with the healthy arrival of Nathan Paul Virkler on August 22. We rejoice with Paul and Emily in this wonderful new addition to their family as well as with thankful grandparents, Bro. Ted and Sis. Mae Virkler. May we keep Paul and Emily in our prayers as they now seek treatment for her cancer and make the move back East.

It was a blessing to hear the an-

nouncement that Mark McGillvray has found peace and is now awaiting baptism. What joy there is on earth and much more in heaven at hearing that another has sought and found Him!

Our prayers are with Bro. John Rauhe and family in the passing of Sis. Esther Rauhe on September 16. Bro. John and Sis. Esther have been greatly missed from our congregation as they moved to be nearer family several years ago. We appreciate all of their hard work in World Relief while they were still able to live here. Sis. Esther's funeral was held in our area on the 21st.

OHIO, AKRON Mara Henico Rachel Pamer

We were strengthened from God's Word by visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Sis. Charlene; Goodfield), Bro. Ken Weerts (Sis. Myrna; Cissna Park), and Bro. Clint Schmidt (Sis. Maggie; Winthrop).

We extend a hearty welcome to the Laubli family; Gaius and Ilona, with their children, David, Bethany, Sarah, Deborah, and Stephan, as they have recently begun assembling with us.

It's good to see Bro. Al Weigele (Sis. Mary Ann) is back in church with us again after knee replacement; as is Audrey Graf (Bro. Todd and Sis. Lydia) after her accident and hospital stay. We thank God for His healing mercies.

Our sincere prayers and sympathy to the family of Bro. Glenn Miller (Rittman); which in our congregation include son, Bro. Randy (Sis. Carolyn), grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

We are thankful that Christopher Indermuhle (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Carol) is seeking the Lord in repentance. May God grant him the needed

grace in this most important step.

Our congregation has enjoyed listening to the Conference tapes. We pray that each one can strive to be more obedient to the counsel that the Elders have given us.

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Nancy Banks

May God richly bless the efforts of the ministers who have visited and shared the Word with us this past month. Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH) and Bros. Todd Graf (Sis. Lydia, Akron, OH), Ted Luginbuhl (Sis. Stephanie, Smithville, OH) and Larry Wenninger (Sis. Joyce, Latty, OH) traveled the highways to serve us and we are so thankful.

Our annual College Welcome Day was an excellent opportunity to meet our new students that will be attending college in the Columbus area this year and also a chance to meet their families. It is our hope that they will feel welcome in our church family.

Our prayers are with Cheryl Gehres as she recently had hip replacement surgery. May she feel God's healing touch as she begins her rehabilitation.

Bro. Casey and Sis. Rachel Banks have welcomed Luke Walter into their hearts and home September 13. Little Caleb is thankful for a new brother to play with, and Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty Baltic (Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Larry and Sis. Nancy Banks are thankful for his safe arrival.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Cindy Schlatter

September 6 was a special day for Bro. Doug and Sis. Elizabeth Reinhard as it was the birthday of their Samuel James. Jonathan and Emily are excited about having a new

baby brother. Samuel's grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores Reinhard (Remington, IN) and Bro. James and Sis. Carolyn Spangler. May God grant them much grace and wisdom as they raise their dear family.

"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

Bro. Fred Manz (Bro. Don and Sis. Connie) and Sis. Kayla Heinold (Bro. Gene and Sis. Evie) of LaCrosse, IN, recently made known their wedding engagement. We pray for the Lord's blessings and guidance as they make decisions for their future.

Our heartfelt thanks to ministering Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH) for his recent visit. We trust he will be richly blessed for laboring on our behalf.

We are thankful that those who submitted to surgery this past month are already back in church assembling with us. May God continue to be with Barb Brink (Rob) and Eleanor Gerber (Richard).

OHIO, LATTY

Amanda Steffen Carmen Eisenmann

"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

A measure of peace was present on August 19, which was the wedding day of Bro. Tim and Sis. Joy Manz. Rejoicing with this new couple are their parents, Bro. Paul and Sis. Sandra Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth Stoller.

Visiting ministers to Latty this

past month were Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis, OH), Bro. Tim Ramsier (Sis. Jonell, Rittman, OH), Bro. Mark Steiner (Sis. Sue, Smithville, OH), Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH), Bro. Don Sinn (Sis. Linda, Silvertown, OR) and Bro. Matt Kaufman (Sis. Bekah, Bloomington, IL). We were pleased to have these ministers as visitors and pray that God will bless them for their efforts.

Our congregation was saddened to hear of the deaths of two loved ones. Bro. Bill Evans was an older brother who was a member of the Latty congregation, but he had been living in Oak Hill, OH, and passed away recently. We grieve along with his family in this time of loss. Sis. Deb (Bro. Leon) Klopfenstein's father, Bro. Herman Baer (Sis. MaryAnn) of Princeville, IL, passed away recently, as well. May the families of both of these brothers feel God's presence in the time to come.

Surgery patients this past month were Sis. Barb Stoller (Bro. Bill) and Sis. Katherine Klopfenstein (Bro. Raymond). God grant them healing as only He can.

Our congregation partook Holy Communion on September 15. Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Sis. Cheryl, Rockville, CT) was here to help Elder Bro. John with the holy sacraments. We thank him and his wife for making the effort to come on our behalf.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Esther Baumann

Beautiful little Anna Marie Tucker was born to Archie and Amber on September 2. Thankful grandparents are Dan and Sis. Barb Tucker and Bob and Trisha Tschantz.

Continue to pray for Bro. Elmer Oesch (Doris) and Roma Them as they have recently moved to nursing homes.

We thank Bro. Neal Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI) for his recent visit and service in the ministry.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Sarah Bauman
Linda Zollinger

We were privileged this month to once again have several visiting ministers in our midst. They included: Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle, Bros. Mark Ramsier and Bill Brake (all of Sardis, OH), Bro. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH). We're thankful for our ministering brothers who are willing to serve us preaching the Word of God.

His call we obey as Abram of old,
 Not knowing our way
 But faith makes us bold;
 Where 'ere He shall lead us,
 The way He doth guide;
 He knows best who rules us;
 "The Lord will provide."

Zion's Harp #86, vs. 3

August 26 marked the wedding day for Bro. Garth Maibach (Sardis, OH) and Sis. Hannah Beery. Bro. Garth is the son of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lois Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Sis. Hannah is the daughter of Bro. Walter and Sis. Lynda Beery. Bro. Garth was originally from Smithville, OH, but moved down to Sardis a few years ago. Sis. Hannah will be missed here in Rittman, but will be a nice addition to the Sardis congregation.

On September 9, the engagement of Bro. Isaac Steiner (Bro. David and Sis. Lynn) and Sis. Brittany Indermuhle (Bro. Brian and Sis. Beverly) of Smithville, OH, was made known. May God richly bless them as they make plans for their upcoming wedding and marriage.

"The Lord will give strength unto

his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace."

Psalms 29:11

James Miller, son of the late Sis. Myrle (Miller) Rufener, passed away in New York on August 28. Our sympathy and prayers are extended to the family.

Our sympathy and prayers are also with Sis. Renee Lanz (Bro. Brett) in the passing away of her grandmother, Sis. Eleanor Beer (Milford, IN).

Ezra Hartzler (Bro. Tim and Sis. Sharon), Sis. Esther Saurer, Evelyn Hessidence (Roger) and Bro. Aquilla Barna were hospitalized recently.

"Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me."

John 14:1

Arlene Rupp continues to be in our thoughts and prayers as she is still in the hospital at the time of this writing. Although she is unable to talk, she has indicated a concern for her soul's welfare. May Arlene and her family feel the prayers offered on their behalf.

We want to welcome Sis. Pat Baran and her children to the Rittman area. They moved here recently from Detroit, MI, to spend time with Sis. Pat's father, Bro. Kenneth Ramsier.

Benjamin Michael joined the family of Mike, Sis. Myra and Rita Pierce on September 2. His grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Patricia Steiner, Dave and Peg Pierce, and the late Rita Pierce.

Matt and Julie Hostettler welcomed a precious girl, Kylie Ann, into their home on September 11. Grandparents are Joe and Sis. Karen Riggenbach and Dan and Judy Hostettler. Each newborn child truly is a gift from God!

OHIO, SARDIS
Faith Beard

This has been an eventful month for our small congregation, and words that have been attributed to Solomon have often been running through my mind...

"A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance... a time to get and a time to lose... a time to love..."

Ecclesiastes 3:4,6,8

On Thursday, August 23, we lost our dear Sis. Ruth Headley as she passed from this time into eternity. We continue to remember in our prayers her daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Scott Wigel, of Parkersburg, WV; grandchildren, Sara and Matthew; and step-grandchildren, Erik and Aaron. Sis. Ruth was the third of six children born to the late John and Hazel Riggenbach. She, along with her family, attended church and Sunday School regularly in their formative years. Her mother was a faithful Sister in the faith for many years, and her father was converted late in his life. After high school she prepared herself to do secretarial and management work for a district office of the Internal Revenue Service in Parkersburg, WV. There she met her husband, Raymond, and they together traveled 50 miles to church for over 45 years. Soon after her marriage, Ruth was converted, and the couple was blessed with their daughter, Linda. Ruth and Raymond were greatly appreciated and loved by our congregation. It was a special event to travel and spend time in their home. Sis. Ruth's prayers were answered during the last weeks of her dear husband's life as he could repent and bring a confession of faith to Jesus. He was baptized and received as

a brother in Christ a few days before passing on to his reward. Sis. Ruth's life was one of sharing loving deeds of service to her family, church and friends. She is greatly missed by us all.

On August 26, the day before Sis. Ruth's funeral, we rejoiced with our Bro. Garth Maibach (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lois, Smithville, OH) as he was joined as one with Sis. Hannah Beery (Bro. Walt and Sis. Lynda, Rittman, OH). So we praise God that as we lost one dear sister we immediately gained another, and we look forward to the times and memories we will share with Sis. Hannah as we welcome her into our church and community.

"Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold."

Proverbs 8:10

Then on August 28, our children started back for a new year of school. On this day that reminds us that Fall is fast approaching, we must remember that as important as it may be that our children gain earthly knowledge, it is more important that we teach and be an example to them of the knowledge God teaches us through His Word. "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge..." (Proverbs 1:7)

Along with the start of the new school year comes the start of our new Sunday school year. Teachers who have faithfully completed this duty are Sis. Cheryl Indermuhle (Bro. Milan) and Bro. Eric Hartzler (Sis. Jami). We show our support and prayers to new teachers stepping in to take over these jobs: Sis. Angie Figel (Bro. Rob) and Bro. Bob Dotterer (Sis. Laura). For other "helps" that ensure smooth running of our activities, Sis. Cheryl has also finished with coordinating World Re-

lief activities. Those now stepping in are Sis. Renee Blough (Bro. Alan) with the women's activities and Sis. Joy Indermuhle (Bro. Dana) with the children's - along with the many others who help with project ideas.

"... a time to break down, and a time to build up..."

Ecclesiastes 3:3

We remember those who have had some physical struggles this month: Staci Indermuhle (Bro. Allen and Sis. Janet) and Sis. Virginia Riggenbach (Bro. Dale).

"...a time to keep silence and a time to speak..."

Ecclesiastes 3:7

We truly thank Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH) for allowing the Lord to work in him in bringing us His Word. Also, present at Sis. Ruth's funeral was retired Elder Bro. Eugene and Sis. Eleanor Pamer (Akron, OH).

As we are now listening to the Summer Conference tapes during our mid-week services, we are not only just thankful for the technology available to make this possible, but much more so for those who speak and "watch for our souls".

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

**Ruth Gasser
Edith Miller**

Awake, Thou soul's first inspiration;
Let watchmen stand before the temple door!

With constant zeal and firm devotion,

Against the enemy they do implore.
Their pealing calls throughout the world resound;

Salvation, Lord, in Thee alone is found.

Zion's Harp #111, vs. 1

We are currently listening to the tapes from the 2007 Brotherhood Conference. We are thankful for our shepherds, and continue to pray for them that they be given godly wisdom to lead God's people.

We were blessed by the ministry of two visiting ministers this past month. Bros. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA) and Paul Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) were used of God to bring forth the Word of truth. We appreciate their efforts and trust God will richly bless them.

We rejoice that peace has been granted to convert, Sarah Stoller (Bro. Ed and Sis. Verla). May she continue to feel God's help and grace as she awaits baptism.

The engagement of Bro. Isaac Steiner (Rittman, OH) and Sis. Brittany Indermuhle was recently made known. Parents of this couple are Bro. David and Sis. Lynn Steiner (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Brian and Sis. Beverly Indermuhle. We wish them God's blessings as they plan their wedding and marriage.

Sis. Laura Oppliger was a recent hospital patient. We wish her God's healing and comfort.

Sis. Becky Marty (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Marie) was also hospitalized for surgery. It is our prayer that she will feel God's healing mercy.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Dorothy Ramsier (Bro. James) on the death of her sister-in-law, Bernice Batley.

OHIO, TOLEDO

**Teresa Rywalski
Rebecca Beard**

We were thankful for our many visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH), Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH), Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction,

OH), Bro. Don Steidl (Sis. Nan, Akron, OH), Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH), and Bro. Steve Pamer (Sis. Arliss, Akron, OH). May God bless them and their families.

We pray for God's healing hand to be upon Sis. Clara Beard as she recently had surgery.

OREGON, PORTLAND

Brianna Strahm

We wish the Lord's blessings on our Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty) and Bro. Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michele), both of Silverton, as they ministered the Word to us this month. We greatly appreciate their willingness to come and serve us.

Harrison Kuenzi (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Sarah) underwent surgery on August 27. We are thankful our prayers were answered and he seems to have made a full recovery. We continue to remember him and his family in our prayers.

OREGON, SILVERTON

Cindy Metzger Melissa Kuenzi

Our Single Group enjoyed the visitors who were here from different churches over Labor Day weekend. Sunday School is now back in session again after a summer break.

We are happy our convert Josh Hansen (Bro. Tim and Carol) has found peace and we look forward to his testimony and baptism.

Bro. Chad and Sis. Megan Walter were blessed with a little girl named Rachel Louise. She was born on August 23. Her siblings are Andrea, Lorena, Kathryn and Lillian. Her grandparents are Mike and Anita Massey (West Linn) and Bro. Chuck and Sis. Karen Walter (Silverton).

Our hearts go out to Bro. Jim Roth (Sis. Deb) at the loss of his father, Bro. Keith Roth (Sis. Pauline,

Congerville, IL).

Bro. Tim Zimmerman (Sis. Barb, Lamont-Gridley, KS) was here to preach the Word to us. Thanks to Bros. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy) and Ron Jones (Sis. Liz) of Portland for ministering to us in the past month.

PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

We extend our prayers for God's rich blessing to our dear friends, Ken Rader and his new wife, Lanore, as they are joined in marriage. May the Lord bless you and keep you and your children.

We welcome Joshua Troxel into our community as he attends college in Philadelphia. Josh comes from La-Crosse, IN. We also extend our thanks to Josh's parents, Bro. Tom and Sis. LuAnn Troxel, for their visit and for serving in the Lord's vineyard.

We are also blessed to have Sis. Julie Hoerr with us as she continues her education in the Philadelphia area. The Philadelphia area is blessed with a number of different colleges and we are glad that Sis. Julie has felt led to come to be with us.

We are so thankful this month for visitors from the congregations at Taylor, MO; Eureka, IL; Peoria, IL; Washington, IL; and Rockville, CT. We are grateful for each one that comes to worship and fellowship with us.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

Mike and Monica Fritz

The Lord has blessed us richly recently, and has strengthened us from His Word and precious fellowship. This month we have been served by the following ministering brothers: Bros. Wayne Wiegand (Sis. Rosemary; Goodfield, IL); Don Manz (Sis. Connie; Junction, OH); Mark Steiner (Sis. Sue; Smithville, OH); Ken Hoerr

(Sis. Darlene; Peoria, IL); Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen; Bloomington-Normal, IL). We have also been blessed by the fellowship of visiting brethren and friends from Bloomington-Normal, Bradford, Congerville, Eureka, Forrest, Goodfield, Peoria, IL; Bluffton and Bluffton North, IN; Bern, KS; Bay City, MI; and Akron, Junction, Rittman, Sardis, and Smithville, OH. If you are traveling in or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Bluffton North, IN (10/21); Lamar, MO (10/28); Bay City, MI (11/4); Forrest, IL (11/11); Latty, OH (11/18); and Gridley, IL (11/25). 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 midweek 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

It is unusual that we have so much news in one article, but we've had a lot of new happenings lately in our congregation.

A new baby ... Kat Kristine Beer was born August 12 to parents Bro. Barry and Sis. Myra Beer. Grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb Beer (Milford) and Bro. Stan and Sis. Genny Isch (Bluffton). We welcome their new little girl!

A new family ... Bro. Eric and Sis. Marcel Huber and son, Tucker, have moved from the Denver area to northwest of Austin and attend our

church. We're thankful for more brethren attending our church.

A new Elder ... Bro. Peter Petrovic from the San Diego congregation has assumed the role of our counseling Elder, replacing Bro. Bob Walder, who has retired. We welcome Bro. Peter and are grateful for the care Bro. Bob and Sis. Gloria showed in the four years they served the Texas churches.

And more news, we've had many blessings with our ministers and visitors. Ministers were Bro. Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis), Bro. Ron Steiner (Sis. Ruth, Rittman), Bro. Pat Zaugg (Sis. Julie, West Bend), Bro. Dan Beer (Sis. Deb, Milford), and Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago). We also had other visitors from Rittman, West Bend, Forrest, Dallas, LaCrosse, Oakville, and Bluffton.

We're looking forward to the following ministers in November coming from Bern (4), Bluffton North (11), Sabetha (18), Eureka (25).

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, perhaps even a month or more if possible, so that we can accommodate you more readily in our weekend gatherings. See the ministers' book for local contact information.

Directions to our church are these: from the intersection of Hwy 71 and 21 on the west side of Bastrop, go east on Hwy 71 about 1/2 mile and take the first exit (by the Ford dealership), proceed on the east-bound frontage road about 4/10 mile. The church is on the right. It is located about 18 miles east of the Aus-

tin airport. The address is 1025 W. Highway 71, 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.

TEXAS, McALLEN Joyce Nohl

It's the time of the year that we look forward to meeting and greeting our winter visitors once again. This is just a little taste of the reunion we look forward to in eternity.

We would like to encourage those who plan to come south for a season to consider visiting the valley for a Sunday of worship and/or staying here for their stay. We are small in number and are happy to have visitors come and spend some time with us.

Our recent ministers have been Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH), Bro. Myron Knoblock (Sis. Beth, Lester, IA), and Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX). May God bless each one who so willingly comes to serve us.

The following churches are scheduled for services: Forrest, IL (10/07), Taylor, MO (10/21), Chicago, IL (11/04) and Peoria, IL (11/18).

If you plan to be in the McAllen area, we would appreciate having you worship with us. Our address is: Holiday Inn Express, 1921 South 10th Street. Turn South 1 1/2 blocks off the Expressway 83 on 10th Street. Services will be held at 10:30 and 12:30. Please see ministers' directory for local contact information.

TEXAS, ZAPATA Mary Plattner

We appreciate the love and guidance from Elder Bro. Bob Walder and his wife, Sis. Gloria, the past four years as Bro. Bob was our Elder. Due to Bro. Bob's retirement, Bro. Peter Petrovic (Sis. Marian) from the San Diego congregation is the counseling Elder for the Texas churches.

We are thankful to have our winter residents returning. Each Sunday it is a joy to greet those that have returned for the season. Anyone who wishes to come to South Texas for the winter season is most welcome to worship with us in Zapata. All of our residents were gone for several weeks this summer as they traveled to the north to visit family and friends.

We are thankful for those who included Zapata in their travel plans this fall. We had visitors from Forrest and West Bend, and anticipate visitors from Chicago in the next several weeks.

VERMONT CLARENDON/NORWICH Nathan and Miriam Reutter

"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

St. John 13: 34-35

We truly have felt the love and care for us that has been expressed by those who make a big effort and sacrifice to come and preach the Word and spend time and fellowship with us. Those who have served us on the pulpit here this month are as follows: Bro. Tim Gerber (Sis. Wendy, Mansfield OH), and Bro. Dan Goric (Sis. Mary Lou) and Bro. Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay), both of whom are from Rockville, CT. We pray that

they would feel God's blessings for their efforts on our behalf.

We have recently established an official mid-week gathering for those of us here in Vermont. The time has been set for Thursday evenings at 6:30 P.M. at the home of Bro. Chad and Sis. Jenny Virkler. We pray that God would continue to bless and prosper our gathering here.

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 the following number: 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 for Sunday are as follows:

Morning Service 10:10 AM
 Afternoon Service 12:30 PM
 Sunday school is held during the morning service.

If anyone would like to purchase 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).



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Full Time Service Positions in Haiti

The World Relief Child Sponsorship and Caribbean Committee open staff positions for the work with MEBSH in Les Cayes, Haiti. These positions will be centered on the campus of MEBSH in Cite Lumiere with residences adjacent to or near our Brethren currently residing in Haiti. Both positions (described below) will be full time and require a minimum commitment of three years. Financial support will be provided by the Brotherhood and/or WR through the Servant Fund. Candidates for both positions must be willing to learn Haitian Creole at a minimum and preferably also French.

Child Care Support

A Brother or Sister to work in the Child Care Office of MEBSH.

- 1) Prepare financial reports and reconcile bank statements.
- 2) Prepare information packets for new sponsors.
- 3) Order supplies and school packets (from World Relief Child Sponsorship Committee delivered via sea containers).
- 4) Organize correspondence with sponsors.
- 5) Liason between ACWR Child Sponsorship Committee and MEBSH Child Care Board.

MEBSH Construction Department

A sister to assist in the operation and administration of the construction department.

- 1) Supervise and manage the work team guest house.
- 2) Assist with the maintaining financial records.
- 3) Host women on work teams including rural work sites.

Those interested in considering these positions should contact:

Bro. Ted Hirstein
 67 Sapphire Point, Morton, IL 61550
 309-266-8769 hirstein@mtco.com

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Loneliness I

Prevalent and painful

At various times in their lives, most people experience a feeling of loneliness – a painful awareness that they are lacking close and meaningful contact with others. This feeling of isolation is usually accompanied by sadness and a deep desire to connect with others. Few people enjoy the helpless feeling that they have been forgotten, forsaken, or left out. These periods of loneliness are often worsened by thoughts of “No one cares” or “I’m all alone.” Even when they are surrounded by people, the empty feeling of loneliness can come when they perceive themselves to be isolated from others or from God.

Understanding and applying what the Bible says about loneliness can be an effective remedy and a very powerful source of help. Some passages are designed to be comforting reminders that God is ever-present and has promised never to leave nor forsake us. Other passages will show that even heroes of faith have experienced times of loneliness. Still others will help us gain emotional and spiritual strength to prepare for those times when we cannot avoid being alone.

Heroes of faith experienced loneliness

In His final agonizing moments on the cross, Jesus expressed the feeling of being forsaken.

“And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, . . . My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46)

Moses was given a heavy and burdensome task when God sent him to Pharaoh in order to bring the children of Israel out of Egypt. He experienced not only the stress of that task but also the loneliness that often accompanies those who are “at the top.”

“And Moses said unto the LORD, Wherefore hast thou afflicted thy servant? and wherefore have I not found favour in thy sight, that thou layest the burden of all this people upon me? . . . I am not able to bear all this people alone, because it is too heavy for me.” (Numbers 11:11,14)

Right after God gave him a great victory over the prophets of Baal, Elijah ran for his life. Tormented by loneliness, fear, and disappointment, he cried out to

God and asked Him to take his life. He complained that God was very unfair in forsaking him and leaving him alone to continue the battle against evil.

“I have been very jealous for the LORD God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant, thrown down thine altars, and slain thy prophets with the sword; and I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away.” (1 Kings 19:10)

Although he was “perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil,” Job experienced a great trial of physical and emotional suffering. In spite of the efforts of his friends who came to comfort him, Job felt lonely and forsaken.

“Yea, young children despised me; I arose, and they spake against me. All my inward friends abhorred me: and they whom I loved are turned against me.” (Job 19:19)

Like Moses in the Old Testament, the Apostle Paul was given a similar task of setting a New Testament people free in taking the gospel of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles. Along the way, Paul made both faithful friends and treacherous enemies. On one particular occasion, he expressed his feeling of loneliness to his “son” Timothy:

“At my first answer no man stood with me, but all men forsook me: I pray God that it may not be laid to their charge.” (2 Timothy 4:16)

God’s faithfulness in caring for the lonely

Although many other scriptural examples can be found, they all bear evidence that God knows how to care for his people and to “deliver the godly out of temptations” (2 Peter 2:9).

An angel appeared to Jesus to strengthen Him, while He was praying in the garden.

God directed Moses to select seventy elders to help him bear the burden of overseeing the people.

The Spirit spoke to Elijah in a “still small voice,” and God reminded him that there were 7,000 people who had not bowed their knees to Baal.

Job finally received some comforting words from God, and in the end He gave Job twice as much as he had had in the beginning.

Many times God spared Paul’s life and opened prison doors in order to further the gospel message.

God has promised to care for us, especially during those times when we feel forgotten or “all alone.” Paul wrote to the Hebrews, “for he hath said, I will never leave thee nor forsake thee” (Hebrews 13:5).

We were made for communion with God and others

After God created Adam and put him in the Garden as a caretaker, God said that “it is not good for the man to be alone” (Genesis 2:18) and He proceeded to create Eve to be a “help meet for him.” While not all are called to be married, we understand from this that man was made to commune with his Maker and to enjoy friendship and companionship with others. Indeed, when we sever our communion with God, we cut off our spiritual lifeline. The entire focus of Scripture is on our relationship with God and His Son Jesus Christ. This relationship truly suffers if we do not maintain an active communication with Them through prayer, meditation, reading, and listening to the Holy Spirit.

In a similar manner, if we are experiencing times of loneliness, those times may help us learn how to communicate with people. Building relationships with others is easier if we are ready and prepared to love, help, encourage, and care for one another. Nothing will endear us to another person more than listening, empathizing, and burden-bearing.

“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:2)

The most important principle that represents the foundation for all relationships is love:

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

In future articles in this series, we will look at different types of loneliness and some practical ways of dealing with loneliness.

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
lynnstieglitz@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

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but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."
Proverbs 29:18*

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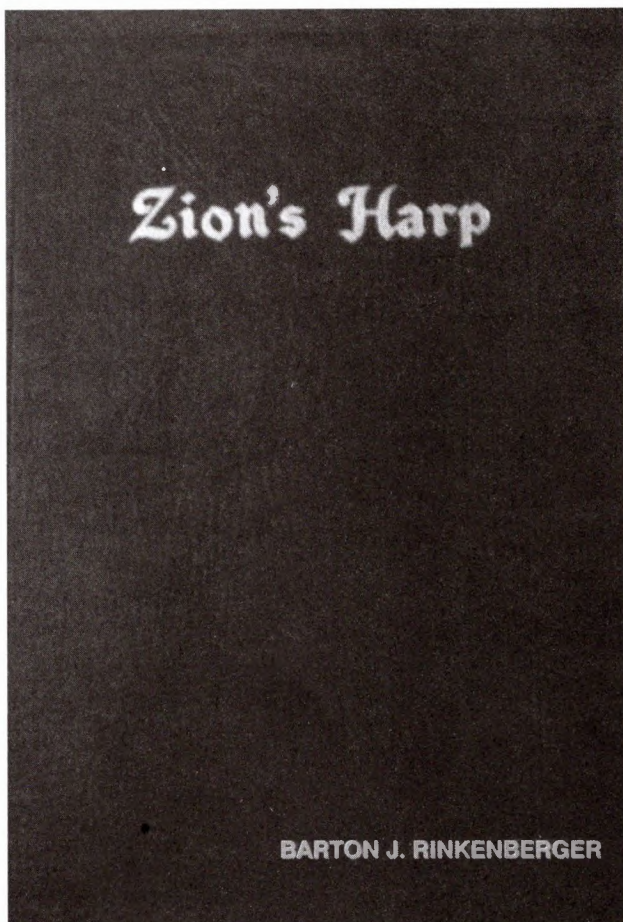
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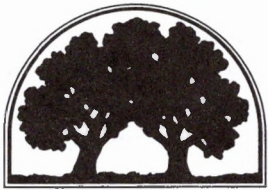
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Counseling or related field. A Masters degree is preferred. Responsibilities include individual and family counseling, case management, and consultation with the treatment team.

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Residential Program Director
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Lynn Stieglitz
Counseling Elder
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(260) 657-1033

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

Volunteer Caretaker Opportunity

The Washington, DC congregation would welcome your help. They purchased a house in Silver Spring, Maryland, and are holding services there every Sunday.

Due to the small number of members and friends, and because most live a distance from church, they are looking for volunteer caretakers to live in the house and perform routine household and yard maintenance chores. Caretakers should plan to stay 3-4 weeks.

Caretakers could be couples, singles or families who would enjoy fellowship with the DC congregation and spending time near the Nation's Capitol and other points of interest on the East Coast.

For more information, please contact Barry and Doreen Steffen at 410/569-3635 or bdsteff@yahoo.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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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

His people. That in which these here kind of, you might say, came to their senses as they wanted to go back from Babylon. Nehemiah amongst them, that helped in putting this covenant forward. Then there would be those that might be willing to put their name to it. That it wouldn't be just something abstract. But it could be something very personable.

We find then, as we turn into Ephesians, a very similar train of thought that Paul was expressing to the church at Ephesus. Because he talks about this vocation wherewith you were called. This morning, this vocation isn't whether we are engineers or in the medical field or whether we are retired or whether we are tending to the home. This isn't really the vocation in which he is really talking about. Although he would have us to be faithful in that too. But he is talking about the vocation in which we have been called in Christ Jesus. He's really speaking to them and asking them, he says, "...beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called." Ephesians 4:1.

So you and I first need to come to the point this morning which we understand to what have we been called to. What is it that we have been called unto? Because if we don't have an understanding of that, or you might say, as he bears out here the need for unity, if we are not unified under the thought of what it is that we have been called to by the scriptures and through God's Spirit, we can't possibly conclude how it is that we ought to walk. So he asks us to give thought to that. What have we been called to? What have we been called from?

We go back to Nehemiah. We've been called from Babylon. We've been called unto Jerusalem. We've been called out of sin. We've been called out of the influence of those round about us. We've been called out of a life of self service and lend-

ing unto Satan's vices and we've been called unto a walk of the Spirit. We have been called unto a walk of the righteousness that is available through the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

It is borne out in the scriptures, it's a high calling. It's a calling that's above every calling that can get. There is none greater than to be called unto this particular walk of life. In which the Savior, as He did to the disciples, in which He would say, come follow me. That's the calling which you and I have been given, is to come and follow the Savior. Follow Him through His life. Follow Him to Calvary. Follow Him to the tomb. Follow Him someday to a resurrection. He says in chapter five, be ye therefore followers of God (Ephesians 5:1). You and I have been called to follow after the Savior, in His footprints, observing His nail prints. We have been called unto such a holy and a wonderful calling.

This chapter really speaks to both the need for you and I to answer such a calling and then how it is that we ought to walk in such a calling. So there is certainly and entreaty going out, where this calling has gone forth throughout the ages of time. There are those that just kind of continually ignore it. It is about as frustrating as if you keep trying to call somebody over and over and over. Especially if you know that they are home. You are well aware that the phone just keeps on ringing and they are flat out ignoring you. They really have no desire to communicate with you. They have no desire to visit with you. It just becomes very, very frustrating.

The scriptures bear out that what could happen in such a case - we read it last Sunday in Romans one - it is possible that God would give them over to a reprobate mind. It is possible that God would get so frustrated at calling and calling and calling that He would turn one over to a reprobate mind, the scriptures bore

it out, we read it last Sunday. It's a scary thing to think about. You and I come to appreciate that the more and more you and I would have that type of an experience with someone. So there is certainly an urging this morning, while the call of God is really available and there is an opportunity for response, that there will be a softening of the heart.

Then, knowing that we have been called unto such a wonderful vocation, it's really been, I hesitate to use the word 'job' because so often with a job, there are things that we love and there are things that we just kind of put up with. But this vocation which you and I have been called, this livelihood, if you will, it's really one in which it certainly has it's tribulations. That's not God's doing. That's Satan's desire, to get us to pick a different career path. But rather we have this vocation that is of great joy in really having the opportunity to labor with, to work in the same vineyard as Jesus Christ. To work side by side with the Son of God. To be able to communicate with His Father. What a wonderful work environment. What a wonderful work environment.

So realizing then, that we are called to follow after Christ, that we've been hired, so to speak, into an occupation in which we are laboring side by side with Jesus Christ, he beseeches us that we ought to walk worthy of such a calling. So how is it that you and I ought to walk, in a job in which we are side by side with the Son of God? He says in verse two, "With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Ephesians 4:2,3. How easy is that to fulfill in walking? One in which in lowliness, meekness.

It kind of asks you another question. Do you and I know more than the One that has called us? Do you and I know better than the One that is walking beside us, that already

paved the way before us? Sometimes we think we do. Sometimes we act like we do. Therefore our walk, it isn't really lowly. It isn't really meek. He says, I think in one of the hymns, learn of me for I am meek and lowly (Come Unto Me #295 Hymns of Zion). Christ demonstrated that of the Father. As He walked here below, He gave us a perfect example of how it is that we can walk worthy of such a vocation because He went in that way.

Then he says, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love. We realize there are others walking on the same way. We are not doing this all by ourselves. We are not doing this just for our own good. There are others. So he beseeches you and I that part of our walk needs to be with longsuffering or some patience. And forbearing one another in love. Implying where there's some times as we walk along, as best as we might try, there are times in which we'll need to exercise patience with others that are walking and trying to walk worthy of the same vocation.

You and I might say, in theory, that should never happen. It shouldn't ever be necessary. If you and I are all walking lowly and meekly and right in tune with our Savior, there should never be a need for patience. I believe, when you and I find ourselves before His throne and have opportunity to walk into heaven's gate, that will be a correct statement from then forward. There won't be a need for longsuffering. Because Satan and his influence will be removed from you and I. But there are times in which you and I fail to walk lowly and we escalate our thought above Christ's. As a result, we step on somebody else's toe as we walk. There's a little damage done. There is a need for patience. There is a need to be forbearing.

That word - it would be interesting to go back and look at the Greek for it - maybe this afternoon. But

forbear one with another. If you bear on something, it means you kind of lean on it. You kind of apply some pressure to it. At least the thought that comes to me this morning is as if we forbear it, we avoid doing such. So when there are cases in which - and it goes together with this 'in love' - there are cases in which there are those that need to be encouraged and need to be corrected. The way to do it is to do it in love as the scriptures bear out. Not to bear on them. That only creates heat and often just makes matters worse. So part of the vocation, part of that in which we are beseeched to walk is one in which we refrain from bearing on each other. But rather that we entreat, we encourage and we do so in love.

For what purpose? "Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace." Ephesians 4:3. That's one of the things that helps keep the walk joyful, is when it can be in the unity of God's Spirit and in the bond of peace. We sang the beautiful hymn about the beauty of unity. So it is when you and I find that we can come together and there is a kindred spirit provided by God. It is not something you and I can just create of our own selves. There is this bond of peace. It implies, as we read through the scripture here, as you and I are added to this walk, that there is really a binding by God's Spirit, of peace together. It is something that ought to - if you take a rope and you are going to bind something to the top of your van, which we will probably be doing next weekend to fit everything in to go to Illinois, we will take this rope, we'll wrap it around and we'll bind it and cinch it tight. So that the things can't bounce around and rub against each other and destroy each other. Really this bond of peace has that privilege amongst us, that it would bind us so closely unto God's Spirit that we can't kind of get loose of our own selves and start to create friction amongst the other members

and destroy the unity or that tight package that God has created.

Certainly we acknowledge that Satan would really like to just work things such that that bond of peace becomes loose. We could probably envision the looser that gets, really the more bouncing and damage that can be incurred. So he says, as we walk, our endeavor needs to be to keep this unity of the bond of peace. That is done - that is not something you and I just set out to accomplish in which we decide this morning that we are going to tighten this bond. Or we are going to prevent it from coming loose. That is our end result that is incurred, how? By walking lowly and meekly and longsuffering and forbearing.

I believe that we all appreciate the following verses. We'll just read through them again. "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Ephesians 4:4-6. Numerous times throughout the scripture, there is made such an effort to point out that God is a very singular identity. It's not our God and a god of Allah and a god of Buddha. He doesn't have all of the multiple personalities and beings that society would like you and I to subscribe to thinking. He is one God. He is one Lord. He has provided one Spirit. His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is the head of one body. Let's be careful how that thought process we use into our thinking. We need to again express in love, but that we would understand, as we visit with others, that that's not the way we would see the scriptures. That's not what we have been called unto. That we might encourage others to think of the same thing.

I love verse six, "One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." If something is above us, it's through us

Sermon continued on page 46

Sermon continued from page 45

and it's in us, it sends a message that God desires to consume us. As you read in Hebrews, He'll either consume you and I with a fire, a consuming fire, or He'll consume us with His love (Hebrews 12). That really is our choice in terms of how we respond unto the calling. So if we respond to the call, unto this vocation, where you might say we sign up for employment and we go to work in His vineyard, we have the privilege of being consumed by a God that wants to breath into us His living Spirit and He wants to place that right within our heart that it would just consume us. That everything about us would radiate with His love, with His desire for mankind, with His desire for judgment, our abhorrence for sin, on and on we could go through the scriptures, of all of the characteristics of God. He wants to consume you and I to the point that that is really our life. It is our being and it is everything about us.

But there is also a warning. Well, we spoke of it. That He'll consume someday, those that don't allow Him to consume us now. But this thought that Paul lays out, you can think of it, ponder it. How much does God really want to have every part of your being and of your thoughts and of your actions?

"But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ." Ephesians 4:7. It is a good thing, isn't it? We wouldn't be able to fulfill such a calling. It's possible, if we would have just stopped at verse three, four, five or six here, we would have concluded that this calling that we've been called to, it's not possible for such a walk. Satan is too strong. His pressures from society around about us are too much to bear. It's not possible for us to walk worthy of such a vocation. It just can't be done. We would have rightly concluded, had it not been for verse seven, that there is given grace according to the mea-

sure of the gift of Christ.

I don't know about this measure of the gift of Christ. I don't know if it is in cups. I don't know if it is in gallons. I don't know if it is by the tanker vessel. I don't really know how it is that this measure is present. But I know, throughout the balance of scripture, that I believe with all my heart that there is more grace available than you and I can possibly find the abilities within ourselves to tap into. The limiting factor to this grace that is given in our measure, is really the extent to which you and I will allow God to consume us. We will allow this gift of Christ, the gift of His Spirit. How much reign will you give God's Spirit in your heart? How much will I? That is the limiting factor between whether you or I receive a couple teaspoons of His help and we find ourselves extremely frustrated by our inability to overcome. Or we find that we have access to the storehouse of heaven because we have surrendered all aspects of our life unto such a God and we have given over to His Spirit.

The subsequent verses here, these next three, he really speaks about this wonderful event that occurred when He ascended up on high. Again, it gets to the idea, these next three verses, of just how consuming our God really is. That He could go, He's up on high and has led the captivity captive. Then He descended into the lower parts of the earth. He that descended is also the same that ascended up far above the heavens, that he might fill all things. (Ephesians 4:8-10). He has left nothing void. He has left nothing empty.

The more you and I stare into space and the more we understand that they have bored into the earth, and the more that we would try to understand that Christ has been present in all of those physical spaces, at least for those of us that learn more by observing and touching and seeing, it is so hard to com-

prehend how it is that such a God can consume all of the space that there is. Wherever man is or would ever think to be, He is! Paul tries to explain that again here to the Ephesians. That's really the extent to which God is available.

Then he says, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;" Ephesians 4:11. He has provided unto you and I all kind of helps round about. For what purpose? The perfecting of the saints, the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body. (Ephesians 4:12). I suspect if we are honest with ourselves, that all of us have, He has given talents unto each of us. Many of which probably lay somewhat under-utilized. Certainly if we haven't answered His calling and we haven't started this vocation, there are lots of talents that are laying dormant, highly wasted.

Those of us that have answered His call, maybe we find that we are content for a six hour day when there is really twelve hours worth of work. We find that there, as a result, there are talents that are left under-utilized, is what we would say in the work place, right? We would say, well that resource is just not working up to their potential. Or they have really not been put in a place in which they could have opportunity to use that in which they are really good at. So therefore, we are under-utilizing them. We need to do something different. That is not the way God works. God doesn't under-utilize us. We might choose to be under-utilized. But God never puts you and I in a place where you and I are not able to utilize that in which He has given us.

But understand our talents, that in which He gives you and I. The purpose that He gives us, part of our calling - maybe this is some of the definition of what are we called to - part of that definition is for the perfecting of the saints. Not to bear on them. To encourage them.

For the work of the ministry. That there would continually be a teaching of the lost. Of that in which is necessary, to come in Calvary. That work of the ministry and for the edifying of the body. For the spiritual teaching of the body. That there would be strengthening. There would be strength training. Lest you and I would become weak because of the lack of exercise of our spiritual minds, he says that there is a need of edifying of the body.

"Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:" Ephesians 4:13. Will we ever achieve that? I suspect that is why this is a life long perfecting. That is why the ministry will never be complete. That's why the edifying of the body, it never finishes.

My great uncle that passed away here a few days ago, upper nineties, lived a full life. Full life. Great health until the end. Active. Never - you would visit with him and time and time again his expression would be, well, still learning. But he always would encourage you. He would still come along and he'd see this and he'd say, you know, I just encourage you again this morning. You come back home and he'd know you would probably be encouraged to preach and he'd just, 'you know, we need to hear the Word'. Ninety some years old, still thought he needed to hear the Word. Still wasn't perfect. How about you and I? Sometimes we think maybe by, what, age thirty six we have a lot of things figured out. No. Ever learning, the scriptures bear out.

"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:" Ephesians 4:14,15. Time is getting away from us this morning but we should probably speak just a bit yet about these verses as well. It's easy to be tossed to and fro, where today we kind of take on this way of thinking and tomorrow we take on this kind of thinking. We're influenced by the sleight of men as opposed to God's Spirit. We put ourselves subject unto the cunning craftiness of Satan, where he will work on undermining our thought process over a period of years, not just in a few days, in which just slowly but surely, that in which the scriptures bear out to be true is eroded. We need to be cautious of such. He says, henceforth be no more children tossed to and fro.

Sometimes we observe that of our children. This will be the popular thing for the day. Then three days later it is a crazy toy. It is dumb. It sits in the corner and this is the exciting box to play in. Four days later it's just, take it out to the recycling. They are all over the map, we say. Sometimes you and I start to pick up some of the same types of thinking, in which we pick up this thought. Then we read a few more different scriptures and we are way back over here. We are influenced by others round about us that aren't walking under the same calling. So let's be careful. The scriptures bear out that we need to be so.

There's a lot of thoughts yet in this chapter that we could spend some time on. I trust that maybe Brother Don will share a few that might come to mind. Throughout the balance of this day, if we would go home and just read the balance of the chapter. Just this calling then that he then starts to speak to those that have not so learned Christ. He gets into, the next verses about putting off the former conversation of man and putting on a new spirit. That you put on the new man that is after God. He gets back to the calling in which he entreats all men to answer His call and to put off the old man and put on the new man of the Lord Jesus Christ (Ephesians 4:22-24).

In that then, we can find that we have this wonderful walk, the balance of life. We have a wonderful vocation in which we have been called to. In which we have opportunity to work side by side with the Lord and Savior. We have opportunity to glean from that in which He would teach us. We have opportunity to continue to forbear one another in love, that we might have this same bond of peace amongst us. Then when He comes again, we would have this one hope realized, in which we would be forever with the Lord. The absence of Satan. We would be just, not only to walk in the presence of His Spirit, but then forever more, to be able walk in the presence of God Himself, in all of His glory and splendor. We don't understand and comprehend that either. But that one hope we also wait for in great anticipation.



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. 1-309-359-5240 or E-mail michael_rassi@hotmail.com.

HAITI			
<i>Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of October 16, 2007 - www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/</i>			
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@citiznet.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 rcp@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 tstuber1@peoplepc.com	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 frankfarms@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 tstuber1@peoplepc.com	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			
<i>Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of October 16, 2007 - www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/</i>			
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 October 16, 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 kaebsb@illicom.net
Magdalena Construction	Feb 16-23, 2008	Bob Knepp 309-923-7335 rnep@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.cm
Juarez Medical/Dental	Mar 26-Apr 2, 2008	Cheryl Herrmann 309-385-1082 cherrmann@verizon.net
Magdalena Construction	May 31-Jun 7, 2008	Doug Herrmann/Princeville Bible Class 309-446-9677 douglas@eltnet.net
Magdalena Construction	Jun 7-14, 2008	Don Hoerr/Peoria Bible Class hoerrfamily7@insightbb.com
Magdalena Construction	June 21-28, 2008	Brad Gehring/Taylor Bible Class 217-228-9849 bradgehring@yahoo.com
Magdalena Construction	Jul 19-26, 2008	Blake Stahl 630-740-7461 Chicago-Champaign Bible Class bcstahl01@hotmail.com



REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

This is a follow up to last month's report of Samuel Froehlich's conversion in his own words. He gave a lengthy report to the English Continental Society in London, and from this we were able to garner much detail on how he had come to God. Additional comments pertaining to his general situation follow:

The conversion of Bro. Samuel H. Froehlich was quite genuine. He responded affirmatively, and in a sincere way, to a clear call from God. As he lay on his sick bed he could hear Him clearly, even though God spoke to him in "a very soft voice."

Prior to this Samuel H. Froehlich had attended seminary, even though he was far from God and struggled with a true belief regarding His existence. While attending his theological school, he had met with a religious group, and became somewhat belligerent toward them when they insisted on prayer to open and close their meetings.

On hearing a true call from God, Brother Froehlich followed that summons, even though he had no idea what subsequent activities he would become involved in. He was willing to reject his religious upbringing — in the Swiss State Church — to seek a faith system that literally believed in God's Word. His intentions were pure as he sought to do the will of God.

Essentially, he had no known mentors to guide him in his repentance. He could not go back to the State Church, since they had rejected his preaching as being too evangelical. In time he was baptized by a pastor Ami Bost, who had departed the State Church as well. He was baptized by sprinkling, but later came to believe in, and promote, full water immersion, and that is our practice yet today, based on Scriptures.

It is interesting to note, even in his early twenties, that Bro. Froehlich could not find a doctrinal concord with other faiths of that era. Although he worked with the Continental Society for a time, he did not feel comfortable with their more

Calvinistic views. Also, with other existing denominations, he could not find harmony. He states it was not his intention to found a church denomination here on earth.

In time, he began to "test the waters" to see what existed among the people regarding their spiritual thirst, or lack of it. He was in his early twenties when he set out on several "missionary journeys." He and his young cohorts in faith would go from village to village, from barnyard to barnyard and from living room to living room and preach the Gospel directly from the Bible. Often, believers would go on ahead of him and announce the time and place where he would preach.

The results of this overall effort was God-directed. Souls responded to his call for faith, repentance, conversion and then obeying the Bible. Great ingatherings occurred across the cantons of Switzerland. This was due to his Holy Spirit induced preaching. Over a period of 35 years, a total of 110 congregations were formed. This is confirmed from a speech made at Lake Bloomington in 1947 by Henry Michel of Switzerland. His remarks were later transcribed and printed into a booklet entitled, *I Will Remember The Works Of The Lord*. It is an inspiring booklet that chronicles the life of Samuel H. Froehlich in his early days, and depicts the zeal and sincerity of his work.

Corollary to the work of Bro. Froehlich, and the fruit his preaching bore, was his intent to provide adequate care for his many new converts — and to also provide a stability for the succeeding generations that might follow. In this, the New Testament model for the church was followed closely, and a brotherhood paradigm was set up. The Scriptures were followed. Authority was established, and proper spiritual nourishment and accountability were established. And importantly, a loving discipline was maintained to keep the church pure.

In 1842, approximately ten years after the beginning of his first churches in Switzerland, the enemy raised his head, and a

schism faced the brethren. Many left the fellowship, and this caused Bro. Froehlich to take great care in who was taken into the church. This departure was known as the Winzeler Schism. It was a trying time for the brethren, but they continued to persevere with the attempt to closely follow the Bible's direction(s), and maintaining sound doctrine became a matter of great importance.

Ten years before Bro. Froehlich's death, he received a letter from a group of Mennonites in upstate New York. They invited him to come and attempt to resolve a dispute that was disturbing their unity. He did not come to America. Instead, he called a brother meeting in Switzerland, and young Benedict Weyeneth, 29, was ordained as Elder. He was sent to visit the Mennonites in upstate New York. By the grace of God this young Elder had the courage to visit them, and to recommended two great needs: (1) To repent for their sins and (2) To be baptized by immersion. About half the congregation followed him. The year was 1847, and this was the first church of our faith in America.

In time, many congregations were formed. Also, from the Swiss origin (of Bro. Froehlich), the new church and doctrine traveled east into the Balkan lands. The Gospel found a presence in Hungary due to the work of two locksmiths who had met Bro. Froehlich, and later walked back to their native land and a church was born in that nation.

And the Gospel was taken into many other nearby states, including the Ukraine.

Many countries have benefited from this original legacy. We as individuals, families and congregations have benefited from this spiritual legacy. May we carry it on for future generations, as the Lord tarries, and by His grace.

By Perry A. Klopfenstein

Next Issue: Misc. data

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

希望の光

“Everybody Needs A Friend”

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

Not to have any friends is a heartbreaking situation. Most of us have someone who can tolerate us and with whom we can share our thoughts and feelings freely.

Proverbs 18:24 reads, “A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly; and there is a friend who sticketh closer than a brother.” This verse exhorts us to be friendly toward others, and this will increase the possibility that they will become our friends. However, let’s try to be a friend even to those who are not friendly. They may be the ones who are apt to say, “I don’t have any friends.” Everybody, even the unfriendly, needs a friend.

The above verse speaks of a friend who sticketh closer than a brother. This probably refers to Christ as our friend. John 15:13,14, reads, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.” Certainly we all need Christ as our friend and as our

Saviour. Now it is up to us to be friendly toward others.

We want others to be our friends, the more the better, unless some friends might be a bad influence on us. We must be careful not to let others influence us away from what the Bible teaches. Rather, we should always try to influence others to believe and do what the Bible teaches. If we are children of God, our friends will probably be mostly within the household of faith, but not entirely. We would like to be a friend to others in order to bring them to repentance and faith in Christ.

If you are married, your spouse is probably, or should be, your best friend, next to Christ. It is important that married couples can talk with each other every day, with kindness, love, and understanding. But I have heard that everyone needs a friend of the same gender, about the same age, with which to talk over anything and everything. If you don’t have such a friend,

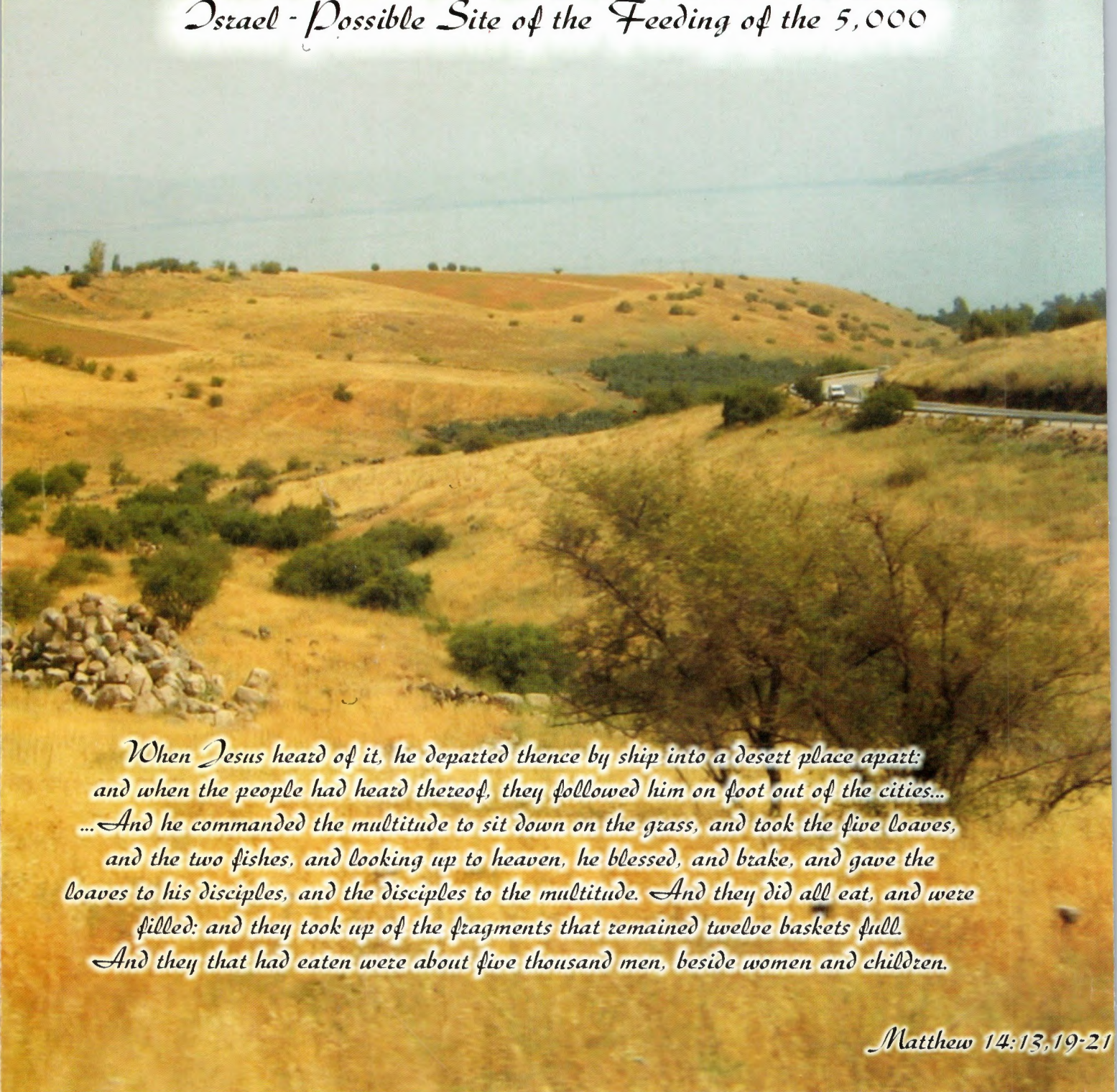
try to find one, someone with whom you have much in common, and with whom you can speak freely.

In a broader sense, a friend is someone who loves and respects you, who cares about you, and who is willing to help and encourage you. In that sense, may I be your friend? And will you be my friend? Even though we may be brothers and sisters in Christ, it is also good to be a true friend, one with another. Please forgive me where I’ve failed.

It has just come to my mind that, in our church, we use the word “friends” when speaking of those who have not yet repented, or those who are not members of our church. If we call those who are not converted to Christ, our friends, then how much more should those of us who are in the family of God, be friendly toward each other. This includes a smile, a greeting from the heart, with genuine love and concern.

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Israel - Possible Site of the Feeding of the 5,000



*When Jesus heard of it, he departed thence by ship into a desert place apart:
and when the people had heard thereof, they followed him on foot out of the cities...
... And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the grass, and took the five loaves,
and the two fishes, and looking up to heaven, he blessed, and brake, and gave the
loaves to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. And they did all eat, and were
filled: and they took up of the fragments that remained twelve baskets full.
And they that had eaten were about five thousand men, beside women and children.*

Matthew 14:13,19-21

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