

# *The Silver Lining*

*He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good;  
and what doth the Lord require of thee,  
but to do justly, and to love mercy,  
and to walk humbly with thy God?*

*Micah 6:8*

*July 2008*



Sermon by Bro. Jeff Neihouser, Francesville, IN

## Numbers 1; St. Luke 22:24-38

Numbers Chapter 1 - the census of Israel. It goes on and it numbers the children of Israel at that time. I believe they numbered them so they knew how many were there of the age twenty years old and upward. And there was a reason, I'm sure, that God wanted that done.

We go back to the time of David. David counted the men that would go to battle and God punished him. Men were killed because of that punishment. (II Samuel 24:2,15) We see a change in how God handles different situations. The reason they were punished in David's time, is because they needed to trust in Almighty God, and not trust in their numbers. Here God was saying: Moses, I want you to know how many that you have.

Realize that God has a plan. He has a plan for your life and for mine. It says here, "Take ye the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel..." Numbers 1:2. Take notice! Take the number. And we know that God has a plan. I don't know how it is for you, but you look at how something is going in someone's life, and you think, well, I'm just going to follow that pattern. Well, God may have a different plan. Maybe like it was for Moses and it was for David, a very different application of counting. But you and I, are we following after someone else or are we following after the Lord Jesus Christ and trusting in His plan? It may be different than someone else's.

I don't know about you, but I get security in seeing what is going on in someone else's life. I can watch that pattern, and say, Ah, if I just follow that pattern, then it will lead to the same outcome. The Lord says: I want you to trust in Me.

"Even all they that were numbered were six hundred thousand and three thousand and five hundred and fifty." Numbers 1:46. Six hundred three thousand, five hundred fifty were over twenty years of age. So there was a reason they were numbered. That's a lot of men that are ready to go to war for the children of Israel.

I want to go back here in this Bible.

There's a little introduction. It gives a little bit of background or overview/summary of the book of Numbers. I'm just going to read this, so this will help. This is not the Scripture; this is a summary of what this is about: 'The title Numbers was evidently given to this book because it describes the way in which an elaborate census of Israel was taken. The narrative core of this book is an account of the Israelites thirty eight years of wandering in the journey from the Sinai Peninsula to the plains of Moab. The opening chapters (which is what we just read) relate in detail to the organization and preparation of Israel's advance toward Canaan. And then the concluding chapters tell the Israelite encounters with the Moabites and some of their other conquests.'

But the beginning part was about good order. They had to be numbered so that they knew what they had.

Then it goes on into chapter two and it talks about their arrangement. As we think about the center of this tribe of, I believe it was several million people, as they left Egypt they came and they are now in the wilderness. "And the LORD spoke unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai..." He said, we need to take a count "...in the tabernacle of the congregation, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt..." Numbers 1:1. So now they've been traveling for two years on a journey that would have taken a few weeks. A journey that did not have to be a long journey. If you look at a map, you see where they're at in Egypt and they want to go the Promised Land. If they got on the shortcut and they got on that road (there was a road that went right around the Mediterranean), it was maybe a two week journey. But they needed a longer journey to get from, not the location that they were, but the heart that they had. They needed to take a longer journey. They had to go down across the Red Sea.

They needed to trust, and what happened? A few days into their jour-

ney they see the water in front of them and the army behind them. They had

*Sermon continued on page 42*

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*"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine..."*  
(2 Tim. 3:16)

# Light From The Word



Writings based  
on God's Word

July 2008

## Doctrinal Integrity

The terms "success," "prosperous" and "profitable" usually evoke thoughts of material gain. They are used in the Word of God to describe the spiritual gain to be obtained from understanding and applying doctrinal truth (Josh. 1:8; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). Doctrine refers to that which is taught directly in the Bible. The first article of our Statement of Faith presents the core belief that "the New Testament serves as the foundation of the doctrine of the Apostolic Christian Church."

Integrity means "uncontaminated, sound and complete." This article focuses on "doctrinal integrity," something we should all aspire to in establishing the basis for our beliefs. Doctrinal integrity is essential so that the mission of the church to spread the Gospel, nurture the believer, preserve sound doctrine and serve others may be fulfilled. The Word itself confirms the significance of doctrinal integrity and gives directions for how it can bless the heart and life of every sincere child of God.

We are instructed to teach sound doctrine by our words and our walk of life. Regarding our "words," Titus 2:1 says, "But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine." Regarding our "walk," we are taught that believers should live in such a way that "they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things" (Tit. 2:10). Sound doctrine is truth revealed through Jesus Christ: "grace and truth came by Jesus Christ" (John 1:17). It is written in the Scriptures, "thy word is truth" (John 17:17) and brought to our minds by the Holy Spirit, who "will guide you into all truth" (John 16:13).

Embracing sound doctrine is essential to avoid deception, so that we are not "carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men" (Eph. 4:14). Further, it is important that sound doctrine be taught and practiced so that the believer is prepared for the time of which we are warned when men "shall turn their ears from the truth, and shall be turned to fables" (2 Tim. 4:4).

In order to maintain integrity (be complete in our understanding), we must apply "all the counsel of God" (Acts 20:27). We have the assurance that "all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is prof-

itable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). Availing ourselves of the whole counsel of God will help avoid either over-emphasizing or under-emphasizing teachings, whereby we might allow our individual preferences or feelings to affect our thinking.

It is commanded in the Word that those who have teaching and ministry responsibilities be diligent in promoting sound, complete doctrine (1 Tim. 4:16; 1 Tim. 5:17; Tit. 2:1). Already in the Old Testament God stated clearly the kind of shepherds and spiritual teachers he wished to give to his people: "And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding" (Jer. 3:15). The Apostle Paul specifically instructed Timothy to be diligent in learning the Scriptures and interpreting them accurately: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15). All believers are directed to diligently search the Scriptures to confirm that what they are being taught represents doctrinal integrity. Paul and Silas were diligent in teaching the Word to the Bereans. These hearers were then commended because they sought to confirm the soundness of the teachings by searching the Scriptures. "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

Shortly before Jesus ascended to the Father, he charged Peter to nurture the believers in sound doctrine. After asking Peter three times if he loved Him, He responded to Peter's assurance of his love with the statements: "Feed my lambs, feed my sheep (and) feed my sheep" (John 21:15-17). It is instructive to consider the Greek roots of the word "feed" as used in this teaching. In the first and third instances the root word *bosko* refers to "direct feeding." This same approach is reflected in Peter's teachings: "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby" (1 Pet. 2:2). In the second instance, the root word *poimaino* refers to "tending" or helping the sheep learn to find good pasture upon

which they can feed themselves and be nourished. This describes the very critical ability of more mature believers to "discern the Scriptures," which is further explained in Hebrews as follows: "For every one that useth milk is unskillful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil" (Heb. 5:13-14). The Holy Spirit guides us into all truth (John 16:13), and it is this doctrinal truth as revealed in God's Word that we are called upon to obey from the heart (Rom. 6:17).

Assuring the maintenance of doctrinal integrity by "rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Tim. 2:15) requires that we approach all biblical teaching and learning with humility, recognizing we do not have all of the answers (2 Pet. 1:20). Whenever we open the Word, we should first pray, trusting that our Heavenly Father hears us and that the Holy Spirit will lead us. This will give us an opportunity to examine ourselves and, by God's grace, remove anything from our lives that might hinder the Spirit's leading. We must be careful to consider all passages of Scripture relevant to the topic being considered, as well as the historical context of each passage. We should have esteem for the thoughts of others who have also sought the guidance of the Spirit to give them understanding, for "in a multitude of counselors there is safety" (Prov. 24:6). Thus, we can learn from the experiences of early church leaders and Apostolic Christian forefathers. We can also benefit by careful discernment of reference materials such as Bible dictionaries, concordances and other appropriate, sound resources to aid in understanding of words and phrases. Finally, we must have confidence in God's Word as our final authority; adding or taking nothing away from the Word (Rev. 22:18-19). We must not be wise above what is written.

Sound doctrine, taught and practiced with integrity, will bring the blessings of unity in the Brotherhood and edification of the church, and will give glory and honor to God.

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](mailto: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

### Small Church Study Committee Update

It is a joy to share the continuing work of the Lord within our brotherhood and throughout our congregations. We want to thank each one who has taken time to lift up these efforts in prayer and deed. It is encouraging to hear about the many congregations that have followed up on the recommendations and have been blessed or seek further information.

In this article some of the work and resources that are being developed to help guide our congregations in the efforts of supporting one another will be discussed. It is important to review the main recommendations that were initially given, and their scriptural basis. This motivates us to make renewed efforts in these areas.

### Formal outreach programs

Developing formal outreach programs at a congregational and local level continues to be one of the more difficult areas for forward movement in many of our congregations. It is a responsibility and desire of each of us to present the gospel message of salvation based on faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ and a true repentance and conversion. This needs to be done at a personal level, as a local congregation and as a national brotherhood. There have been some encouraging approaches tried at the local level, but there is a need for increased efforts in this area.

We request to each of you to forward the names of friends that move to a location of a current congregation so that the brotherhood can reach out and offer encouragement and support to them.

### Encouraging local activities and fellowship

Efforts in increasing fellowship frequency and depth have confirmed these as vital functions that enhance small church strength. "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." (Heb. 10:24-25)

Each of us has an opportunity to assist in this area by being hospitable to brethren, making the extra effort to attend, and encouraging these good works among our brotherhood.

### Church adoption programs and sending opportunities

In the last few years, church adoptions and sending opportunities have developed and have been encouraging as well as instructive to future endeavors. Consideration is being given to having someone serve as a coordinator of the church adoption efforts.

This would provide assistance for smaller congregations to determine if they would benefit from adoption or if larger congregations have the resources available to adopt. This would also provide a point of contact to facilitate matching congregations and begin coordinating the efforts of these adoptions.

### Minister rotations

Our brotherhood has been blessed to be served by our minister rotations throughout the years. We extend appreciation for the time, effort, and resources our ministering brothers share for this work and request your prayers that it may continue to be a

blessing to our brotherhood. Several recommendations for improvement in the process have arisen from the brotherhood, and some of these are being addressed. One of these efforts is to centrally coordinate the minister rotation schedules that are generated by each of the small congregations requesting assistance.

A Minister Rotation Administrator has been appointed to help even the load within the brotherhood and take into consideration responsibilities and special needs that larger congregations may have in regard to rotations. The 2009 schedule will continue as it has been done in the past. The plan is to seek input this fall from both the large and small congregations, and from that input develop a process to centrally create and distribute schedules for the year 2010.

Another area that is being addressed at this time is the use of a job and/or volunteer posting board so that the brotherhood can be informed of the opportunities that are available in the location of our churches. It is hoped with better communication in this area, additional brethren will consider supporting a small congregation if so directed. More information about this site will be available at a later date.

Each of us has an opportunity to pray for the Lord's work to continue within our congregation, throughout our brotherhood and the world. We encourage those congregations with an interest to be of further service in these areas to contact the committee for more in depth information and assistance. The SCSC currently consists of Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle, and Bros. Justin Moser, Matthew Rassi, Frank Sauder, and Loren Schrenk.





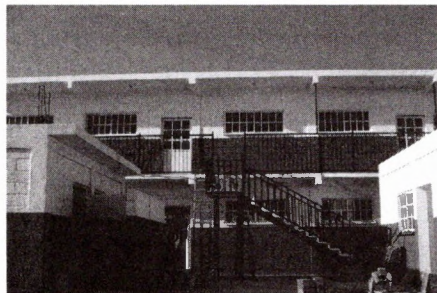
APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

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

## Answered Prayer in Ixtlan, Mexico

During February and March, Bro. Bryan Stoller and Bro. Loren Schrenk conducted eye clinics, fitting people with glasses and operating on those needing correction of eye problems. They were accompanied by their spouses and others who came to assist in the work.

Bros. Matt Gerber, Spencer Lewis, Mario Cabrera, and Marshall spent time in Barra Vieja conducting Bible studies and fellowshiping with the believers and other interested persons. It is encouraging to see the spiritual growth and desire for obedience to the Word.



The construction of the school is nearing completion and work has begun on putting together the team to administer the school with the hope that classes can begin in late August. Ruth Cervantes (from Tecati, MX) has agreed to come as the administrator for the school. An additional prayer request is for a director with a primary teaching certificate who is a Mexican and also a Christian.

*“Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king’s word, and*

*yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any God, except their own God.” (Dan 3:28) Do we demonstrate this type of trust?*

### Medical team

In January 2008, the fifth medical team traveled to Ixtlan to do medical training with the Red Cross (Cruz Roja) ambulance crew and the Ixtlan community. During the week, they provided twenty-five hours of training.

The Ixtlan police were trained in scene safety, traffic control, triage and first-aid skills. The Cruz Roja crew was taught CPR, defibrillator, airway management, intubation, ventilator, and mass casualty triage skills. First Aid training was given to the Ixtlan church family. At the end of the week, the Cruz Roja and police worked well together with a simulated school building collapse from an earthquake. Twenty students also participated in the drill.

### Little baby Maria... in His hands

At the end of the week Sisters Rita Knobloch and Rosie Hoerr experienced an ambulance transport with the Cruz Roja. They knew that a patient on a ventilator needed to be transported to Guadalajara. When they arrived at the Zamora hospital they found out there were two premature infants to transport.

They started out with baby Maria who weighed 1kg (2.2 pounds) and was eight days old. They prayed for the Lord’s help as they did not have experience taking care of babies on ventilators. They were very thankful for the donated ambulance equipment, which needed to be used at that time and were encouraged that the equipment had been

maintained.

Because the ventilator stopped working twenty minutes into the transport, it was necessary to manually ventilate the baby. Her head fit in between a thumb and first finger, her arm is the size of a finger. No monitor was on the baby so they placed the donated oxygen saturation monitor on her. Maria’s oxygen level should have been 95 – 100%. It went down to 74% at one point. The oxygen was turned up and they continued to manually ventilate baby Maria. Her oxygen level came up to the 90’s and her pulse came up nicely also.

They prayed... “Lord you have this baby in your hands,” and then needed to return to the Zamora hospital to get the ventilator fixed. They arrived back at the Zamora hospital after 45 minutes of manually ventilating the baby. After the ventilator was fixed, they left Zamora a second time with a second ambulance traveling with the second vented premature baby. As they were transporting to Guadalajara a second time they looked at each other and one said, “I have not prayed for a ventilator before but I sure am now!”

Several hours later they successfully transported both premature babies to a pediatric hospital in Guadalajara. How thankful they were for God’s strength and the ambulance equipment donated by World Relief. God knew they would need it one day. They learned a lot about continual, unceasing prayer and that God is in control. He can give us the strength we need when things are out of our hands. What a relief that we can lean on him and know that “He’s got the whole world in His hands!”



## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

"Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

*II Cor. 1:4*

As we think of the words that Paul wrote to the Corinthians so many years ago regarding comfort, is it any wonder that those who have daily interaction with our residents often feel that they receive more than they give!

As our residents must surely be comforted by God to go on day by day with their many difficulties, we too should be receptive to God's comfort. That is how we learn to comfort others.

At this time there are many across the world that are having troubles. We can see it here in the Midwest as our loved ones in Oakville are waiting for the flood waters to recede so they can begin the task of reclaiming their homes and farms. Can we hear God saying "Remember how I comforted you in your trouble? The song in the night, the cool drink in the heat of the day, a powerful word from my Word of Life, a place of rest for your weariness, an encouraging thought in the midst of discouragement, a gift to satisfy a need, remember?? Please use what you learned from that and be a comforter to those who are suffering right now!"

There are some of our employees who suffered greatly in their native African countries before coming to America. They know how to comfort our residents because they learned from God how to comfort. Encouragement comes from their lips, "Don't give up! Satan wants us to be discouraged and lose faith in our times of trouble. That is just the time to hang on tightly to your faith in God! God is good; God is faithful to His promises."

May God bless those of you who have at any time given comfort to the dear ones who live in our homes. Some comfort is given directly by needed personal

care, a sweet smile, a patient listening ear - - great comfort is also provided by your prayers and continued support of Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped facilities.

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## GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME Chalise Steffen

Let's head back to the book of Job for this one. Before we jump in, we need to set the stage. The first two chapters contain the narrative background of the book. Next comes chapters three through thirty-one, which is a repetitive cycle of Job, Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar dialoguing. The conversation of Job's three friends has a recurring theme that suffering is the result of sin in a person's lifestyle. Then comes Elihu's speech, who has waited to speak because he states he is young in years compared to that of the other men. He makes the claim that age should speak and teach wisdom first. Which now brings me to point number one: some of us working at Gateway Woods don't have children of our own, most have not yet raised teenagers themselves and others are in their first month at Gateway.

As we work at Gateway, we are often in situations that take us beyond our own human wisdom. Could you please pray that God would provide us with wisdom beyond our years? That God would provide us with wisdom beyond our experience and that God would give us wisdom beyond our understanding and knowledge? Oh, and by the way, in my opinion, Elihu's perspective on suffering seems to be a little closer to the target than Job's other friends, even at his young age.

Now, back to the book of Job. After an elongated dialogue of human reasoning, finally God speaks! Not only does He speak but He speaks with authority and clarity! To think we can tap into God's wisdom by being in communion with His Spirit. Please pray with us

Ephesians 1:17, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. May we know Him better, that we might point others to know of Him.

### NEWS:

- We are thankful to announce the hiring of Sis. Charla Zollinger (Sardis, OH) as our new Counselor. Sis. Charla began work on June 23. Please continue to pray for her as she adjusts to her new position.

- We are grateful for the arrival of our many summer volunteers. Their attitudes and hearts amaze us as God uses them to help out with the various projects around our campus. Please fill out a volunteer application online or contact us at 888-443-4283 if you have a desire to spend time this summer making a difference in a child's life at Gateway Woods.

- Praise God for the progress being made on the Pine House. The roof is completed and the walls and windows are in place. Please visit our website at [gatewaywoods.org](http://gatewaywoods.org) to see ongoing construction pictures and learn how you can assist us with this project. Volunteer masons will be working during August. Call us if you can help. We appreciate your prayers and financial support, which enables us to touch the lives of more children and families in need.

- This spring and summer we are encouraging companies, families, Sunday Schools, Vacation Bible Schools, etc. to commit to our Furnish-A-Room (FAR) project by raising the funds to completely buy all the furniture and bedding needed for one resident's bedroom. For larger groups there are larger rooms like the living room or kitchen to be supplied. Check with your local Gateway Woods Rep, VBS Coordinator or Sunday School Superintendent to learn if your church is planning an FAR project. For complete information on FAR please call our office 888 443-4283 (GATE) or check our web site at [gatewaywoods.org](http://gatewaywoods.org). Further updates will be on the web as summer progresses.



- Praise 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, construction of the Pine House, and other ministry opportunities here, there are a number of service positions waiting to be filled. Open positions include Teacher, Assistant Houseparent, Alternate Houseparents, and IL Adoption Manager. Please see the ads in this month's edition of The Silver Lining for more information. 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!

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

Aside from a few bee stings, ant bites and bumps and bruises, our summer has been going so well! The children have been enjoying the sunny days, swimming, playing in the sand, swinging, playing ball, finding bugs and all those fun outdoor things. It is always amazing how children can find dirt and mud where you didn't even know there could be dirt and mud.

We will soon begin enrolling children for our next school year. We continue to pray for another teacher. If you have a degree and/or experience in preschool or elementary education we encourage you to pray about this position. It is an amazing opportunity for a single or married person who would be willing to relocate and teach small children. You can also be a great support to the Athens church. Please prayerfully consider and allow the Lord to work. If you are interested please contact Bro. Mike Moore by phone (256)729-0620  
email: ALM38@aol.com;  
or his address is 8653 Beechwood Rd.  
Athens, AL 35611.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS**

**Louise Hall**

Our annual Memorial Day weekend was once again a blessed weekend full of singing and hearing from God's Word. Thank you to all who traveled the distance to spend the weekend with us. We want to thank our ministers who were here and/or spoke throughout the weekend. Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL), Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Bro. Fred Funk (Morton, IL), Bro. Daron Price (Milford, IN), Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH), Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and our Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH).

Other visiting ministers we want to thank for bring the message to us over the past few weeks are Bro. Wayne Leman (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Erik Givens (Princeville, IL).

Those who have been sick and/or hospitalized are Sis. Joyce Ray (Bro. Milton) and Janice Flannagan (daughter of Bro. JR and Sis. Louise). Our prayers are with them that they will make a speedy recovery.

We congratulate our high school graduates: Matthew Moore (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pam), T.J. Edge (grandson of Bro. Ed Hagggenmaker) and Mike King (grandson of Sis. Kat King).

Our congregation was humbled and so thankful for all who came down to replace our church roof. It was overwhelming to see so many come and give of their time to help us. Even through the rain the project was complete in just a few days. God bless you each one for your servant hearts!

Vacation Bible school for our Sunday school children was a few weeks ago. The theme was King David. We pray that what they are taught now as children will forever stay in their hearts as they grow up.

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**ARIZONA, PHOENIX**

**Ron and Ev Hoerr**

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

*Galatians 6:7*

Dear Readers, what a joy to delight yourself in reading special verses you have marked in your Bible that brought you comfort and peace in time of need. Yes, you do feel His loving arms about you and your physical pain is less. He enables us to "Endure and be still".

Years ago you heard, "You're the only Bible some people read".

To know Him is to love Him!

Our Fellowship Hall was dedicated to His service following our May 25 fellowship dinner. We are truly a blessed people.

We are thankful to our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Richard Plattner (Fairbury), Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton), and Bro. Bill Schick (Magdalena, MX).

Congratulations to Bro. Brandon and Sis. Jodi La Budde on the birth of Nathan Adam on June 4. He has a sister, Josie.

Recent elected positions that were filled at our Annual Business meeting include:

Trustee Sunday School Assistant Superintendent - Bro. Doug Huetten  
Secretary - Bro. Mark Steffen  
Trustee Exterior Maintenance - Bro. Scott Baum  
Trustee Fellowship Hall - Bro. Robert Baum  
Director of Song Leaders - Bro. Randy Wuethrich  
Asst. director of Song Leaders - Bro. Jeff Steffen  
Ushers - Bros. Todd Hinrichsen and Brandon La Budde  
Lunch Fund Treasurer - Bro. Brian and Sis. Debbie Katich  
Congregational Room/Fellowship Hall Coordinator - Bro. Tim and Sis. Verene Sutton  
Asst. Congregational Room/Fellowship Hall Coordinator - Bro. Sam and Sis. Danielle Sutton  
World Relief Assistant Coordinator - Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Lois Niemeyer

Dear ones, keep looking up and share His love that is in your heart.

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## ARIZONA, PRESCOTT Denise Steidinger

We were thankful to have Bro. James Emch (Phoenix, AZ) minister to our congregation the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend. We have had visitors this month from Eureka, Congerville, Bluffton, Lester and Phoenix. We welcome Bro. Dan and Sis. Stephanie Cargill and their family that have moved to our area from Elgin, IL. They have three children, Devin, Trevor and Madison, and will make a wonderful addition to our small congregation. On June 22, Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Jim Koehl (San Diego, CA) ministered to us.

## ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

Life has slowed down a bit and summer has definitely arrived with our daytime temperatures hovering around 105 most days this week. The graduations and school are over and our families are taking vacations. With all of our winter visitors and some of our college students gone we are very small again. Sundays are usually around 25-30 people.

We are taking a break from our mid-week services, Fellowship Suppers and Sunday School classes but some of us did gather last week for Vacation Bible School. Our theme was "Service to others" and the kids enjoyed stuffing back-to-school backpacks for less fortunate children while our older children and some adults spent a morning with the Rebuilding Tucson organization at the home of an elderly woman whose home needed roof coating and painting. The high temperature that day was 110 so we started (and finished) early to avoid the heat. Our VBS was short (3 days) and sweet but highly productive. Thanks to everyone who gave of their time to make it all happen.

## CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Catherine Brame

"But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty..."

*I Cor. 1:27*

During one of those late sleepless nights recently, I stumbled upon the word "caterpillars" and found that I have previously missed a beautiful statement of how God draws us back to Him, using the smallest things as a means of recapturing our attention. It is incredible to me that He loves me so much that He seeks me out, even using caterpillars to regain my attention when I become too focused on the "bigger" things. If you'd like beautiful proof of this, spend some time looking at Ps. 78.

Here in Southern California, we have been experiencing a lot of change and this change has brought joy and sadness.

We all rejoiced to see Bro. Bill Witzig (Sis. Mary) back in church following two surgeries. We praise God for bringing him through this trying time. Likewise, we are pleased to see that Sis. Maria Cser (Bro. Laszlo) is healing nicely after an injury to her arm.

We have several graduates this spring. We congratulate Sis. Lydian Luthi and Sis. Alyson Luthi upon their graduations from High School. We also congratulate Bro. Jim Klotzle upon his graduation from college. Bro. Jim is looking to further his education at graduate school.

We said good-bye to dear ones in June. Bro. Shannon and Sis. Jill Stahl and little Karissa returned to Wisconsin after spending a few brief months back with us. They will be missed.

We also bade a sad farewell to Bro. Don, Sis. Tina, Sis. Christi and Taryn Jackson as they left California to return to Michigan. We have cherished the time they were a part of our congregation, and they will be sorely missed.

Finally, we said good-bye to Bro. Jim Klotzle as he left for a summer of service at the orphanage in Magdalena, Mexico. We look forward to his return in the fall.

## KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA

**Kim Leman**

We thank God for bringing two faithful servants into our midst to share His Word with us. They were Bros. Greg Stoller (Sis. Jill, Forrest, IL) and Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH). May God richly bless all who travel to be a blessing to our small flock.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was enjoyed by all. We are always thankful for the many children who fill our benches, and for the life and hope they bring to us. Each one is precious in the Lord's eyes, and what a responsibility we have to train them to serve the Lord. May God give us grace to be that faithful witness to our children and all those that surround us.

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

*Deuteronomy 6:7*

## COLORADO, DENVER Ann Gonglach

Greetings from Colorado. Once again, we have much to be thankful for.

We appreciate the following visiting ministers: Bro. Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis, MO), Bro. Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH) and Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth, Wolcott, IN).

On May 24, we celebrated with Kris Braun and Britany Moser at their wedding. She is the daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Dawn Moser of Garden Grove, Iowa. May they learn to seek the Lord together.

Bro. Ed Bahler (West Lafayette, IN) came back to finish our church vision



exercise. On May 31, we spent a second day discussing our priorities.

Bro. Daniel Leman and Fred Leman spent over a week in Jamaica on a construction work team. Elder Bro. Mike, Sis. Deb and Bro. Daniel Leman traveled to Magdalena and Ixtlan, Mexico.

Our Sunday school students and some of their friends enjoyed Vacation Bible School the week of June 16-20. Thanks to everyone who helped and prayed.

We rejoice with Kevin Haeflinger who has peace and desires baptism.

A picnic was planned to remember our graduates. Sis. Lanette Meyer has received her master's degree in nursing, Joshua Martin (Bro. Mike and Sis. BethAnn) has graduated from 8th grade, and Bro. Robert Gonglach, Jr. (Bro. Bob and Sis. Ann) will graduate from high school.

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### **CONNECTICUT ROCKVILLE Laura Virkler Amber Rocke**

It has been such a blessing to be a recipient of so many visitors throughout this past month. Our Young Group hosted a large number of single brothers and sisters from various parts of the country for Labor Day weekend. It was a joy, and certainly spiritually uplifting, to have them among us. We are also grateful for the several ministering brothers that were able to worship with us. Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edie, Elgin, IL) and Bro. Justin Moser (Sis. Robin, Altadena, CA) both labored on our behalf. We appreciated so much the efforts each one made to be among us, and trust they felt our love and support.

We have had several of our loved ones recently hospitalized. Our prayers extend to both Bro. Leon and Sis. Martha Schneider, as they are battling health issues. Bro. Ken Schultz (Sis. Lois) and Sis. Glenna Moser (Bro. Ben) are likewise under the care of the physician. We are so thankful the Lord spared our Seth Bahler, the son of Bro. Ron and Sis. Bonnie, as he recovers from a boating accident. We often forget how fleet-

ing life can be, unless it touches those dear to us. May each one take comfort in knowing that "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask anything according to his will, he heareth us:" (I John 5:14).

We rejoice with several couples as they have announced their engagements. Bro. Doug Luginbuhl (Bro. Rick and Sis. Sue) and Sis. Leah Goric (Bro. Bob and Sis. Lynette) are preparing for their marriage next month. Kara Ryan (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Cheryl) and Matthew Stanley (Timothy and Vivian) plan a September wedding. We pray for both these couples that they would seek the Lord's guidance and direction throughout their lives together.

Our congregation has been blessed once again with the birth of a child. Evan Daniel was born to Bro. Jon and Sis. Elisa Goric. Julia is his older sister. Grandparents are Bro. Dan and Sis. MaryLou Goric and Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie Zahner. We pray that God will bless this couple as they strive to raise their family. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Galatians 6:9)

Bro. Terry and Sis. Cindy Virkler are rejoicing at the birth of another grandchild. Lydia Grace was born to Bro. Chad and Sis. Jenny Virkler from our Vermont congregation. Siblings include Abigail, Caleb, Ethan, David and Hannah. Our prayers are also with this family as they undergo this transition. We are so thankful that the Lord has been with us through this past month, and trust He will continue to guide our footsteps as we press onward on our spiritual journey.

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

Our caretakers this month are Bro. Dan, Sis. Abby, Gaige, Grace and Lily Eisenmann from the Forrest, Illinois, congregation.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washing-

ton, IL), Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis, OH), Bro. Ted Hirstein (Sis. Joyce, Morton, IL) and Bro. Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michele, Silverton, OR). Other visitors this month were from Princeville, Washington, Forrest, Elgin, and Roanoke, IL; Rittman and Smithville, OH; Rockville, CT; Silverton, OR; and LaCrosse, IN.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our convert Ken and Roberta Belsley as his surgery has been delayed until August.

Our thanks to Bro. Dan Graf and the work team from Akron and Rittman for all the concrete work done at the back of the Church.

On the Sunday we said farewell to Sis. Margaret Blough and learned Russ, Sharon, Abby and Justin Floyd were moving to Colorado, we welcomed Garth Wirtz from the West Bend, IA, congregation for the summer.

Directions in the new Ministers' Book are good for those coming from the north or west. For those coming up I-95 from south of DC or from the eastern part of the area, you need to take I-95/495 to Exit 28A (New Hampshire Ave) for approx. 2 miles to Rt. 29 North. Go about 3 miles to Fairland Road and follow the directions in the Ministers' book.

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](mailto: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.

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### **FLORIDA FORT LAUDERDALE Renee Mangold**

We were thankful to have several visiting ministers this past month. Visiting were Bro. Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington, IL), Elder Bro. Dave Graf (Sis. Barbara, Akron, OH),



Bro. Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit, MI), Bro. Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Ron Koehl (Sis. Carol, Sarasota, FL). We pray that our Lord would bless these ministers and their families for the work they do for Him.

Two of our families have sadly lost loved ones recently. Our prayers are with Bro. Rodney and Sis. Sally Gress and their family at the passing of his father, Bro. Fahey Gress (Sis. Marie) of West Bend, IA; and Sis. Katherine (Bro. George) Fulop's brother, Bro. Frank Stiedl of Rittman, OH.

Our friend Martica Albu will be spending the next two months in Europe visiting family. Our prayer is that the Lord will be with her until we meet again.

Having celebrated Father's Day this month, our thoughts, of course, turn to our heavenly Father whose Son shed His blood for us that we might know everlasting life and for this we are so grateful. We're thankful, too, for the earthly fathers that He has given us and pray for His blessings to be with them.

Positions recently re-appointed were: Sunday School - Bro. Mike Hohulin, Sisters Sally Gress and Faye Hohulin.

Trustees: Bros. Rodney Gress and Mike Hohulin. Usher - Bro. Bob Huber. Sound System - Bro. Mike Hohulin.

Silver Lining - Sis. Renee Mangold.

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

Each week we wonder if we will have visitors to add to our little congregation, and usually the Lord provides some. It is truly a blessing since our "full-timers" sometimes travel for a couple weeks at a time. It really is quite pleasant down here in the summer—we get a shower just about every afternoon, which cools things off. True, we live with the possibility of hurricanes, but the Midwest has tornadoes and floods.

Our visiting minister this month was Elder Bro. Mark Bahr from the Detroit congregation. We appreciate Bro. Mark

servicing in the Lord's service and Sis. Bev's support and encouragement!

We are thankful that Sis. Carolyn Seigle, Sis. Sue Hodel and Bro. Glen Hodel have all recovered from medical procedures. May God keep you in His tender loving care.

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### **FLORIDA, SARASOTA DiAnne Brown**

"For every kind of beasts, and of birds and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind; But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison."

*James 3:7-8*

On Saturday, June 21, our Sunday School sponsored a trip to SeaWorld/Orlando. Fellowship was enjoyed by all on the bus ride over and back and there were many interesting sights to be seen at the park. Everyone marveled at the amazing animals of the sea and what they had been trained to do. We were reminded of James' message of how man can tame the wildest beast, but the tongue he cannot tame.

The entire Sarasota congregation extends our deepest love and prayers to dear Sis. Lucille Gramm. To face the loss of her husband, Bro. Ed Gramm, and a broken hip is a big challenge. May God comfort her and speed healing as He wills. Only Christian love can cross the distance that divides us at this difficult time and we send her ours.

We said goodbye to our dear friend, Jackie Wettstein, who has been with our church for many months. She has taken a job in Iowa and moved the end of May. Her bright smile will be missed.

Medical patients this month include Sis. Marie (Bro. Art) Keller who is recovering from surgery. Sis. Edna Roscher fell and broke her hip. She had surgery and is recovering, although very slowly. Bro. Rich (Sis. Aldine) Martin also had a fall resulting in a broken hip earlier this month. We extend sincere wishes for God's merciful healing to all.

A visiting minister provides a special

blessing to our church. This month we send a message of gratitude for their willingness to be vessels of service to Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane, Silverton, OR), Bro. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH). While not a visitor, it was a special blessing to have retired Elder Bro. Ben (Sis. Lorene) Maibach give the message one Wednesday evening this month.

We would like to extend prayers for protection and restoration on behalf of the many brethren and friends suffering from the natural disasters of recent weeks. The flooding and fires and all the problems related to them would surely be overwhelming without the fellowship of believers to lift you all up. Please know you are in our prayers and hearts at this very difficult time.

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### **GEORGIA, ATLANTA Melinda Gramm**

We rejoice as two couples were united in marriage this past month. Sis. Staci and Bro. Brent Rocke were married in Rome, GA. Bro. Brent is the son of Bro. Dennis and Sis. Evabeth Rocke of Roanoke, IL. Sis. Staci is the daughter of Bro. Linn and Sis. Brenda Stoller. Bro. Joshua and Sis. Bethany Lindberg were married in Leo, IN. Bro. Joshua is the son of Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg, and Sis. Bethany is the daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Leanne Fischer of Leo, IN.

Our condolences go out to Bro. Larry and Sis. Melinda Gramm in the loss of Bro. Larry's father, Bro. Ed Gramm, of Eureka. Bro. Ed died while his wife and children were singing to him around his bed. As he took his last breath, he was cradled in the arms of his children who with tears streaming down their face cheered him on to the finish line. As his soul departed into eternity, his family was left with the promise of seeing him again in heaven. What more can a man ask for but to die like this with the hope of eternity? If Bro. Ed could speak to us today, I am certain he would urge us to focus our efforts on faith, family and friends because when you are in the last



lap of your race on Earth and are approaching your finish line, that is all that will matter.

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## ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Doreen Moser  
Sheila McCoy**

“And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom you will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

*Joshua 24:15*

“Two ways” was the theme of our Vacation Bible School this year. When the children were asked what we meant by two ways, they didn’t have to think very hard on the answer. We all know the way we should choose, but the Lord leaves the choice to us.

The right way was preached over our pulpit by visiting ministers. Bros. Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) and Bruce Endress (Bradford, IL) spoke clearly to our Bible class for Vacation Bible School. Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL) and their precious families spent recent Sundays with us. How blest we are for loving brothers who teach us the right way. Are we listening and living the right way?

Choosing the right way, Troy Steffen (Bro. Dean and Sis. Carol) has decided to start his journey to follow the Lord. It brings such “JOY” not only in heaven when a sinner repents, but here on earth when prayers are answered. We hope many more will choose to start on the heavenly path.

We are praying that our graduates choose the right roads as they head off to college or work. Heidi Moser (Gary and Sis. Doreen) and Nicole Braun (Karl and Mitzi) have graduated from high school. They have many choices to make being out on their own. With that freedom of

being away from home and loved ones, may they choose the Lord’s path as He alone knows what is laid out for them.

Herman Braun was a surgery patient this month. As he recovers, may we all keep him in our prayers.

As our nation celebrates our freedom, may we continually pray for our leaders and the people of America. We certainly have much to be thankful for and much to strive for as a nation. May we remember to cling to the right way and be a light so others are not deceived to choose the wrong way.

“...but as for me and my house we will serve the Lord.”

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## ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

**Betsy Zimmerman  
Alissa Kieser**

In the month of June there is a day set aside for us to remember and celebrate our earthly fathers. It is also a time for us to thank our Heavenly Father for His continual faithfulness, provision, and promise of eternal life with Him.

As our congregation continues to grow, the need for an additional family in the ministry became apparent. After much prayer, Bro. Brad and Sis. Karen Metz have agreed to take on this responsibility. We continue to pray for Bro. Brad and Sis. Karen and their children (Sis. Larissa, Allison, Hope, Hayley, and Megan) and thank them for their willingness to serve in this way.

We were blessed with a wonderful Vacation Bible School week. While the children participated in a special week of activities and lessons prepared for them, the adult congregation also heard wonderful messages on Jesus’ power and promises as we go through the storms of life. Visiting with us was Bro. Ron Bollier (Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Jeff Thames (Washington), Bro. Jedd Locke (Goodfield), and Bro. Randy Gudeman (Francesville, IN). Thank you for your efforts in serving our congregation.

Our congregation also rejoices as it

continues to grow. Bro. Andy and Sis. Jill Lehman brought home their adopted daughter, Hope Tizita, from Ethiopia. Hope was born December 17, 2007. She joins siblings, Tavor, Haley and Caleb. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Marcia Bauer (Bloomington) and Bro. Nate and Sis. Yvonne Lehman (Denver, CO).

We extend our sympathies to Bro. Dale Leman (Sis. Mary) in the death of his father, Bro. Sid Leman. Our thoughts and prayers are also with Bro. Ralph Knapp (Sis. Verena) in the passing of his sister, Alma Drayer of Naples, FL. Alma was also the sister-in-law of Sis. Mary Knapp.

We also celebrate with our college graduates: Rachel Anderson (Bro. Randy and Sis. Ann), Dustin Knapp (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Dixie), Andrew Maurer and Rachel Maurer (Bro. John and Sis. Emily), Bro. Will Nussbaum (Sis. Lexi), and Erin Stevig (Bro. Larry and Sis. Barb). May God bless you as you begin the next phase of your lives.

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## ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Philip and Donna Nenadov

“And ye have seen all that the Lord your God hath done unto all these nations because of you; for the Lord your God is He that hath fought for you.”

*Joshua 23:3*

If we think of these nations as daily battles in our day of age, we can see how our life compares to the day of the Israelites. Sometimes it seems when we are faced with battles that want to consume us with fear and turmoil, God reminds us that He is the one that fights the battles for us just as He did for His people. The recent flooding not too far away shows us that it is God who wins the battles for us. Through these difficult times, many brethren have lost their homes and possessions, but we see the example of faith and trust in them as it is evident that they still have the peace in knowing that God is in control.

We held our annual Sunday school



teacher election this past month. Teachers ending their terms this year were Bros. Matt Kieser (Sis. Tracy) and Joe Beer (Sis. Heather) and Sis. Mary Endress (Bro. Scott). Replacing them were Bro. Steve Endress (Sis. Betsy), Bro. Wendall (Sis. Linda), and Sis. Rosalie Wiegand. We wish each one of them God's richest blessings as they make the commitment to reinforce the biblical teachings our children receive at home.

Rena Baer (Sis. Janna) has received peace and is awaiting baptism. We rejoice with her and are thankful to see the joyful countenance shining from her face.

One Wednesday evening, Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) visited us and shared the Word of Life with us. We are thankful that we can depend on God to feed us each time we gather in His house.

As we draw closer to the time of the Conference, may our Elder brethren continue to feel God's nearness as they discuss many issues that affect our church. May we each do our part to lift these brothers up in prayer during this time of preparation.

God be with you 'til we meet again.

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### ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

#### Rachel Meyer

Greetings from Chicago. We extend our thanks to the ministers who visited this past month: Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), and Bros. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Erik Givens (Princeville, IL).

Our Sis. Mary Metzger (Bro. Virg), and Sis. Judy Eisenmann (Elder Bro. Dale) said farewell to their uncle, Bro. Sid Leman, from Forrest, IL. We extend our love and sympathy to these dear families.

Sincere wishes for a healthy recovery go to our friend, Neil Knapp, who underwent surgery. Bro. Dave and Sis. Julie Westfall's granddaughter, Caitleigh Rinkenberger, had successful lung surgery in St. Louis. She has returned home to Bluffton, IN, and we

praise God for His provision for this beloved family.

On June 1, we witnessed the wedding of two loved ones, Bro. Dan Plattner and Sis. Deanne Stahl. There were many visitors and much joy in our congregation. We extend our best wishes and prayers for a happy and blessed marriage. God is good.

June 8 brought afternoon rain outside for our Sunday School Picnic, but it did not dampen our spirits. We enjoyed food, fun, and fellowship, and thank God for our Sunday School children and teachers. Sis. Luanne Eisenmann has completed her teaching term and we thank her for being willing to share with the children these past six years. Bro. Dave and Sis. Julie Westfall's son, Brant, graduated from high school. We extend our congratulations and prayers as he makes future plans.

Our church welcomes a new couple, Bro. Mark and Sis. Laura Lindberg, from Atlanta, GA. We pray God's blessings on them as they adjust to their new surroundings. It is a joy to welcome these loved ones to our congregation.

June 9-13 was our Vacation Bible School Week. Our theme was "Our Journey of Faith on the Heavenbound Express." It takes our whole church family to make this week successful and we thank every individual for their support and help. Our committee who sacrificed much time and put hours of effort into the planning and logistics for this week was Bro. Sam and Sis. Sherri Nenadov, Bro. Doug and Sis. Krista Stoller, and Bro. Troy Blunier. Thank you and may God bless you.

Four visiting brothers shared with us during VBS and we thank them sincerely. It is a busy time of year and we appreciate their willingness to travel to Chicago. They are as follows:

Monday – Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), "The Airport – Our Journey Begins – It Started in the Garden of Eden."

Tuesday – Bro. Trent Meiss (Eureka, IL), "The Ticket – A Price Was Paid."

Wednesday – Bro. Daron Price (Milford, IN), "The Pilot – Our Trusted

Guide."

Thursday – Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago), "The Flight – Sharing the Experience – Saul on the Road to Damascus."

Friday – Bro. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), "The Destination - We Know Where We Are Heading – The Raising of Lazarus."

Suffice it to say the month has been very busy. Thankfully we were busy with the works of the Lord. Whether it be a uniting of two souls in marriage, a full week of VBS, a picnic, or any other plans, it is good to be about the Father's business.

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### ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

#### Jackie Eisenmann

Greetings from Champaign-Urbana! We want to congratulate three young ladies from our congregation who have reached milestones in their education. Laura Tucker (John and Mary) graduated from Centennial High School in Champaign and plans to attend U of I in the fall. Hannah Waibel (Bro. Brian and Sis. Wendy) graduated from Mahomet-Seymore High School and plans to attend ISU in Normal. Sis. Sydney Eisenmann (Bro. David and Sis. Jackie) graduated from Heartland Community College and plans to transfer to ISU this fall. We wish these young ladies God's blessings as they pursue further education.

Results from our annual business meeting are as follows: Bro. Neal Kellenberger will replace Bro. Chad Kupferschmid as Sunday School teacher, Sis. Donna Fehr will replace Sis. Sarah Fehr as Sunday School teacher, Bro. Tom Fehr will replace Bro. Dennis Mangers as trustee, Bro. Brent Sauder will replace Bro. Sam Furrer as usher, and Bro. Travis Blunier will be treasurer. We thank all of those who have completed their terms and ask God to bless them. We give our prayerful support to those that will take over the responsibilities and thank them for their willingness.

We were once again blessed by visit-



ing ministers this month and want to thank them for visiting us and their willingness to preach the Word to us. Bros. Alan Schambach (Remington, IN) and Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN) were with us on Sunday, May 25, and Bro. Gary Endress (Bradford, IL) was here on Sunday, June 1.

Wednesday, June 4, our congregation gathered before church to share a meal of pizza together. The meal and time of fellowship before our usual service was enjoyed by all.

“He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.”

*Luke 6:48*

Our annual VBS was held the week of June 9-12 and this year's theme was “Laying the Foundation”. The students were taught the importance of building a strong foundation on Jesus and some of the “building blocks” that should be used, such as faith, trust, and perseverance. We thank all of those involved in the planning, teaching, other work involved in making it a successful week. We pray that each child will build upon the foundation of Jesus Christ.

“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”

*I Corinthians 3:11*

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**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**  
**Vickie Maul**  
**Janie Waldbeser**

“How sweet the privilege of prayer,  
 when we our cares and sorrows  
 share, with Him who under-  
 stands.”

*Hymns of Zion #205*

We have had several loved ones pass away this month. Alma Dreyer of Mables, FL, was the sister of our Bro.

Wayne (Sis. Delores) Knapp and Bro. Charles (Jeanne) Knapp, and sister-in-law to Sis. Doris Knapp. Also Dale Feller has passed from this life into eternity. He leaves his wife, Kathy, of Cissna Park; two brothers, Don (Judy) Feller of Morton and Bro. Todd (Sis. Karen) Feller of LaCrosse, IN; five sisters, Sis. Elna Grimm of Goodfield, Sis. Geri (Bro. Al) Neukomm of Morton, Sis. Dona (Bro. Roy) Grimm of Taylor, MO, and Sis. Loretta Bauer and Sis. Joan (Bro. Fred) Waldbeser, both of our congregation. Also surviving is his step-mother, Sis. Edna Feller, of Fairbury, and sister-in-law, Sis. Mary Ann Feller of LaCrosse, IN. May God bless these families with peace and comfort as only He can.

Our hospital patients this month include Sis. Veronica Kaufmann and Sis. Mabel Farney. We pray God will strengthen with His healing hand according to His will.

We appreciate the labors of Bro. Dale Banwart (Congerville, IL) as he brought forth the Word of Life to us this month. We are thankful for faithful brothers who lend of themselves on our behalf.

We just finished our two weeks of Vacation Bible School. What a special time for the children to come together and learn more about Jesus. Dare to Be a Daniel was our theme song. May we all try to be more like Daniel and always stand up for what is right, no matter what comes our way. We were thankful to have visiting brothers join us on four of the evenings to visit with our Bible Class and Young Group about various topics in life. Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN) - “Predestination”; Bro. Gary Sinn (Latty, OH) - “Avoiding the Pitfalls of Life”; Bro. Paul Kilgus (Fairbury, IL) - “Prophecy and End Times”; and Bro. Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL) - “Wide is the Gate, Narrow is the Way”. We appreciate these brothers who lent of themselves on behalf of our young adults. May the lessons they heard linger in their hearts forever.

On June 18, we heard the testimony of our dear friend, Jo (Terry) Kaeb. We are thankful for her desire to serve God

and be a shining light and example in this dark world. We welcome her as our Sister in Faith. We thank Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) for assisting our Elder Bro. Tom Stock on this special evening.

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**ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**  
**Holly Zobrist**

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

*Psalms 118:24*

On Sunday, June 15, a new life began for Sis. Maranda Luthi and Bro. Caleb Knobloch as they were united as one in the Lord. Their parents are Bro. Troy and Sis. Vanessa Luthi, and Bro. Jim and Sis. Marcy Knobloch of Elgin, IA. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they begin their life together.

Also celebrating a new life on the same day were Bro. Brian and Sis. Holly Zobrist as their son, Denver Michael, was born. Big brother Troy welcomes him home. Also thankful for his safe arrival are grandparents, Bro. Scott and Sis. Jan Stickling and Bro. Clarence and Sis. LuAnn Zobrist.

“I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us”

*Romans 8:18*

Our Sis. Virginia Knapp has gone home to be with her Lord. We extend our sincere sympathies to her family.

We are thankful for the Brothers who labored on our behalf this past month. They include Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Becki, Lamar), Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend), Bro. Rex Frieden (Sis. Vera, Lamar), Bro. Floyd Frieden (Sis. Jan, Elgin, IA), Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend), Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Lisa, Eureka), and Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City). May God bless their efforts.

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**ILLINOIS, ELGIN**

**Amy Gasser  
Miriam Gasser**

We thank Bros. Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL), Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL), and Garth Steffen (Portland, OR) for serving us through their ministry. Bro. Jeff wasn't deterred by our loss of electricity on the afternoon of June 8 but read with the help of a flashlight. Many other visitors came that day to celebrate Bro. Dick and Sis. Judy Klopfenstein's 50th anniversary.

A time of joy was also mixed with sadness, because that Sunday was the last one in Elgin for Bro. Dan and Sis. Stephanie Cargill's family. They moved to Prescott, AZ. We will miss them and their children, Devon, Trevor, and Madison.

Bro. Garth Steffen was here the weekend of June 14-15 for the memorial service of his sister-in-law. Judy Steffen (Fred) died at home June 2, after a six-month battle with lung cancer. We extend our sympathy to Judy's relatives, especially Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn Steffen's family.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with those in flood-ravaged areas, especially our brethren in Iowa. We cannot fathom the pain and loss that have been experienced. While viewing areas around the swollen Fox River recently, we saw sunshine break through some stormy rain clouds. A section of rainbow appeared as a reminder of God's covenant with Noah, his seed, and every living creature to never again destroy the whole earth with a flood (Genesis 9:8-17).

Recent medical and surgical patients include Sis. Cora Schambach (Bro. Bill), Bro. Elvis Kellenberger (Sis. Marilyn), and Bro. Bill and Sis. Marge Wewetzer. Bro. Elvis is currently hospitalized with pneumonia, and Bro. Bill is recovering from open heart surgery. May renewed strength and healing be granted, according to God's will.

**ILLINOIS, EUREKA**

**Cindy Stoller  
Dee Baer**

There are three new converts in Eureka church. They are Colin Knapp (Bro. Steve and Sis. Lori), Arlen Edelman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Nadine) and Chad Blunier (Bro. Ted and Sis. Donna). We are thankful to see these young men choose to walk the narrow and true path to Heaven. May the Lord be very near them.

We witnessed the baptism of Bro. Ernie Wiegand (Dale and Sis. Freidora) and Sis. Brittany Gibbs (Dennis and Janet) on June 8. May they continue to find the Lord's grace as they walk each day in His service.

Our medical and hospital patients this month include Sis. Carolyn Hoerr (Bro. Mark), Sis. Lucille Gramm, Sis. Janet Stoller (Bro. Jim), Sis. Brenda Vierling (Bro. Kevin) and Sis. Helen Wiegand (Bro. Bob).

Bros. Glen Braker (Princeville, IL), Mark Wettstein (LaCrosse, IN) and Gene Metzger (Lester, IA) helped to minister the Word to us. We are thankful for each message God sends through them.

We were saddened by the deaths of two older soldiers of the cross. Our Bro. Ray Rocke lived over 100 years. We grieve with his foster daughter, Crystal Engels (Charles), and sisters-in-law, Sis. Pauline Rocke and Sis. Mabel Getz. Also, Bro. Edward Gramm has left us for his eternal Home. Surviving is his wife, Sis. Lucille, and five sons and two daughters.

Congratulations to Bro. Rick and Sis. Brenda Wuethrich's son, Travis, who was married to Mary Cluver (Joel and Karen, Latham, IL) on June 7.

*Note of Thanks:*

Words cannot express our sincere appreciation for the outpouring of love and support we have felt in the loss of our dear husband, father, son and brother, Ryan. We have been so blessed by the overwhelming expressions of sympathy through cards, gifts, phone calls, visits and especially prayers. May

God bless each and every one of you as only He can.

*Sis. Kandi, Hailey, Preston and Anderson Carr*

*Bro. Tim and Sis. Donna Carr*

*Sis. Brenda, Michael, and Bethany Carr*

*Bro. Jason and Sis. Jill Carr*

*Bro. Jake and Sis. Janell Fehr*

**ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY**

**Anna Schmidgall  
Elizabeth Fehr**

In a church family we experience joy and sorrow. We rejoice, along with the angels in heaven, that Laura Zehr (Bro. Nelson and Sis. Amy) has started repenting. We pray for God's guidance and nearness always.

On June 8, Bro. Kyle Steidinger (Bro. Randy and Sis. Dawn) and Sis. Alicia Schmidgall (Bro. Bill and Sis. Anna) were joined together in the Lord. We wish them rich blessings from our Heavenly Father.

We are thankful for visiting ministers who came and shared God's Word. May He continue to inspire Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA), and Bro. Kerwin Edelman (Athens, AL) who were with us this month.

Our Sunday School enjoyed a week of Vacation Bible School. It is encouraging to see the enthusiasm and desire of the children. Ministering Bros. Mark Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), Craig Martin (Princeville, IL), and Ed Sauder (Roanoke, IL) spoke to the Bible Class. We appreciate their words of instruction.

We sympathize with Bro. Harvey and Sis. Jan Schieler in the loss of her father, Gene Hines, who resided at Fairview Haven Nursing Home. We lift them up in prayer during this time of loss.

William Fehr spent time in the hospital and is now recuperating. We pray for healing according to God's will.

Many from our congregation have spent time in the ongoing flood relief effort along the Mississippi River. Our



hearts go out to the affected families and we lift them up in prayer.

## ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Jill Wenger**

**Lori Leman**

We wish to thank Bros. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL), Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL), Joe Dotterer (Bloomfield, IA), Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL), Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park, IL) and Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA) for visiting our congregation and preaching God's Word to us during this past month.

Our Vacation Bible School was held the first week of June. We were thankful for the words of wisdom that ministering brothers shared with our youth in Bible Class. They were Bros. Dan Koch (Tremont, IL), Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Joe Dotterer (Bloomfield, IA), and Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL). We pray that the good seed will fall on fertile soil and bring forth fruit in its season.

We rejoice with Bro. Matthew Schaffer (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Martha) and Sis. Kayla Kellenberger (Bro. Curt and Sis. Martha) as they were united in marriage on June 1 in Lamar, MO. Bro. Jeremy Leman (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Carol) and Sis. Shara Dotterer (Sis. Kathy and the late Bro. Wendell) also took this very sacred step in marriage on June 15. We are looking forward to these two young couples becoming an asset to our church family. Carlee McCulloh (Randy and Jill) became the bride of Andrew Gerber (Bro. Alan and Sis. Marcia). May the Lord bless all of these new homes.

Sis. Kathy Dotterer has spent time in Sunday School teaching the second grade children of the way of salvation. We thank her for her willing service and welcome Sis. Stephanie Zimmerman (Bro. Jeff) as she begins her term in Sunday School.

A precious baby boy named Quinn Erik came to bless the family of Bro. Erik and Sis. Michelle, Thane, Ethan, Lyndon and Eli Schaffer. Joyful grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Sally

Schaffer and Bro. Carlos and Sis. Marty Bahler (Gridley, IL). Caden Shawn made his appearance on June 16 into the loving arms of Bro. Shawn and Sis. Tami, Aaron, Abigail, Laurel and Jordan Aberle. His thankful grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Laverne Aberle and Bro. Gary and Sis. Jane Brown.

We were all deeply saddened by the passing of Jonathan Zimmerman (Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta) who battled brain cancer for the last 13 months. We were thankful for his expression of faith during this difficult time. His grieving loved ones include his parents, Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta, and siblings, Bro. Ben (Sis. Melissa), Stephen (Kaci), Bro. David and Joel; paternal grandparents, Bro. Perry and Sis. Dorothy Zimmerman; maternal stepgrandmother, Sis. Helen Huetter (Houston, TX); and 4 nieces and 2 nephews. We grieve with this beloved family and pray for God's comforting Spirit upon them.

We also extend our sympathy to Bro. Leland Kuntz (Sis. Marge) in death of his sister, Oneta Haab. May God be ever near.

Our prayers are with Sis. Irene Traub (the late Bro. Ben) and Sis. Lavonne Lanz (Bro. Elmer) who has spent time in the hospital. We pray they will feel God's nearness through this time.

### *Notes of Thanks:*

There are so many things on earth we simply can't explain -  
Why one of us is taken  
while the rest of us remain.  
But till the day we see the Lord  
and He makes all things clear.  
We must find comfort knowing  
that His love is ever near.

We would like to say thank you for the many deeds of kindness and love shown us through Sid's illness and death. May God bless you richly.

### *The Sid Leman Family*

We have been deeply touched and would like to thank everyone that prayed for us and Jonathan throughout his illness. Jonathan was grateful for

the many cards that were sent and the many different acts of love. We are thankful for all the love and concern that we felt during the past 13 months. Above all, we are thankful for God's love and mercy. May God bless each one.

*Paul and Loretta Zimmerman and family*

## ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Rita Bauman**

**Amber Grimm**

This month started out with Vacation Bible School. What an uplifting week to praise our great God! Visiting ministers for that week were Bro. Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor, MO), Bro. Wayne Leman (Sis. Julie, Roanoke IL), and Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI). Also with us on Sundays this month were Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN), Bro. Neal Widmer (Sis. Kristine, West Lafayette, IN), Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue, Francesville, IN), Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Bro. Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol, Gridley, IL), and Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City, MO). Many thanks to all of these brothers who labored for the Lord.

When pure and upright hearts,  
by flames of love ignited,  
are by the bond of faith  
more firmly yet united,  
the light of hope beams forth  
in radiance far and nigh,  
invites us to partake  
the blessings from on high.

*Zion's Harp #79*

We rejoice in the marriages of Bro. Clayton Monfre and Sis. Trisha Sauder, Bro. John Widmer and Sis. Brooke Monfre, and Bro. Curt Wettstein and Sis. Larissa Wiegand. Parents of these couples are Bro. Tony and Sis. Deonne Monfre, Bro. John and Sis. Peg Sauder, Bro. Neal and Sis. Kristine Widmer, Bro. Gary and Sis. Elna Wettstein, and Bro. Larry and Sis. Lori Wiegand.

Engaged to be married are Curt Musselman (Bro. Gary and Sis. Judy and Pat and Joe Ragar) and Hannah



Schmidgall (Mark and Kim). May God richly bless these couples.

My lifetime doth pass away;  
hourly to the grave I hasten,  
and I know each fleeting day  
my allotted span will lessen.  
Think, man, death comes soon or late.  
Tarry not, it will not wait!  
*Zion's Harp #253*

Praying that God will grant comfort to Sis. Elna Grimm in the passing of her brother, Dale Feller, and to Roger and Sherry Mullins in the passing of his mother, Aleene Mullins.

Our prayers are also with Bro. Dan Wiegand (Sis. Verla) and Bro. Joe Rinkenberger (Sis. Irene) as they were hospitalized this month. May God continue to grant healing and strength.

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

During the week of June 2, our annual Vacation Bible School was held, both for students and adults. The latter convened each evening to hear a visiting minister. The theme was "Stand Up For Jesus". The speakers were Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North), Bro. Randy Mogler (Washington, IL), Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria), and Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. (Morton). We are appreciative of these brothers' efforts and traveling to Gridley.

Bro. Ron Bollier was a visiting minister this month. In reading from the book of Deuteronomy, he referenced the verse found in Chapter 8, verse 10, which reads, "When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land which he hath given thee." Possibly, this can allude in some way to our practice of praying after we eat a meal.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Bro. Edward C. Gramm, 82, who moved from our congregation to be near the Eureka home and apartments. He was quite vigorous until contracting pancreatic cancer only a few months ago. One thing, among many, that will

be remembered about Bro. Ed was his God-given bass singing voice. It was uniquely strong and had a quality that added to any singing pursuit(s). And he loved to sing, having been the son of deceased song leader, Bro. Will Gramm, who diligently taught his five children to sing. Services were held on Wednesday, June 25, at Eureka — followed by burial in the Gridley cemetery. Following the committal service, a meal was served in the Gridley church's dining room.

Bro. Tom Miller remains in serious condition, as he battles cancer. Also, Sis. Winifred Schlipf, who is in the Eureka home, and Sis. Esther Kaupp are having health problems.

On Monday evening, June 23, many sisters and brothers — young and old — gathered at church for the annual "church housecleaning". It was a wonderful time of working together. And a nice selection of treats were served after all the work.

Dallas Neal and his daughter, Reese, of Fairbury are attending our congregation.

At our annual business meeting, new Sunday School teachers were chosen. Serving in this capacity will be Bros. Ryan Steidinger and John Baner, and Sisters Theresa Miller, Ginny Wulf and Sarah Wettstein. We wish them God's grace in these responsibilities.

May 8 was the birth date of Miles Daniel Wettstein, the son of Bro. Kyle and Sis. Kara (Gramm) Wettstein. His sibling is Benjamin, age 2. Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Darleta Gramm and Bro. Lyle and Sis. Linda Wettstein, all of Gridley. Great-grandparents are Sis. Delores Marti and Ron and Ann Daughtery, Gridley. A great-great grandparent is Sis. Ruth Gramm, of the Eureka Home.

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

The antidote for depression or despair is PRAISE! Can we think of just any small thing to praise God for even in

the midst of losing our possessions? Our fervent prayers are continually being offered up for our loved ones in the Midwest as they yield to the devastation of flood waters. Let God use each one of us to lighten their burdens.

We are so thankful for our visiting ministers: Bro. Scott Schaffer (South Bend, IN), Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Bro. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Bro. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN), Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL). Special thanks also to Bro. Todd Harris (Roanoke, IL) for speaking to us on "Funeral Customs and the Bible".

On May 25, Sis. Trisha Sauder was united in marriage to Bro. Clayton Monfre. Sis. Trisha is the daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Peg Sauder. Bro. Clayton is the son of Bro. Tony and Sis. Deonne Monfre of Goodfield.

Sis. Julie Neukomm and Bro. Chad Herman were joined together in Holy matrimony on June 1. Sis. Julie is the daughter of Bro. Jan and Sis. Glenda Neukomm. Bro. Chad is the son of Bro. Greg and Sis. Beth Herman of Peoria.

I'm sorry I missed reporting the births of three treasured grandbabies. Little Blair Allison was born to Aaron and Stacy Litersky. Roger and Connie Kahler are the grandparents. On April 14, baby Bennett Ashlyn entered the home of Bro. Adam, Sis. Amy and Tanner Spangler. Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Dawn Spangler. Bro. Roger and Sis. Margie Ackerman became grandparents to little baby Claire Irene. Parents and big sister are Andy, Sara and Emma Vlietstra.

Bro. Albert "Pete" Wiedman went to be with the Lord on May 29. Sis. Wilma Wiedman is his surviving wife, along with sons, Steve (Kay), Bill (Sis. Cindy), and Jay (Karen) Wiedman.

On June 5, Sis. Bernice Plattner (late Bro. Jake) passed away. Sis. Bernice is survived by a daughter, Karen (Mike) Heeb, and two sons, Jake (Jeanne) and Paul (Susan) Plattner. Sis. Bernice's family wishes to express their thanks to each one for their many



acts of service and kindness.

The week of June 9-13 Morton held their Adult Bible School along with the Children and Teen Bible School week. Our Theme was "Being Called to Stewardship; Blessed to be a Blessing". How very thankful we are for those ministering brothers who traveled to bless us with their topics on Stewardship. They are Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Francesville, IN), Bro. Tim Hohulin (Roanoke, IL), Bro. Jeff Thames (Washington, IL), Bro. Nathan Wieland (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Leo, IN).

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

We are happy to welcome Merle and Terri Endress and their children, Levi, Nicole, and Dylan, to our congregation.

We are thankful Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue, Francesville, IN) and Bro. Jon Zeller (Sis. Chris, Morton, IL) preached the Word from our pulpit this month. May God bless you and your family.

Congratulations to Bro. Luke and Sis. Angie Luginbuhl on the birth of their little boy, Elijah Robert, who was born April 29. Grandparents are Bro. Rob and Sis. Gina Luginbuhl from Roanoke and Bro. Steve and Sis. Deb Sutter from Taylor. We wish you God's blessings as you begin this new phase in your lives.

Congratulations to Bro. Chad and Sis. Julie (Neukomm) Herman who were married on June 1 in Morton, IL. Bro. Chad is the son of Bro. Greg and Sis. Beth Herman and Sis. Julie is the daughter of Bro. Jan and Sis. Glenda Neukomm, of Morton. We wish you God's blessings as you begin your lives together.

Congratulations to Sis. Ashley Hoerr, daughter of Tom and Becky Hoerr, who was announced for marriage to Bro. Logan Hangartner, son of Bro. Mark and Sis. Karen Hangartner. We rejoice with you and pray that God will be with you and bless you during this time of engagement and preparation for marriage.

We are happy to announce two new converts that have come in repentance this month: Rebekah Kummer (Bro. Chris and Sis. Patty) and Karl Weyeneth (Bro. Merle and Sis. Mary). We are so happy for you and pray for God's blessings as you begin your walk with the Lord.

We want to thank Bro. Dave Obergfel for telling us about the life of Joshua on May 21. Joshua had surrendered his life to God's service. Bro. Mike Rieker spoke at Family Night on June 4. His topic was "The Names of God". It was interesting to consider the variety of aspects in which God is present in our lives. Thank you, Brothers, for your efforts and preparation to bring us the message.

Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and their family are back in Peoria on furlough for the next two months. We are so happy to see them again. It is amazing to see how much the children have grown. Please continue to pray for our missionaries.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 16-20. The theme this year is "Friendship Trek/Jesus is our Forever Friend." John 15:13-14 is the theme verses; "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." Please lift up the brothers and sisters that will be teaching and the students that this can be a time of fun and learning more about Jesus.

The Bible Class wishes to thank everyone for their prayers and support for their mission trip to Magdalena, Mexico, on June 7-14. Sixty people went on the trip, making this the biggest group Magdalena has had yet. The theme verse for the trip was Matthew 5:16, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Projects for the week included working on the roof of the Fellowship hall, painting trusses, working on a decorative border, organizing Sis. Joan's kitchen, and adding a porch to one of the girl's houses. In addition to working, the

group also interacted with the students, and played lots of volleyball. One of the highlights of the trip was the fellowship at night in the church, singing, praying and sharing testimonies. While waiting for their return flight at the airport, the group started singing with their guitars and raised additional money for the orphanage in Magdalena.

Prayer requests this month include Sis. Maria Graham, Sis. Ruth Huthmann, Bro. Lou Lonteen, Bro. Robert Plattner, and Bro. David Sauder for recovered health.

Our sympathy is with Sis. Carolee Unsicker. Her brother, Loren Leman, from Eureka passed away. Our prayers are with you during this time. May the Lord bring you comfort. Dena H. Clatt passed away Friday, May 23, at the Apostolic Christian Skylines Home. Our sympathies are with her family.

"He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him. As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us."

*Psalms 103:10-12*

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**ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**  
**Linda Joos**  
**Connie Christ**

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

*Luke 15:10*

Our prayers are with two new converts, Ashley Herrmann (Bro. Doug and Sis. Angie) and Olivia Steffen (Bro. Matt and Sis. Deanna). May God be near them as they make this most important step in life.

We are grateful for Bro. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) sharing God's Word with us recently. We are always appreciative of his visits and willingness to serve us. Bro. John Bradle (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Rich Gramm (South Bend,



IN) spoke to the Bible Class during Vacation Bible School week. Thank you for taking time and giving of yourselves in behalf of our youth.

Harry King and Sis. Elsie Mueller are still enduring the afflictions of the flesh, and we pray for them that they can continue to regain strength.

Sis. Diane (Bro. Marvin) Knobloch lost her dear brother, Bro. Clifford Grimm (West Bend, IA). Our loss here is Bro. Clifford's eternal gain. May God comfort those he left behind. We are so thankful for the hope to meet again someday.

## ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Judy Sauder  
Dee Fehr**

Our Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 2-6. The ministering brothers and the topics they spoke on were: Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley) - "I Challenge You"; Bro. Matt Kaufmann (Bloomington) - "His Coming: God's Pursuit for Man"; Bro. John Baumgartner (Bluffton North) - "Who is the Great Physician?"; Bro. Rustin Meister (West Lafayette) - "Rags or Riches? It's Your Choice"; and Bro. Mark Gerber (Bluffton) - "wisdom@proverbs.God". We thank these brothers as well as Bro. Dave Oberghel (Peoria), who conducted Family Worship on May 28. Bro. Dave spoke on the characteristics of Joshua and what we can learn from this patriarch of the Old Testament.

Joshua experienced success because he listened and obeyed when God spoke. Even when it made no sense to believe, he trusted in God. We were reminded to grow in whatever assignment God has given us, and to never demand recognition.

The voice that breathed o'er Eden,  
that earliest wedding day,  
The primal marriage blessing,  
it hath not passed away.

The wedding of Bro. Joshua Lindberg and Sis. Bethany Fischer took

place in Leo, IN, on May 25. They are the children of Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg (Atlanta) and Bro. Paul and Sis. Leanne Fischer (Leo). Bro. Dan Plattner and Sis. Deanne Stahl were married on June 1 at Chicago. Their parents are Bro. Russ and Sis. Marge Plattner and Dean Stahl and Sis. Charlotte Stahl (Bradford). On June 8, Bro. Brent Rocke and Sis. Staci Stoller were united in marriage in Atlanta, GA. They are the son and daughter of Bro. Dennis and Sis. Eva Rocke and Bro. Lynn and Sis. Brenda Stoller (Atlanta). The wedding of Bro. Rich Zimmerman and Sis. Margaret (Sis) Heinold took place on June 7 in Lacrosse. Our prayer for these dear couples is as penned in the Hymns of Zion # 196:

O spread Thy pure wing o'er them;  
let no ill pow'r find place,  
While onward to Thy presence  
their hallowed path they trace.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Dorothy Schorman, who passed away on June 17. She is survived by one sister, Sis. Cynthia Aeschleman, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Bro. Rob and Sis. Gina Luginbuhl have a new grandson. Elijah Robert was born to Bro. Luke and Sis. Angie Luginbuhl (Peoria) on April 29. A grandson was also added to the family of Bro. Randy and Sis. Carol Feucht on May 20 when Javin Robert was born to Bro. Matt and Sis. Jennifer Feucht (Gridley).

Our thoughts and prayers are with dear ones in Iowa and Missouri as they attempt to fend off the ravages of floodwaters that threaten homes and farms. Many of our brethren have been privileged to be able to lend a hand in this endeavor and come to their aid in this time of need.

"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*

## ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell  
Janice Sauder**

We rejoice with first-time parents, Andy and Marie Williams, of Melrose, Massachusetts, at the birth of Hannah Marie on April 14. Bro. Elmon and Sis. Janice Koch will always enjoy their granddaughter's visits to Tremont! Bro. Greg and Sis. Mary Beutel also became parents for the first time with the arrival of Maxwell Dean on April 22. He is also welcomed by grandparents, Bro. Dean and Sis. Karen Beutel and Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Rassi, all of Tremont. May God continue to bless these two precious little babies.

Along with the joys of life come sorrows. We extend our sympathy to Heather (Jeff) Wagenbach at the death of her grandmother, Jane Gasser, and pray for God's comfort to be felt.

Our recent hospital patients have included Sis. Ida Schweigert, Sis. Vera Aberle and Sis. Betty Hild's daughter, Barb Maloney. May God ever be a comforting presence in their lives and grant healing as He knows best.

Blest be the tie that binds,  
our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds,  
Is like to that above... vs. 4  
When we asunder part...

*Hymns of Zion #156*

We sang a fond farewell to Bro. Doug and Sis. Trisha Rocke. After both of their recent college graduations, God is leading them to employment in Iowa. We will miss their presence in Tremont but wish them God's continued direction and blessing in their lives as they gather with the Elgin, Iowa, congregation.

*Note of Thanks:*

To the Brothers, Sisters, and Friends,

First I want to thank God for His mercy and care for me. I would not want to leave anyone out, so I want to thank all who said prayers, sent cards, and gifts to us as I went through my surgery.



Please accept this as my humble and heartfelt thanks to all of you. Most of all to our heavenly Father and Lord Jesus, our thanks, and to all the doctors and nurses who cared for me.

In Christian Love,

*Bro. Fred and Sis. Jeannette Beutel and family*

## ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Nancy Knepp**

**Elizabeth Heinold**

We are thankful for the visiting ministers we had this month. Bro. Wayne Leman (Sis. Julie, Roanoke, IL) gave a Bible Study on Spiritual Headship. Bro. Dan Koch (Sis. Julie, Tremont, IL) gave a Bible Study on the history of the Bible. Bro. Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington, IL) was with us when Bro. Randy Mogler was alone to share the Word. Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) was with us for Father's Day and reminded us that God is our Heavenly Father even though that can be hard to comprehend. We also thank our home ministers/Elder and their wives for their faithful service to us.

We were happy to hear the engagement of Bro. Logan Hangartner to Sis. Ashley Hoerr from Peoria. Parents of the couple are Bro. Mark and Sis. Karen Hangartner and Tom Hoerr and Becky Hoerr. Sis. Katelyn Fehr (Dave and Sis. Linda) and Bro. Mark Stoller (Bro. Gale and Sis. Sonia, Princeville, IL) announced their engagement to be married. We pray God's blessings on these engagements and their marriages.

Our prayers are with Bro. Ron Kellenberger (Sis. Carole) as he deals with health issues. Also, our Sis. Sue Ruppert regains strength after a hospital stay this month. Sis. Esther Banwart was a hospital patient. We are glad to have her back. Sis. Pauline Schick will be going soon for surgery. May the Great Physician be her Companion and all goes well. We pray for the Lord's peace and healing to these loved ones.

We had a wonderful Vacation Bible School this year with the topic "Hearts that are Pure". It's great to see the

teamwork as willing people come together to make the week go smoothly.

Bro. Jeff Thames' family had to say farewell to their father and grandfather, Philip Thames, who passed away June 21. May they feel the love and support of the congregation.

Correction: We reported that Bro. Jason Slagel graduated from college this spring. That was incorrect - Bro. Matt Slagel was the college graduate.

## INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Stefanie Kipfer**

**Jan Schwartz**

"If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed...nothing shall be impossible unto you."

*Matthew 17:20*

"A Mustard Seed of Faith" was the theme of our vacation Bible school that was held June 3 to June 13. With the help of 88 teachers and two directors, the seed of faith was planted into 393 hearts! Songs of faith were sung joyfully to bless us all at the program on Friday, June 13.

Taking that step of faith in the shed blood of our Lord Jesus are five souls added to the fold this past month. Sis. Amber Price (Bro. Steve and Sis. Tonia), Sis. Nicole Sipe (Kevin and Sis. Andrea), Sis. Audrey Reinhard (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jodi), Sis. Danielle Geisel (Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marcia), and Bro. Samuel Kaehr (Bro. Jon and Sis. Juli) all gave their testimonies of faith and were baptized on the weekend of June 7-8. We extend a special thank you to our Elder Bro. Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton North) for ministering to us during that blessed weekend.

Likewise, we rejoice with Rex Gentis as he has been attending our church for several months. He was converted many years ago, and he has a deep appreciation of our faith and fellowship and would like to seek membership with us.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Sis. Martha Gerber who

went to meet her Saviour on June 12. Missing her are her two sons, Bro. Arlen (Sis. Jeanne) and Bro. Neil (Sis. Karen); her two daughters, Sis. Diann Tonner (Bro. Gary) and Sis. Marcene Gilliom (Bro. Dave); and her sisters, Sis. Alice Steffen and Sis. Ada Gerber (Bro. Harry).

Also mourning the loss of their dear loved one is the family of Bro. Don G. Gerber. Our earnest prayers are with his wife, Sis. Justine; his son, Bro. Doug (Sis. Ruby); his daughters, Sis. Jean Neunschwander (Bro. Terry) and Kris Gerber; and his sister, Sis. Phyllis Dotterer (Bro. Paul).

The engagement of Bro. Matthew Brooks to Sis. Bekah Mounsey (Bluffton North) was announced to our congregation on June 8. Sis. Bekah's parents are Bro. Rod and Sis. Rosemary Mounsey (Bluffton North). Our sincere prayers are with this couple as this will be a time of transition for Sis. Bekah, Bro. Matthew and his eight children (Kaitlyn, Abram, Nathaniel, Joel, Joshua, Hannah, Rachel, and Elizabeth).

Also on June 8, Bro. Kurt Fiechter (Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth) announced his engagement to Sis. Staci Beer of our Mansfield congregation. Staci's parents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Robin (Mansfield, OH).

Bro. Kole and Sis. Amy Meyer became first-time parents on June 2. They were blessed with a little boy, Jackson Clay. The excited grandparents are Bro. Dee and Sis. Laura Neunschwander and Bro. Greg and Sis. Bev Meyer.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Sis. Pat Maller (Bro. Rod), who was in the hospital this month and faced major surgery. We pray she will have a quick recovery.

Sis. Caitleigh Rinkenberger (Bro. Linc and Sis. Catrina) faced lung surgery this month. Our heartfelt prayers were uttered in her behalf. We are thankful she is doing well and recovering at home.

Also recovering from surgery due to a fall is Sis. Freida Steffen. Our prayers are with Sis. Frieda as she begins rehabilitation and healing.



Likewise, hospitalized this month was Bro. Paul Dotterer (Sis. Phyllis). Bro. Steve Reinhard (Sis. Renee) also spent time in the hospital. Our prayers continue to be with both of them.

Prayers were also extended for Jean Detmon, daughter of Bro. Dick Clark. Jean is battling recurring cancer and would appreciate continued prayers from the brethren.

Furthermore, our heartfelt prayers were expressed for Leslie Aschliman (Tyson), of Bolingbrook, IL. Leslie is the granddaughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Ida Aschliman and the daughter of Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki Bucher (Washington, IL). Leslie is also battling recurring cancer and likewise appreciates continued prayers in her behalf.

And finally, Bro. Gary and Sis. Peggy Ifft, who are serving in Ethiopia, have made us aware of a growing famine in southern Ethiopia. There have been two crop failures, the current drought, and a recent 45% increase in food prices. Please join us in praying for the many starving adults and children suffering in Ethiopia.

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**INDIANA  
BLUFFTON NORTH  
Jessie Longenberger  
Sherry Pfister**

“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.”

*Ecclesiastes 12:13*

The summer season is here. The flowers are blooming. Birds are singing. School is out for the summer. On May 18, we had a special service for sixteen seniors that was graduating from high school this year. May God continue to guide and bless you through your lives.

We were privileged to have two visiting ministers this month to speak God's Word to our congregation. Bro. John Reinhard (Sis. Pam, Bluffton) stood before us on May 18, and Bro. Allen Stoller (Sis. Susan, Bluffton) on June 18. We

are thankful for your love and service to the Lord Jesus and our congregation.

On June 5, Ashton John was born to Bro. Shawn and Sis. Mindy Yergler. Ashton's older brothers are Colton and Braysen. Ashton's grandparents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Peg Yergler.

The engagement of Bro. Matthew Brooks (Bluffton) to Sis. Rebekah Mounsey (Bluffton) (Bro. Rod and Sis. Rosemary) was announced to our congregation on June 15. May they feel the Lord's blessings.

We are mourning with Bro. Lynn and Sis. Valerie Kipfer as their grandson, Malakai (Bro. Caleb and Sis. Laura Schafer, Austin, TX), met his Saviour. We take comfort in knowing that little Malakai is wrapped in the arms with our Lord Jesus.

We also are mourning with Bro. Neil Gerber (Sis. Karen) as his mother, Sis. Martha Gerber (Bluffton), passed away. We lift Bro. Neil and his family up in prayer as they go through this difficult time.

We remember Jean (Les) Detmon (Bro. Richard Clark's daughter) in prayer this month as she started chemotherapy on June 5, and will have treatments every week for twelve weeks. She would certainly appreciate our ongoing prayers during this time.

“If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed... nothing shall be impossible unto you.” Matthew 17:20

The theme for Vacation Bible School was “A Mustard Seed of Faith”. We are so blessed to have opportunity to “plant the seed of faith” for two weeks in 393 hearts from nursery to eighth grade. It has been amazing to see God use so many different talents for His glory. We pray that God will bless each child, and may He bless all of you for your love, talent, and support as ministers, superintendents, director, assistant director, teachers, helpers, and the kitchen help.

**INDIANA  
FRANCESVILLE  
Barbara Huber  
Jessica Murray**

Greetings of love from Francesville! As spring has turned into summer, we have experienced seriously tumultuous weather in many areas of our country. At Francesville, we had hail the size of tennis balls which resulted in much damage to homes and cars but, thankfully, no loss of life. Our brethren in Iowa and Missouri at this writing are trying to deal with massive flooding to their homes and farmlands. Several of our local brethren have gone out to help in whatever way they can. We as a congregation pray for those affected by these floods that they feel God's peace and presence as they attempt to rebuild after the devastation.

“But the Lord is my defence; and my God is the rock of my refuge.”

*Psalms 94:22*

Our beloved Sis. Evelyn Mae Pelsy went to be with the Lord on June 5. Sis. Evelyn had been ill for a long period of time but always had a loving smile on her face. Her husband, Bro. Vernon, and children, Bro. Allen, Dean, and Barbara (Jim) Little, lovingly remanded her to Jesus. Sis. Evelyn was grandmother to two grandsons and two granddaughters. We claim the promise of II Corinthians 5:1 which says: “For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

We are rejoicing with the news that Alisha Gutwein, daughter of Bro. Jan and Sis. Valerie (Metz), has begun her repentance. Their family is serving as missionaries in Haiti and thankful grandparents, Bro. Harold and Sis. Maxine, were visiting Haiti when Alisha answered the call of God to her heart. We pray God grants abundant grace to her and her family as she grows in the Lord. How refreshed and revitalized we all are as we witness generational blessings such as this. “But the mercy of the



Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children." What a wonderful promise from Psalms 103:17.

We have several of our church family experiencing illness and recuperation at this time. Their times of trial cause us all to remember that our time on earth is totally in God's hands and helps us realize that only what is done for Jesus Christ will last. May we always remember them in prayer as Jesus has taught us.

We are prayerfully looking forward to our annual Vacation Bible School which begins June 23. We are thankful for the ministering brethren who are willing to come and share with us during this special week.

Bro. Lon and Sis. Sarah Vogt and daughter Aesha gave us a presentation of their missionary work in India. It was a most informative and inspirational evening as we learned more about the culture into which they are endeavoring to carry the saving message of our Lord and Savior. They will return to India, Lord willing, on July 19. As always, our love and prayerful support goes with them.

Thursday, June 19, was the day God chose to call our beloved Sis. Frances Lemman home to His realm. Sis. Frances taught our Sunday School children for 42 years and continued to be a mentor and teacher throughout the remainder of her life. Her example will live on in the lives of her large family to whom she was a sister and aunt. She was a sister of Bro. Sidney (Sis. Fern) Lemman of our congregation and is survived by another brother, Edward, and his wife, Margaret, as well as two sisters, Elsie Eilers and Edith Traub, and numerous nieces and nephews. The choir sang "Jesus Loves Me" at the funeral and it was so especially fitting as we think of the many children who have learned that precious song from her over the years she faithfully taught them the love of Jesus.

In reflection of the floods, storms and earthquakes in various places

which have been occurring, may we pause and pray to our Heavenly Father for not only His protection over us, but for the grace and trust to endure whatever we may experience in our lifetimes.

#### CONFIDENCE

I place myself in Jesus' hands  
and there abide forever;  
No griefs, no joys, shall loose the  
bands,  
Nor yet our union sever!  
In these dread days  
when earth decays,  
Who stays in Him and thus obeys  
shall be preserved forever.  
*Zion's Harp #177, vs. 1*

#### INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS Sandy Lichtle Penny Schroder

On June 1, Sis. Heather Furrer (Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorene, West Lafayette, IN) and Bro. Chad Hoerr (Bro. Doug and Sis. Peg, Washington, IL) of West Lafayette, IN, were united in marriage in West Lafayette, IN. We pray for God's blessings upon their new life together as one in the Lord.

Bro. Scott and Sis. Kate Levy have been blessed with a son, Abe Steven, born on June 6. Welcoming him home are his brother, Cohen, and his grandparents, Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Levy and Bro. Steve and Sis. Donna Ringger (Gridley, IL).

Our Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 9-13. The theme this year was "The Seven C's of History" which are Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross, and Consummation. We enjoyed a blessed week learning about God's love for us and His gift of salvation through His Son Jesus.

We appreciate the servant hearts of the visiting ministers this month, which included Bro. Tom Bolliger (Sis. Jane, Tremont, IL) and Bro. Bob Beebe (Sis. Sue, South Bend, IN).

#### INDIANA, LACROSSE Bethany Johnson Julie Rocke

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

*Proverbs 22:6*

Bro. John and Sis. Melinda Sawyer have their first little one to "train up" in the ways of the Lord. Sweet little Jodie Marie was born on May 23. The happy grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Sandy Heinold of our LaCrosse congregation and John Sr. and Thelma Sawyer of Kouts, IN.

Even as the Lord gives new life, He also takes away those who have finished their duties here on earth. Sis. Lucille Nuest was called home on May 28 after serving Him faithfully for many years. We will surely miss her love and dedication that she showed to us, but we are happy that she is no longer suffering. May God be with her family during this time of mourning.

We enjoyed a week of Vacation Bible School this month followed by our annual Sunday School Picnic. Our topics this year were: Monday - Choosing an Occupation that doesn't Conflict with Godliness; Wednesday - Godly Marriages in Faith; and Friday - Recognizing and using the Spiritual Gifts that God has given us. The visiting ministers were: Bro. Art Mueller (Sis. Marlene, Belvidere, IL), Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago, IL), and Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH). It was a very blessed week and we would like to thank all of the ministers, Sunday school teachers and students for the time and effort that they put into making it all possible.

Several of our Sunday school students graduated from High School this month. They are Hillary Nuest (Bro. Don and Sis. Deb), Ashley Elcock (Sis. Ruth Elcock and Keith Elcock) and Reid Schneider (Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jeannie). We wish them God's blessings as they travel to the next phase in their life.



Also entering a new phase in life is Bro. Richard Zimmerman (Roanoke, IL) and Sis. Sis Heinold as they became one in the Lord on June 7. They will be making the LaCrosse church their home church. We are glad to have Bro. Richard joining our congregation and pray that God will be with them in their marriage.

Bro. Gene Nuest (Sis. Norma) has spent some more time in the hospital and we continue to keep him in our prayers for God's healing hand to touch him.

Linda Harmon from our Toledo, OH, congregation and Trent Gasser from Junction, OH, are making our church their home church this summer as they are here for internships. We enjoy having new faces around! Also, Josh Troxel is home from college for the summer and it is nice to have him with us again.

We would like to thank our visiting ministers this month for sharing God's Word with us. Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb, Remington, IN), Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH), and Bro. Earl Beery (Sis. Suzanne, Rittman, OH) all labored on our behalf.

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**INDIANA, LEO**  
**Elizabeth Schrenk**  
**Abigail Schrenk**

"Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground; for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you."

*Hosea 10:12*

Sowing seeds of kindness and mercy is what many of our brethren have done over this past month assisting people in Iowa and Missouri in their crisis with flood waters. May God supply bounteous strength and grace to those in need during this time.

Our church family witnessed the wedding vows of Bro. Josh Lindberg and Sis. Bethany Fischer on May 25. Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy) and Bro. Wayne Leman (Sis. Julie), both of

Roanoke, IL, were with us for the day. We do appreciate the encouraging words these brothers brought to us.

We voted in new Sunday school teachers this month. Joining our ever growing Sunday school is Sis. Amy Gerst, Sis. Christy Wiegand, Bro. Steve Beer, Bro. Jon Gerst, and Bro. Dave Kieser. We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to these brothers and sisters for faithfully teaching our children the truths of scripture.

Our church family enjoyed a week of Vacation Bible School from June 16-20. The children shared with us the things they learned in word and song with a program on June 20. Many thanks to all our teachers and helpers who made this a successful week.

Bro. Kirk and Sis. Keri Plattner visited with us again this month. They made a quick trip on to the US to take care of paper work with the Jamaican Consulate. We are thankful to God for His steadfast care over the details of the Plattner's ministry with CCCD. As they return to Jamaica, we pray God's continued hand of protection and guidance on their lives.

Visiting with us this month was Bro. Jim Ramseyer (Sis. Marlene, Bay City, MI). He shared with us timeless truths of scripture which he has taken to heart over these many years of learning from God's Word. Thank you, Bro. Jim, for sharing from your heart and teaching us.

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**INDIANA, MILFORD**  
**Carol Hurd**  
**Pam Beer**

The week of June 9 was a blessing for all as we had our Vacation Bible School. Our Milford congregation and our neighboring South Bend congregation share the week together at our Milford church. The topic for the week was "Just A Closer Walk With Thee" and we appreciate our ministers who traveled to share with us. Monday night was Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI) who spoke on "Seek Ye First"; Tuesday night Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN) spoke on

"Identifying Deception in Today's World"; Thursday night Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) spoke on "Delight Thyself in the Lord" and Friday night Bro. Lucas Frank (Detroit, MI) spoke on "Benefits of Overcoming". We also want to say a big thank you to the singing groups who came and blessed us with their singing talent.

Our recent graduates are: Blessing Longcor (Bro. Bill and Sis. Judy) graduated from Wawasee High School. Ben Schlipf (Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy) and Sis. Jodi Beer (Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat) both graduated from Purdue University. We wish all three of them wisdom and God's guiding as they start new phases in their life.

Also experiencing a change in his life is Bro. Regg Beer (Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat) as he has decided to move to Ixtlan, Mexico. Although we will miss his smile and sweet spirit, we know Ixtlan will benefit from having him there. We hope he feels the love and prayers of the Milford congregation as he lives in Mexico.

Congratulations go to Bro. Don and Sis. Ruth Beer as they have celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. What a Godly example of love and commitment to all of us.

Our prayers have been with Bro. Walt Steffen (Sis. Dorothy) and Sis. Shelby Beer (Bro. Nelson) as they have both been experiencing health concerns. "When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour..." (Isaiah 43:2-3)

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**INDIANA, REMINGTON**  
**Jenni Honegger**  
**Marcella Tyler**

Once again this month we have much to be thankful and prayerful for. Sis. Kristen Schneider (Bro. Brian) had foot surgery which required her to be off of her feet for a few days. We are thank-



ful God has given her His healing power and she is again able to worship with us.

Troy, Corey and Abby Honegger welcomed their baby sister, Laura Leigh, to the family on May 19. Laura's parents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Jenni Honegger and her grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Joyce Honegger (Forrest, IL) and Kirk and Jeanne Johnson (Moro, IL). We are thankful for her safe arrival and pray that as our families grow we can raise up our children to have a desire to serve our Lord.

Sis. Tanya Wulf (Bro. Arnie and Sis. Myra, Lester, IA) gave her testimony to the church and was baptized on June 1 in her home congregation of Lester. Several of our Remington congregation traveled to witness this wonderful event. We are happy to welcome Sis. Tanya back as a sister in faith as she continues her education at Purdue.

We have been richly blessed with several visiting ministers this month. We always appreciate the presence on the pulpit of Bro. Ken Weerts (Sis. Myrna, Cissna Park, IL) when he visits his family here, and this month was no exception. For our Topical Bible Study, we were inspired by Bro. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL) to be more diligent in our hospitality, welcoming newcomers to church and inviting more people into our homes without feeling like everything needs to be perfectly clean and ready for them.

We also enjoyed the efforts of several ministering brothers during our week of Vacation Bible School. The theme this year was "A More Excellent Way" and we were challenged along with the Bible Class about our decisions in life and who we will choose to serve. "Choose you this day whom ye will serve; but, as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15) Many thanks to Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN), Bro. Matthew Kaufmann (Sis. Rebekah, Bloomington-Normal, IL), Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL), Bro. Trent Schrock (Sis. Heidi, Leo, IN), and Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL) for giving of their time to instruct and edify

us. Bro. Darren and Sis. Sue extended their visit to Remington to include the weekend, and we were grateful to receive his efforts to bring us the Word on Sunday as well.

Finally we want to remember to be prayerful for all those who have lost their homes and possessions in the recent flooding in Iowa, Missouri, and Illinois, as well as our home state of Indiana. May God comfort each one as only He can, and may each one find the grace to trust His will even in the midst of great trials.

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### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND Natalie Virkler Becky Langhofer

The Sunday school is our delight.  
We love it more and more;  
'Tis there we learn to do the right  
and live forever more.

*Hymns of Zion #73*

Our Sunday school children truly are our "delight", but how much more the delight of their Heavenly Father who has created them for His glory. It was our privilege to share Vacation Bible School with Milford again this year. It was a blessing to young and old alike, but it seems an even more joy for our young children. Thank you to the ministers who sacrificed their time to come and teach us.

As we honored our earthly fathers this month, we are reminded how much more our Heavenly Father is deserving of our honor and praise. Our thanks to Bro. Wayne Leman (Roanoke, IL) for ministering to us on Father's Day.

Our prayers ascend heavenward for Bro. Richard and Sis. Samantha Gramm as his Father has been battling cancer. As we lose many battles on this earth, Bro. Ed has lost the last; but he has won the ultimate battle of eternal life. He truly was an inspiration to all of us and many lives were touched by his example.

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### INDIANA VALPARAISO Marguerite Hoerr

Sis. Leona Bucher has made a successful recovery from her hip surgery and is back worshipping with us once again. We felt her absence keenly and welcome her back with open arms.

Bro. Garry and Sis. Lois Bucher spent three days in Oakville, IA, helping her sister and husband as they had to evacuate their home and land due to the extreme flooding in that area. Our hearts are with many of our dear friends, brothers and sisters, who have been tested to the utmost; having to vacate their homes, their farm animals and the land which they diligently took care of.

We realize thousands of people have gone to the flooded areas to help with sandbags, in order to fortify the levees. For those who had the strength and the stamina to assist in these troubled areas, we give God thanks.

I have long observed that farmers have their own kind of faith. Most of them are accepting of things God sends their way. We were reminded of this once again as a brother-in-faith was quoted on Fox news. He was concerned about more flooding as the water began lapping against a sandbag wall. To quote: "The Bible says the prayer of one man God will hear. I ask for the strength of God to fight this flood and I ask for the grace to accept whatever happens."

Back in Indiana we have family visiting us from Ohio over the weekend, and we're rejoicing in their visit. Our son-in-law, after two broken bones and two surgeries in the past month, is looking forward to going back to his home tomorrow. We find ourselves thanking God for so many blessings.

Don't forget if you're traveling that a warm welcome awaits you at our Valpo church. We're on State Road 49 South, just 2 3/4 miles South of U.S. 30. Our services are 10:30 and 12:30 each Sunday.

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## INDIANA WEST LAFAYETTE

**Darlene Walder  
Hollie Meister**

Summer is here and we enjoy the warm days of June, July, and August, when the flowers can be blooming, the trees can be a lush green, and the grass can be a velvet carpet. In places where weather conditions have made the landscape a devastation, we pray for recovery and God's nearness to all of you in your struggle to regain your homes and places to live.

We rejoice with Bro. Chad Hoerr and Sis. Heather Furrer when they became one in Christ on June 1 at our small W. Lafayette church. Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorene Furrer (W. Lafayette) and Bro. Doug and Sis. Peg Hoerr (Washington, IL) are their parents. They will be making their home in Indianapolis. Elder Bros. Steve Gutwein and Curt Frank were with us to officiate the ceremony and we appreciate their labors of service on the pulpit.

We are also thankful for Bro. John Widmer and Sis. Brooke Monfre. They were married on June 15 in Goodfield and will be at home at W. Lafayette. Their parents are Bro. Tony and Sis. Deonne Monfre (Goodfield) and Bro. Neal and Sis. Kris Widmer (W. Lafayette). We wish the Lord's blessings on both these unions.

June 9-12 was our week of Vacation Bible School. It was attended by all our children, some visitors and our young adults. We appreciate the enthusiasm by all the teachers and volunteers. "Serving Family, Friends, Neighbors, and Jesus" in "God's Big Backyard" was our theme this year and we learned that "Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these." (Mark 12:29-31)

What a surprise when we got to church on Sunday morning, June 8, and heard that baby Anna Marie Ginzel had been born. She was 7 weeks premature but doing well. Thankful and very excited first time parents are Bro. Matt and Sis. Christine. Grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Ardean Stoller (Gridley) and Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Ginzel (Peoria).

Our prayers and concerns have been with our convert Bob Meister as he has been struggling with health issues for quite some time. We rejoice with him and his family as he was baptized into the family of Christ at a private baptism at Bro. Dick and Sis. Sharon Meister's home on June 11. Our prayers continue to be with him, our new brother in the Lord.

We have enjoyed the friendship of Bo, a foreign exchange student that has lived with Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorene Furrer for the past year and has attended church and church activities with us. He has been a very neat young man to get to know and we will miss him very much. We wish him Godspeed on his return home and his next endeavors. He will be leaving us the end of June.

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## INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Lynell Blume  
Erica Blume**

We were shocked and saddened by the news that Bro. Mike and Sis. Jody Bahler's house was destroyed by fire on Memorial Day weekend. Many prayers have been offered on their behalf. Our hearts of love and concern go out to them and their five girls in dealing with this tragedy. They were not home at the time the fire broke out, so we are thankful for their safety, even though most of their belongings were lost. One of our ministering brothers, after visiting with Bro. Mike by phone, commented that even though fire destroyed the house, their "home" remains intact. May the Lord grant them an extra measure of grace and strength and may they feel His presence and direction as they press forward.

We were encouraged to practice hospitality in a topical presentation given by Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) on May 28. Often, we do not realize the opportunity that we have to share God's love when we open our homes to those outside our faith. We sincerely appreciate his willingness to allow the Spirit to use him for our strength.

Prayers of healing and recovery have been uttered for Bro. Vernon Schwab (Sis. Arlene) as he submitted to open heart surgery this month. We are thankful he is at home now, and according to God's timetable, can soon assemble with us.

Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 9-13 with Remington hosting. Many thanks to all those who had a part in making it a blessed week, especially ministering Bros. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi; South Bend, IN), Matthew Kaufmann (Sis. Rebekah; Bloomington-Normal, IL), Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia; Washington, IL), Trent Schrock (Sis. Heidi; Leo, IN), and Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue; Champaign, IL).

There is further cause for rejoicing in our congregation as Randy Lehman (Bro. John and Sis. Ruth Ann) has made the decision to repent and follow Jesus. We pray for God's abundant grace and His peace that Randy can build on that firm foundation.

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## IOWA, BLOOMFIELD

**Christy Wiegand**

We appreciated the labors of visiting ministering Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction) as they were with us Memorial Day weekend. May the Lord bless them for their efforts.

We were thankful to hear the engagement announcement of two souls experiencing God's direction to become one in the Lord. Sis. Barbara Schock and Bro. Dan Rokey are planning a July 13 wedding. We pray for the Lord's guidance as they prepare for their life together. Parents of the couple are Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara Schock and Bro. Ken and Sis. Phyllis Rokey (Goodfield, IL).



We extend a warm welcome to Jacki Wettstein as she has found employment locally and has moved back to Bloomfield.

Come now, ye great, before Jehovah,  
Bring honor to His Majesty!  
His mighty voice is heard with thunder;

Sink down into the dust and pray!  
The mighty God shows forth His power,  
the thunders roll in clouds on high;  
His lightning flashes on the waters,  
and sudden torrents from the sky.

*Zion's Harp #67*

Many from our congregation have been helping out in a time of need as the Midwest has been experiencing "God's power revealed in the clouds". We are thankful God has blessed us with the resources and health to send laborers to help with tornado clean up and flood prevention efforts.

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**IOWA, BURLINGTON**  
**Karla Gerst**  
**Dixie Messner**

Noah's ark long drifted  
On the surging flood,  
But with eyes up lifted,  
Trusted he in God.  
When throughout life's journey  
Raging storms I see,  
This shall be my comfort:  
God is still with me.

*(Zion's Harp #148)*

These words were most comforting to us as we gathered for midweek services after all the sandbagging had ended. Some of those gathering with us had homes filled with water, some only had water in their basements and some were only evacuated and their homes were still safe. Many of us had worked long days helping with the flood efforts and still others who could not physically help were praying. As I am writing this, only one levee has broken and caused major flooding of thousands of acres and numerous homes. As devastating as it

is, we are thankful it is not any worse and everyone is safe.

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to all the brothers, sisters and friends that came to help from all of our churches across the land. We had representatives from at least 20 different congregations from as far away as Rockville. It touched our hearts to see how God's people come together to help each other in a time of need. I worked closely with the Red Cross through this and they were so appreciative of all that was done by our church. We know this is God's love coming forth.

Sis. Tami Banwart, Bros. Dick Taeger and Lee Esslinger will be our new Sunday school teachers for the upcoming year. We want to thank those that have labored willingly to fulfill their terms.

We want to thank Bros. John Steiner and Dale Frank (Oakville) for sharing God's Word with us this month.

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**IOWA, ELGIN**  
**Gloria Frieden**

"And there shall be showers of blessings"

*Ezekiel 34:26*

Here in the Midwest we have experienced recent showers that may not come under the title of "blessings" due to all the flood damage that has occurred. But we have been showered with blessings of another nature. Bro. Brent and Sis. Brianna Strahm and their family, Kathryn, Karolyn, Isaac and Naomi, have recently moved to Elgin from the Portland, OR, area. We are thankful to have them here and trust that God will continue to bless them.

Many of us were able to attend the wedding of Bro. Caleb Knobloch (Bro. Jim and Sis. Marcy) and Sis. Maranda Luthi (Bro. Troy and Sis. Vanessa) in Congerville on June 15. This couple is another added blessing to our small flock here in Elgin.

**IOWA, GARDEN GROVE**  
**Willa Clark**

This summer we rejoice with Sis. Alecia Moser, who has dedicated her heart and life to the Lord, found peace with God and was baptized. Sis. Alecia also graduated from high school, and plans to attend Iowa State University in Ames in the fall. We are thankful she is taking the commitment of a Christ-centered life to school with her. She is the daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Dawn Moser.

Marriage is a promise made before the Lord,  
with faith as its foundation and love as its reward.

Marriage is the joining of two lives into one,  
a symbol of commitment, a family begun.

—author unknown

A reception was held in Garden Grove for Britany (Moser) and Kris Braun, who were married in Denver, CO, and are making their home there. Britany is the daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Dawn Moser of our congregation.

The engagement of Sis. Barbara Schock and Bro. Dan Rokey (Bloomfield) was announced. Sis. Barbara has been living and working in the Garden Grove area. We will miss her fellowship.

We pray both couples will feel God's love in their home and in their commitment to Him and to each other.

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**IOWA, IOWA CITY**  
**Diana Butikofer**

We elected our new Sunday School teachers for next year. Sis. Becky Snodgrass (Bro. Wayne), Sis. Rachel Snodgrass and Bro. Tim Gerst (Sis. Melisa) will replace Sis. Amy Gerst, Sis. Joyce Eland (Bro. Brad) and Bro. Ben Weyrick (Sis. Wendy). We thank each of these teachers for their willingness to serve our children and pray God will direct and bless them in the coming year.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Joe and Sis. Connie Gerst and their



children following the death of Sis. Connie's father, Bro. Fahey Gress (Sis. Marie, West Bend, IA).

Our part of Iowa has experienced unprecedented flooding in the last couple weeks. Large sections of Cedar Rapids and Iowa City were flooded, with many homes, fields, businesses and infrastructure damaged or completely destroyed. We are grateful that none of our congregation had significant loss of property but some of our relatives and many neighbors throughout the Midwest have. Please keep these thousands of affected people in your prayers as they assess the damage and try to recover and make decisions for the future.

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

"Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers."

*Proverbs 17:6*

June 16, a precious pink bundle, Kaitlyn Rose, was born to Chad and Sandi TerWee. Chase, Emily and Hannah are excited to have a new sister to love. Bro. George Meyer and Jerry and Mary TerWee are her grandparents. May God bless these parents as they raise their family.

"Follow me, the Saviour calleth; Come to me I am the way!" (Zion's Harp #95) We always rejoice when a soul can heed the call of God. May 31-June 1 we witnessed the proving and baptism of Tanya Wulf (Bro. Arnie and Sis. Myra). Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA) was here to assist Elder Bro. Dennis Warner. May God be her constant guide in this new walk of life.

We certainly appreciate our visiting ministers, Bro. Nate Wieland (Goodfield, IL), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Randy Mogler (Washington, IL), Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) and Bro. Larry Bahr (Fort Scott, KS). They joined us throughout the month and we pray God

will continue to bless them as they speak the Word.

Sis. Zelma Knoblock spent a short time in the hospital. We're always thankful when our aging brothers and sisters can assemble with us. May we continue to pray for all those in affliction.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Bro. Gene and Sis. Shirley Nester and their family in the loss of her sister-in-law, Rose Butikofer (Elgin, IA). May God comfort them in their time of sorrow.

Our thoughts and prayers are certainly with those who have experienced severe flood damage in the Oakville, IA, area. Homes and livelihoods have been lost, and the devastation is huge. There are so many, from all over, who went to help with sandbagging and in other ways, in both the Oakville and Taylor, MO, areas. We pray they will feel a blessing for their efforts and we will continue to pray for all those who were affected.

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

We are thankful for visiting ministers, Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Brad Funk (Garden Grove, IA), who came on May 18.

It is such a blessing when a new Christian home is formed. June 8 was the wedding day of Sis. Krystal Knapp (Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna) and Bro. Jacob Knobloch (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jeri) of Lamont-Gridley, KS. Helping with the services were Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Bro. Phil Schulz (Burlington, IA).

We have not been able to use our church building for services since June 11 because of severe flooding in our area. The devastation of farmland and homes is hard to comprehend. Thanks to all of you who have come to fill sandbags and helped out in many other ways. There is a lot of work ahead of us with clean-up once the water goes down. We appreciate your prayers and support in this difficult time.

"He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock."

*Luke 6:48*

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

Bro. Larry and Sis. Teresa Bruellman have moved their residence to Naples, FL, making North Fort Myers their home church. They and their family will be missed, although we hope to see them back in West Bend often. May they feel God's love and nearness as they establish themselves in the South.

We were thankful Elder Bro. Ben Walder (Sis. Juanita, Congerville, IL) could be with us to witness the baptism of our dear friend, Wes Banwart (Bro. Ken and Sis. Marlene), on June 1. What a blessed weekend to again hear the testimony of a lost soul finding the "wonderful grace of Jesus". May Bro. Wes continue to feel this grace and peace wherever he goes in life.

Our congregation has felt the loss of two faithful brothers during the past month, Bro. Clifford Grimm and Bro. Fahey Gress. On May 24, Bro. Fahey passed away at the age of 98 years, after quietly and patiently spending many years in the West Bend Care Center. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Marie, who still resides at the Care Center, and five children and the families: Ray (Sandy) of Ames, IA; Bro. Rodney (Sis. Sally) of Fort Lauderdale, FL; Bro. Cloyce (Sis. Carol) from our congregation; Robert (Sue) of Emmetsburg, IA; and Sis. Connie (Bro. Joe) Gerst of Iowa City, IA.

Bro. Clifford Grimm slipped from this life on June 7. Left to mourn are his wife, Sis. Rosene, and his family. This family includes four children and their families: Elder Bro. Wayne (Sis. Rose) Grimm; Sis. Wanda Grimm of Peoria, IL; Karen (Ken) Schirm of Stuart, IA; and Keith (Beth) Grimm of Algona, IA.



Also surviving are five brothers, Arlo, Delano, Edward, Dean and Eli, Jr.; and six sisters, Sis. Edith Kellenberger, Sis. Eleanor Steffan, Sis. Loraine Martin, Sis. Carole Fehr, Sis. Lavonne Kieser and Sis. Dianne Knobloch. Bro. Clifford served our West Bend church in the ministry for 26 years. He spent a lot of time reading and studying the Holy Bible and, by using what he learned, was a blessing to our entire congregation. We pray God will comfort and provide for both Sis. Rosene and Sis. Marie and their families in the days ahead.

Bro. Joe Gerst (Sis. Connie, Iowa City, IA), Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR), Bro. Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL) and Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Becky, Lamar, MO) spent time in our area and shared God's Word with us. We thank each of them.

A new baby girl, Sienna Rose, has joined the family of Keith, Heidi, Justice and Ian Fehr on June 11. Bro. Marvin and Sis. Charlotte Fehr and Lowell and Joan Mueller are Sienna's happy grandparents. May God be with and bless young couples as they rear their children.

Grateful God has provided His healing touch in the lives of our hospital patients this month are Bro. Cameron (Sis. Tammy) Knobloch, Bro. Melvin (Sis. Glenagene) Fehr, and Eric (Diana) Mogler. We pray for each as they regain their strength.

Our young people spent the first weekend of June in Morris, MN, enjoying the company of other local Sunday School students for the annual Youth Fellowship. Fond memories abounded as new friends were made and acquaintances renewed during the two days they spent together.

June has brought much flooding to the state of Iowa. As we write, many from West Bend, old and young alike, have been blessed by volunteering with the sandbagging efforts in the Oakville area. Our prayers are with the many that have been affected by the numerous natural disasters that have occurred around the world. "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed;

for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." (Isaiah 41:10)

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## JAPAN, SHIODA

### Carrie Ito

A sincere thank you is extended to those who have prayed for Bro. Akihiro Ito as he began his ministry. He has certainly felt your prayers.

Our church visited the local nursing home and distributed hand towels to the women there for mother's day and father's day. They seemed to be thankful for the small token—some even moved to tears!

Recently a former kindergarten child came to our church. She is visiting her parents who live just minutes from the church. She fondly recalled many of the sisters who were her teachers and Ehnlé's as well. We are thankful for the seeds that were planted by so many of our brothers and sisters in years past and pray that those seeds of faith and the witness of those good examples can bring forth fruit as the students mature into adulthood.

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## JAPAN, TOKYO

### Jana Klaus

Greetings from Tokyo! We are in the midst of the rainy season, which makes it hard to get wash dry, but the lush green of plants and trees and vibrant colors of the flowers is very pleasing to the eye. Our hearts go out however, to those in the Midwest who are experiencing way more than enough rain, causing major flooding and destruction. We pray for the Lord's hand of mercy to be upon each one affected.

We had our annual business meeting toward the end of May. Not too much changed since last year, but we were reminded once again just how much each person is needed for all there is to do in our dear little church. We pray for a blessing upon each person who attends and gives of themselves in any way. We especially appreciate prayers for our

ministers and Sunday School teachers in all it takes to bring the Word to each heart, young and old.

We extend our sympathy and prayers to Sis. Shizuko Urushino on the death of her beloved father. Please pray for comfort for her and her family and especially that she could be a strong witness for the Lord. We thank God that she has been given more strength lately to attend church a little more often. Her dear husband comes with her each time. We appreciated a visit from Sis. Doris Fischer (Roanoke, IL) who was here on business the end of April and could join us for worship. Even though she was in a far country, we hope she felt the love of the Lord of the universe.

We heartily welcome convert Dana Gallup (Bro. Mark and Sis. Louisa, Portland, OR) to our congregation. She is staying with the Klaus family for 6 weeks to be of help to them and a support to our little church. She has had a long time interest in the Asian culture. May God richly bless her for giving of herself.

The Klaus family will be traveling to the States for the summer, so Sis. Marie Inoue had kindly agreed to take over the writing of the Silver Lining for a couple of months. However, we just heard tonight that dear Marie tripped over a cord and fell and broke her right upper arm. We are so sorry to hear such news—please join us in praying for her recovery.

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## KANSAS, BERN

### Jill Meyer Rita Menold

Katie Strahm and Todd Harris have announced their engagement! Parents of the couple are Bro. Elwin and Sis. Mary Strahm, and Barry and Kathy Harris of Post Falls, ID. Our prayers are with Katie and Todd as they make plans to establish their home in Seattle, WA.

We appreciate Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX) sharing God's Word with us this past month.

Bro. Richard Strahm (Sis. Edie) un-



derwent back surgery, and we are thankful he is back on his feet and feeling much better!

Our Vacation Bible School was held the week of June 9-13. The theme this year was "Put on the Whole Armour of God". We want to thank each and every one who put in much time and effort to make this an enjoyable week for all who participated! "Put on the whole armour of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Ephesians 6:11.

Over the last few weeks many from our congregation have been lending of themselves to help others who have met with natural disaster! Our prayers are with those who are recovering from tornado or flood damage! We thank God for the ability and resources we have to help others in need!

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### **KANSAS, FORT SCOTT** **Martin Hohulin**

An interesting and blessed Vacation Bible School was held the first week in June. It culminated with an all church picnic on June 7 for the Bible School children. It was held at the home of Tom and Jan Byler. The teachers helped the children present a program of scripture and songs. The children really seemed to enjoy singing the songs. Surely God will bless them!

Our visiting minister on June 1 was Bro. Edward Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL). Sis. Bonnie is an aunt to our Bro. Chris Wuthrich. On the same Sunday, our friend, David Sinn, was announced to have peace and will be baptized later in June.

First time home buyer is Sis. Robin Braker who will be living at 726 S. Holbrook, Fort Scott, Kansas. Her phone number is 620-224-4716. A house warming shower was held for her on June 14.

Fort Scott's loss is Wichita's gain as Bro. Kent Kellenberger has accepted employment there. We wish him God's blessings in his new location.

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

"And he (Jesus) said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer. And he took bread, and gave thanks and broke it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you; This do in remembrance of me. Likewise the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you."

*Luke 15:15, 19, 20*

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."

*I Cor. 11:25*

What beautiful words and what a precious ceremony our Communion service is! There are no words to express the feelings of love and thanksgiving for what Christ suffered for us on that cruel cross. May we never forget! May we never let this celebration of remembrance become common place in our lives so that we take the chance of losing the beauty and reverence of this very special evening. We appreciate Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) sharing the evening, as well as being with us for services on Sunday.

In our area, harvest is in full swing, and, as I gaze across these fields of golden grain, I can't help but think of the numerous times in Scripture that our Lord and God likened our lives to the wheat. There are many others, but the few most common for us are Matthew 13:24 (the parable of the wheat and the tares), Luke 3:17 (the lesson of the garnering in of the wheat but burning the chaff with unquenchable fire), I Cor. 15:37 (comparison to the body of resurrection), or Matthew 13:3-23 (the parable of the seed being sown and falling by the wayside, or into stony ground, or into the thorny ground, and finally into the good ground where fruits can multiply). May we grow where God has planted us, and bring forth fruit one

hundredfold to bring honor and glory to God and thus reach out to those who do not know Him that they may come to know this wonderful Friend who is their, and our, God.

Bro. Joe Frieden and Sis. Matilda Diel were both hospitalized this month, and though we are thankful that Bro. Joe is again in our midst, Sis. Matilda is still in the hospital at the time of this writing. Our prayers are with so many this month. Not only those who are ill, but with those who have had floods, and tornadoes, and pestilences, etc. We pray for God's hand of love and protection for them and a blessing to those who have given of their time to lend aid!

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### **KANSAS** **LAMONT-GRIDLEY** **Ester Knobloch**

This union of our hearts  
Shall stand through grace in Jesus;  
We walk the path of life,  
While cheer and trust increases.  
Where God in truth abides,  
Where two join hand and heart,  
We find a three-fold cord,  
Not lightly rent apart.

*Zion's Harp #79, vs. 3*

The weekend of June 8, Bro. Jacob Knobloch (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jeri) and Sis. Krystal Knapp (Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna, Oakville, IA) were joined in marriage in Oakville. We welcome Sis. Krystal to our congregation and hope that she will soon feel settled and at home here. We pray that God will provide His blessing to this couple's union.

We rejoice with our dear convert, Liz Isch (Justin), who has found peace with God and man. We are thankful for the work of the Lord in her life and trust that He will continue to grant her grace day by day.

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### **KANSAS, SABETHA** **Rebekah Beyer** **Carrie Grimm**

We marvel at the miracles the Lord continues to bless us with in this life.



Alli Rose was born to Bro. Troy and Sis. Dawn Strahm on June 5. Alli is welcomed home by her two big brothers, Brendan and Gavin. Grandparents are Bro. Carl Strahm and the late Sis. Sharon, and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Rose Grimm (West Bend, IA). We pray the Lord will continue to guide them as they raise their precious family. As we share in their joy, we also share in their sadness. Dawn's grandfather, Bro. Clifford Grimm (Sis. Rosene, West Bend, IA) passed away. Our prayers are with this family as they celebrate the birth of a new life and celebrate the victory the Lord won through the life of their dear grandfather.

We appreciated having visiting ministers, Bro. Philip Schultz (Sis. Kelli, Burlington, IA), Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX), and Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL), share the Word with us this month. We are so thankful for the faithful servants that by God's grace teach His Word. May we be faithful hearers and doers of the Word, not taking these blessings for granted.

Farewell to Sis. Peggy Strahm (the late Bro. Marvin), who moved to Osborne, KS, to be with her daughter. Sis. Sheila Moser will also be leaving us to work in Haiti for three years. We pray that the Lord will strengthen and encourage them as they follow His leading in their lives.

Our Sunday School Picnic was held on June 7 at Mulberry Creek. We enjoyed a picnic potluck, fellowship, and outdoor activities.

We offer our best wishes to Shana Knoblock and Nick Aberle as they were married on June 7. Parents of the couple are Bro. Steve and Sis. Rose Ann Knoblock and Gus and Sandra Aberle. The couple resides in Sabetha. We pray the Lord will guide Nick and Shana and bless them as they begin their life together.

On June 15, our dear Sis. Leota Grimm laid down her earthly cross. Sis. Leota exemplified love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance in her every

day life. Through God's grace, Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzal (Sis. Ellen) encouraged each of us to nourish the fruits of the Spirit as our Sis. Leota did.

On June 15, convert Steve Brownlee (Sis. Selena) was announced for peace and looks forward to baptism. May the Lord be his strength and guide as this joyful time approaches!

We continue to pray for Sis. Arlene Grimm (Bro. Rodney) who had surgery and Sis. Jeryl Grimm (Bro. Doug) who has started her chemotherapy treatments this month. We pray the Lord will continue to touch our lives with miracles each and every day.

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## KANSAS, WICHITA

### Emma Miller

Last month I reported that Bro. Ken Indermuhle enlightened us about the small church study. Fortunately, I can cite examples of some of the suggestions made by the committee to encourage a small church such as we have in Wichita. First, Bro. Jerry Meeks and his family from Sabetha spent the last Sunday in May with us. While his message was not new, it was thought-provoking. It gave our two local ministers an opportunity to be hearing rather than teaching. The week before we had unexpected visitors who were on their way back to their homes in Iowa and Minnesota. They had attended a reunion in Burlington, Oklahoma, and stopped to worship with us in Wichita. Another small church goal is for young people to seek employment nearby. Bro. Kent Kellenberger, formerly from Ft. Scott, is employed by Hawker-Beech in Wichita. We happily welcome him as a part of our congregation. Bro. Art and Sis. Kathy Kellenberger are staying in Hutchison for another twelve week work period. May this all work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to His purpose. (Romans 8:28)

Josh Kelly completed the requirements for a teaching degree in special education. He was offered an opportunity to continue his education to the

master's degree level and to continue his teaching position at the same time. Josh is a dedicated young man and is married to Glenna Funk. They were blessed with a new baby boy on May 28. Gramm Norman Kelly is named for both maternal and paternal ancestors. His two older brothers are Hamilton and Samuel and his maternal grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Sally Funk. Gramm's birth brings to twelve the number of boys for our Sunday School while the number of girls remains at one.

On Father's Day, the children presented books to their dads. The handmade books explained the origin of Father's Day. One of the pages explained, "Any man can be a Father but it takes a special person to be called Dad." Another page showed how they wanted to be big and strong like Dad and another told why they liked Dad. The final page included a coupon good for a prayer when Dad needed prayer. This same group had made individual Mother's Day cards earlier. One boy chose to make a beautifully decorated card that quoted Proverbs 31:10 about the virtuous woman. Another boy chose to apply the figurative language he had been learning in school. His card contained a simile, metaphor, and alliteration... "My mom is a red rose, as beautiful as a cardinal..." Praise God for our children and their Sunday School teachers!

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## KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

### Barb Huber

"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."

*Lamentations 3:22-23*

We praise the Lord for His faithfulness! He always provides our needs. The Lexington church feels deeply indebted to the many ministering Brothers who have shared God's living and inspiring Word during the past few months. They were: Bros. Jaye Rinkenberger (Sis.



Peg, Goodfield, IL), Jedd Rocke (Sis. Marsha Knapp, Goodfield, IL), David Oberffel (Sis. Kathy, Peoria, IL), Don Steidl (Sis. Nan, Akron, OH), Matthew Steffen (Sis. Deanna, Princeville, IL), Brandon Emch (Sis. Maria, Kansas City, MO), Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse, IN). Others who assembled with us were represented from the following churches: Chicago, Elgin, Eureka, Morton, IL; and Detroit, MI. There was a special time of fellowship and spiritual refreshment each Lord's Day. What a blessing it was for our small assembly! From the bus load of brethren and friends who accompanied the Goodfield ministers, all Bro. Don and Sis. Nan's nine children and their families, to the many and few, we appreciated each of you. May the Lord bless and reward you for your many efforts and labors of love to further His Kingdom here on earth is our prayer.

We rejoice that our dear Sis. Rebecca Germann has felt God's healing power and answered prayer for her recovery. May the Lord continue to bless her with good health as she is able to work again. Visitors are always welcome here in Lexington. Anyone who may be in our area or traveling through may contact Bro. Doug Germann (859) 223-0294 or Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541.

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### MEXICO, IXTLAN Matt Gerber

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty."

*Rev. 1:8*

Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Denver) and his wife, Sis. Deb, were here for the testimonies and baptisms of Lupita Sibaja and Marcela Salceda on June 21-22. The church also shared Communion together.

Bro. Regg Beer (Milford) was sent by the Mission Committee to serve here for a two-year commitment. We are thankful he answered the Lord's call for ser-

vice.

We are getting ready for Summer Vacation Bible School, planned for July 7-11. This year's theme is "Jesus Christ the All-Powerful" and focuses on Jesus' miracles. Please join us in prayer that God would give the children and youth eyes to see and hearts to feel the awe-inspiring power of Christ our Savior.

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### MEXICO, MAGDALENA Gloria Gonzalez Carissa Schlipf

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

"And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

*Matthew 25:40*

In the months of May and June we were blessed by the efforts of two work teams: a skilled labor group from Fairbury and the Peoria Bible class. We are thankful for their labor of love and willingness to join in the work here, advancing the progress of the church building and completing various other projects on the CVE campus. We also want to thank Bro. Denver Rassi (Fairbury, IL) for the three weeks that he spent here in Magdalena helping with the church construction.

"For whosoever shall give you a cup of water to drink in my name, because ye belong to Christ, verily I say unto you, he shall not lose his reward."

*Mark 9:41*

We welcome the five volunteers who will be filling the positions of summer staff here at CVE this summer: Sis. Kendra Neihouser (Francesville, IN), Sis. Amanda Kellenberger (Elgin, IL), Bro. Jim Klotzle (Altadena, CA), Sis. Andrea Luthi (Lamont-Gridley, KS), and Sis. Mandy Steffen (Washington, IL). We are very thankful for their will-

ingness to give of their time to come and serve. May God richly bless their efforts and may they abound to His glory!

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."

*I Cor. 11:26*

On June 14, it was with a deep sense of thankfulness that we shared in Holy Communion, remembering the tremendous sacrifice our Savior made for us on the cross, giving His life that believing we may have life through His name. We appreciate our Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Sis. Deb, Denver, CO) and Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL) who served us in this holy sacrament.

"For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement."

*Romans 5:10,11*

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### MICHIGAN, ALTO Rose Watson Terri Huber

A delightful week was spent interacting with the children at Vacation Bible School. It is lots of work, so let's take this opportunity to thank the men and women who volunteered and took part! Our kick-off speaker was Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington, IL). We enjoyed a potluck meal with Dennis and Bonnie, then learned about the Dead Sea Scrolls and "how we know the Bible is true." Our midweek speaker was our own Bro. Ned Stoller, who asked us what we should do with the Bible if indeed we believe it is true. Then he answered the question for us: Get In It! Bro. Ned encouraged and challenged us all to spend lots of time reading God's Word.

It is always sad to report that someone is leaving. We will be left with a hole in our Sunday School and church when



Bro. John and Sis. Stephanie Schlatter and their girls (Tory, Amber and Lydia) move to Tennessee where John's work is taking them. They will be in our prayers as they settle into their new home and begin filling their lives with new friends and activities.

Another person leaving our congregation... seems like we just got Sis. Stephanie Gerst "back" from her college days in Illinois, when we are now "losing" her to Indiana! It is a joy to report the engagement of Sis. Stephanie (Bro. Wally and Donna Gerst) to Bro. Phil Huber of Francesville, IN (Bro. Brian and Sis. Jackie). We know that God will bless and direct their future together.

The wedding of Chad Pardo (Jack and Sis. Laura) and Jennifer Brennan (Mark and Dawn) was held in Jackson, Michigan, on a lovely June day. Both of them are recent college graduates and they will be residing in Connecticut where Chad has accepted a job. That seems so far away! But as we pray for God's blessings and guidance on them in their new life together, we also thank Him for the ease of travel and communication in this day and age. Come back and visit often, Chad and Jenny!

Sis. Sandy Steffen (Bro. Ted) has undergone surgery and was not able to worship with us for several weeks. It is our hope that her recuperation will continue to be smooth and encouraging. It has been a treat for us to enjoy Sandy's mom, Sis. Jan Neust, during the month of June. Sis. Hermine Kaeb has also been unable to worship with us. She enjoys listening to sermons over the phone with family members and others who visit her and Sis. Jane Grawburg in their shared room at the convalescent home.

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### **MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**

**Sarah Knochel  
Janelle Ramseyer**

Greetings of love in our Saviour's name.

Two couples from our congregation welcomed new grandchildren into their

homes. Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol Meylan rejoice in the birth of Oliver. Oliver's parents are Brad and Gina Senkowski and older siblings are Sam and Ellie. Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn Wieland welcomed Claire into their family circle. Claire's parents are Bro. Jesse and Sis. Bonnie Bedolla (Detroit, MI) and her older brothers are Graham and Colin.

We pray for Bro. Floyd Knochel (Sis. Marian) and Sis. Alice Wieland as each of them spent time in the hospital recently. We pray that if it would be the Lord's will, they could be healed.

Our sympathy is extended to Anita (Ruegsegger) Hine, as her husband, Tom, passed away recently. We pray the Holy Comforter would go before her to comfort and provide for her every need.

We are always thankful to have visiting ministers spend a Sunday or Wednesday evening with our congregation. We are thankful that Bro. Todd Graff (Sis. Lydia, Akron, OH), Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) and Bro. Dave Steffen (Sis. Linda, Elgin, IL) were able to be with us recently.

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### **MICHIGAN, DETROIT**

**Manuela Denes  
Tamra Coughlin**

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh."

*Ephesians 5:31*

What a blessed Sunday we had in Detroit when we gathered together to witness the union of Sis. Alexis Gasser (Bro. Randy and Sis. Sue) to Bro. Jon Stoller (Bro. Rod and Sis. LeAnn). Our church was filled with many friends and family members of this young couple. Visiting on this Sunday were ministering Bros. Dwight Stoller (Sis. Lori, Latty, OH), Bro. Greg Stieglitz (Sis. Lisa, Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL). We in Detroit will miss Sis. Alexis but know that she will be warmly accepted into the church family in Latty!

We have also been blessed with visits from Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Sis. Jody, Altadena, CA), Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL) and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS).

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Sis. Linda Shaw's sister-in-law, Pat Shaw (Tom), and wish her the comfort that only our Lord can bring in times of sorrow.

We congratulate Bro. Marc Knepp (Sis. Stacie) on the completion of his medical residency and wish for him much continued success as he starts a fellowship in pediatric cardiology.

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### **MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS**

**Mary Mogler**

Our congregation was blessed with visiting ministers, Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City, MO), and Bro. Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth, Lester, IA). We appreciate their inspired messages and the opportunity for added fellowship.

We wish much happiness and God's blessing to Tyler Messner (Bro. Rick and Sis. Brenda) and Tisha Kroells, who were joined in marriage on Saturday, June 7.

We send our blessings with Sis. Sheila Schwab as she leaves us to take up employment in the Taylor, MO, area. We will miss her presence in our fellowship.

Carissa Deragisch (Dan and Lola) has returned from a year-long teaching position in Hungary, Europe — welcome home, Carissa. We're thankful for God's protection over her.

Our thoughts and prayers go often to Sis. Millie Schmidgall and Sis. Katie Blunier, who can no longer assemble with us. We look back over the years and are thankful for the part they have had in our church family and realize the impact they continue to have on us.

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**MINNESOTA, MORRIS**

**Susie Wulf  
Sheila Reuter**

We were thankful for the visiting ministers that shared God's Word with us this month. They were Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North, IN) who also talked to our Bible Class students at the Sunday school picnic, Elder Bro. Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN), Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA) and Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN). We trust the Lord will richly bless them for their labors.

*Note of Thanks:*

Our heartfelt thanks for the prayers, cards, letters, visits and phone calls we received during Harold's hospitalization and recovery. We are thankful for God's mercy and healing power. May God richly bless each of you!

*Harold and Ila*

**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**

**Rachel Steiner  
Julie Schmidt**

Our congregation enjoyed a day of worship and fellowship hosting our Minneapolis brethren for our annual Winthrop/Minneapolis potluck in May. It is always a blessing to be together with our closest church.

The Sunday School is our delight, we love it more and more;  
'Tis here we learn to do the right and live forever more.  
We hear the truth so pure and clear,  
of Jesus' love so sweet and dear;  
There we are taught to lift our eyes to Him who lives on high.  
*Hymns of Zion #73*

We offer our support and prayers to the newly elected Sunday School teachers, Bro. Ed Stoll (Sis. Ginny) and Sis. Shayla Messner (Bro. Dean and Sis. Wanda). Sis. Joleen Elder (Bro. John) was re-elected as our substitute teacher. We extend a thank you to our outgoing teachers, Sis. Lindsay Schmidt (Bro. Verl and Sis. Jamie) and Bro. Glen Steiner (Sis. Rachel), for their labors of

love.

Our Bible Class students and teachers were guests in Morris for the annual Youth Fellowship Weekend on June 7-8. We thank the brothers and sisters in Morris for a blessed weekend and showing such kind hospitality. That same weekend, our home congregation enjoyed the visiting ministry of Bro. Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha) from Rittman, OH, and Bro. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty) from Elgin, IA. We thank these brothers and their families for making Winthrop a part of their plans and laboring on our behalf.

"Honour thy father and thy mother..."

*Exodus 20:12*

The Lord has so commanded it and our country has set aside a day to recognize and appreciate our mothers and fathers. We're thankful for their instructions and most importantly their heritage of faith.

**MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY**

**Brittany Fehr**

Sis. Lauren Meyer (Bro. DeVere and Sis. Michelle) is our high school graduate this year. May God's grace, blessings, and direction be with her as she continues in life.

Our Single Group recently hosted a benefit dinner for Gateway Woods. Many thanks to those who participated or contributed! May God bless the children and staff at Gateway Woods with the money that was raised.

On Memorial Day weekend, the Indianapolis Choir visited our congregation. May God bless the choir for their labors of love. May His blessings also be upon ministering Bros. Greg Stieglitz (Sis. Lisa, Indianapolis, IN) and Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Indianapolis, IN), who ministered unto us that weekend.

Vacation Bible School was recently held in Kansas City, with the theme being "Kids Under Construction". Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS) visited on Friday evening to provide

a presentation on the theme, with Colossians 3 as the main text. May God bless Bro. Roger for following the Holy Spirit's leading, as this message was truly a blessing.

**MISSOURI, LAMAR**

**Dana Braker  
Becky Luthi**

We enjoyed a blessed day on June 1 as we witnessed the wedding of Bro. Matthew Schaffer (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Martha, Forrest, IL) to Sis. Kayla Kellenberger (Bro. Curt and Sis. Martha). We will miss Sis. Kayla, but pray they will continue to feel the guidance and blessings of the Lord as they begin their life together in Forrest.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO) and Bros. Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL), Gary Brown (Forrest, IL), Ron Isch (Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO). We appreciate their willingness to serve us in the ministry.

Bro. Raymond Luthi (Sis. Vi) spent a few days in the hospital. We are thankful he could soon assemble with us again.

**MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS**

**Meagan Wuethrich**

The month of June started off with a very full and blessed weekend for our small congregation. We had our annual business meeting, a time of eating and fellowship, and then shared Holy Communion together. Assisting our Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO) was Elder Bro. Bruce Hohulin (Sis. Charlene, Goodfield, IL). What a blessing it was afterward to again greet our brothers and sisters, including some visiting from Taylor, in love, remembering the immense love of our Heavenly Father. The following Sunday afternoon, the Elders also shared the Memorandum with us. We greatly appreciate these brothers coming and lending of themselves!

Following a time of prayerful consid-



eration, the brethren gave support to add Bro. Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla) to the ministry. This was done following the Memorandum, and although the weekend was indeed very busy, we all felt drawn closer to the Lord and to each other because of it.

Sharing the Word with us also this month was Bro. Steve Sauder (Sis. Mary, Tremont, IL), Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), and Bro. Virg Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL). May God bless them all for their efforts! We also enjoyed the visits of several young groups making their way down here. We always welcome young groups and anyone else to either come along to support the visiting minister, or just come to enjoy St. Louis and support our church.

We rejoice with Harold and Bernice Stuber as in the past two months they both celebrated their 90th birthdays. We pray that God will continue to bless them with health as we enjoy seeing their smiling faces every Sunday!

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### MISSOURI, TAYLOR Kathy Eberhardt

As I sit in our home in Taylor on June 18, with no furniture, only mattresses on the floor, we are waiting to see what the mighty Mississippi River will bring the next few days. May God give us the strength to accept His will. We are praying for our Oakville, IA, families that have met with misfortune. The Taylor congregation would like to thank all our great church families across our great land for all the support, prayers and help we have received. May God bless you all while we are preparing for a possible flood.

We are having our vacation Bible school and the seven C's are our topics. These include Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, the Cross and Consummation.

Bro. Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene) came for a topical Bible Study called "Slaying the Giants in our Lives". His text was I Samuel 17. There are many different giants in our lives. Bro. Ken mentioned

that one of the giants is fear. There are 366 references talking about do not fear in the Bible.

The Taylor Church family rejoices with the engagement of Danielle Graupman (Dennis and Donna) to Darin Heimer (Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan). Their wedding date is planned for October 4. May God always bless these dear souls.

Our sympathizing tears go to the Paulina Shoemaker family in the death of their mother.

As I am ready to close this article, we have a group of 26 Sunday School and young group members packing to leave on a missionary trip to Magdalena, Mexico. Our prayers are for them to have a safe trip.

May the Lord give us the grace to plant our feet on higher ground as we look forward to Heaven.

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### NEW YORK CROGHAN-NAUMBURG Hope Graves

We enjoyed fellowshiping together at Cape Vincent with a potluck and singing on May 24. It was a nice time to get to know some of Bro. Jacob and Sis. Brooke Kuntz's family who were here to help them get settled into their new home. The visits from their family have been a blessing to our small congregation.

A potluck was enjoyed prior to Communion on June 7. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Ken Indermuhle and his wife, Sis. Linda (Sardis, OH), here for this work. As we partake of Holy Communion on a yearly basis, it reminds us how important it is to stay focused on the price that Jesus paid to give us each this hope of salvation. We can never repay Him for His sacrifice on our behalf.

It was a blessing to have ministering Bro. Mike Baumann and his wife, Sis. Lily (Mansfield, OH), with us for Sunday, June 15, services as well as the following Wednesday night. May the Lord bless Him for bringing forth His Word.

Hospitalized this past month was Gilbert Widrick. We are thankful that he successfully came through surgery and is now recovering.

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### OHIO, AKRON Mara Henico Rachel Pamer

"Flourishing youth thou our hope and our fond expectation..." We are thankful that God has provided that the class of 2008 could finish their high school years. Our graduates this year were Sis. Octavia Demrovsky (Bro. Andy and Sis. Vera), Andrew Graf (Bro. Eric and Sis. Erika), Mark Palitto (Bro. Mark and Debbie), Sis. Rebecca Pamer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Arliss), and Sis. Esther Steidl (Bro. Don and Sis. Nan). Our prayers are with these young people as they plan for the coming years. We trust that God will direct and draw them closer to Him and give them the wisdom to seek His will for their lives. We were also thankful that Bro. Leon Graf returned home from his hospital stay and was again able to assemble with us.

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### OHIO, COLUMBUS Sarah Rufener

May God bless richly the following Brothers in faith who traveled to Columbus to minister the Word this month: Bro. Tim Gerber (Sis. Wendy, Mansfield), Bro. Todd Graf (Sis. Lydia, Akron), Bro. Warren Zahner (Sis. Bonnie, Rockville) and Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield).

Our single group was thankful to be able to host a small invite the weekend of June 7-8. We enjoyed the fellowship and opportunity to form new Christian friendships. After church on Sunday we were able to sing for residents of the Mayfair Village nursing home. One older woman there touched our hearts deeply; she sang almost every song by heart (even led us to a fourth verse on one song!). As we visited with her afterward, she reminded us with a smile that "I love the straight and narrow way."



Eternity is drawing near;  
O, seek your soul's salvation!  
Upon the narrow path of life  
there's mercy and protection.  
Eternal is the great reward,  
if on the pathway of the Lord;  
you fear not the afflictions.

*Zion's Harp #106*

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## OHIO, JUNCTION

### Vicki Boroff

We were thankful to have Bro. Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park) bring the Word to us.

Congratulations to our high school graduates: Matthew Rose (Bro. John and Trish Rose); Anita Schlatter (Bro. Bill and Sis. Emily); Caleb Schlatter (Bro. Ed and Sis. Cheryl); Rachel Manz (Bro. Russ and Sis. Vera); and Brittney Densmore (granddaughter of Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn Manz).

Mark Hurd (Bro. Pete and Sis. Helen) married Tiffany Wright on May 17. We wish them God's many blessings.

We are so thankful that Kyle and Casey Schlatter have chosen to answer God's call. Kyle's parents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Sheila. We wish them God's grace as they start this new path together.

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## OHIO, LATTY

### Amanda Wenninger Carmen Eisenmann

We were thankful for our visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA), Bro. Earl Beery (Sis. Susie, Rittman, OH), Bro. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH), Bro. Bill Waibel (Sis. Carol, Bay City, MI), and Elder Bro. John Jackson (Sis. Peggy, Bay City, MI). May God bless them for their efforts.

June 3 was the birth date of Zachary Alan born to Bro. Blane and Sis. Mindy Stoller. His big sister Natalie is happy to welcome him home as are grandparents, Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth Stoller and Bro. Bob and Sis. Joan Graf.

We were prayerful for our surgery

patient, Sis. Alice (Bro. Ed) Wenninger, that God would provide healing and comfort to her.

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## OHIO, MANSFIELD

### Esther Baumann

Following God's leading in their lives, Sis. Staci Beer (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Robin) and Bro. Kurt Fiechter (Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth) of Bluffton, IN, announced their engagement. We continue to pray for them as they make plans to join as husband and wife in the Lord.

Friday, May 30, was the wedding of Rick Domka (Bro. Fred and Sis. Connie) to Rebecca Thorpe (Sharon). We wish them God's blessings in their marriage.

Our sympathy to Sis. Dorothy Durkin and Sis. Mary Mae Bocka (Bro. Harry) on the passing away of their sister, Ruth Fuhrer Young.

Continue to pray for Lanae Sauder (Bro. Dan and Sis. Pam) and Roma Them as they have been recently hospitalized.

Special thanks to ministering Bros. John Grimm (Sis. Julie, Columbus, OH) and Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH) for serving us richly from God's Holy Word.

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## OHIO, RITTMAN

### Laurie Beery Linda Zollinger

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

*1 Cor. 13:13*

We pray God will richly bless these three new couples as they begin their life together.

May 18 was the wedding of Sis. Rebecca Raifsnider (Sis. Diana and the late Doug) and Bro. Aaron Bauman (Bro. Vic and Sis. Brenda) of Smithville, OH. Sis. Rebecca will be missed in our Rittman congregation but we know she will be a blessing to the Smithville congregation.

Melissa Gerber (Bro. Tom and Sis. Laura) and Ryan Klotzle (Bro. Robert and Sis. Shirley) of Smithville, OH, were married June 7.

Bro. Jordan Stoller (Bro. Eric and Sis. Melanie) and Sis. Joy Rufener (Bro. John and Sis. Janice) were married at Smithville, OH, on June 15. We certainly welcome Sis. Joy to our Rittman congregation.

This month we were blessed with Elder Bro. David Graf (Sis. Barbara) and ministering Bros. Steve Pamer (Sis. Arliss) and Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce), all of Akron, OH; Bros. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda) and Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann), both of Smithville, OH; and Bro. William Brake (Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH). May God bless these dear brothers for their efforts.

Our congregation has been prayerful for those who have been hospitalized. They include Justin Steiner (Bro. Rod and Sis. Jill), Bro. Arlyn Zollinger (Sis. Barbara), Bro. James Steiner (Sis. Sara), Bro. David Steiner (Sis. Carole), Bro. Aquilla Barna, and Bro. Kenneth Rupp.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Mardel Dotterer welcome a new grandson, Javin Robert Feucht born May 20 to Bro. Matt and Sis. Jennifer Feucht of Gridley, IL. Joshua and Charity welcome their new baby brother.

Elder Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie Hartzler's new address is 941 Reedy Drive, Wadsworth, OH 44281. Their phone and fax number is (330) 336-5583.

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## OHIO, SARDIS

### Faith Beard

Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry Zollinger rejoice with the birth of their newest grandchild, Xavier Joseph, born on May 28 to Joe and Jamie Zollinger of the Rittman, OH, area. At the same time, they say goodbye to their daughter, Sis. Charla, as she has recently completed her Master's Degree in Social Work and is moving out to Leo, IN, to start working at Gateway Woods. Our church family will also certainly miss Charla with



her cheerful words and quick smile, but we also know she will be an invaluable asset with her work for the children at Gateway.

We've lived in peace together here,  
As all can see most clearly;  
We've lived as Christians who would  
bear

The Savior's name sincerely,  
E'en as all do Whose faith is true;  
And hence I leave with sadness.  
Though I depart, You have my heart.  
I think of you with gladness.

*Zion's Harp, #195, vs. 4*

As our church family says goodbye to one, we are thankful to have the opportunity to welcome another. Our convert Jason Brake has moved back home from attending college in the Rittman area and will be now working and continuing his education from here. Jason is the son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam Brake.

On Father's Day this past month I was reminded of one of the continuing verses to the above song:

Ye fathers, strive with courage bold,  
In sowing and in reaping;  
With watchful care attend the fold  
That God puts in your keeping.  
Then Christ the Lord As your reward  
The crown of life will render.  
Although we part, Yet shall my heart  
In love to you surrender.

*Zion's Harp, #195, vs. 6*

We must remember to pray for those who stand before us and preach the Word, that they may feel our support to prepare their hearts and minds to be willing to receive and speak that which is given by the inspiration of the Spirit. With deep gratitude we thank those from our pulpit who do this service after service, and also to those who have visited us this past month: Bro. Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Lamar, MO) and Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago, IL).

As July 4th approaches and America commemorates our right to be free, we more importantly look to our Lord and Savior who has made us truly free, no

matter in what country our physical bodies may dwell.

"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

*John 8:36*

### OHIO, SMITHVILLE

**Edith Miller  
Ruth Gasser**

"And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake..."

*I Thess. 5:12-13*

We are thankful to the brothers who have brought the Word of Life to us. We were blessed by the ministry and prayers of Bros. Ron Palitto and Steve Pamer (Akron, OH) and Tim Ramsier (Rittman, OH).

New homes were established in our area as four couples gave vows of faithfulness to one another. On May 18, Bro. Aaron Bauman and Sis. Becky Raifsnider (Rittman, OH) were united in Holy Matrimony. Parents are Bro. Vic and Sis. Brenda Bauman and Sis. Diana Raifsnider and the late Doug (Rittman, OH). May 24 was the date chosen by William Keim and Katie Maibach (Bro. Rudy and Sis. Barbara) to become husband and wife. On June 7, Ryan Klotzle (Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley) and Melissa Gerber (Bro. Tom and Sis. Laura, Rittman, OH) joined hands and hearts in marriage. Bro. Jordan Stoller (Bro. Eric and Sis. Melanie, Rittman, OH) and Sis. Joy Rufener (Bro. John and Sis. Janice) began their lives as one in the Lord on June 15. We trust the Lord will bless each couple as they travel life's pathway together, that He will be the center of each home.

Those suffering physical affliction and released from the hospital are Evan Walder (Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie), Sis. Florence Hartzler (Sis. Clara) and Bro. Denny Nieman (Sis. Kay). We hope they will feel our prayers, and that the heal-

ing process continues.

### OHIO, TOLEDO Teresa Rywalski Rebecca Beard

We are thankful for the visiting ministers we have had this past month. May God bless Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH), Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH), and Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis, OH) for their willingness to feed us from God's Word.

After a short hospital stay, Sharon Harris is again able to assemble with us in worship. May she feel the prayers and love of us all.

### OREGON, PORTLAND

**Renee Angstrom**

We have been greatly blessed by the addition of Bro. Monte and Sis. Kellie Kuenzi and their six children to our Portland congregation. We welcome their family with loving arms. As we rejoice in our addition, we also sorrow at the loss of Bro. Brent and Sis. Brianna Strahm and their four children as they follow God's direction to move their family to Elgin, IA.

We were thankful for our many visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Don Sinn (Sis. Linda, Silverton, OR), Bro. Ed. Knecht (Sis. Judie, Silverton, OR), Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty, Silverton, OR), Bro. Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda, Winthrop, MN), Bro. Christopher Kuenzi (Sis. Mary, Silverton, OR) and Bro. Joe Gerst (Sis. Connie, Iowa City, IA). We were blessed by their willingness to serve.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Kathy Fehr (Bro. Wayne) and Sis. Renee Angstrom (Bro. Andy). We pray for their continued healing.

We support our Brothers and Sisters who were elected into new positions. New usher is Bro. Monte Kuenzi (Sis. Kellie). New Sunday School Teachers are Sis. Lisa Leman (Bro. Mike) and Sis. Elizabeth Folia (Bro. Peter). New Silver Lining Correspondent is Sis. Renee



Angstrom (Bro. Andy). We appreciate those who served these positions in the past.

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## OREGON, SILVERTON

**Melissa Kuenzi  
Cindy Metzger**

We rejoice with our convert Laura Sherman as she has found peace with God and man. We look forward to her testimony and baptism.

Congratulations to the following high school graduates: Aaron Luthi, Austin Kraft, Landon Kuenzi, Beth Dettwyler, Jonathan Sinn, Jordan Bence, Michael Kuenzi, and Tristan Kuenzi. We wish them the Lord's guidance as they make plans for their future.

A special thanks to our outgoing Sunday School teachers. We appreciate the extra time given each week to teach our children. The new teachers that will begin this fall are as follows: Sis. Deb Roth, Sis. Kara Kuenzi, Bro. Adam Kuenzi, Bro. Eldon Metz and Bro. Mark Sinn.

We want to express our appreciation and thanks to our ministers who tirelessly preach the Word to us. A special thanks to our visiting ministers this month: Bro. Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda, Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA).

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## PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

We rejoice in the day when a soul turns his heart to the Lord. Our church is rejoicing now with our friend, Joel Isch, as he begins his walk with God. Joel's parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda. May God continue to bless this dear family.

We extend our best wishes to Bro. Travis Lanz as he completes his college course of study. We are reminded of the song "Each step I take, my Savior goes before me." May this be Bro. Travis' experience as he journeys onward.

Bro. Todd and Sis. Michele Zollinger and their family visited us from the Silverton, OR, church. We are thankful for the message of hope and encourage-

ment as Bro. Todd shared the pulpit with our local brothers.

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## TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

**Mike and Monica Fritz**

We were thankful to be able to share Holy Communion recently, with Elder Bros. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen; Bluffton North, IN) and Doug Schock (Sis. Clara; Bloomfield, IA) serving us and encouraging us on the Way.

We would like to welcome Tyler Huber (Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharlyn; Sabetha, KS) who has recently taken employment in the area and has become a part of our fellowship. We are thankful that he has found peace with the Lord and looks forward to his proving and baptism in July.

We are thankful that Bro. Shawn Aberle (Sis. Tami; Forrest, IL) traveled to Nashville recently to install a new furnace and air conditioning unit at our church building. We have already evidenced that this should provide us with more consistent physical comfort when we gather at church throughout the year.

We have also found spiritual comfort in God's Word, so willingly brought to us this past month by our visiting ministering brothers: Elder Bros. Curt Frank (Sis. Lila; LaCrosse, IN), Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), and Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), and Bros. Ken Schneider (Sis. Bernice; Remington, IN) and Bill Brake (Sis. Miriam; Sardis, OH). We have also been greatly blessed by the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Bloomington, Eureka, Fairbury, and Forrest, IL; Bluffton North, LaCrosse, and Remington, IN; Bloomfield, IA; Sabetha, KS; Detroit, MI; Junction, Sardis, and Smithville, OH; and Silverton, OR.

If you are traveling in or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Congerville, IL (7/20); Rittman, OH (7/27); Bradford, IL (8/3); Akron, OH (8/10); Peoria, IL (8/17); Eureka, IL (8/24); and Francesville, IN (8/31). If you are planning to worship with us,

please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Often we gather on Saturday evenings for fellowship, and all are heartily welcome. 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.

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## TEXAS, AUSTIN

**Amy Ringger  
Serenity Ringger**

"Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:"

*Dan. 2:20*

We are thankful for the ministers who were willing to speak of God's wisdom: Bros. Floyd Frieden (Sis. Jan, Elgin, IA), Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN), Brandon Emch (Sis. Maria, Kansas City), and Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction). We also appreciated our visitors in the past month from Lamont-Gridley, Smithville, and Toledo.

The following is the minister schedule for August: (3) Francesville; (10) Champaign; (17) Lester; (24) Morris; and (31) Goodfield. 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 eastbound frontage road about 4/10 mile. The church is on the right. It



is located about 18 miles east of the Austin airport. The address is 1025 W. Highway 71, Bastrop, TX 78602. It is a one-story building with limestone siding and the church sign in the front. Quite a few people have tried using the GPS system to find the church; but they found out that GPS doesn't know where it is, and ended up getting lost. We advise following the directions instead of GPS.

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.

A note from Bro. Caleb and Sis. Laura Schafer: "We have been so blessed to have experienced the joy of carrying a child and expecting his birth. Our son was born to us on May 27, 2008. Unfortunately, he was 4 1/2 months early and his lungs were not developed enough to breath. We are comforted to know our Malakai is at rest waiting for the coming of our Lord as we are. His short life has impacted us more that we could have imagined, through the love and strength of God. We continue to praise our Father for His love and power, as He has shined through our storm with light that amazes us. We appreciate all the prayers that have lifted us up during this difficult time."

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

We are thankful for our visiting ministers this month. They were Elder Bro. Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton North, IN) and Bros. Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol, Gridley, IL), and Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX). May God bless them for their time and efforts.

We would like to encourage those who plan to come south for a summer vacation to consider visiting the valley for a Sunday of worship and/or staying here for your stay.

The following churches are scheduled for services: (Aug. 3 - Bern, KS), (Aug. 24 - Tremont, IL), (Sept. 14 -

Lester, IA), and (Sept. 28 - Morton, IL).

Our address is: Holiday Inn Express, 1921 South 10th Street. Turn 1 1/2 blocks off the Expressway on 10th Street. Services will be held at 10:30 and 12:30. Please see ministers' directory for local contact information.

### **VERMONT CLARENDON/NORWICH Nathan and Miriam Reutter**

"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

*Matthew 26:26-28*

The brethren here in Vermont have experienced the blessed act of Holy Communion for the second time since our small church has been established. God's Spirit was certainly among us for this very sober event. We feel it's safe to say that everyone present for this special occasion was renewed in our love for Christ and what He has done for us and our love for our fellow brethren. We truly are a blessed people and have so much to be thankful for. We would like to thank the following brothers and their dear wives for the many efforts to come and share the Word with us: Bro. Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT), Bro. Mark Steiner (Sis. Sue, Smithville, OH); here for Communion was Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Sis. Cheryl) and Ordained Deacon Bro. Warren Zahner (Sis. Bonnie), both from Rockville, CT. Also, we would like to thank Bro. Tom Bahler (Sis. La Nae, Rockville, CT) and Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL) who happened to be in the area on business and stayed to visit his nephew and share with us the Word!

We will continue to keep in our prayers Bro. Leon and Sis. Martha Schneider of Rockville, CT, parents of

Sis. Luella Hoffman (Bro. Mark), as they have both been under the care of a physician. Also, Barbara Chassee of Florida, the sister of our friend Claire Fellows (Emery), has been having declining health issues and we would like to keep her and her family in our prayers as well. May God provide for these families as they struggle with the frailties of the flesh.

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

*Psalms 127:3*

With joy we share the news that Bro. Chad and Sis. Jenny Virkler welcomed home their newborn little girl, Lydia Grace. Lydia joins her older siblings, Abigail, Ethan, Caleb, David, and Hannah. We pray that God's blessings would rest upon this dear family as they strive to raise their children up in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

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 (802-325-2724). We love to fellowship with believers whether it is during the week or on the weekend. Please let us know if you are planning on being in our area so we can accommodate you. Service times are as follows:

Wednesday Evenings 7:00 PM (on a rotation of different locations)  
Sunday Morning Service 10:15 AM  
Sunday Afternoon Service 12:30 PM  
Sunday school is held during the morning service.

If anyone is interested in purchasing beautiful head-coverings hand-made 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).



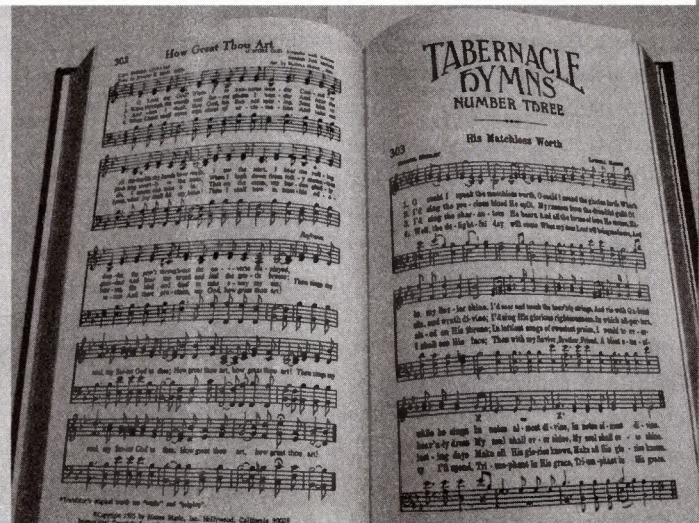
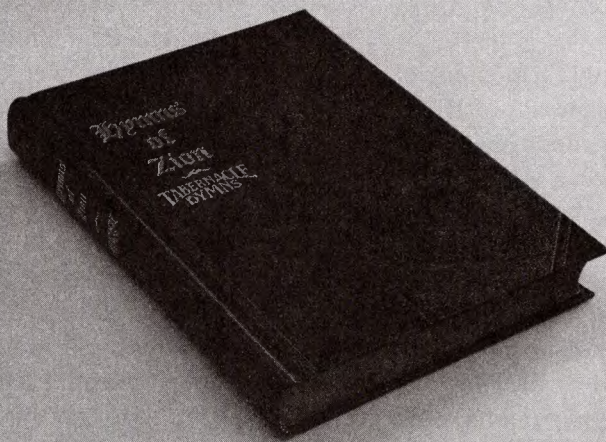


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## Counselor Needed

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

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

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

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

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

## - USED BIBLE, BIBLE STORY BOOK, AND SONG BOOK DISTRIBUTION -

We currently have outlets for Hymns of Zion, Gospel Hymns and Tabernacles. We also have a request for a limited amount of Zion's Harps (1958 Edition). Please call before sending Zion's Harps. Bibles are always in demand.

The U.S. government eliminated foreign surface mail in 2007. The cost of sending used books by air mail is greater than what new books could be purchased for in the foreign countries. We are currently working with organizations (such as Christian Aid Ministries) that send materials to foreign countries by sea container which is a more reasonable price. Some of the books are also used by U.S. churches and missions. Thank you to all who have provided books and those who help repair them.

*Jerry and Arlene Banwart, 307 First St, Congerville, IL 61729  
(309) 448-2416*

## Light From The Word

*now available by downloadable PDF from the  
Apostolic Christian Publication web site  
[www.acpublications.org](http://www.acpublications.org)*

After entering the web site, click on the item located in the left hand frame entitled, "Silver Lining Reprints". The entire set of editorials are available in a complete download (*June 1987 through November 2007*).

Additionally, the most recent eight months of editorials are available individually by clicking on the download link by each respective article.

## Interested in Houseparenting?

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

Ed Graf  
Residential Program Director  
PO Box 151  
Leo, IN 46765  
1-888-443-4283  
[ed.graf@gatewaywoods.org](mailto:ed.graf@gatewaywoods.org)

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

*"We have always considered our position a ministry for our entire family not just a job for us. Relationships built during this time can last for a lifetime." - Bro. Jason & Sis. Joy Kilgus, Houseparents*

## Eye Glasses Needed

The Eye Clinic in Ixtlan, Mexico, has been providing eyeglasses and surgical assistance free of charge to the local community for over 10 years now. We are once again in need of donated eye glasses.

Please only send complete pairs of glasses in good condition. We are unable use loose lenses without their original frame.

In addition to all prescription eyewear (adult and children), we are especially in need of over the counter reading glasses.

Please send all donated items to:

*Ixtlan Eye Clinic  
c/o Bryan Stoller, OD  
320 N Ladd St.  
Pontiac, IL 61764*



## Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services

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

877-370-9988 (toll free) [www.accounseling.org](http://www.accounseling.org)

### Update On ACCFS Services

We are thankful for the opportunities that God has given us to serve. We feel privileged to be able to encourage the spiritual, emotional, and relational growth of those we come into contact with. While some of our services are directed toward those who are struggling, over time, more and more of our services are geared toward spiritual and personal growth, enrichment, and prevention. This month this column will be devoted to informing you about the current status of our services. But, first, we would like to share several updates:

**New Administrator coming in September:** The Board of Directors of Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services (ACCFS) and the Elders of the Apostolic Christian Church of America have confirmed the nomination of Bro. Dennis Virkler (Congerville) to take over as the ACCFS Administrator. He has worked in Information Technology at Caterpillar since 1978, lately as an Enterprise Architect, working with over 300 people worldwide. He is taking early retirement from that position. His duties at ACCFS will begin on September 30, 2008. He will be replacing Bro. Howard Getz, who is going into retirement. Please pray for Bro. Dennis as he prepares for the new tasks ahead.

**New Staff Member:** ACCFS would like to welcome Bro. Curt Meiss (Morton) to our staff. He started at ACCFS as a full time clinical counselor on June 9th. His areas of focus will primarily be in marriage and family counseling, parenting, and depression and anxiety. Welcome Curt!

**ACCFS Building Project:** A new ACCFS office building is currently being built in Morton, Illinois. We are very thankful the Apostolic Christian World Relief is organizing volunteers to help with building process. Those interested in volunteering should contact Bro. Jerome Witzig. We are also thankful for the many people who have donated to our building fund. Without God's blessing in these ways, this building project would not be possible.

**Overview of ACCFS Services:** It is common for us to hear people say, "I didn't know that ACCFS offered that!" Therefore, we would like to remind you about the types of services that ACCFS offers.

**Website:** Our website ([www.accounseling.org](http://www.accounseling.org)) is intended to make helpful information available whenever it is needed. The site provides information on mental health, relationships, and personal growth. Under each topic you can find helpful information to read, download, or print. Individuals can learn about how to find help for themselves or for loved ones. Online ordering of brochures and books is

available. Information is being added to the site regularly.

**Professional Counseling:** ACCFS provides individual, marital, and family counseling for those who can travel to the office at 73 East Queenwood Road in Morton, IL. Hours are by appointment only. The counselors are trained mental health professionals who provide counseling from within a Christian framework that supports the doctrine and traditions of the Apostolic Christian Church of America. Many people choose to come to ACCFS because they have the assurance that their faith background will be respected and protected. Fees for counseling are based on a sliding fee scale based on family size and annual family income. No one will be denied services because of inability to pay.

**Consultations with a Professional Counselor:** People calling ACCFS can receive a consultation with one of the clinical counselors. Calls are received from people needing assistance for themselves, family members of those struggling, and from elders/ ministers who are assisting people. Counselors can help callers understand mental health issues and relationship problems and develop a plan of action to deal with these issues. This service is available to all of our churches by calling the ACCFS toll free number 877-370-9988.

**Counseling Referral Information:** People calling ACCFS can request information regarding counseling resources in their area. ACCFS maintains a database of mental health professionals located near Apostolic Christian Churches throughout the United States. Our goal in providing this service is to help struggling people find mental health professionals who are located near the caller's home area, have strong clinical skills and good credentials, and will be respectful of their client's religious beliefs and faith backgrounds. The ACCFS referral database includes counselors, psychologists, psychiatrists, specialty clinics, and support groups. In the event we do not have any referral sources in the caller's area, we will help the caller to find one.

**Education:** ACCFS counselors can provide presentations to churches or to smaller groups (such as the ministers of a church or Young Groups). Presentations may cover mental health, relationships, personal growth, or more specific issues for the ministers. ACCFS has books, brochures, and handouts available (screened or created by staff) covering a mental, relationship, and personal growth. These can be obtained by calling ACCFS or by going to our website. Some of the print materials are specifically intended for support of elders and ministers as they work with indi-

viduals.

**Financial Stewardship (Crown Program):** ACCFS has been given the responsibility of overseeing the ongoing development of the financial stewardship program (Crown Program) in the Apostolic Christian Church of America. Print materials that have been specifically modified for our church and are available through the Apostolic Christian Publications website ([www.acpublications.org](http://www.acpublications.org)). ACCFS is available to help Apostolic churches implement the Crown program in their local churches.

**Apostolic Christian Way of Purity:** ACWP is a 60-lesson biblically-based accountability program for individuals struggling with sexual temptation, pornography, etc. Each participant is assigned to a mentor who provides support, feedback, and guidance. The participant completes daily Bible study lessons which are then emailed or faxed to a mentor. Anyone wanting to enroll in the ACWP program needs to get the approval of their home elder. If you have questions about the program, call ACCFS or send an email to [acwp@accounseling.org](mailto:acwp@accounseling.org).

**Mentor Training Program:** ACCFS developed a Mentor Training Program for members of the Apostolic Christian Church of America. The mentoring program focuses on teaching individuals and couples the skills of effective mentoring. Elders identify brothers and/or sisters in their local congregation to send to the mentor training available through ACCFS. The mentors then work under the direction of the local elder.

**Mental Health Forum:** The counselors at ACCFS provide information, guidance, and mentoring to members and friends of the Apostolic Christian Church of America who work in or are interested in going into a mental health related field. Our goal is to offer encouragement while promoting spiritual integrity and accountability. We maintain a directory of the individuals on the Forum to encourage networking and support. If you know of someone in or going into a mental health related field, please encourage them to contact us!

**Funding:** A sliding fee scale based on family size and annual income is used for counseling and consultations. No one is refused services based on inability to pay. There is no fee charged for using the website. The remainder of the funding is from churches and individuals who want to support the work of ACCFS and from churches that have received services and choose to make donations to cover the cost. Once again we thank you for your prayers and support.

We appreciate the prayers of the church on our behalf. This is the Lord's work, and we desire to glorify Him in everything we do.



## 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: 515-887-7788  
 Cell: 515-320-2404

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

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

## BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

*Sharing The Word In Love*

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

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

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*Sermon continued from page 2*

just come from a feast of the Passover. They had just put the blood on the door. They had just seen the power of Almighty God release them, and suddenly they were faced with another obstacle. How'd they respond? (Exodus 14:10-12)

And so how it is for you and I? What do we see in the power of God? What is our vision? I don't know how it is for you, but I don't have that good of vision. I don't have twenty-twenty. I have contacts or glasses. Vision is so important. I know there's some people here that have great vision.

I remember there was a test pilot, I believe it was a Yeager. He had like twenty-ten. He could see things that no one else could see. They said when he was flying in the military he could see the enemy coming before anyone else could see them on the horizon. He had great vision for what he was doing. What about the vision that you have for what you do? God has a plan! He wants us to see with different eyes.

They were seeing the miracles. What miracles do you and I see? Are we looking around to see the power of God at work, and do we have not only the vision to see, but do we have the memory that goes with it? As the children of Israel, can you imagine leaving Egypt after being there for hundreds of years in bondage, praying for salvation? Day after day. Do we sometimes get into a habit of despair? A habit of, well, this is how it's going to be.

We stay in the same mind thinking the Lord is going to deliver. The Lord will answer my prayer! I have the confidence and the boldness to believe that God will answer this prayer when He's ready, in His way!

Year after year after year – slavery, making bricks, building Egypt... Then along comes Moses. But it wasn't the right time. Moses came. He was coming from the palace. His heart wasn't ready either.

We had a topical study a few years ago about the heart. God is in the business of working on the heart. The hands, no. Hands are an outreach of the heart. What we do with our hands, what we do with our eyes, and our

minds, with our feet – a song comes to my mind 'Just As I Am.' Hymns of Zion #105.

The Lord wants to use us but He starts with the heart. Moses came to help his people. He came down and saw the Egyptian fighting I believe it was and he said, this is not right! He wanted to come in and he wanted to make things right for his people and he slew the Egyptian. He came back the next day thinking, they're really going to appreciate what I've done for them! And they looked at him and said, who are you? Two Israelites were fighting, and they said, who are you and what are you here to break up our fight for? What are you going to do? Kill us like you did the Egyptian? Suddenly, his heart was found out! Suddenly he was now exposed, and he fled and he went, left the palace, and forty years he spent in the school of the wilderness – raising sheep. (Exodus 2:11-15)

What a change! What would the newspaper say? What would they say about his life's change, and his reasons? But God had a plan. God was working on his heart. He was getting him ready to be the leader, the salvation of the children. He [God] was going to bring him [Moses] back, but it wasn't the right time. He was the right person.

So here's Moses. He comes back and he leads the people out. Many of you have been through the stories of the plagues. The blood on the corner posts. Three days later – they had escaped the bondage, they are free, - and they are faced with the Red Sea. How do we cross it?

What do you see in front of you? Let's remember the faithfulness of God. He's there. He's here! He's with you and I. He wants us to draw on Him. They opened the sea and they walked through. They went on. They went into the wilderness. They needed to take the path, they needed to learn to completely trust in God. As they made that journey they came up to the Promised Land. They looked in... Let's send our spies in. Let's send in the spies and let's see what this is about. Let's get ready. They were ready to take the promise, to claim the victory, to be relieved from the bond-

age and taken through the wilderness and now they are ready to go into the Promised Land. He's led them through, the cities are there, the houses are there, all of it is ready - take the promise!

But there was a rejection. What really happened at that border of the Promised Land that day, when those spies came back and they gave their report? And what did the people say? We're like grasshoppers. They're too big for us! The obstacles are too many! We'll never take it. And then there were two that said, With the help of the Lord! (Numbers 13:30-33)

They had the memory, they had the vision, they had the heart, they were ready! They had the hope of seeing the power of God go before them and they didn't know how. That's what you and I, we get to live with the power of God within us and before us, and we have the heart to trust. Do we have the heart to trust? What happened that day when all the people said, we're afraid? Was that the problem? No! Because many of us will live through a time of uncertainty and maybe a little fear, or a lot of fear.

We cannot overcome – was that the problem? – No! Because there's many times even when they finally went into the Promised Land and went to face Jericho, that they were not going to be able to overcome that city. Six hundred thousand men – however many it was.

What was the problem that day? What did they say? And what are you and I saying today? Oh yes, we believe in God, yes we trust in Almighty God for today. What they did that day was they rejected Almighty God as the God of their future. Yes, He had led them out of Egypt. Yes, He had parted the sea. Yes, He had fed them with manna every day. Yes, He had provided quail when they needed it and they were sick of the manna. Yes, He provided for them in their past. Yes, He provided for their today. **WHAT ABOUT THEIR FUTURE?** They did not believe in God as the God of their future. And they said, I don't believe He will take care of us in the Promised Land. They rejected Almighty God! And God said, You're not going in – you're going back to the wilderness



for forty years.

Then they said, Now we've changed our mind! We want to try it ourselves. Isn't that how it is? That's how it is for me! The lack of faith. They thought, let's just take control, let's go do it now. And they went in, thinking, well, maybe He'll let us. He said, no you've already rejected Me. And they were defeated.

So they went to the wilderness for forty years. Here they are in the second year, and they have lessons to learn: hearts that need changed, hearts that need to grow and understand that God IS there for today. He was there yesterday. And where will He be? He will be here for us for tomorrow! "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Heb 13:8. He is the God of the Israelites past, present and future. And He is that way for you and I. Look what He has brought us to. He has provided us the Word. He's provided us a place to come and sit and be fed - spiritually.

So they put them into order, counted them, and they go into the place of order. They want to know all the different tribes. We can see the children of Israel, as we get into the time of Jesus Christ, that their lineage was so important to them. What family are you from of these twelve? Of the descendants of Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob. And they would begin to set up. They had the tabernacle in the center of their camp and then on the east side there would be three, and on the south there would be three, and on the west and on the north. They would be all around the tabernacle and they would have the standard of their family. It would be like the Gutwein family, and the Wuethrich family, and the Huber family...whatever it would be, their family, their standard represented. This is our family here. This is where we are the head of that family, as it says here (Numbers 1:4). They would be the one that would go to the tabernacle, and they would have communication that was passed down, messages and information, and how they were to live out the law. He wanted good order so there was no misunderstanding. It wasn't just random - everyone just pitch your tent

somewhere in the woods. No, it was good order. And there were families in their places.

Then there was one family, the Levites; they were not numbered and they were to come and take care of the tabernacle. This was in the wilderness. There was good order - even in the place of the wilderness. God is a God of order. He wants us to be in a place where we can absorb and learn and see the lessons and the teachings that He has for you and I.

We live in a world that's full of chaos. It's running fast. Where's it going? How about your life and mine? Are we a place of stability in the storm? Where do you and I go when things start to vibrate? Let's go to the Word. What was in the center of their camp? It was the tabernacle. What was in the tabernacle? Almighty God. How about your life and mine? Where are we camped? Let's be around the Word.

I just appreciate how the Lord provided good order. There was so much more there as you go on to read in Numbers. The first five books of the Bible there that was given to Moses, as he wrote all of that information down, the experiences in the traveling of the children of Israel, this is our Bible today. The children of Israel - that was their Bible. It was what they read. They would follow, they would read that. It was their training and their teaching. Those experiences of how God led them through. We can go back and read it today and see tremendous teachings, experiences in Genesis, and the laws of Leviticus. Experiences there in Deuteronomy. But what about living them? It was a struggle.

So where did the hope come? It came in the Lord Jesus Christ. I just appreciate the power of the Spirit. I look down here (St. Luke 22) and it says fulfillment of Scripture - that is the Lord Jesus Christ. Yes, there was the beginning; there was the Garden of Eden; there was God's plan for mankind; there was the fall; there was the need for the hope through the children of Israel; the restoration of Abraham the man of faith. There were all those experiences. And while the children of Israel were on the

other side of Jordan, camping, it was year after year of funerals. Of those that were dying that did not believe. That had rejected Almighty God. There was funeral after funeral. There was lesson after lesson being learned.

But there was also fear in the hearts of those that were in the Promised Land (Joshua 5:1). Think about when they sent two more spies in, when now the transition's been made from Moses to Joshua, and Joshua was now leading the people. Moses has died and they're ready to take the Promised Land. It's a whole new generation. It's a whole new heart. And that's how it is for you and I. It's a regenerated heart. And they are there at the poise of the Promised Land. And they say, send in two more spies (Joshua 2:1). Do you think Joshua was nervous? What kind of report will the spies bring back? How will the people respond? Will they reject God again? Or will this be when they say, 'let's go'!

They went in and they saw Rahab, the harlot. They went in to her and what was her comment? I just love this comment. They don't have one battle yet inside the Promised Land. They've been traveling; they've been learning; they've been dealing with the consequences of rejecting God; and now they're getting ready to come in. The spies show up at Rahab's and she says, We know about you - and your God! And we are in FEAR! (Joshua 2:9)

Do we have that kind of fear for Almighty God? He is in control of hearts and lives! Let's yield to Him. Let's give up our lives to Him. Let's let Him be the one, the Master, the Healer, the Provider. And then as that Scripture goes through the Kings, the Judges, and all those experiences, up to the New Testament, mankind struggling. Mankind is struggling to understand and live out the law and the Lord God says, Here's my Son!

He will provide you and I the day of grace. The day of hope because of Jesus Christ. Let's take that in. The fulfillment of the Scripture. How was it fulfilled? Not in our ability to understand all of the law, and then live it.

*Sermon continued on page 44*



*Sermon continued from page 43*

No, it's fulfilled in one Man. The Lord Jesus Christ. Then you and I – how do we fulfill the Scripture? That is to yield and to follow His teachings.

“And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest.” St. Luke 22:24. Now isn't that just the world we live in today! You can put that on a headline. Who's the greatest? Whether it's in raising children, whether it's in running a business, whether it's in politics, in sports, in music – whatever it may be. Isn't that what everyone's striving for? I love those two words: strife and greatest. And that's where it usually is. There is competition. There is that - I want to be better than you! We don't even have to see it in people. We can see it in animals. Go out to a herd of horses. Go out to a herd of cattle. One is in charge. One is the greatest. One is going to get their way every time. You put some new animals out there together, they work through the pecking order. Somebody's at the bottom, and somebody's at the top. It's kind of interesting to watch. They work it out, and they work it out fairly quickly.

At our home, we've got a couple horses. We've got a mare and she's so calm, very pretty, and she gets whatever she wants. She wants that horse's feed? She just walks over and gets it. There has already been strife because there's one that's the greatest in that pasture. What about you and I? Are we striving? The greatest has already been declared. That's the Lord Jesus Christ. But mankind, it tells us right here, “...who should be the greatest.” Isn't that a natural instinct? And that's what we want to die to and let it be, that we submit and serve.

“And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so: but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve.” St. Luke 22:25-26. Ah...there's the answer! Do you want to be the greatest? What did the Lord Jesus Christ do to become the great-

est? He served His Heavenly Father. Why should He leave heaven and go to earth where there's sin and there's all this striving? Why did He leave the perfect beauty of heaven? Because His Father asked Him to. Because the need was there for you and I. He served His Father, and He served you and I. How do we become a great leader? By serving. “...he that doth serve. For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth.” St. Luke 22:26-27 The Lord says, I am here to serve. I am here to heal. I am here to help. I am here to serve. What are the needs? That was his eyes. That's what He was looking for. He was looking around and seeing, How can I serve? How can I be of help?

When you show up to work, you show up here to the church cleaning, people walk in. What can I do to help? What can I do to help? People changing light fixtures, cleaning walls, scrubbing floors and just cleaning. Everybody working! Everybody serving! Now, I didn't see anybody saying, well, this is my area and this is my position. No. They were serving. It was people just asking, what can I do to help? And the work got done.

Serving like the Lord serves. I don't have these kind of eyes naturally. I have to often be reminded. But being around those that serve and that see the needs, see people that are hungry, see people that are hurting, some of you have just tremendous vision. You have twenty-twenty or better spiritual vision. Whether you're walking through an airport, you can see someone that's hurting. In a grocery store. In a home. In a family. In a meeting. Can you tell when you greet your brother and sister if they're really fine or if they're really hurting. Isn't that what a family is all about? Seeing when someone needs served. That's what Jesus wants us to do.

“Ye are they which have continued with me in my temptations. And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.” St. Luke

22:28-30. I don't understand all that. But what that says to me, is there's hope! There's a kingdom. There's a place where we're going to go with responsibility, and He wants us to be there.

“And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat:” St. Luke 22:31. And we have an adversary. We have an adversary here that wants to get ahold of us. Wants to get inside your life some way, somehow, and begin to sift you. Probably in your kitchen you may have a sifter. We don't want to be sifted. Not by Satan!

“But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.” St. Luke 22:32. What a verse! That's the heart! Think about your heart today. Where is your heart? How is your heart? Is it being converted? Is it part of that transformation we read about in Romans 12:1,2 about being not conformed to this world, but being transformed? About being converted. About being new!

He talks about all this, the strife that was going on...who could be the greatest. He says, No, it's not about what your trying to be. They had a misunderstanding about what the Lord Jesus was going to do for them. They had a desire that they could get rid of the authority of the government. They wanted to have liberty. They wanted to have freedom. They wanted to exercise their own responsibility. They thought the Lord Jesus Christ was going to take them and He was going to free them from the current bondage of the government.

Judas, why was he holding the bag? He wanted to be a part of that political movement. Sometimes people get hooked onto a candidate they see is going to make change. They want to be a part of that. He wanted to be a part of the movement that was going to set things in order as he liked them to be. And so he was using the money.

But where was the heart? Here they were having strife – who's going to be the greatest in this new kingdom. You don't understand. It's about serving. And they were confused, and we would be too! There was confusion. What's He mean, serve?



We need to get some more swords (St. Luke 22:38), and we need to be ready to take on the government here.

That's our individual natures trying to take control. How do I overcome this obstacle ahead of me? Now we trust in the Lord. Lord, where are You taking us? And He says, "Simon, Simon..." Simon, pay attention! You and I, pay attention! Satan had desired to have you. But when we have our hand in the hand of the Lord Jesus Christ, when we have our knees knelt before our Almighty God, Satan's power is gone! Let's stay connected to the Lord. Let's stay on our knees before Almighty God. He says, "But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not..." St. Luke 22:32. Let's keep our faith exercised. Let's keep it strong for those that today have not yet yielded, have not yet brought their knees before Almighty God. He says two things: repent, and be converted.

Here He says, "...when thou art converted..." St. Luke 22:32. First there has to be a coming to the Lord Jesus Christ. Many times we're sorry if we got caught doing something wrong. We get caught, we say, oh-I'm sorry! Are we sorry we were doing wrong, or are we sorry we got caught? The Lord says, Repent! Repent with a sorrow that leads to conversion. Not just a sorry that we did the wrong thing. We teach our children to say, I'm sorry! But there needs to be a new behavior. Repentance is sorrow and change. And then with that change comes conversion. And that's what the Lord says. Repentance is a sorrow that yields fruit. A sorrow that just doesn't say, that was wrong. Yes, that's nice, and in relationships, that's good. That doesn't bring conversion. Repentance is the repentance that brings sorrow and a turning away and to.

What brings us TO God? That's the conversion. That changes. And so He says here, Simon, I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not. That the belief, and the understanding, that the faith is strong through the trials ahead. Think about his faith as he was believing in the Lord, and then he faces an unexpected event. The Lord is crucified?! And they're asking me?! And he denies Him once, he denies

Him twice, He denies him three times! Where is his faith at this point? After the third denial, where was his faith?

Where is your faith when there's a struggle? When Satan has his hands on you and he's got a hold on your ankle, and he won't let go. Where is our faith? Lord, I'm going on my knees because I know that when I'm on my knees he [Satan] must go. Let's keep our faith! Let's stay strong, and keep our eyes focused on the Lord, because Satan is an evil adversary. And he [Jesus] says, when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

And, what hope! When he got to that third betrayal, and he went out and he wept, my mind would think he was trying to replay all those messages from the Lord. In his own mind, it wasn't adding up! But when he yielded his heart, he began to see, thy faith fail not, the Lord has prayed for me. When the Lord looked and his eyes fell on him after that third betrayal (St. Luke 22:61), I can imagine what was going through his mind as he went out alone, and he began to put things back in order, just like it was in the Old Testament.

There's an order. Help me connect the dots. He says, that thy faith fail not. Well now we're converted, there's hope. There's strength in thy brethren. We go over to the book of Acts and we see Peter later standing up, not only preaching repentance and conversion, but we see him being bold for the Lord Jesus Christ. And we see him 'strengthen thy brethren'. He strengthens you and I. Back in this book, right here, are his writings. We see his life in the book of the Acts. We see his writing here, that we should bring these things to our remembrance, so that we don't forget in our memory and in our vision we understand what it means to serve.

And he says, "...when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me." St. Luke 22:32-34. The Lord knows what's coming! Peter didn't know what was coming. He

didn't believe it! But let's be ready. Let's keep our faith strong. Let's keep our hearts in tune. Let's keep on our knees before our Almighty God. Our God of order, the Scripture has been fulfilled.

We go back into Revelations, we just had this at a young group a few nights ago, talking about the mark of the beast. Hell is real, and so is heaven. Satan is real, and so is the Lord Jesus Christ. The world is in despair and the believers live in hope. Where are you and I today? We stand on our feet, but we first fall on our knees. It's about repentance. It's about being converted. And it's about strengthening the brethren. Let's be strengthened.

For those here today that do not yet know the Lord Jesus Christ, today is the day. Today is a day of hope! Today is a day when you and I can live with joy, with hope, with peace, because we know the Master! We know the Scripture has been fulfilled. Who fulfilled it? The Lord Jesus, and He is our brother, and He wants to take you and I to the throne, and reveal all things.

Yes, in eternity, but He wants them to be revealed to you and I today. Not through a scattered camp ground, but through a way of order, and love, and tenderness that changes the heart. A sinful corrupt heart that has been broken, and restored by the blood of the lamb.

### **Official Apostolic Christian Church Website**

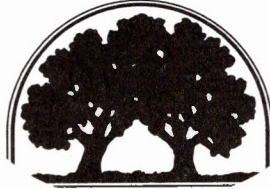
*\* Providing basic information  
about our church and linkage to other  
church-related sites is located at:*

**[www.apostolicchristian.org](http://www.apostolicchristian.org)**



## Assistant Houseparent Needed

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



Ed Graf  
Residential Program Director  
PO Box 151  
Leo, IN 46765  
1-888-443-4283  
ed.graf@gatewaywoods.org

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

## Teaching Position Available

Gateway Woods is excited to announce an opening for an English teacher at Gateway Woods School. Student census will be expanding with the addition of the Pine House. Gateway Woods School is a fully accredited educational facility serving 5th-12th grade students who have difficulty in public school. Qualifications include a Bachelor's Degree in Education and/or an active teacher's license. Special Education Certification and previous teaching experience is especially useful, but not required. Also you must be a Sister in the Apostolic Christian Church. If you hold these qualifications and have a heart for children, please ask the Lord if this is the position He has in mind for you. We offer a competitive salary and generous benefits. For more information please contact one of the brothers listed below.

Tim Wiegand  
Director of Education  
PO Box 151,  
Leo, IN 46765  
1-888-443-4283

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

## Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services

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

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## Preschool Teacher Needed

The Apostolic Christian Preschool has an immediate opening for a teacher directed of the Lord, with a degree and/or experience in Elementary or Early Childhood Education. It is a wonderful experience to teach children about the Lord in a loving, Christian environment. If you feel the call and want to find out more please contact:

Bro. Mike Moore  
(256) 729-0620  
8653 Beechwood Rd.  
Athens, AL 35611  
Email: ALM@aol.com



**POSITION  
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current  
Administrator**

Parkview Haven Retirement Home of Francesville, Indiana, is seeking an Assistant to our current home Administrator. If you prayerfully feel the Lord's leading and have a desire for this position, please contact Gene Huber Sr. through the following listing:

gbhuber@gmail.com  
Phone: 574-946-3447  
Fax: 574-946-4229

## Scriptures of Courage

Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Joshua 1:9

... Choose you this day whom ye will serve; ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Joshua 24:15

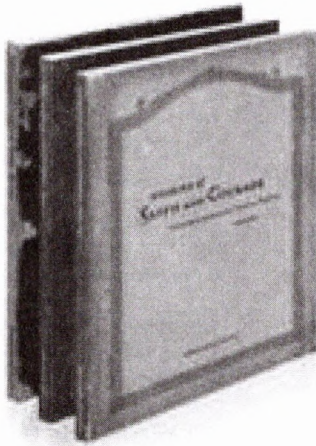
Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the Lord.

Psalms 31:24

Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, J say, on the Lord.

Psalms 27:14

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*...This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.  
Isaiah 54:17*



## CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 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](mailto:lemangm@mtco.com). For Jamaica, direct your inquiry to Bro. Mike Rassi, Ph. 1-309-359-5240 or E-mail [michael\\_rassi@hotmail.com](mailto:michael_rassi@hotmail.com).

### HAITI

Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 -[www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/)

Project	Year 2008	Coordinator	Capacity				
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Nov 14-21	Troy Stuber 309-925-2603 troystuber@verizon.net	4	Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Feb 6-13	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	4
Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Dec 5-12	Ted Habegger 260-694-6765 tjh@citiznet.com	12	Croix De Bouquets Lifeline Medical	Feb 10-17	Glen Steidinger 815-693-3473	8
Les Cayes MEBSH Haiti Support	Dec 12-15	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	Invitation	Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Feb 13-20	Randy Kieser 309-695-6340 kieser84@geckoct.com	12
Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Dec 13-20	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	4	Croix De Bouquets Lifeline Medical	Feb 17-24	Jim Koehl 309-377-3201 jmkoehl@yahoo.com	8
Project	Year 2009	Coordinator	Capacity				
Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Jan 2-9	Ron Palitto 330-336-5373 Ronp@palittoconsulting.com	12	Les Cayes SEED Agriculture Aid	Mar 13-20	Dale Frank 319-766-3661 frankfarms@iowatelecom.net	12
Les Cayes FRW Simone Orphanage	Jan 9-16	Rick Weuthrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	12	Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Mar 20-27	Rich Bertschi 309-467-6110 lemangm@mtco.com	12
La Higuera - D/R Lifeline Construction	Jan 20-27	Jim Koehl 309-377-3201 jmkoehl@yahoo.com	8	Les Cayes MEBSH Maintenance	Mar 27-Apr 3	Jon Zeller 309-266-9009 jzeller@mtco.com	12
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Jan 23-30	Troy Stuber 309-925-2603 troystuber@verizon.net	4	Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Apr 24-May 1	Troy Stuber 309-925-2603 troystuber@verizon.net	4
La Higuera - D/R Lifeline Construction	Jan 27-Feb 3	Ted Steidinger 815-867-6452 tsteid@route24.net	8	Les Cayes MEBSH Medical	May 1-8	Keith Knepp 309-467-4691 kknepp@mchsi.com	8
Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Jan 30-Feb 6	Dean Pashak 989-662-7685 dwpashak@charter.net	12	Haiti MEBSH Caribbean Eval.	May 15-23	Tom Hitz 734-454-9229 tchitz@sbcglobal.net	Invitation
La Higuera - D/R Lifeline Construction	Feb 3-10	Eldon Steidinger 815-848-8988 eldonsteid@yahoo.com	8	Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Jun 5-12	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	4
Les Cayes SEED Agriculture Aid	Feb 6-13	Dale Frank 319-766-3661 frankfarms@iowatelecom.net	12				

### JAMAICA

Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 -[www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/)

Project	Year 2009	Coordinator	Capacity				
Kingston School CCCD	Mar 21 - 28	Roger Stoller 309-747-3228 rstoller@dtmspeed.net	40	Jamaica Deaf Village CCCD	May 22 - 30	Ted Hirstein 309-266-8769 hirstein@mtco.com	40
Montego Bay School CCCD Bluffton SS	Mar 21 - 28	Steve Gerber 260-824-9561 sandggerber@hotmail.com	40	Jamaica Deaf Village CCCD Akron, Rittman	Jun 20 - 27	Jay Maibach jmmaibach@embarqmail.com	40



### Haiti and Jamaica Work Team Code Definitions

**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 2008

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

Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 - [www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/)

Project	Date	Coordinator
Juarez Medical/Dental	Sep 17-24, 2008	Cheryl Herrmann 309-385-1082 <a href="mailto:cherrmann@verizon.net">cherrmann@verizon.net</a>
Magdalena Construction	Nov 22-29, 2008	Rod Schmidt 303-774-7913 <a href="mailto:rschmidt@Acosta.com">rschmidt@Acosta.com</a>

### ADMINISTRATOR OPENING

There is an administrator opening at **Lakeside Terrace**, a 12 bed intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded in Sabetha. This is a full time position for one individual, or could also be a shared position for two individuals. In general, the qualifications include an individual who holds a bachelor's degree in human services or education with one year of experience working with the developmentally disabled.

If interested, contact Bro. Ed Strahm at the Apostolic Christian Home in Sabetha at 785 284 3471 or [estrahm@mewlan.com](mailto:estrahm@mewlan.com)

Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, *Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...*

And the King shall answer and say unto them, *Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.*

Matthew 25:34,40

### DIRECTOR OF NURSING EXCELLENCE

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All replies will be held in the strictest of confidence. Assistance with moving costs will gladly be provided.

Please call Bro. Randy Gasser (734) 261-9000 or email: [randyg@woodhavenrc.org](mailto:randyg@woodhavenrc.org)





# REMEMBERING

## *Our Spiritual Heritage*

### Church History

We have had several references to the progress of the second edition of *Marching To Zion*, our national church history. A few months ago, it was thought completion of this work and sending the manuscript would be on June 1, but this is not the case. Delays have occurred, and proofreading has been slowed. Yet, we are optimistic we can get the 805-page work to the printer no later than August 1. Details are multitudinous, along with the correct placement of pictures, maps and the accurate showing of the congregations on the inside covers of the book in a nationwide map, which also includes the Mexico, Japan and Canadian church locations. One final meeting will be scheduled with the author, printer and proofreaders to insure as much accuracy as possible. We thank everyone for their patience.

### Flooding and Brotherly Love

The unusual flooding of the Iowa River and the Mississippi River, and others, has caused havoc, and this has all been covered widely by the national media. Newspaper and magazine pictures surely attest to the heavy losses many persons have suffered due to excessive flooding, and the resultant difficulties.

Yet, there has been a monumental struggle in many areas to firm up existing levees and to sandbag where needed. In this, various areas have been saved from flooding. Brothers, sisters and friends of the

Apostolic Christian church have given of themselves freely to travel, both to Oakville, Iowa, and Taylor, Missouri, to help stave off rising rivers and to bolster leaking levees. Both the high numbers of persons traveling to these sites, and their willingness to expend long hours and hard work is a firm testimony to the love of God among the brethren. The fact that brethren would leave at 3:00 a.m. and travel three hours and then throw themselves into the needed work, and return home late at night reflects brotherly love. May God bless each and every one! The organizational efforts of World Relief, along with the unselfish devotion of many workers, are to be commended with all credit accruing to Almighty God.

Perhaps more significant than the efforts expended, is the reward given to those who gave their labors to help stop the flooding. The Lord taught it is more blessed to give than to receive, and one can't help feel that He blessed each and every effort that all workers gave to the cause of trying to halt the flooding.

### Zion's Harp

This column has alluded often to the depth of the lyrics found in the *Zion's Harp Hymnal*. Even a short examination confirms that the words are both vivid and inspiring. Often, today, we note the evils of society, especially when measured against the high standards of God's Word. Yet, in each era of Christianity, evil has been present. The au-

thor of hymn 109, "Gratitude For Deliverance" points to societal decay, and gives a positive and thankful affirmation to the believer's deliverance from evil as the following excerpts show:

*For unbelief with many woes  
Has thus increased and overflows  
The world as does a river.  
The world as does a river*

*We thank Thee Lord we are re-  
deemed!*

*Our soul they could not capture,  
For as a bird from nets released,  
We have escaped in rapture.*

The simplicity of our Bible- and Spirit-centered worship is enhanced immeasurably by the hymns we sing during the service. These hymns, born out of suffering, struggle and victory, engender an uplifting Spirit — and we can take courage as we sing praises to God.

The late, Henry Beer of Milford, Indiana, once said that a hymnal should reflect doctrine, and he thought the *Zion's Harp* had no match in that objective. Bro. Beer helped translate many songs from the German to English language in the *Zion's Harp*.

*By: Perry Klopfenstein*

### Next Issue:

Update per the new "Marching To Zion," along with a biographical sketch



# The Light Of Hope

## From Across The Ocean

### 希望の光

#### “Decency”

*Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan*

Early this year I read a book about government and democracy. The author was well educated and I was very interested in what he had to say except I was very disappointed in the language he used. I thought some of the words he used were rude and somewhat indecent. That made me ask the question, “What is happening to the pure, decent, English language?”

The word “decency” or its derivative is used only once in the King James version of the Bible. In the last verse of chapter 14 in Corinthians, the Apostle Paul writes, “Let all things be done decently and in order.” I have heard that a former Elder Brother in one of our churches often said, “We’ve got to have order,” or “We must keep order.” That exhortation is well taken and includes decency in conduct, speech, and attire. The Apostle Paul was concerned in the above quotation about disorder resulting from the practice of speaking in

tongues in the Corinthian Church. He was very inclusive when he wrote, “Let ALL THINGS be done decently and in order.”

The biggest problem in all of this is deciding what is decent and what is indecent. It would appear that what was indecent in English in my youth has now become the norm. It can be argued that so long as a person is not taking God’s name in vain, it is not sin and therefore all right. Is it true that anything is all right so long as it is not sin? I think not. We are exhorted to, “Abstain from all appearance of evil.” I Thessalonians 5:22. That goes farther than simply abstaining from sin.

Proverbs 17:22 tells us, “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine,” and I am much in favor of laughter. However, is it good to tell jokes that belittle or make fun of someone of another race or religion, or of a person who is drunk? I may be wrong but I believe it is more in keep-

ing with the teachings of the Bible if we keep our jokes above reproach. Please forgive me if I am wrong.

I would like to improve in my decency. Will you join me? I have not yet attained unto perfection. I welcome your suggestions and encouragement. Anything goes is not the order of the day. “Where can we improve in accordance with God’s Word?” is the order of the day.


It is important that we be encouraged. Now, is this discussion about “decency” discouraging to you? I hope not. If we can all speak purer, decent, English, if we can all conduct ourselves in a decent and proper manner, if we can all make sure our attire is decent and in good order, we will all feel better, and we will all be encouraged. Decency is very important in our Christian walk of life. In many things it will be up to you to decide what is decent or indecent, but let’s all try to be improve in our decency.

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*Remove not the ancient landmark,  
which thy fathers have set.*

*Proverbs 22:28*