

# *The Silver Lining*



*And let the peace of God rule in your hearts,  
to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.*

*Colossians 3:15*

*November 2008*

Sermon by Bro. Fred Witzig, Indianapolis, IN

## Exodus 20

A week and a half ago in Altadena, a brother went through these Ten Commandments in a Bible study. He had us read verse eighteen. The study was more focused on the commandments themselves, but he had us read eighteen. At first, he went around and different people read different verses, and he included eighteen with seventeen. I thought he made a mistake. I thought he meant to tell them just to stop at seventeen. But the young man dutifully read verse eighteen. He said, I had you read eighteen because it indicates how serious God was about these.

Not having been there, not having seen this, we sort of envision the Ten Commandments being in stone. As being a monument. That is often how we treat them in public spaces. It is kind of a monument in marble or something, which is all good and fine. But I think in a certain way we kind of lose the sense of the greatness of what was going on here. That God, as He gave these Ten Commandments, was really serious. As He gave these commandments, it struck fear. The process of giving the commandments struck fear in the people's hearts (Exodus 20:18,19). They were amazed by it.

If you stop and think about it, it would be a pretty incredible thing to be standing at the foot of a hill and have this lightning come down and the thunder and know that some tremendous thing is happening up there. Then have somebody come down with stone tablets with them engraved. It doesn't strike me as something that you do real quick. God having inscribed these on the stone. And he brings them down. This was really serious stuff and God meant it. As He gave His commandments on the mountain, He really meant it. I just appreciate that comment. As God gave them, He did it in a spectacular way that would grab their attention. He said, this is what I want.

A while back I was challenged, in a good way, by the question, are these

things wrong because God said them? Or did He say them because they are wrong? In other words, 'Thou shalt not kill'. Is killing wrong because God just flipped a coin - don't kill? So they are wrong? Or did He say them because they were wrong? This group that was listening to this person say this, went back and forth. Some said, well they are wrong because God says it. God says something, it just has to be wrong. He can just say whatever He wants to say. If He says it, they are wrong. It is just how it is.

Other people said, no, there is something intrinsically wrong about killing and these sorts of things and therefore God said it. One person's response, which turned out to be according to the person giving this study, was they are wrong because they violate the nature of God. When God says, Thou shalt not kill, when God says, Thou shalt not commit adultery, when He says, Thou shalt not steal, He said these, not because He just arbitrarily picked out some commandments, dreamed up some commandments and therefore we've got to treat them as wrong. Neither are they somehow just sort of abstractly wrong and therefore God is just telling you what is right and wrong.

God does not murder. God is not unfaithful to His commitments, which is what adultery is. God cannot take something which is not His own. Of course, He owns everything. But He cannot take something which is not His own. God cannot lie. Therefore, these commandments reflect the very nature of God. Therefore, as He, in His spectacular fashion, revealed to the people the Ten Commandments, He was revealing to them His very nature Himself. Taken that way, if you really think about this scenario, the way it was given, it makes me take it a lot more seriously.

We live in an age when we just don't like to tell people right and wrong. I was sitting in a meeting,

Franklin College's Five Values, one of them being honesty. So we had this meeting about how we teach students the five values of Franklin. It was actually kind of humorous. Be-

*Sermon continued on page 42*

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### SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

cleman@davesworld.net  
*(e-mail is preferred)*

The Silver Lining  
1389 County Road 1600 N  
Roanoke, IL, 61561  
309-923-7192 (phone)  
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"...great is thy  
faithfulness"  
(Lamentations 3:23)

## Light From The Word



Writings based  
on God's Word

November 2008

### Trust In God's Faithfulness

"With my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations" (Psa. 89:1). When David exclaimed that he would speak of God's faithfulness to all generations and show forth His faithfulness every night (Psa. 92:2), he knew that this attribute was something very special for a follower of God. In this article we want to take a look at what God's faithfulness means, and then consider what this signifies in a believer's life.

Faithfulness implies unchangeableness, constancy, and trustworthiness. Jeremiah proclaimed, "Great is thy faithfulness" after stating: "It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not." He introduced this teaching on God's faithfulness by saying, "This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope" (Lam. 3:21-23). Whenever we think about God's faithfulness, it should bring a calming sense of hope to our heart that "all will be well," since God is in control. The Apostle Paul asked, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Rom. 8:31).

God's faithfulness is not dependent on what we do or what we think about Him, for we read in 2 Timothy 2:13, "If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself." We note that this attribute is also ascribed to Christ in the New Testament. Jesus is called the faithful high priest (Heb. 2:17), the faithful witness (Rev. 1:5) and the Faithful and True (Rev. 19:11).

So what does God's faithfulness signify in our everyday lives? And what does it mean to trust in God's faithfulness in practical, personal terms?

The next time we are tempted to sin, let us go back to the verse in 1 Corinthians 10:13 where we read that because God is faithful, He "will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." Here we can find assurance that God has given us a way to escape sin, and strength to endure, and that He will do it, because He promised it, and He is to be trusted.

Perhaps there are times in our lives when we are faced with doubts about our faith, doubts about our salvation, or

doubts about the future. At these times let us also go back to Hebrews 10:23 where we read: "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised)." And this faithful God has promised us His salvation and eternal life as well as His peace and assurance as long as we keep our trust and faith in Him. He is the One who holds the future in His hands.

It is undeniable that we Christians must deal with the weights and sins which so easily beset us (Heb. 12:1), and at times Satan would try to get the upper hand in discouraging us in our walk of faith because we have yielded to temptation (1 John 2:1-2). We may feel unable to overcome evil, and unable to do good. In 1 John 1:9 we read: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." A confession means a giving up of all pleas of self-righteousness and acknowledging guilt without excuse. We are also taught to turn away from sin. "He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy" (Prov. 28:13). Because of God's faithfulness and the mercy which is available through Christ's sacrifice, we can be assured of His forgiveness when we continue in faith, confess our sins and apply the scriptural remedy.

Perhaps you feel that you are not growing in your spiritual walk. Take courage, for we read in 2 Thessalonians 3:3, "But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil." Again, because of God's faithfulness in working patiently with us, we will become established, by His grace. The word "stablish" means to strengthen, set fast, and turn resolutely in the right direction.

Trusting in God's faithfulness means to have a confidence in Him as our Creator and Lord and Master. We can be assured that He holds the future. We can have assurance to know that all things work together for good to them that love God (Rom. 8:28). He alone is worthy of our love and confidence, who has promised us His blessings, His help in persecution and afflictions, and direction in difficulties, enabling us to endure and ultimately to bring us into glory.

At the same time, let us give a note of warning that just as the Lord promised the resurrection of life to those that believe, He also promised eternal damnation to those who die in their sinful state (John 5:29, 8:24). His faithfulness also means that He will surely fulfill these warnings just as He said.

David declared in Psalms 36:5 that "Thy faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds." He experienced God's continual help in his life. And so he said in Psalms 31:1, "In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust; let me never be ashamed: deliver me in thy righteousness." God's faithfulness became a basis for David's confidence and hope of deliverance. In the same way it became a basis for the confidence of Paul in preaching the gospel of Christ (2 Cor. 1:18-20), knowing that what he was preaching was true, and there was no wavering in believing in the promises of God.

The New Testament states several times that "God is faithful" (as in 1 Cor. 1:9), and each time it uses the Greek word *Pistos*. In other passages of the KJV Bible this Greek word is also translated as "to be trusted," "reliable," "sure" and "true." These passages make it clear that God is dependable, loyal, and very stable in His relationship with us. When He makes a promise, He will never break His word. Because He promises to never leave us or forsake us (Heb. 13:5), we can be assured that He will always be there. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever (Heb. 13:8). There is a complete constancy in God, and His very attributes are exactly the same as when He first created the heavens and the earth.

God's faithfulness is closely tied to our salvation as well as our spiritual walk. Our hope is built upon the faithfulness of our Lord from the time we believed. "Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it" (1 Thes. 5:24). By trusting in His faithfulness we can have victory over the temptations of Satan, and are given assurance, hope, and confidence to help us in our spiritual journey. "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast" (Heb. 6:19).

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

## Bible Distribution

A semi-truck load of Bibles is distributed each year by our brotherhood. Even Johann Gutenberg, inventor of the printing press, would be impressed by the speed of modern printing presses and the availability of the Word today. Bibles were painstakingly printed by hand for hundreds of years, one letter at a time with a quill pen. Now knowledge has been increased and there is no end to the publication of books, as prophesied in Daniel 12:4. These advancements in technology have made our extensive Bible Distribution effort possible. "And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together" (John 4:36).

## Needs being met

About a thousand Bibles are sent into prisons each month. Most of these are part of the Berean Bible Study Program. Bibles and pocket testaments go to nursing homes, hospitals, carnival workers, truck stops, gas stations, or anywhere our brethren are led to make them available. Bibles are placed in food packages and sent everywhere there is a need. Our brothers respond to many needs after disasters strike and place Bibles in the homes of the victims.

Three thousand Spanish Bibles are sent to Mexico each year with the medical teams. More are carried to Mexico by work teams. A growing number of Spanish Bibles are distributed around our churches and into prisons. Egermeier Bible Story books and both 25 and 101 Favorite Bible Story books are also distributed, some to young people who had never heard that they have

a soul. Some of these materials are given to young mothers, children, and others. We also provide tapes, CD's, and large print Bibles.

## Sharing what Christ has given to us

"Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:14).

The Apostle Paul is exhorting us to share the Word with one another. Printing presses make this a lot easier. So do trucks and airplanes. Many of us were blessed with loving parents who both taught and showed us the Word by their example. We have been surrounded by loving church family most of our lives. What a great contrast this is to many who have grown up with little training or proper example. Satan is a master enslaver and ties people up with deceit and addictions. One small New Testament can help us keep our focus as we watch for someone with whom to share.

## Thirst for the truth in our time

"And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them" (John 17:26).

We are living in what is called the Post-Christian Era. Many people do not believe in God or teach their children anything of faith. Many people profess some belief but are unconcerned about their soul's welfare. They faithfully lock their doors and pay all the monthly bills, but eternity is not on their mind. Yet there is a great emptiness in

their souls and they are continually searching to fill that void.

## Opportunity to help

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night" (Psalm 1:1-2).

Bibles cost a few dollars and thousands of Bibles cost thousands of dollars. In a few years we spend nearly a million dollars purchasing Bibles and Bible story books for distribution. God has provided and our Brotherhood has been willing to share; their dollars have opened the way to distribute Bibles to many people.

We pray that these books will be read, and the will of God revealed to many. As this effort is continued, we consider not only the hearts we wish to touch but our own heart as well. Jesus compared heaven to a treasure found in a field and a man sold all that he had to purchase the field and possess the treasure. Can you imagine him running to claim the land and insure he will receive the treasure? There is opportunity for all of us to help in the important work.

"It's not what we have or how much we spend,

It's what we give away that will count in the end.

The oil in our vessel is gathered drop by drop,

When we end our last mile, only then can we stop.

So cast your bread upon the water, for kindness does pay,

It will come back to you in a wonderful way."



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

## Eastern Europe

Although it is now 19 years since the oppressive communist regimes fell in Eastern Europe, our struggling brethren, the Nazareans, continue to face ongoing challenges.

The economic situation is growing steadily worse, not better, with inflation raging, and uncertainties in governments as well as in the daily lives of everyone.

The European Committee continues to monitor the situation very closely, as three groups have gone into Eastern Europe in the last several months, and constant communication is maintained. Quite clearly, without the faithful and loving support of our American brethren, the elderly in particular would find it hard to have food and heat at the same time.

Several years ago Antioch was able to purchase a number of chain saws, which remain the property of the corporation, but are being used by individual brethren to cut firewood. Needs are great, although the people reduce the temperature in the homes, heating only the area in which they are living, so that they can have enough money to buy food.

Fuel prices are rising rapidly everywhere in the world, and incomes are not keeping pace at all. Old sisters living in the apartments built by the communists cannot cope with rent and utilities, much less have enough to buy food.

Our joint international effort, through the corporation known as Antioch, has many programs in place to address these needs. Food packages are made up each month with supplies purchased locally. At this time, we have the good fortune

of being able to buy in volume from large stores much like our Sam's club. This has allowed us to keep this program going in spite of rising food costs. This, too, is funded with restricted donations specified for this purpose.

The bicycles purchased last year have had an impact upon their daily lives, becoming more valuable as gasoline and diesel costs go up. Auto fuel is now over \$7.00 a gallon, so travel obviously is reduced only to that which is necessary.

**Heating Crisis Exists**  
**Since nearly all Nazareans are poor, they depend upon us for assistance in winter heating. Due to the current situation, there is a shortfall of \$70,000 needed for this purpose. The brethren who have the responsibility for the various countries feel this is a real need, and ask for your support to help our suffering brethren cope with the coming winter.**

At this time there are four honey projects functioning, with a processing facility being installed at the Antioch compound. This has capability of processing many tons of honey per year, which is a great help to enable our suffering brethren to become more self-reliant, and less dependent upon outside help. This has always been the stated goal of this endeavor, with future prospects looking good at this time.

Although there is no governmental oppression, the archenemy of our Lord's work never ceases to cause discord wherever possible, and this struggle continues to go on, as it

does everywhere men seek to serve God. Each nation and ethnic group seems to have their own difficulties with all trying to do their best.

Most Nazarean families are large, often with more than ten children, which brings its own problems in trying to keep the family functional. One of the big ways our US brethren can help in this situation is to help purchase school supplies. Research has revealed that costs for each child are about \$50 per school year. Few families have incomes of more than \$500/month, meaning that a family of ten needs one full month's income simply for school supplies.

Last year Antioch purchased school supplies by the pallet, cutting costs a lot, and this seemed to be a big help. It seems good to repeat and expand this program for this year. Therefore, the European Committee has approved the purchase of these supplies, with hopes of receiving enough restricted funds to finance this effort, not only in Romania, but all across Eastern Europe where these needs exist. Numerous Sunday Schools participated in supporting "Project Bicycle," which was highly successful, so it is hoped this will also be given consideration for this effort, which is called "Heft Project." Heft in the German language means "notebook" thus the reason for that name. This is a family-to-family project that hopefully will bring support from our Brotherhood.

Contact to send donations or for more information:

European Treasurer  
Apostolic Christian World Relief  
1118 Charlotte Circle  
Van Wert, OH 45891  
(419) 238-2845

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

In the fall we prepare an annual update and financial report to the churches. This goes out to all of the elders and the church representatives. Each of our churches has a brother who has been asked to be the representative from the church to us. Anyone who would like a copy of the report can request one from your elder, church representative or the Home.

The letter includes a report on our services, anything that has changed, any planned changes for the next year, our current financial position and financial needs for the upcoming year. Illinois has been struggling financially for several years and is currently in a dire financial situation. This has increased our need for donations to assist in covering expenses which state reimbursement no longer covers.

In the past year we had to make some changes, including wage increases that we have been putting off. These were necessary to attract and keep qualified staff and to pay a fair wage to current staff. These changes have caused a significant increase in our financial needs. We are grateful to be a part of a church and people with generous hearts and a willingness to be used.

We know and believe that it is God that gives the increase and we have seen this year after year. Please continue to pray for God to raise up His people who are able to provide the necessary support for this work to which He has called us.

God blesses any gift given of a willing and generous heart. He taught us that He is not impressed with actual amounts but He is thankful when we give because we feel moved and as we are able.

Luke 21:2 "And he saw also a cer-

tain poor widow casting in thither two mites. (3) And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all."

At the Home we are thankful for any gift given from the heart and we trust God will not only bless the giver but will also bless the gift as it is used to serve those with special needs.

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## GATEWAY WOODS Apostolic Christian Children's Home Shane Beer

The Bible study guide, "The Walk of Repentance" tells the story of one of the apostles, Andrew:

According to the early writer Jerome, Andrew went about preaching Christ all across the Roman Empire. While in Achaia, he was called in by Aegeas, the governor of the region, to answer for his actions before a council of officials. He was accused by the council of attempting to persuade men to join the outlawed "sect" called Christians. Andrew readily admitted to this and went on to say that the deities the Romans worshipped were nothing more than devils.

The proconsul, infuriated by Andrew's comments, warned him that if he continued to preach such things he would soon be fastened to a cross with all speed. According to Jerome, Andrew replied, "I would not have preached the honor and glory of the cross, if I feared the death of the cross." Aegeas immediately sentenced him to be crucified.

Andrew, going to the place of crucifixion, didn't shrink back nor show any fear. But out of his heart came the following exultation: "O cross, most welcome and long looked for! With a willing mind, joyfully and desirously, I come to thee, being the scholar of Him which did hang on thee: because I have always been thy lover, and have coveted to embrace thee."

How easy it is for us to back down from the truth in our present-day culture when truth is often tossed aside as an old-fashioned notion. When working with kids and parents, it is many times easier to "sugar-coat" the boldness of the gospel and soften the sting of the truth, so that we won't suffer the "persecution" of those so affected by today's culture. I am challenged by the stories of those who, like Andrew, have been persecuted, even to the point of excruciating deaths, yet did not shrink back. Much the opposite, they spoke all the more boldly and when martyred because of it, they rejoiced.

"Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong." (II Corinthians 12:10)

### NEWS:

- We are pleased to announce the hiring of Sis. Kendra Baer (Washington, IL) as the Assistant Houseparent in the Hickory House. Please continue to pray for her as she adjusts to this new opportunity.

- Sis. Lisa Zaagman (Alto, MI) has recently begun as the Assistant Houseparent in the Maple House. Please lift her up in prayer as she strives to make a difference in the lives of the children in the Maple House.

- We are encouraged that companies, families, Sunday Schools, Vacation Bible Schools, etc. have joined together to complete our Furnish-A-Room (FAR) project for the Pine House. The funds were raised to completely supply all the furniture, appliances, bedding, decorations and supplies for the new home. We hope to have the house staffed and ready for residents by the end of the year. We are truly grateful for all the effort and generosity to complete this important project. There is still a need of a good

runabout car and a 15-passenger van to be fully equipped. Hundreds of children in years to come will be blessed by what has been provided.

- Pine House construction is currently ahead of schedule and under budget. Referrals are up for regular children and pregnant teens. Staffing interest and applicants are encouraging with hopes of hiring all by the end of the year. We still need a good small car and a big van. Please contact us at (888) 443-4283 if you can help us out with these vehicles.

- 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 Counselor, Assistant Houseparent, Alternate Houseparents, and IL Adoption Manager. Please see the notices 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, AL  
Sarah Hodel**

October has been a busy month for us here at the preschool. We had our fall board meeting and would like to thank all the brothers who serve on the board. We truly appreciate your efforts. Thank you for helping in keeping everything running smoothly!

Our kids have had some excitement this month. For starters, we had a field trip to a local pumpkin patch. The children had so much fun taking a hay rack ride, going through

a hay maze, petting some animals, playing in a corn pile and jumping into a huge pile of hay. They each got to pick a pumpkin to take home and it looked like some of those pumpkins weighed about as much as the kids who picked them! We finished our day with a picnic alongside the cotton field before heading back to tuck some tired little children in for a nap. I don't know who was more tired, the kids or the teachers. Either way, we all had a great time.

Also in October we have our annual trike-a-thon. We set up a little track in the parking lot and the kids bring their bikes to see how many laps they can do. They collect pledges from people who support their biking efforts. The money they raise goes towards things that aren't included in our budget. It's always cute to see the determination on the kids faces as they try to make the most laps!

One day in class a girl decided to announce to everyone "Jesus died." She was reminded that yes, He died, but now He lives again. When the class was asked "Where does Jesus live now?", one little boy stated very matter of factly, "At Wal-Mart."

Our color this month was orange and our theme was transportation. We covered the letters H, I, J, K and L.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS  
Louise Hall**

Greetings from Athens! We were so excited to hear the engagement announcement of our Bro. Mark Klaus (late John and Betty) to Sis. Rebekah Wenger from Forrest (Bro. Ed and Sis. Renee). May God bless them in their lives together. Also, we pray God will be with Bro. Tyler and Sis. Whitney Huber (Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sheryl Huber, Sabetha; and Bro. Larry and Sis. Sue Steffen, Denver). They got married October 12 and are living in Murfreesboro, TN. They will be worshipping with us while they

live there. We are excited to have them here and pray they will feel welcome and at home.

We would like to thank all of our visiting ministers we had this month. Bros. David Steffen (Sis. Linda, Elgin, IL) and Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT) came to share the Word with us. Also, all the brothers who are on our preschool board were here as well, including Elder Bros. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH), Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH), Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL) and our Bros. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH) and Tim Gerber (Sis. Wendy, Mansfield, OH).

We were blessed to have our annual Homecoming weekend this month, too. It was a wonderful weekend full of singing and fellowship and we are thankful for everyone who came. Bringing the Word to us that weekend was Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL).

Eric Coulter (Bro. David and Sis. Barbara) is being sent to serve our country in Iraq. He will be leaving early November and is planning to stay for a year. We are thankful for all those who are willing to serve our country, but having one of our own over there makes it a little more personal. Please pray for Eric's safety while he is there as well as a safe return home. Also please pray for his family, especially his parents, while they wait anxiously to see him again.

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**ARIZONA, PHOENIX  
Heather Hinrichsen**

Rachel Lenae was born to Bro. Scott and Sis. Wendy Baum on September 20. Welcoming her home are siblings, Koby, Isaac, Annika, Rebekah, Bryan and Alaina. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Lou Ann Klopfenstein and Bro. Kenny and Sis. Jody Baum (Morton).

As one soul is given life, so another

is released from this life. Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Sis. Marie Kieser (Bro. Chuck) in the passing of her mother. Also, Bro. Quill Barna, a long time Phoenix resident, passed away in Rittman, OH. May the Lord wrap His comforting arms around these families in their time of grieving.

“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.”

*Hebrews 4:16*

Dealing with medical issues and in need of God’s healing power are Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy), LaVonne Doorneweerd, Sis. Toni Bentley and Sis. Evelyn Hoerr (Bro. Ron). Sis. Nancy Baumgartner (Bro. Leon) was involved in a serious car accident on October 2. We pray for the Lord’s comfort as she begins the long road of recovery.

Bro. Philip Stoller has felt the Lord directing him to move back to Illinois. We wish him God’s blessings as he makes Congerville his new church home.

Lex Beres and Kimberly Miller became husband and wife on September 9 in Hawaii. Their parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois Beres and the late Leonard and Regina Miller. May they look to the Lord as they establish their home in Phoenix.

We rejoice with Amanda Knochel as she has found peace with God and man. Her parents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Kathy Knochel. A January testimony is planned.

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

*Ps. 27:14*

How thankful we should be when God clearly shows His direction and

will for our lives. Then it is with patience and anticipation that we see God’s marvelous plan unfold in His appointed time.

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### ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

#### Denise Steidinger

We were thankful to have Bros. Curt Rassi (Tremont) and Bob Meyer (Bluffton North) minister to our congregation this past month. We appreciated their willingness to serve and also enjoyed the fellowship with them and their wives.

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### ARIZONA, TUCSON

#### Lisa Knapp

Congratulations to our Bro. Curt and Sis. Caroline Kaufman on the birth of their second grandson. Robert Curtis Brown was born to Carrie and Travis Brown on October 6. He is healthy and making older sisters, Lexie and Grace, and Mommy and Daddy very happy, not to mention Grandpa and Grandma, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc.

Our Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich and his wife, Sis. Nancy (Phoenix, AZ), visited us for a Sunday recently. They chose October 12 to spend the day with us. Bro. Jon shared the Word with us from the pulpit and they also attended our annual Sunday School picnic in the afternoon. We sincerely thank them for their visit and enjoyed having them around!

The picnic was a great success as we ate (of course!), fellowshiped, watched the children play games and break the piZata, and as always, ended the evening with a bake sale/auction. Besides being tons of fun, our auction raises money for worthy causes each year. So many thanks to Bro. Doug and Sis. Young Bauer for organizing the picnic and all the related activities, and to everyone who came and supported the kids and the auction. It’s just a blessing all

the way around.

I failed to mention in my last column that Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) and his wife, Sis. Marlene, shared a Sunday with us last month. We nonetheless thoroughly appreciated their visit and Bro. Tom’s service in the ministry and invite them back again soon.

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### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

#### Catherine Brame

“Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, And obtaineth favour of the Lord.”

*Proverbs 18:22*

On September 28, we rejoiced with our Bro. Jim Klotzle (Bro. Thomas and Sis. Jody) as he took Sis. Krissa Skoglund (Minneapolis, MN) (Bro. Mark and Sis. Lori Skoglund, West Bend, IA) for his wife. The day dawned bright and beautiful, with air so clear and blue that we all felt that we could simply reach out and touch the purple mountains that frame the view of our church. We praise God for the evident love and joy of this young couple, and wish them God-speed as they embark on this new journey together in Minneapolis.

We were blessed by visiting ministers, including Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae, Minneapolis), Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke), Bro. Herbie Knochel (Sis. Laurie, Phoenix) and Bro. Bill Schick (Sis. Joan, Magdalena). We are always grateful to have visitors to share with us their vision and inspiration from the pulpit.

We were pleased to have the return of several of our members who have struggled with recent health concerns. It is good to see Sis. Mary and Bro. Bill Witzig back in church, and we have been pleased to see Sis. Maria and Bro. Laszlo Cser among us



again. Our prayers have been with you all, and we have longed to have you back with us.

We pray for the speedy recovery of Bro. Clarence Graf from his recent surgery and praise God for being the ultimate and perfect Physician.

On October 18, we held a "Vision Day" to review our last year's gathering and renew our efforts to encourage the members of our small church. We were pleased to see that the changes we have put in place have blessed our congregation and we found that this meeting has, once again, aligned our hearts and goals.

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## CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

### Yasmin Koehl

Our congregation has been blessed with many visitors this month! We appreciated the services of ministering brothers, Bros. Justin Moser (Sis. Robyn, Altadena, CA) and Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria, IL). Our heartfelt thanks are also extended to Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN) for lovingly serving us during their time here in San Diego. We pray the Lord's richest blessings may fall upon these brothers for their labors of love on our behalf.

Our church family grieves with Sis. Mary Thiem at the passing of her dear sister, Joyce Abbell (Mike) of Bethesda, Maryland. May God comfort Sis. Mary during this difficult time.

As fall draws to an end and winter approaches, we are happily preparing for our winter guests. Since many of our visitors stay in the Palm Dessert area, a service will be held there for the convenience of these brothers and sisters. If you are planning to come to Palm Dessert this winter, please read below for more details from our Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic. Thank you.

### Note from Elder Bro. Peter:

We are thankful that the Lord opened the way for us to have church services last winter in the Palm Springs area. Lord willing, we are planning to hold services in the same area on February 22, 2009. I encourage and welcome all visitors vacationing in the area to invite your friends or loved one that live in the area to come and join us in worshipping the Almighty Lord God.

For more information regarding location address and time, please call us.

Thank you!

We look forward to worshipping together with you.

In Christ's love,  
Peter Petrovic

Phone# 760-789-1504

Mobil # 760 -522-2406

Email address: ppetrovic@cox.net

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## KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA

### Kim Leman

"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*

We appreciated Elder Bros. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) and John Jackson (Sis. Peggy, Bay City, MI) sharing with us the Conference Letter. Also, ministering Bros. Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury, IL), Neil Ramseyer (Sis. Sharon, Bay City, MI), and Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL) preached the Word of God to us this month.

We thoroughly enjoyed a busload of brethren and friends from Illinois spending a weekend with us. What a blessing our fellowship is! We trust they all went home with hearts full of precious memories, as did we.

We are rejoicing along with the angels that our friend, Michelle Davidson, has made a beginning in repentance. She, along with her 2 children, have been assembling with our congregation for the last year. We wish her much grace and wisdom as she seeks her soul's salvation.

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## COLORADO, DENVER

### Ann Gonglach

"Yea, the Lord shall give that which is good; And our land shall yield her increase."

*Psalms 85:12*

God has once again sent His blessings on us. As the psalmist wrote, "Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness."

On September 27, we enjoyed fun and fellowship at our annual Sunday school picnic, which was held at Castlewood Canyon State Park. Thanks to our Sunday school teachers who organized this day and who work hard to teach our children about the Lord.

Sis. Whitney Steffen (Bro. Larry and Sis. Sue) and Bro. Tyler Huber (Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharlyn, Sabetha, KS) were united in marriage on October 12. The couple is attending the Athens, Alabama, congregation. May God bless their life together.

Our sympathies are with those who have recently had loved ones leave this earth: Sis. Deb Leman (Elder Bro. Mike) lost her mother; Bro. Nate Lehman (Sis. Yvonne) lost his sister-in-law; Sis. Becky Pfeiffer (Bro. Brian) lost her grandmother.

We appreciate visiting ministers who have served us: Bro. Jeff Bahr (Sis. Janice, Kiowa, KS), Bro. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS) and Bro. Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL).

*Note of Thanks:*

Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene Leman would like to thank all of you who remembered them with cards, gifts and prayers on their 50th anniversary.

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**CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE**  
**Amber Rocke**  
**Laura Virkler**

Lord, Thou Creator, glorious is Thy kingdom!  
 In all the world we sing of Thy great fame...  
*Zion's Harp #118*

Greetings from Rockville! God's beauty is everywhere. We are especially blessed here in the Northeast with a brilliant fall foliage. We are grateful for the visitors wending our way to view the spectacular scenery.

As beautiful as it is outside, the cares and concerns of life remain. Our prayers extend to many of our loved ones who have undergone surgery or recent hospitalization. They include our friend Di Kupferschmid, Bro. Rudy (Sis. Evelyn) Luginbuhl, and Sis. Bertha Trueb.

William Aberle (Viola, dec.) was laid to rest this past month. He is relation to many within our congregation. May the Lord provide much comfort to friends and family members as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

We have once again had several births! We congratulate Tony and Sharon Angelillo at the birth of their twin sons, Derek Micheal and Devin Lewis. Sis. Margaret (Bro. Warren) Gottier is the maternal grandmother. We are also thankful for Ryan and Ra-

chel Dearborn as they welcome home their son, John Ryan. Allison is now a big sister! Grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Luella Hoffman (Vermont), and Steve and Kim Dearborn.

With all the turmoil in the world, and the busyness of life, it is often easy to lose focus of our heavenly goal. How thankful we are for the magnificence of God's creation, to remind us of His power and might.

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

Our caretakers for the latter part of September were Bro. Don and Sis. Sandy Schneider from Fairbury, IL. Sis. Doreen reports we still need caretakers for a few weeks in December. Her contact information is in the ministers' book.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN), Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City, MO), Bro. Mike Baumann (Sis. Lilly, Mansfield, OH), and Bro. Jessie Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie, Detroit, MI). Other visitors this month were from Leo, IN; Mansfield, OH; Eureka, IL; and Philadelphia, PA.

Bro. Tim Sauder gave a presentation one Sunday afternoon on the many different programs of Gateway Woods. I think we all came away with a greater appreciation for our families and our Church.

We rejoice that Ken Belsley's health has improved enough that he was able to attend Church services recently. He has about an hour's drive each way.

Our congregation welcomes Sis. Michelle Bachtold from Forrest, IL, as she has secured employment as a PA in this area.

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 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**

Visiting ministers, Bro. Mark Gerber (Sis. Barb, Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Joe Braker (Sis. Shirley, Morton, IL), joined us for services this past month. We are very thankful for those that visit us and share God's Holy Word with us.

Sis. Vi Gerber (Bro. Ed) suffered a stroke this past week. She was able to receive swift medical attention and is expected to suffer no long term effects. We pray that our Father will continue to keep His healing hand on her while she finishes her recovery at home.

Our prayers for sympathy are with Sis. Lisa Tortoriello (Don) as her father, Edward Geisler, passed away.

We had our monthly potluck and enjoyed the good food and fellowship of our local brethren along with a few visiting brethren. We are always happy to have visitors join us any time.

## FLORIDA NORTH FT. MYERS

**Naomi Vogel**

It's been a quiet month here in Ft. Myers, but that is going to change very soon now that the "frost is on the pumpkins" up north. We actually doubled our summer average already this past Sunday! May God protect each one while they journey south.

We were saddened to hear of the death of John Leman, a brother of Sis. Mary Ann Stoller (Bro. Don) of Gridley. Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Ann winter with us here in Ft. Myers. May you feel the touch of the Great Comforter!

Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Masters welcomed another new granddaughter a few days ago. Parents are Bro. Rick and Sis. Shawn Masters. A brother and two sisters will be on hand to spoil her! Maternal grandparents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Beverly Hari. All attend church in Bloomington, IL.

We encourage anyone who is dreading the snow and ice to "come and taste and see" how pleasant it is here in Florida in the winter. We'll leave the sunshine on for you!

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## FLORIDA, SARASOTA

**DiAnne Brown**

Greetings, brethren. By the time this arrives, our country will have a newly elected President. With two teenagers, one voting for the first time, the election has been the center of many conversations in our home, some pretty passionate. When we arrived home one day to find a sign for the 'other' candidate in a neighbor's yard, it was time for a new conversation. We discussed how easy it is to be caught up in the turmoil of public debate and lose sight that we play to an audience of one....God. May God continue to bless America and remind us it is not where we go in the next four years, but for eternity that matters

most.

Recently, our family traveled to Bluffton, IN, for College Weekend. Bro. Schuyler and Sis. Lindsay Brown shared a time of rich fellowship and worship and returned with "fully charged" batteries. One presentation really resonated with them as members of a small and remote congregation and gave much encouragement. The topic "Holding the Fort" charged each student to be a soldier, defending the fort God has placed them at by building four strong walls—Faith, Patience, Wisdom and Allegiance to establish...Ft. Sarasota! We thank the Bluffton brethren for their efforts and hospitality and trust many fruits will result.

The recordings of the August Conference were shared with us over Wednesday evenings in September and October. There is so much wisdom in them and the obvious love for the church and brethren is so evident in each session. It is a great comfort to know wise Brothers are laboring on our behalf, ever watchful at the helm and we are grateful.

With sad hearts, we share Bro. Doug Wiegand has accepted a new job and he and Sis. Robin and baby Michelle Rose will be moving to Kansas City, MO. They have done so much to serve the young and single members of our congregation and theirs will be hard shoes to fill. Thank you, dear ones, for all you have done for so many in your time in Sarasota. We know they will be a great blessing to their new congregation and pray they find their way back to Sarasota often. Farewell, loved ones, and may God richly bless this new venture for your family.

Our dear friend, Bernie Kittl (Sis. Juliann, dec.), recently celebrated his 101st birthday. Bernie still attends church most Sundays, always wearing a big, bright smile. If you would like to send him a birthday greeting

you may mail it to: Bernard Kittl, 8847 Alam Avenue, North Port FL 34287.

Every year the Sarasota Church Lakewood Retreat is one of our autumn highlights and this year was no exception. Many members and friends traveled from far and wide to gather for a weekend centered on God's Word in God's great out of doors. Lovely fall weather, hay rack rides, hiking, fun and games for the children, food and fellowship were enjoyed in abundance. Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington, IL) led us in Bible study and he and Bro. Kerwin Edelman (Athens, AL) in worship services. We focused on being pliable clay in the Master Potter's hands. This is a true blessing to our church and we thank each one able to be with us and those from Sarasota who work so faithfully to make this weekend possible each year.

Wishing each of you a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday spent with family and friends, counting our many blessings. It is a good time to let someone know how they have blessed us over the past.

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## GEORGIA, ATLANTA

**Melinda Gramm**

Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda, Francesville, IN) shared the reading of the Memorandum of the 2008 Brotherhood Conference with Bro. Tom Waldbeser. We need to keep praying for our Elder brothers as they search the Word for guidance in making those decisions which will unify and preserve our church for our children and grandchildren.

Bro. Steven Frauhiger (Sis. Irene, Bluffton, IN) ministered to us this month. The children were especially listening as he taught us that nature is full of the handiwork of God and speaks of its marvelous Creator with

ultimate pattern and design. Man cannot even begin to explain the intricacies of certain insects. For example, how has the monarch butterfly known for centuries the exact timing, the late summer migration path, to its one and only destination in Mexico. Research scientists also cannot explain how, during its metamorphosis, a "soupy" substance forms next into a complete, beautiful, orange and black striped butterfly!

We were captivated as he spoke how the struggle between a Mud Dauber and spider resembles the struggle between the father of lies the devil, and us. Just as the Mud Dauber can deceive the spider by feigning capture in the spider's web, so we must be aware that we can be deceived. Just before being bitten, the Mud Dauber then stings but does not kill the spider. It pulls the paralyzed spider away to its own nest for its young to eventually devour after hatching. Deception can paralyze our thinking if we are not living Spirit-filled lives.

Phillip and Kelly Kaufman became first-time parents of a baby boy, Rob, on September 23. Grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol Kaufman (Sabetha, KS).

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### **ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE**

**Jenn Johnson  
Doreen Moser**

"He grew the tree that He knew would be, the old rugged cross."

We were recently blessed with the privilege to hear a group of brothers play music together, and the last song they played for us contained this verse. As I was sitting there listening to the song, which I had never heard before, I had a startling realization about how Christ knew from His first day on this earth that He would have

to die for the sins of the whole world. I am not sure that I would have been as motivated to help others as readily as Christ did if I knew that I would have to die for their wrongdoings. Christ's love for each and every one of us was so evident in His short walk on this earth.

The Belvidere Young Group Invite was the weekend of September 27-28. We were excited to have so many young people fill up the church!

The weekend of October 3-5, we were fortunate to be able to spend time together as a congregation enjoying the splendor of the earth God created at our Annual Church Camp Out. Not only did we enjoy our time together, but we also rejoice that Karl Braun has felt the call of the Lord in repentance.

October 18 marked the day of our Annual Harvest Party at Gary and Sis. Doreen Moser's home. We had a wonderful day of fellowship and gorgeous fall weather.

We were blessed to have two visiting ministers this past month. A special thanks to Bro. Mark Wettstein (Sis. Karen, LaCrosse, IN) and Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL) for sharing the Word with us.

Bro. Dave Jepson (Sis. Millie) has spent time in the hospital recently, and we are thankful that he is home and gaining more strength every day. We wish him a full and speedy recovery in the weeks to come.

It is with great pleasure that we also welcome Chris and Lori Gibbs (Bro. Rich and Sis. Karen Stoller, Fairbury) and their newest addition, Paige Keller, to our congregation. Chris has accepted new employment in the Rockford area, and we are so thankful to have another young family at Belvidere church.

"God does not ask much of us in our service to Him in comparison to

what He asked His only Son to sacrifice for our freedom from sin — His life on the cross."

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### **ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL** **Betsy Zimmerman Alissa Kieser**

We are reminded and amazed at the awesomeness of our God as, only through His power, we are able to see the changing of the season through the beautiful color transformation of the trees here in central Illinois. It is our hope that we continue to be transformed, as well, by the Holy Spirit.

We extend our love and sympathy to Mark Dietsch, whose sister, Mackenzie Diane Dietsch, passed away in July.

Our congregation has been made stronger and built up in spirit as we have been listening to the Conference tapes this month. We continue to pray for our Elder body as they lead and also pray that our church can continue to become more Christ-like.

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### **ILLINOIS, BRADFORD** **Philip and Donna Nenadov**

As we approach Thanksgiving Day, we start to go through a time of reflection of the blessings that we have been given. We reflect on where we are in God's plan, what He has done for us. May it be our desire that our thanksgiving attitude reflects the spiritual blessings that come with walking close to the Lord.

Our hospital patients in the recent past were Sis. Elizabeth Kimble and Bro. Clarence Bruell (Sis. Sharon).

Bros. Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury) and Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol, Gridley) brought forth the Word to us while visiting our congregation. We are thankful for their visit and trust that God will bless their efforts.

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

*Psalm 127:3*

There are a few births to report (a couple late) from our church. Bryce Nathan was born to Bro. Lucas and Sis. Diana Gudeman. Siblings are Collin and Halle. Grandparents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Gudeman and Bro. Fred and Sis. Jeannette Beutel (Tremont). Bro. Dick and Sis. Marilyn Tanner’s son, Wayne, and his wife Betsy had a daughter born to them. Caroline Leigh was born in August. Wayne and Betsy reside in Chicago. Bro. Dennis and Sis. Becky Pyles became grandparents of twins. Jacob and Cole Merna’s birth brought blessings to the house of Tom and Alisa Merna (Peoria). May the Lord bless these families as new life is brought into this world that they may be raised to know the true and living God one day.

God be with you ‘til we meet again.

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## ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

### Rachel Meyer

Greetings from Chicago. On September 21 we welcomed new Sisters-in-faith, Allison Rager and Julie Eisenmann. Parents of these dear young ladies are Bro. Kent and Sis. Jill Rager and Bro. Brad and Sis. Cindy Eisenmann. Ministering brothers joining us for this joyful weekend were Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), and Bros. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH), Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Justin Koch (Washington, IL), Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL) and Dan Moser (Elgin, IL). We thank each brother and praise God for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit that was felt throughout the weekend.

Bro. Paul Leman (Sis. Millie) lost

his brother, John Leman. Visitation and funeral were at Roanoke, IL. We extend our sympathy to this dear family. Let’s pray for our brothers and sisters.

We wish to thank Bro. Brandon and Sis. Mindy Rinckenberger for agreeing to serve on the VBS committee. A lot of time and effort goes into VBS and we give them our support and prayers. Thank you.

Please pray for our convert, Christine Eckel. She fell, had partial hip replacement surgery and is doing well. May God be near her.

On October 15, we had a Topical Bible Study on, “Assurance of our Salvation” by our Bro. Greg Rassi. We thank Bro. Greg for the tremendous effort he put into sharing this inspiring message. We look forward to continued study on this topic for several weeks in church.

The “accuser of the brethren” wishes to break our spirits and fill us with fear. A reminder:

False  
Evidence  
Appearing  
Real

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## CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

### Jackie Eisenmann

“Cast thy burden upon the Lord and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.”

*Psalm 55:22*

Our prayers and sympathy goes out to our Bro. Loren Mogler, as he has experienced the death of his father, Loren Mogler, Sr. May Loren feel God’s comfort and the love of our church at this time. What a comfort that we can go to our loving Father in times of need.

Our Bible Class gave a presenta-

tion the evening of Sunday, October 5, on their recent mission trip this past July to the CVE orphanage in Magdalena, Mexico. The students did a wonderful job of telling the church about their experiences on the trip. It was very interesting to hear their stories and see their pictures. They all experienced great blessings on the trip together. Afterwards they served dessert to the church. “Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.” Psalm 41:1

We were thankful on Wednesday, October 8, Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Eureka, IL) was willing to come and be used on the pulpit. May God to continue to bless Bro. Mark’s ministry and willingness.

Saturday, October 11, Bro. Dennis and Sis. Cheryl Mangers hosted their annual wiener roast and hayrack ride. This is an evening that we all look forward to, especially the children. It is always special to climb on the hayracks once it gets dark and ride around the countryside and sing praises with the children. We usually get quite a few former Champaign residents who come back home for this weekend of fellowship and fun. We were thankful that Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO) was able to stay over for Sunday and was willing to preach God’s Word to us. It was a blessing. Also thanks to the Mangers for once again hosting the church on Saturday and the young group on Friday night. It is greatly appreciated!

As the weather is beginning to cool, we will soon need warmer coats; we have noticed a couple of coats were left here sometime last winter. A ladies medium charcoal gray wool pea coat and a men’s tan XL Aeropostale brand winter jacket. If you have left these coats, call me @ 217-398-0119.

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

We appreciate the willingness of our visiting ministers this month: Bro. Jed Rocke (Sis. Marsha, Goodfield, IL), Bro. Matthew Kaufmann (Sis. Rebekah, Bloomington, IL) and Bro. David Obergfel (Sis. Kathy, Peoria, IL). May God richly bless these brothers for their labors on our behalf.

On Sunday, September 21, our Sunday School students hosted our annual Senior Citizens Meal. It is always a blessing to see the young and old spending time together. We pray our students will always remember these special times together.

Our prayers are with Sis. MaryLou (Bro. Elmer) Kaeb as she had some complications following a procedure. We trust God will add His healing touch as is according to His will.

The Bible Class counted it a privilege to host the Congerville and Remington Bible Classes on October 19. We enjoyed a blessed day worshipping God and spending time together. We pray the students built friendships that will last a lifetime. We were thankful to have had Bro. Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL) and Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl, Eureka, IL) join us for the day and shared God's Word with us and our young adults. God bless you!

As we look ahead, the holidays will soon be upon us. May we each one remember to keep Christ in Christmas and always be thankful for the wonderful Gift that God gave us!

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

Thank ye the Lord!  
Give thanks to the Lord,  
For He is gracious,  
His mercy it endureth evermore.  
Endureth evermore,

endureth evermore!

We all have so much to be thankful for as Thanksgiving draws near. Our God is so gracious and merciful. As time goes on I feel more and more thankful to God for His great mercy. We are so unworthy, and yet He still sent His Son to die for us. Even though we may have trials on this earth, we can still have the hope of Heaven, because of His mercy.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers we've had in the past month: Bro. Dan Moser (Sis. Anne, Elgin, IL), Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City), Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke), Bro. Greg Stoller (Sis. Jill, Forrest), and Bro. Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park).

**ILLINOIS, ELGIN****Amy Gasser  
Miriam Gasser**

Great God, we sing that mighty hand  
by which supported still we stand;  
The opening year Thy mercy shows;  
that mercy crowns it till it close.  
By day, by night, at home, abroad, still  
are we guarded by our God;  
By His incessant bounty fed, by His  
unerring counsel led.  
With grateful hearts the past we own;  
the future, all to us unknown,  
We to Thy guardian care commit, and,  
peaceful, leave before Thy feet.  
In scenes exalted or depressed Thou  
art our joy, and Thou our rest;  
Thy goodness all our hopes shall raise,  
adored thro' all our changing days.  
Amen.

*Worship and Service Hymnal #520*

We enjoyed having many visitors in the past month, including Sis. Marta Hejja and her sister, Zsuzsi, from Szeged, Hungary. A special blessing was provided for us by those who ministered the Word: Bros. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Ron Joos

(Bloomfield, IA), Dale Moore (Elgin, IA), and Roger Sauder (Ft. Lauderdale, FL).

Our normal midweek services were replaced by four Wednesday and Thursday evenings set aside to listen to the Brotherhood Conference recordings. We are thankful that prayers were answered for those who spoke and that there remains a fervent desire to prepare and preserve a true Church for Christ's return.

Another soul, Jim Krueger (Mary), has confessed his need of a Saviour and has begun his repentance. May he drink deeply of the living water that Christ gives and — as the woman of Samaria — never thirst again.

We were sorry to learn of Kathy Mohr's unfortunate fall, requiring her to be hospitalized. Since her discharge, Kathy has been recovering at Sherman West Court. Her presence in church is missed!

*Note of Thanks:*

Greetings in our precious Savior's name. We certainly have a heritage, beyond value, with our precious faith and brotherhood. God's faithfulness truly is great! Your thoughts, prayers, and many expressions of love have been greatly appreciated! May God abundantly bless and reward each of you, as only He is able. We love and remember you in our prayers often, trusting we each can, by His grace and mercy, be counted among the overcomers, when we reach the end of our pilgrimage.

The Least in Faith,  
*Sis. Deb Sauder*

**ILLINOIS, EUREKA****Cindy Stoller  
Dee Baer**

Best wishes to our Bro. Jacob Rocke (Bro. Robyn and Sis. Jan) and Sis. Julie Fehr (Bro. Dan and Sis. Di-

ane) as their wedding engagement has been announced.

Our thanks to visiting ministers, Bros. Ed Knecht (Silverton, OR), Kent Getz (Elgin, IA), Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), and Dale Banwart (Congerville, IL).

Gabriel Vernon was welcomed into the family of converts Vernon and Sara VanWaters. His brothers are Benjamin and Joshua, and grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Karen Sinn and Vernon Stephens and Debbie VanWaters.

Bro. Alan and Sis. Sharon Martin have a new granddaughter, Vada Belle, born to Brent and Jessica Martin.

Prayers are offered on behalf of Sisters Norma Hangartner (Bro. Roy) and Lyola Ringger (Bro. Jim) with their short hospital stays. We are happy when we see them return to church.

Our friend Abram Frank (Bro. Scott and Sis. Elaine) has recently begun his repentance. We are thankful and pray God's desire can be fulfilled in his life.

#### *Notes of Thanks:*

I would like to thank my family for my 90th birthday dinner and surprise. To my friends, a big "thank you" for the cards, gifts, flowers and phone calls. May God bless each of you every day.

In His Love,  
Sis. Eleanor Baer

We would like to express our heart-felt thanks for the much love and support we received this past summer throughout Eva's illness – the many prayers, cards and words of encouragement, meals, and help with our children's needs. It was so humbling to feel the out-pouring of Christ-like love from such a precious brotherhood as we have. May God bless each one.

*Bro. Dave and Sis. Eva Roche and girls*

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### **ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY** **Elizabeth Fehr** **Anna Schmidgall**

We rejoice along with the angels in heaven that Jenny Steffen (Bro. Clint) has confessed a desire to repent. We lift her and our other converts up in prayer.

Bro. Kevin and Sis. Kara Moser welcome a little son, Peter Douglas, into their family. His siblings are Silas, Damaris, Leighton, Gideon, Reena, Elsa, Josiah, Louisa, and Stella. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Martha Moser (Washington, IL), Colleen Tholen (Alsip, IL), and Robert and Cherie Kaisner.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Jane Steidinger are thankful for two new granddaughters. Shyann Sophie was born August 2 to Tim and Amy Steidinger. Her sisters are Madalyn and Gracie. Her maternal grandparents are Tim and Amy Lessman. Sierra J was born to Bro. Matt and Sis. Janelle Steidinger (Bloomington, IL) on August 31 and her siblings are Mariah, Jaelah, and Luke. Art and Jana Lehmann (Strawn, IL) are also grandparents. May God richly bless these families.

Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL), Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA), and Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) shared God's Word with us this month. Our prayers continue to ascend for His Spirit to work through them.

Several from our congregation spent time in the hospital. They are Bros. Vernon Hartman, Don Bazzell, Don Broquard, and Sis. Anna Steffen and Helen Fehr. We are thankful they are again assembling with us or recuperating at Fairview Haven.

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### **ILLINOIS, FORREST** **Jill Wenger** **Lori Leman**

"Our love shall not diminish, nor fade nor wane away..." On September 21, our Bro. Seth Leman and Sis. Renee Grimm were united in marriage in Sabetha, KS. Their parents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Brenda Leman and Bro. Kevin and Sis. Nita Grimm (Sabetha, KS). We warmly welcome Sis. Renee to our congregation and pray for God's blessings on their marriage.

We also heard the wedding engagement of our Sis. Rebekah Wenger and Bro. Mark Klaus of Athens, AL. Their parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Renee Wenger and Betty Klaus (Washington, IL). May God be near them and guide them during their time of engagement.

Bro. Matt, Sis. Kim, and Cambria Zimmerman are thankful to welcome Jenna Lanae into their family on October 11. Her thankful grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Jeanette Zimmerman and Bro. Dean and Sis. Dawn Herrmann (Princeville, IL). Little Jenna had to spend some extra time in the hospital, but we are thankful that she is now at home.

Emma Joeline was born to Wes and Theresa Goodwin, and is also welcomed home by grandparents, Bro. Duane and Sis. Mary Ifft and George and Jane Goodwin. May God be with these couples and give them wisdom to raise their families to know Him and the way of salvation.

Our prayers are with Bro. Les Zimmerman (Sis. Louise), Sis. Wendy Gutwein (Bro. Jeff), and Sis. Emma Ifft (Bro. Elmer) who were in the hospital. May God be with these loved ones and provide for their needs.

Our prayers are also with the families of Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley Ifft and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra Schneider on the loss of their little grandson, Levi John Schneider. Little Levi was born prematurely to Bro. Michael and

Sis. Jodi Schneider of Junction, OH. May God comfort them and be with them in the days ahead.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who brought forth the Word of Life to us. May God bless Bro. Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL), Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Bro. Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL), Bro. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH), Bro. Paul Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), and Bro. David Hartter (Sabetha, KS) for their labors on our behalf.

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### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Rita Bauman  
Amber Grimm**

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”

*Psalms 1:1-3*

We were thankful to hear Sis. Marla Wiegand's testimony of faith and witness her baptism this month. Her parents are Bro. Art and Sis. Pam. Our prayers continue with her that “whatsoever she doeth shall prosper”.

This is the same prayer we have for Sis. Jackie Steffen who was engaged to Bro. Richard Martin (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Royce Schieler who married Sis. Sarah Bolliger (Tremont, IL). Parents of these couples are Bro. Mark and Sis. Joan Steffen, Bro. Byron and Sis. Katie Martin, Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa Schieler, and Bro. Tom and Sis. Jane Bolliger.

“Blessed is the man that trusteth

in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of the drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.”

*Jeremiah 17:7-8*

Even through the trial of losing a loved one or spending time in the hospital, we pray that our brothers and sisters in faith shall “trust in the Lord whose hope the Lord is”. Bro. Noel Davis (Sis. Molly) lost his father, E.L. Davis, and Sis. Lydia Hohulin (Bro. Bill) lost her brother, John Leman. Sis. Shirley Debolt and Russell Hartter (Bro. Richard and Sis. Verna) were hospitalized for a few days this month. Our prayers are with them that God can continue to comfort and heal them.

We see our ministers in faith as “trees planted by the waters” who “neither shall cease from yielding fruit” and are thankful that they take the time to share with us the fruit that God has given them. Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judith, Silverton, OR), Bro. Steph Baner (Sis. Donnalou, Gridley, IL), Bro. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA), Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jackie, Francesville, IN), and Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL). We thank them all for spending time with us and for their service.

Joy has in been the household of several families this month in the birth of new babies. Bro. Tadd and Sis. Jill Gerst were able to adopt a baby girl, Selah Malia. We pray that the adoption process continues to run smoothly. Bro. Darrell and Sis. Jennifer Stoller had a baby girl also, Kinley Renee. Kinley has one brother, Mason. Sis. Jenny and Jason

Royer had a baby boy, Ezekial David. Ezekial has a sister and a brother, Hannah and Gabe. May God grant wisdom to all of these couples in raising their children to know Him.

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### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

A nice evening took place on Sunday, November 2. Our Gridley congregation was invited to a singing at the Bradford church. A nice sense of brotherhood was present as we sang an hour's worth of beautiful songs from the Hymns of Zion. At the end, the song entitled “Farewell” was sung. The words depicted the closeness of believers in Christ Jesus, including the phrase, “cherished brethren”.

Beloved brethren fare ye well!  
As we must part in love we tell.  
Farewell until we meet again  
Perhaps before God's throne to stand.  
Chorus: Farewell, farewell, farewell!  
Our dear, cherished brethren, fare ye well!

Bro. Richard Martin was announced to marry Sis. Jackie Steffen of Goodfield. Her parents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Joan Steffen. He is the son of Byron and Sis. Katie Martin, of Gridley. Lord willing, they are planning a December 28 wedding.

Bro. Grant and Sis. Deb DesCarpentrie traveled to Ethiopia to pick up their newly-adopted son, Nathan Daniel, who was born on March 13, 2007. Nathan has a brother, Samuel. Grandparents are Byron and Sis. Katie Martin; and Bro. Stan and Sis. Jane DesCarpentrie (Washington).

An auction was held on Saturday, November 1, at the Gridley Fellowship Hall to raise funds to send the Bible Class to Jamaica to perform work team tasks at the deaf village. A sizable amount of money was raised.

Our ministering Bro. Dave Zehr



was injured in a farm accident. He fell off his combine, and was found unconscious. Via helicopter he was rushed to a Peoria hospital to receive treatment. He suffered a broken clavicle, and had surgery — and a spot of blood was found on his brain. He has recovered nicely, and was able to resume preaching on Sunday, November 2. We are thankful his life was spared.

Sis. Marge Meiss had surgery and is recovering. Bro. Barry Ehresman continues to take treatment for cancer, as does Bro. Tom Miller. We wish them God's favor in their quest for healing.

We give thanks to God for a bountiful harvest. The corn and soybeans were brought in during the six-day week our brother farmers observe, as they take a day's rest on Sunday. They are to be commended to rest on Sunday as the Word teaches.

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## ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Annette Tanner  
Julie Bahr**

A dear friend once told me, "You never lose your value to God, no matter how low down and crumpled you may feel. Your worth and your value stay the same with God! Just like a \$50 dollar bill found trampled in mud, it never loses it's value. The OWNER would STILL want it!" Praise God for the wisdom and encouragement she gave at a timely moment. We have had many in our congregation who have faced uncertainties with health issues these past few months. Let our prayers ascend to the Father on their behalf that each one will feel valued, uplifted, and encouraged.

Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke) visited to give our Family Worship topic "The Spiritual Leader in the Home". No matter what our position is in our individual homes, there is always spiritual work to be

done. Other visiting ministers included Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville), Elder Bro. Tim Funk and Bro. Tim Roecker (Peoria), Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz and Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton), Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign) and Bro. Randy Mogler (Washington). We appreciate each one coming to visit Morton.

We found ourselves revived and rekindled with God's powerful love as we listened to the recent testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Sis. Holly Funk (Bro. Fred and Sis. Diane) and Sis. Marla Heinold (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pam).

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Linda Baum (Bro. Melvin) in the loss of her brother, Robert Stewart. Sympathy is also extended to Sis. Shirley Stephens in the loss of her mother-in-law, Helen Stephens.

On September 6, Little Easton William entered the home of Erik and Kellie Roecker and big sister Lindsey. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Bobby Roecker and Jack Dixson.

On September 28, Sis. Tori Warner was united in marriage to Bro. Andy Schick (Princeville). Sis. Tori is the daughter of Bro. Scott and Sis. Debbie Warner. Bro. Andy is the son of Bro. Stan and Sis. Margie Schick (Princeville). Our prayers go with them as they will reside in South Carolina.

Sis. Heidi Knobloch and Bro. Joe Gerber were united in marriage on October 19. Parents to the blessed couple are Bro. John and Sis. Cheryl Knobloch (Morton) and Bro. Doug and Sis. Ruby Gerber (Bluffton). The couple will reside in Champaign.

Morton has been showered with so many engagements, among them being the exciting announcement of Bro. Jack Krantz to Sis. Dorthy Roeschley. What excitement rippled through the church as we shared in the joy of the announcement of these

two. A wedding date of November 19 has been chosen.

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## ILLINOIS, PEORIA

**Pam Fritzenmeier**

With great thankfulness and gladness, we report two new converts. Ryan Davidovics (Bro. Fedi and Sis. Ruth) and Brooke Metzger (Bro. Merlin and Sis. Judy) have made known their desire to serve the one true God.

Gage William Schroeder arrived September 19 to bless the home of Bro. Jesse and Sis. Jill and excited siblings, Alexa, Blake, and Evan. Grandparents are Bro. Skip and Sis. Pat Meister, and Bro. Duane and Sis. Rachel Schroeder (Roanoke).

On Sunday, September 21, we heard the engagement announcement of Bro. Bob Leman to Sis. Deloris (Dee) Fehr (Roanoke). We wish you God's blessings as you plan your wedding.

We were blessed with many visitors this past month. What a joy it is to fellowship with friends and family we rarely see. The Peoria Choir hosted the Ft. Scott/Wichita Choir September 20-21. Bro. Glen Funk (Sis. Sally, Wichita), Bro. Jeff Fischer (Sis. Gloria, Ft. Scott), and Bro. Cory Metzger (Sis. Jodi, Wichita) presented the Gospel. On September 28, Bro. Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor, MO) ministered to us. Our monthly family night, October 1, was a study of Agape Love by Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington). Sunday evening, October 5, at our monthly hymn sing, we were joined by our pre-k and kindergarten Sunday School children and the Bloomington Choir. The Phoenix Choir were our guests the weekend of October 10-13. Bro. Jim Meiss (Sis. Candy) and Bro. Herb Knochel, Jr. (Sis. Laurie) preached the Word for our congregation. May God bless all of you for your ministry of the Word and in song and for your

willingness to serve at the jail. "Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works." (I Chron. 16:9).

We do have those in our congregation suffering health problems. Please pray for Sis. Emily Tanner who was a surgical patient this month, and for Bro. George and Sis. Ruth Huthmann, recovering from surgery and undergoing treatments.

Those serving in the foreign mission field continue to need our prayer support: Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family in Haiti, and Bro. David Sceggel and Bro. Jonathan Aupperle, both in Mexico. Also remember to petition to God for the hurricane victims in the Caribbean Islands and United States and for the Christians in India. "Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his face continually." (I Chron. 16:11)

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### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

**Linda Joos  
Connie Christ**

Our dear Sis. Leah Stahl was laid to rest on October 7. She leaves a sister-in-law, Sis. Edith Stahl, and many nieces and nephews who will miss her. She reached 98 years and was blessed with a sharp mind and loving heart. May God comfort those left behind.

We appreciate our visiting ministers, Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA), and Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) who were willing to be used for our benefit and God's praise and glory. Thank you for coming.

Under medical care have been Bro. Quinn Steffen and Sis. Phyllis Knobloch. We remember them in our prayers and for God's healing balm.

Bro. Andy Schick (Bro. Stan and Sis. Margie) and Sis. Victoria Warner (Bro. Scott and Sis. Deborah, Morton,

IL) were united in marriage in Morton on September 28. They will make their home in South Carolina where Bro. Andy is employed and will attend the Atlanta church. May God be with them as they establish their home.

"God be with you till we meet again." With these words, we bid farewell to Wolfgang and Barb Christ who have decided to make their home in Crossville, TN. We wish them well in their new location but welcome them to visit whenever they are back in our area again. May God be with them.

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### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Jamie Hodel  
Judy Sauder**

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord."

*Proverbs 18:22*

Our congregation has been blessed with several weddings this month. On September 27, Abby Martin (Bro. Tim and Sis. Linda) became the bride of Matt Inpanbutr. His parents are Manoon and Sripen Inpanbutr of Princeton. Bro. Jeremy Hodel (Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy) and Sis. Tammy Sauder (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Becky, Tremont) were married on September 28 in Washington. Then on October 19, Tim Stoller (Bro. Tim and Sis. Peg) and Esther Weaver (LeRoy and Maria Weaver, Sarasota, FL) were united in marriage in North Carolina. We wish these couples God's rich blessings as they begin married life.

Ephesians 5:19: "...singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." On October 12 our family sing was held. The Prairie Choristers sang a selection of inspirational hymns. It was a blessed evening.

We are so thankful for God's healing hand upon Sis. Doris (Bro. Jim)

Hodel. We continue to lift up Bro. Jack Sauder in prayer as he faces health issues.

Funeral services for John Leman of Georgia were held on October 14. His survivors include two children, Lillian (Scott) Plunk and Brett (Marguerite) Leman, and four grandchildren. He was a brother-in-law to Sis. Helen Leman and Sis. Ann Leman of Roanoke. We extend our love and deepest sympathy to his dear family.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

Our sincere thanks and appreciation for the concern, prayers and gifts of love for our grandson and son Jacob during his illness and transplant. A special thank you for the anonymous gifts of love. Please continue to pray for him.

*Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Martin  
Sally Achterberg*

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### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell  
Janice Sauder**

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

*Psalms 19:1*

The earth is rotating away from the sun and the days are growing shorter and cooler. The leaves on the trees are turning a beautiful gold, red and orange. God is in His heaven and all is right with the world. If we, as Christians, truly have faith in God, we can believe this statement with all our hearts.

We were privileged to have three visiting ministers this month to bring us the Word of God. They were Bro. James Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Congerville), Bro. Nathan Wieland (Sis. Suzanne, Goodfield) and Bro. Wayne Wiegand (Sis. Rosemary, Goodfield). We wish God's blessings on them as they labor

to bring us the Word.

“And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh...”

*Matthew 19:5*

Two dear couples have experienced this verse in the past month. Sis. Tammy Sauder (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Becky) wed Bro. Jeremy Hodel (Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy, Roanoke) in Washington, IL. Sis. Sarah Bolliger (Bro. Tom and Sis. Jane) was joined to Bro. Royce Schieler (Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa, Goodfield). In this important step in their lives, we wish them God's richest blessings.

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord....Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them.”

*Psalms 127:3 and 5*

Bro. Dave and Sis. Joanna Sauder have added Eli Daniel to their family. Heidi, Debbie, Nathan, Jacob and Carl are excited to have another sibling. Bro. Dale and Sis. Joann Sauder are Eli's grandparents. Bro. Todd and Sis. Beth Stuber are happy to have another grandchild. Warren Christopher James was born to Travis and Elizabeth Stuber.

“....pray for one another, that ye may be healed.”

*James 5:16*

There are those who have been afflicted with illness and surgery. Our prayers go out to Bro. Elmer Kaeb, Sis. Wilma Pulfer (Bro. Les), Bro. Trent Stuber (Bro. Todd and Sis. Beth), Bro. Glenn Stuber (Sis. Dorothy), Bro. James Pflederer (Sis. Lee), and Sis. Sally Koch (Bro. Roger). We pray for their swift recovery, and that they can again assemble with us.

## ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Nancy Knepp  
Elizabeth Heinold**

We had several visiting ministers this month. We thank them and their families for serving us. They are Bro. Steve Sauder (Sis. Mary, Tremont, IL), Bro. Darrin Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign), Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke), Bro. Craig Stickling (Sis. Jackie, Peoria) and Bro. Jeff Grimm (Sis. Ruth, Goodfield).

We continue to pray for our Sis. Dolly Schick as she recovers and gains strength. Bro. John and Sis. Ellen Cox have traveled to San Diego, CA, to seek further treatment for Sis. Ellen. We are thankful they have felt God's direction and we pray God will continue to speak peace to their hearts and sustain them.

We rejoice with Bro. Jeremy Hodel and Sis. Tammy Sauder as they were married this month. Their parents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Kathy Hodel (Roanoke) and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Becky Sauder (Tremont).

We were happy to hear the engagement of Bro. Mark Klaus (Athens, AL) to Sis. Rebekah Wenger (Forest). We pray that God will bless their engagement and marriage.

We said good-bye to Sis. Kendra Baer as she has been called to serve at Gateway Woods. We pray God's blessings on her work there.

Recently, the following passage was read in church. It speaks of a strong faith, a confidence in God and the beauty of worship. What a word of hope in uncertain times.

“Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in

the God of my salvation. The Lord God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.”

*Habakkuk 3:17-19*

*Notes of Thanks:*

I wish to thank all those who remembered me in prayer during my surgery and recovering while at AC Restmor. Also for the flowers, cards and food since I am home. May God bless you.

Love,

*Sis. Louise Teubel*

I thank God for all of you who sent prayers, cards, meals and all other acts of love to me in this time of my injury. It is encouraging and humbling and I pray God will strengthen and encourage you as well!

In Christ,

*Bro. Josh Gerber*

With a grateful heart I want to thank the many dear ones who most importantly prayed for me, sent cards, notes, letters and gifts of love. It has touched my heart. It's been a long road, but God is so faithful and touched me with His healing power. The future is in His hands, and I try to leave it there.

In Christian Love,

*Sis. Dolly Schick*

## INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Stef Kipfer  
Jan Schwartz**

“O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together.”

*Psalms 34:3*

We rejoice this month with a dear convert who has turned her heart to the Lord in repentance. Shaunda

Bedwell (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Nancy) has realized the need for her Saviour in her life. We are very thankful for her trusting heart.

We also rejoice with Kyle Gerber (Bro. Kent and Sis. Kim), Mark Maller (Bro. Bob and Sis. Kim) and Joel Reinhard (Bro. John and Sis. Pam) as they look forward to their upcoming baptisms on the weekend of October 26. Our prayers are with these three young converts as they anticipate this special weekend.

The engagement of Bro. Rex Gentis to Sis. Martha Reinhard (Bluffton North) was announced to our congregation. We pray their marriage will be filled with God's richest blessings.

Bro. Kurt Fiechter and Sis. Staci Beer (Mansfield, OH) were married on September 21, in Mansfield. Parents of the happy couple are Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth Fiechter and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Robin Beer (Mansfield, OH).

Bro. Matthew Brooks and Sis. Bekah Mounsey (Bro. Rod and Sis. Rosemary, Bluffton North) were united in marriage on September 28. We are pleased that Bro. Matthew's children, Kaitlyn, Abram, Nathaniel, Joel, Joshua, Hannah, Rachel, and Elizabeth, joyfully welcome their new step-mom, Sis. Bekah. We rejoice with this couple and their children and pray that they may be a family filled with love and joy of our Lord.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Bro. Bruce Raber (Sis. Mary) in the passing of his mother, Monnah Raber, on September 28. Our thoughts and prayers are with this dear family.

Also, our friend, Gretchen Kaehr, passed away on October 11. Our thoughts and prayers are with her extended family.

Our prayers and condolences have likewise been with Sis. LaVera Heyerly and Sis. Ilean Steffen as their

brother, Verlyn Geyer, passed away on September 19.

Sis. Sylvia Bertsch (Bro. Oscar) spent time in the hospital this past month. Our prayers are with her as well.

We have several births to report this month. Sis. Sherri Cress welcomed granddaughter, Lillianna Morgan, on September 13. Lillianna's parents are Tye and Carla Cook.

Bro. Dick and Sis. Rita Everett greeted their granddaughter, Emma Elizabeth, on September 14. Her parents are Chris and Christina Everett. Our thoughts and prayers are with little Emma as she is struggling with a serious heart condition.

Little Anna Elizabeth was born September 24 to John and Emily Nussbaum. Anna's excited grandparents are Bro. Jay and Sis. Deb Gerber.

Bro. Nathan and Sis. Leslie Isch were blessed with a boy, Levi Andrew, on October 10. Levi is welcomed at home by siblings, Cora, Abigail, and Jacob. His happy grandparents are Bro. Barry and Sis. Imogene Isch and Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy Stoller (Bluffton North).

And finally, it is such a blessing to have visiting ministers willing to share the Word with us. This month we thank Bro. Dan Beer (Sis. Deb, Milford) for his willingness to serve our congregation.

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**INDIANA  
BLUFFTON NORTH  
Jessie Longenberger  
Sherry Pfister**

"To every thing there is a season,  
..."

*Eccl. 3:1*

The green leaves are changing to wonderful colors of red, orange, yellow, and brown. The crisp autumn wind blows across the Indiana's

fields. Even the birds are noticing a season is changing as they gather together to head down south. The farmers are busy in the harvest fields.

Now the field is ripe for harvest;  
Let us then all garner in;  
For if we should stand here idle,  
Who would bring the sheaves of grain?

Hasten gladly to the labor.  
Consecrate to God your heart.  
Say this day unto your Saviour,  
"Lord, I'll gladly do my part."

*Hymns of Zion,  
The Golden Harvest #46*

What can you do for the LORD today?

Sadness, illness, and injuries seem to touch all of us at one time or another. Bro. Dick (Sis. Patti) Troxel is scheduled to have a second surgery to alleviate symptoms of Parkinson's. He would appreciate prayers.

Sis. Gretchen Kaehr passed away on October 11. We offer our sincere sympathies to her family and friends.

On September 28, Sis. Bekah Mounsey (Bro. Rod and Sis. Rosemary) was married to Bro. Matthew Brooks (Bluffton). May they feel the Lord's blessing. Believing that it is God's will for their lives, the engagement of Bro. Rex Gentis and Sis. Martha Reinhard was announced to the church. They will marry on Wednesday, October 22. Our prayers go out to this couple as they prepare for the next step in their lives.

We are thankful for a new convert; Spencer Ginter (Cole and Angie Edington) has made a beginning in repentance. May he find the grace of God to be sufficient for his every need.

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**INDIANA  
FRANCESVILLE  
Barb Huber  
Jessica Murray**

Greetings of love and joy in Jesus Christ from all of us at Francesville!

As we see the plenteous harvest being undertaken, we again thank God for His goodness and provision.

We are rejoicing to report that our dear friends, Austin and Stacy Metzger, are seeking the Lord in repentance. Austin's parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Arlene Metzger. Austin and Stacy are the parents of two precious sons, Colton and Logan. What a refreshment of joy it is to the entire brotherhood to witness God's grace ever seeking His loved ones. We pray that many others will answer God's loving call.

We have been blessed with the ministry of Bro. Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla, St. Louis, MO) and Bro. Nick Gutwein (Sis. Suzanne, W. Lafayette, IN). How beautiful it is when brothers from our own home base come, through the Lord's Spirit, back to share the love and teachings of God to many of us who watched them grow up. God is so good!

We are thankful that our many prayers have been answered on behalf of our Bro. Andre (Sis. Lois) Neihouser as he has been assembling with us once again after open heart surgery.

Our prayers are with Sis. Karel (Bro. Wendell) Anliker as she is scheduled for surgery. We pray that she will feel the many prayers being offered for her and that her recuperation is quick and complete.

Our Sunday School recently hosted a gathering of Junior-High classes from Indiana for a weekend. Seeing all these bright and energetic young people impresses us with the need to keep on holding the banner of the Gospel high so that they in time can enjoy the fellowship we are blessed with.

"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost."

*Romans 14:17*

We truly felt that peace and joy and the presence of the Holy Spirit as we gathered for Communion on Sunday evening. Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO) graciously served us along with Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda) and our beloved retired Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Sis. Marcella). It was truly a precious evening and so restorative for our walk with Jesus. Thank you, Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan, for traveling so far to share this blessing with us.

By the time this article is published, we should have a new president of the United States. Many prayers have been offered for this perplexing election and it is our hope that our country will proceed on with integrity and peace. However, we leave all to the omnipotent will of God and realize again that He only is the true source of peace and righteousness. I did hear a very timely comment, "in Heaven, there is no PANIC only PLANS!" That comment correlates very nicely with the Word of God in John 14:27 which says "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." May we all be clinging tightly to our unwavering God, whatever the future brings.

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**INDIANA  
INDIANAPOLIS  
Sandy Lichtle  
Penny Schroder**

On October 4-5, we had Indy Outreach weekend. Many young people cheerfully gave of their time to help with a variety of service projects in our community. We thank all of those who participated, and we appreciate their willingness to serve the Lord by serving others. What a true example of Jesus' words from Matthew 25:40, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren,

ye have done it unto me." On October 3 in preparation of Outreach weekend, Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Francesville, IN) shared an informative presentation on "Waxing Bold" from Acts 13. Thank you for your labors of love in the Lord.

We have been listening to the tapes from the Brotherhood Conference. May we continue to pray for God's guidance and wisdom to be with our Elder Brothers as they have the responsibility of shepherding our churches.

We rejoice with three souls, Seth Bollier (Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie), Ashley Bollier (Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie), and Teryn Leuthold (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Doreen), as they have peace with God. Lord willing, we look forward to hearing their testimonies and witnessing their baptisms the weekend of December 13-14.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Bro. Ken Lawson (Sis. Sharon, Atlanta, GA) and Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue, Francesville, IN) for sharing the truths of God's Word with us this month. May the Lord richly bless them for their efforts.

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**INDIANA, LACROSSE  
Bethany Johnson  
Julie Rocke**

Greetings of love in our dear Savior's name! It is so easy to see God around us when we look at the beautiful colors of the leaves and see the bountiful harvest that is being brought in. It strengthens and renews our faith each time we witness a new season come and go.

Sis. Dorothy Stewart celebrated her 92nd birthday this month. The congregation sang to her during the noon meal. What an encouragement it is to visit with and learn from those dear Brothers and Sisters who are in their golden years of life. May God bless Sis. Dorothy in the time that she

has left to serve Him on this earth.

Sis. Connie Knobloch and Bro. Gene (Sis. Norma) Nuest have both been undergoing treatment for their health. We pray that God will be with them during this time and that He will lay His healing hand upon them.

We said farewell to Sis. MaryAnn Feller for a few weeks as she headed down to Florida. We always miss her smile and encouraging words when she is not with us.

Several of our loved ones have been involved in accidents or mishaps lately. We are very thankful that all have been spared and that there has been little or no bodily injury involved.

There is always a need for our prayers during harvest-time, both for the farmers and many others, as a lot of work is being done and equipment is being moved about on the roads. We trust in God to keep us each safely through another harvest.

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

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”

*Matthew 5:16*

The fall equinox is now past and our daylight hours seem to diminish. We need more artificial light to accomplish the same tasks we used to do easily with the sunlight a few months ago. As darkness increases, we are reminded of the mandate Christ gave us as Christians to let our light shine. Why do we need to shine our lights? So the dark world can see our good deeds. Is this for our own credit and honor? Our lights are to shine in this dark world so people will see how we serve Christ and give all the credit

and honor to our Lord Jesus. As the darkness continues to increase, let us shine brightly so Jesus receives all the credit and glory.

Bro. Sylvan Pulfer has met Jesus face to face. We want to extend our sympathy to the Pulfer family and Sis. Irene Pulfer who cared for him many years. May they know the comfort Jesus promises to give during these times.

We enjoyed our annual all church bon fire supper the first Sunday of October. Our church gathers once each year to show our appreciation to our ministers who faithfully bring us God's Word week after week.

We thank Elder Bro. John Jackson (Sis. Peggy, Bay City, MI) for assisting Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz in the reading of the Memorandum. We appreciate Bro. John's willingness to share this time with us.

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

We rejoice with and send our congratulations to Bro. Cap and Sis. Mary Ann Beer, who recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. What an example of love and commitment this is to all of our Milford church family.

Sis. Ruth Beer (Bro. Don) recently had some health concerns and we are glad she is doing better and able to worship with us again.

On a recent Sunday in October, our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter and his wife, Sis. Emily, and their whole family were able to assemble with us in Milford. This included Bro. Bill's son, ministering Bro. Warren Schlatter (Junction, OH). We enjoyed meeting their family and appreciated Bros. Bill and Warren preaching God's Word to us. After church we had a meal at our Fellowship Hall and then spent an enjoyable evening together

at Bro. Lee and Sis. Sandy Beer's home.

As Thanksgiving approaches, may we think on the following verse and find many reasons to thank our Heavenly Father for the good things in our lives.

“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.”

*Psalms 100:4*

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

Seeds of goodness we are sowing  
in the hearts of man today,  
Bless it, Lord, that it may prosper,  
and bear fruit for harvest day.

Children, come the grain to gather,  
while the morning sun doth shine;  
And ere long, beloved brethren,  
it will be your harvest time.

Now the field is ripe for harvest;  
let us then all garner in;  
For if we should stand here idle,  
who would bring the sheaves of grain?

He who gathers not at harvest,  
will a beggar be at last,  
Therefore rise today and labor,  
gath'ring golden sheaves with haste!

Hasten gladly to the labor,  
consecrate to God your heart.  
Say this day unto your Saviour,  
“Lord, I'll gladly do my part.”

*Verses and chorus from Hymns of Zion*  
*#46 The Golden Harvest*

Here in our area as I write this the fields truly are “ripe for harvest” and the farmers are busy doing their part to “garner in”! We can all feel blessed that God has once again richly provided His bounty for His creation.

We are thankful that Bro. Clyde

Waibel is able to be back worshipping with us after his surgery. We continue to pray for him and his dear wife, Sis. Mary Sue, as well as their children and grandchildren.

John and Sis. Lisa Walder are in the process of moving from Champaign, IL, to Remington. Sis. Lisa is the daughter of our Bro. Ken Schneider (Sis. Bernice) and the late Sis. Loretta. We want to extend John, Sis. Lisa, and their children, Laura, Kyler, Rachel, Kevin, Sarah, and Justin, a warm welcome into our church family. We are so blessed to have the opportunity to deepen our ties of fellowship with one another!

We have been blessed with several visiting ministers this past month and want to thank them for their efforts. Bro. Todd Graf (Sis. Lydia, Akron, OH), Bro. Ken Weerts (Sis. Myrna, Cissna Park, IL), and Bro. Calvin Schneider (Sis. Jeannie, LaCrosse, IN) were all here visiting family recently, and we enjoyed their exhortations and encouragement from the pulpit. We especially want to thank Bro. Calvin for "coming home" and visiting us, as this was he and his family's first Sunday since he was put into the ministry.

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### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Natalie Virkler  
Becky Langhofer**

"But eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him."

*1 Corinthians 2:9*

Praise God for His unfathomable mercies, and what a comfort in facing the uncertain future of our times. Thank you to Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy; Forrest, IL) for visiting our small congregation and ministering to us.

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### INDIANA, VALPARAISO Marguerite Hoerr

One morning this month we drove to our church early to get ready to serve lunch for the day; we found several cars in the parking lot. Usually, we are the first ones there when we serve lunch. We looked at each other and wondered if we had the wrong time. Bro. Garry and Sis. Lois Bucher drove up as we were preparing to unload our car. It was then we learned that the Sunday school students and their teachers were having an appreciation breakfast for our ministers that morning. Once again we were shown an example of the warmth and love existing in our little congregation. We always consider it a joy to serve lunch, but on this day it was heightened knowing that there was a breakfast served below in the Fellowship hall for our ministers who serve us every Sunday by reading and proclaiming the Word of God.

The committees for planning the Eastern World Relief meeting met on a Wednesday night after church. Those of us in Valpo consider it a unique opportunity to work with the LaCrosse folks as we anticipate holding this meeting together on November 8, in Valpo. Each of our congregations felt inadequate to host this meeting individually, but by combining the enthusiasm and the cooperation of both groups, we are able to do so. We are asking God to bless the time we spend together learning more about the opportunities to serve Him more in our own communities and abroad.

Bob and I are finding it difficult to drive to church for evening meetings. For the above mentioned meeting with LaCrosse, two of our brothers offered to drive to New Buffalo to make it possible for Bob to attend the World Relief meeting that night, which was

held at Valpo church. Two offers to pick him up and two offers to bring him back home again made us feel most blest. The love of God can be shown in so many ways and this portrayal of love to us seemed very generous.

We live 38 miles to the North of our church home and it's always amazing to us how close we feel to the brothers and sisters who live miles in another direction; some of them driving a distance also, but from the South. I can remember one call we got from Bro. Garry asking "how are you" a while back and if we knew a certain bit of news he had to impart. I was able to tell him that we'd had calls from two others in the congregation on that day or the day before. We agreed with each other that distance doesn't keep us from feeling close to each other.

For those of you who will be coming for the Eastern World Relief meeting in Valpo, and for those of you who will visit us from time to time; let me remind you that we are on State Rd 49, just 2 ¾ miles S. of U. S. 30. A warm welcome awaits you.

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### INDIANA WEST LAFAYETTE Darlene Walder Hollie Meister

The angels in Heaven rejoice over one sinner that repenteth. We are rejoicing with Sarena Wahl (Bro. Fred and Sis. Libby) who has confessed faith in Jesus Christ and has begun her repentance. It gives us much hope and faith.

We appreciate the many visiting ministers that come and fellowship with us at W. Lafayette. This past month they have been Bros. Ken Schneider (Remington), Greg Stieglitz (Indianapolis), Les Kaeb (Francesville), and Alan Stoller (Bluffton).

Our Purdue students enjoyed a

few days off for their fall break and then enjoyed College Weekend hosted by Bluffton. It is so refreshing to see and visit with all the young people when they worship with us on Sundays. Their vigor and zest for life is often seen on their faces and in their countenance as well. So many young adults in today's society are often caught up in the self-serving attitude and have a strong sense of entitlement. Our young brothers and sisters in the Lord are examples that self-service isn't a part of walking with Christ and their desire to serve others is observed often.

God's blessings to all in the upcoming holiday season.

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### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Lynell Blume  
Erica Blume**

We appreciate visiting ministers who so faithfully and humbly proclaim the Word of God unto us. Bro. Todd Graf (Akron, OH) and our Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN) each spent a Sunday with us this past month.

We continue to pray for Sis. Viola Stoller (Bro. Richard) who submitted to surgery recently. We wish her the Lord's nearness and renewed strength as she recuperates.

Our "church family" had another opportunity to draw closer together at Bro. John and Sis. Ruth Ann Lehman's annual wiener roast. We enjoyed fellowshiping and singing together in the beauty of their woods. Being in nature reminds us of the Creator!

On the weekend of October 18-19, the work of the Lord was so vividly revealed through the testimonies and baptisms of Phillip and Sasha Kyburz (son and daughter-in-law of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy Kyburz). We rejoice with these two dear souls and pray the Lord will richly bless them in

their new walk of life. We thank Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, Lacrosse, IN) for giving of himself in assisting our Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN).

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### IOWA, BLOOMFIELD Christy Wiegand

Lydiann Mae was born on September 25 to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Angie Birkner. She is welcomed home by her siblings, Justin, Jaden, Harry, and Rose. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn Metzger.

On Sunday, September 28, ministering Bro. Dale Frank and his wife Sis. Tina (Oakville) were with us. Thanks be to God for the faithful servants who minister the Word.

Our sympathy is extended to the Wuthrich family at the passing of their brother-in-law, Bro. James Sutter (Taylor, MO). We will miss his frequent visits to Bloomfield.

Our hospital patient this month was Bro. Russell Wuthrich. We are thankful to report that Bro. Russell came through another back surgery well and is on the road to recovery.

We bid a sad farewell to Bro. Cleo and Sis. Esther Rinkenberger as they have felt led to move to Apostolic Christian Skyline in Peoria, IL. May the Lord be near them and continue to guide them.

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### IOWA, BURLINGTON

**Dixie Messner  
Karla Gerst**

"And it came to pass, that, while they communed together and reasoned, Jesus himself drew near, and went with them."

*Luke 24:15*

We have been blessed with a number of visiting brethren this past month. We hope that each one who came also felt a blessing in

like-minded fellowship in the presence of the Lord.

Matt and Monica Eisenmann and their children, Madelaine, Lydia and Ethan, welcomed Naomi Ruth into their home on July 30. Naomi then spent ten days in the hospital in October, but is doing well now. Her grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Elaine Eisenmann.

Time brings changes to each of our lives. Sis. Maye Heiniger experienced a recent change as she moved to Sunnybrook Assisted Living. We trust that she can feel that the Holy Spirit dwells with her in her new home as He has been with her in the past.

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### IOWA, ELGIN Gloria Frieden

"Offer unto God thanksgiving..."  
*Psalms 50:14*

How easily we can take our blessings for granted, and forget to give God thanksgiving. I believe God enjoys sending blessings our way, just as we enjoy doing little things for others. But doesn't it please us when signs and words of appreciation are shown and said?

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord..."

*Psalms 92:1*

On October 1 we were very thankful to have visiting minister, Bro. Mike Baumann (Sis. Florina, Mansfield, OH) minister unto us at our midweek service. We sincerely do appreciate all who come and worship with us.

On October 14, Mike and Beth and Anden Starkweather welcomed little Brielle Laine into their hearts and home. Also welcoming Brielle into their family circles are Bro. Floyd and



Sis. Jan Frieden and Dan and Kelly Starkweather. Bro. Eli and Sis. Helen Fisher (Eureka, IL) are Brielle's great-grandparents.

On October 19 we were again thankful for a visiting minister when our Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA) came to spend the day with us. We appreciate his love and concern for our little flock here in Elgin.

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### IOWA, IOWA CITY Diana Butikofer

We are grateful for the visiting ministry of Bro. Joe Dotterer (Sis. Rose, Bloomfield, IA), Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edie, Elgin, IL) and Bro. Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka, IL) this month. May He bless them as they speak according to the direction of the Holy Spirit.

At our annual business meeting, we elected Bro. Tim Gerst (Sis. Melisa) and Bro. Brad Eland (Sis. Joyce) as trustees and Sis. Sharon Gerst to serve on the Women's Committee. We thank each one who fulfilled their duties and pray our newly elected brethren will be blessed as they serve as well.

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### IOWA, LESTER Gloria Moser Polly Metzger

When Jesus has found you,  
tell others the story,  
That my loving Saviour  
is your Saviour, too;  
Then pray that your Saviour  
may bring them to glory.  
And prayer will be answered –  
T'was answered for you!

*Hymns of Zion #31*

We rejoice with our dear converts who have been announced for peace: Janae Mogler (Bro. Dwight and Sis. Donna), Crystal Moser (Bro. Rick and Sis. Lori), Tasha Metzger (Bro. Tom

and Sis. Deb), Laura Knobloch (Bro. Myron and Sis. Beth), and Chet Mogler (Bro. Brian and Sis. Bev). May they continue to pray for His grace and may God bless them each step of the way.

Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) and Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL) were visiting ministers. We thank them for coming and pray God will continue to bless their efforts.

Eric Hartter (Bro. Jerome and Sis. Gail) and Amy Tuenge have announced their engagement. We wish them God's blessings and guidance as they make plans for their marriage.

Mary TerWee (Jerry) had a hospital stay this past month. May she feel God's healing touch. May we continue to remember those undergoing treatments and those with heavy burdens, keeping them in our prayers.

One by one their seats were emptied,  
One by one they went away...

*Hymns of Zion #222*

On October 7, Paul Feucht passed away at the age of 95. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, Josie; their sons, Duane, Doug, Mike and Lowell, and their families. He also leaves his sister-in-law, Sis. Martha Feucht, and a brother-in-law, Bro. Phil (Sis. Donna) Mogler, and a host of nieces and nephews. May God comfort them in their loss.

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### IOWA, OAKVILLE Sharla Wiegand

On September 21, the engagement of Sis. Janae Schulz (Bro. Roger and Sis. June) and Bro. Jeremy Stickling (Bro. Scott and Sis. Jan) of Congerville, IL, was made known. We wish God's blessings for this couple.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO), Bro. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL) and Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Wolcott, IN). May God richly bless

them for their labors on our behalf.

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### IOWA, WEST BEND Janet Fehr Sue Schneider

Young Charlie Fehr (Bro. Cory and Sis. Jennifer) was hospitalized during the past month with an infection. Thankfully, he has returned home and has gradually returned to his normal level of activity.

We have quite a number of elderly sisters, brothers, and friends in our congregation. Our thoughts and prayers are often with them and their families as they encounter physical and mental changes in their lives. Amid the loneliness and despair of these times, may the ever presence of a loving, compassionate Heavenly Father bring a calming hope and a peace to their hearts.

My Jesus, as Thou wilt;  
Oh, may Thy will be mine;  
Into Thy hand of love  
I would my all resign;  
Thro' sorrow or thro' joy,  
Conduct me as Thine own,  
And help me still to say,  
My Lord, Thy will be done.

My Jesus, as Thou wilt;  
All will be well for me;  
Each changing future scene  
I gladly trust with Thee:  
Straight to my home above  
I travel calmly on,  
And say, in life or death,  
My Lord, Thy will be done.

—*Gospel Hymns #372, vs. 1,3*

Two young couples were united in marriage on September 28. Sis. Krissa Skoglund (Bro. Mark and Sis. Lori) from the Minneapolis, MN, congregation became the bride of Bro. Jim Klotzle (Elder Bro. Tom and Sis. Jody, Altadena, CA). They will make their home in the Twin Cities area. Bro. Derek Knapp (Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna, Oakville, IA) joined hand

and heart with Sis. Annie Messner (Bro. Beirne and Sis. Joyce, Morris, MN). We welcome Sis. Annie to West Bend and trust God will bless the hearts and homes of both these young couples.

Bro. Dwaine (Sis. Lucille) Schmidt's sister-in-law, Mae (Roland) Schmidt, passed away in the Gibbon, MN, area. Ervin (Nettie) Banwart lost his brother-in-law, Paul Feucht, from the Lester congregation. Our sympathy is extended to each of these families.

Sis. Karol Banwart (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phyllis) was engaged to Bro. Jim Meyer from Bern, KS, on September 21. May God bless and help them through this time of change in their lives, preparing to becoming one in Him.

We are happy to report that our dear friend, Kurt Zaugg (Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie), was announced for peace. We pray for God's nearness as he readies for baptism. Also sharing the Word with us that same Sunday was Bro. Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Lamar, MO). We are thankful for all the brothers that "feed" us through God's Holy Spirit each Lord's Day.

Below is a Thanksgiving Day prayer to help us remember "in all things, give thanks".

"Faith of our Fathers" renew us  
again,  
And make us a nation of God-fearing  
men.  
Seeking Thy guidance, Thy love, and  
Thy will,  
For we are but Pilgrims in need of  
Thee still—  
And, gathered together on  
Thanksgiving Day,  
May we lift up our hearts and our  
hands as we pray.  
To thank Thee for blessings we so lit-  
tle merit,  
And grant us Thy love and teach us to  
share it.

—Helen Steiner Rice

## JAPAN, SHIODA

### Carrie Ito

There was a farewell party for Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle on October 11. The gathering had hymn singing, prayers, Bible reading, and of course, a presentation of the gospel message. Many friends of the Ehnle's and kindergarten acquaintances were able to come—about one hundred people in all! We pray that the gospel message will take root in their hearts. We are sad to say farewell to this dear couple who has served the Lord and the Japanese churches so enthusiastically and faithfully, but know that the Lord is directing them in their move to Peoria. May the Lord bless and provide for them.

## JAPAN, TOKYO

### Jana Klaus

Greetings from Tokyo! After a summer full of safe and blessed travels for many, we are into our fall events. The first was our big church cleaning held on the fall equinox day, a national holiday. In the midst of the hard work, a lunch break of pizza was a treat! Thanks to all for their labors of love.

For the last 5 years or so, the Sunday school children with good attendance get to have an overnight outing at the beginning of summer break. However, this year, just at that time, dear Sis. Marie broke her arm, so it was rescheduled for September. The children, and a few of the teachers, enjoyed an afternoon of picnicking, hiking and river play in the mountains, and then returned to the church for a few games (break the watermelon), a curry rice supper, Bible time, then bed time on rented futons. The next morning, Sunday, they made a pancake breakfast together and cleaned up in time for Sunday School. Thank you to the teachers and parents, and overall to the Lord,

who helped to give the children a special experience.

The next event was our annual sanma (saury) fish fry. Our Japanese sisters know how to make it delicious! Many more dishes were added, which resulted in quite a feast!

And, we had a first time experience—an afternoon of recording singing of Japanese hymns (sambika). A group of 21 brothers, sisters, friends and children gathered for around four hours, which resulted in a 45 minute CD of hymns. It is our custom to have an hour of singing on the second Sunday of each month after lunch, but this was an extra special time of singing together, sticking to it even though our voices were about to give out! The thrust behind it was to produce a special gift to give to retired Elder Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle, who are leaving this beloved land and people at the end of October after 54 years of service.

Which leads me to a second first-time experience—having a farewell for the dear Ehnle's. Many gathered for the special day on October 5 to hear Bro. Willis preach one last time in our Tokyo church and visit with him and Sis. Lois over a feast at lunch and supper. Our hearts are full as we think of the many years of service they gave and all the memories made and hearts touched. Our prayers and love will go with them with a plea to the Father for a special measure of grace and peace to be upon them during this time of adjustment. We want to express appreciation to Sis. Elizabeth Rayburn (Bro. Jim and Sis. Barbara, Francesville, IN) for giving of herself in coming back with the Klaus family in late August and staying for 6 weeks to help in their home and support the church. She was the much needed baby sitter for the younger children on the day of the recording! May God bless her richly.

The Klaus family also wishes to

thank all of you in the US who showed us love and hospitality during our 7 week stay there. I can still hear the ringing of the beautiful strains of "God be with you till we meet again" when the Bluffton church sang it as a prayer to us and our churches of Japan. We are so thankful to God for the prayers and support of our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

I have neglected to write about a special family who has joined us in the East — Bro. John and Sis. Wanda Kinsinger and three children, James, Jesse and Joy, moved to South Korea in March where John took an English teaching job. Our prayers are with them during this new experience and we hope they can visit us here in Japan, their very close neighbors!

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### KANSAS, BERN

**Jill Meyer**

**Rita Menold**

Bro. Steve and Sis. Lois Hartter welcomed another grandson into their family circle. Little James David Hartter was born to Mark and Emily Hartter (Olathe, KS) on September 19. "Behold children are an heritage of the Lord, the fruit of the womb is his reward." (Psalm 127:3)

We rejoice with the engagement of our Bro. James Meyer and Sis. Karol Banwart from our West Bend, IA, congregation. Our prayers are with them as they make plans to join hand and heart! "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." (I Corinthians 4:13)

We appreciate Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Jeff Fischer (Fort Scott, KS) sharing God's Word to us. Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha) also shared God's Word with our congregation.

We continue to pray for our Sis. Ramona Strahm (Bro. Ed) and Sis. Darlene Meyer (Earl) as they recu-

perate and progress from their recent hospitalizations. We miss them in our assembly and look forward to their worshipping with us again.

On Sunday, October 5, was our annual fall potluck. With a bountiful turnout, we enjoyed an evening of fellowship and song.

As the farmers are hurrying to get the crops harvested, may we remember to daily prepare our lives for the great and final harvest — the Lord's return!

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### KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

**Martin Hohulin**

"I say unto you, that likewise, joy shall be in Heaven over one sinner that repenteth."

*St. Luke 15:7*

We are thrilled for two more converts in the Fort Scott congregation. Joseph and Mary Fischer (children of Bro. Jeff and Sis. Gloria) have turned to the Lord in repentance.

Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen Kellenberger had an enjoyable trip to Altadena, CA, to visit a new granddaughter, Natalie Esther Moser. She is the daughter of Bro. Justin and Sis. Robin Moser.

The Fort Scott-Wichita choir had a blessed train trip to Peoria, IL. They were well received by the congregation there. Singers in the choir range in age from 10 to 85 years.

We continue to be blessed by visiting ministers. Bro. Cory Metzger (Sis. Jodi, Wichita, KS), Bro. Robert Pfloderer (Sis. Eleanor, Morton, IL) and Bro. Dale Banwart (Sis. Melissa, Congerville, IL) fed us from God's Word this month. May God richly bless them for their efforts.

It has been an encouragement in our spiritual walk of life to listen to the Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. May God bless these Elders

for the work they do.

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### KANSAS, KIOWA

**Janice Bahr**

**Jenny Stewart**

Bro. Marvin Ott has passed from this life and our sympathies are with his family and friends.

We rejoice with our new dear sister in faith, Sis. Kathleen Miner. We wish to thank Elder Bro. John Lehman and Bro. Max Reimschisel for all of their support and labors of love for that special weekend.

Bro. Frank Kisling and his wife, Annabelle, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. Their family helped celebrate the special day with them. May God continue to bless them.

Our senior Bible class enjoyed the semi-annual Apostolic Sunday school fellowship at Kansas City, Missouri. Many thanks to the Kansas City congregation for opening the hearts and homes to make this weekend possible.

There are friendships that we cherish  
in our daily walk of life,  
Friends with whom we meet and labor  
in our earthly toil and strife.  
Friends among the aged and youthful,  
friends that live from us apart,  
Friends of higher rank and station  
find a place within my heart.  
But I prize the friendship highest, of  
the one whose heart is true,  
Friends who live by truth and good-  
ness and who live in Him anew.  
Friends whose hearts are up in  
heaven, though their feet traverse  
this sod,  
Find a place of highest merit in our  
fellowship with God.  
There's a tie of noble kinship in a soul  
who loves the Lord,  
There's a friendship warm and lasting  
if he heeds the Master's Word.  
There is mutual understanding and a  
sympathy so kind,  
In the tie of Christian friendship, as  
on earth we oftentimes find.  
When at last these ties are riven,

when we're called to go on high,  
Oh, how sweet to meet in heaven,  
friends forever you and I.

*Hymns of Zion #91*

We enjoyed the fellowship of just this kind of friendship this past weekend when some families and young adults from the Denver church shared the weekend with us here in Kiowa. What a joy to watch children from our church and those of Denver just enjoy each other at play and to have the privilege of meeting and visiting with Christian brothers and sisters and friends of the Faith. The singing was so beautiful with so many added voices to our small congregation and we appreciate the time given by these loved ones to travel so far for a weekend. God bless each one!

We are so happy that Sis. Chelsie Bahr has chosen to move back to our area, and take a job as a Physical Therapist Assistant in Alva, OK. She is a joy to our congregation and we pray that God will bless her in her work.

Thanksgiving is just around the corner, and may we take the time to count our blessings each and every day for the wonderful way our Lord and God cares for us as we walk through this life!

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**KANSAS  
LAMONT-GRIDLEY  
Ester Knobloch**

Our congregation has enjoyed the fellowship of our brotherhood as several have come to worship with us this past month. We had company for both an Invite-a-Guest weekend and Single Group Weekend. Those who labored in ministering God's Holy Word were Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Dave Hartter (Sabetha, KS).

Bro. Steve Schrader (Sis. Dorothy) was under the care of surgeons during

open heart surgery. We continue to commit him to God's care and keep-  
ing, trusting that He will provide.

We all enjoyed gathering with our Sunday School students for the annual Sunday school picnic.

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**KANSAS, SABETHA  
Rebekah Beyer  
Carrie Grimm**

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*

We rejoice with Sis. Renee Grimm (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Nita) and Bro. Seth Leman (Bro. Fred and Sis. Brenda, Forrest, IL) as they began their life together as one in the Lord on September 21.

We also rejoice with Bro. Tyler Huber (Bro. Gordon and Sis. Sharlyn) and Sis. Whitney Steffen (Bro. Larry and Sis. Sue, Denver, CO) as they were united in marriage on October 12. Bro. Tyler and Sis. Whitney make Tennessee their home. May the Lord bless these two couples.

We were thankful to have visiting ministers, Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl, Eureka, IL) and Bro. Ron Isch (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS) share the Word with us.

Our prayers continue to be with Bro. Koertland Beyer (Sis. Rebekah) as he had back surgery this month. Our prayers are with all those who have suffered afflictions of the flesh. May the Lord heal and strengthen each one.

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**KANSAS, WICHITA  
Emma Miller**  
The combined efforts of the Ft.

Scott and Wichita choir culminated this past September when the Kansas group traveled by train to Peoria, IL. They arrived on Saturday afternoon and left for Kansas by supertime the following day after they had blessed at least five audiences with their talented voices. The Peoria hosts planned for the schedule. Their hospitality provided the travelers with their physical needs.

Last month I wrote about Andy Warner, son of Bro. Howard and Sis. Ann Warner, who was afflicted with a terminal disease. When we gathered for services on October 5, we received word that Andy died that morning. Again, we are keeping the Warners in our prayers.

Mike and Fonja Bowers are the happy parents of baby Philip Andrew. He was born on his uncle's (Bro. Phil Bowers) birthday which was October 3. Little Philip's maternal grandmother came from Madagascar to be with the family at this time.

Sis. Lillian Bowers recently underwent surgery. The latest report is that she is now recuperating at a rehab facility. Her son summed up her progress this way. "She has made good progress and she has a long way to go."

Recently, I submitted a version of the song, Jesus Loves Me, to the Silver Lining. The words were appropriate for the elderly believers. Just this week I received an e-mail from a believer who added other verses. The revision is as follows (the chorus follows each verse):

Jesus loves me, this I know, Though  
my hair is white as snow.  
Though my sight is growing dim, Still  
He bids me trust in Him.

Though my steps are oh, so slow, With  
my hands in His I'll go.  
On through life, let come what may,  
He'll be there to lead the way.

When the nights are dark and long, In  
my heart He plants a song.  
Telling me in words so clear, "Have no  
fear, for I am near."

When my work on earth is done, And  
life's victories have been won.  
God will take me home above, 'Tis  
then I'll understand His love.

I love Jesus, does He know? Have I  
ever told Him so?  
Jesus loves to hear me say, That I love  
Him every day.

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### MEXICO, IXTLAN

**Matt Gerber**

"And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David. And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou Son of David. And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, What will ye that I shall do unto you? They say unto him, Lord, that our eyes may be opened. So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him."

*Matthew 20:30-34*

Ministering Bro. Loren Schrenk and his wife, Sis. Betsy, along with their nursing team, came to do eye operations. Many people gave thanks to God for their skilled hands and willing hearts. A number of people were served who otherwise would never have the financial resources to improve their eyesight. Please pray that God would grant them spiritual sight to turn from their sins and be converted into followers of Christ.

We also welcomed back Sis. Gloria Gonzalez, who returned after three and a half years of service at Casa

Vida y Esperanza (CVE) in Magdalena. She served the children there tirelessly and sacrificially, and we thank God and her for her willingness to be His instrument in changing lives.

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### MICHIGAN, ALTO

**Rose Watson**  
**Terri Huber**

On September 28, we held the ordination ceremony for our new Elder, Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy). Elder Bros. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI) and John Jackson (Bay City, MI) were here to oversee the event. Many prayers have been lifted on Bro. Ted's behalf, for the wisdom and strength to be a watchman and leader for the Alto congregation. Shortly thereafter, we had a special evening to commemorate Bro. Aaron Steffen's retirement from the pulpit and his 27 years as Elder. Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta Steffen were treated to a meal and singing in their honor. We are certain that their lives of service are not over, just taking a new direction.

Five baby girls have been born to those near and dear to us! Leah Dawn is the first girl in Bro. Nathan and Sis. Susan Steffen's family. Zachary, Levi and Nathan were eagerly awaiting her arrival. Grandparents are Bro. Aaron and Sis. Loretta Steffen and Ron and Kay Jenkins.

Bro. Wally and Donna Gerst welcome a new grandchild with bitter-sweet emotions, since Justin and Sarah Ooms recently moved away from Grand Rapids. Now Grandpa and Grandma have to travel to Detroit in order to see baby Paige Elizabeth and "big" brother, Hudson.

Martin and Ronnie Hoeksma celebrated the arrival of their first child, Sofia Marie. Sofia is also a first grandchild for Jeff Oesch. Sofia's paternal grandmother came to visit her all the way from Denmark. Another grand-

child is joining the Don and Sally Meyer family. Shawn and Betti Jo Hyde named their new daughter Dorothy Claire. Finally, Bruce and Jesse Vander Meulen added Hannah Elizabeth to their family of girls. Great-grandparents to Sofia, Claire and Hannah are Bro. Joe and Sis. Melva Oesch.

The Sunday School was treated to a harvest party complete with hotdogs, bonfire, hayride, straw-bale maze, ice cream cones, pumpkin decorating and homemade apple cider. When it was time for the young group to get their hayride, they turned it into a rolling singing! Thanks to those whose hard work made the evening possible.

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### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Sarah Knochel**  
**Janelle Ramseyer**

Have mercy then, O Lord!  
Before Thy feet I'm bowing;  
Let into my weak heart  
The stream of grace be flowing.  
I pray I'll leave Thee not  
Until Thy blessing's pow'r  
Can conquer death in me,  
And bring life's blessed shower.  
*Zion's Harp #45*

We rejoice with Laura and Kathy Knochel (Bro. Jim and Sis. Kay) as they have begun their repentance. It is our sincere desire that they can dig deep and build a firm foundation in Jesus. May they put their full trust in Christ as they begin to follow Him.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who had surgery or spent time in the hospital during the past month. We pray that the Lord's healing powers would be with Bill Bateson (Lori), Saylor McElrath (Will and Jessica), Bro. Fred Ruegsegger (Sis. Marilyn), and Sis. Margaret Schlatter.

We've been enjoying a beautiful autumn and harvest. As the time ap-

proaches when families and friends join together to observe Thanksgiving, may we ever be thankful to our Heavenly Father for the blessings He has given us.

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## MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Tamra Coughlin  
Manuela Denes**

Do you feel that every time you turn around, you are being confronted with bad news? The terrible state of the economy, wars in foreign lands—the list can go on for many paragraphs. Sometimes it can overwhelm us all so much and then, the smallest thing will bring us back to remember that God is in charge of every single thing! We have been enjoying a beautiful autumn with warm days and cool nights that have brought stunning colors. The deep purples and reds of chrysanthemums are joined by the gentle fall of leaves in oranges and yellows. This all brought to my mind the following scripture:

“He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.”

*Psalm 126:6*

Let us rejoice and anticipate the great harvest that awaits God's children!

We would like to extend a great thankfulness and appreciation to Elder Bro. Mike Lemman (Sis. Deb, Denver, CO) for assisting our Elder Bro. Mark Bahr with the reading of the Conference letter. Also assisting with services for our residents at Woodhaven was Bro. Ned Stoller (Alto, MI) and his two daughters, Lena and Ivy. We are so blessed to have the support and assistance of brethren from our neighbouring churches in Michigan and Ohio.

We need to remember those who

were in the hospital and are now back with us, but even more importantly, those who have not been able to worship with us in person. They are Sis. Ella Schlatter, Sis. Kathryn Losiewicz, Sis. Vi Barton (Bro. Jim), Sis. Kay Rauhe (Bro. Warren), Sam Frank and Carson Frank (Bro. Lucas and Sis. Crystal).

Bro. Joel and Sis. Amber Virkler are returning to their home in Phoenix, AZ. We hope that they had a blessed time while they were here with us and hope that they will return for many visits!

Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy Hitz announced the birth of their second grandchild, Allana Grace Snyder. Her parents are Bro. Quinton and Sis. Heather of Taylor, MO. Mark and Joy Wieland announced the birth of their second grandchild, Alexia Mae. Her parents are Jerry and Tiffany Kondraciuk.

Bill and Sis. Trudy Schmidt announced the wedding of their oldest son, Joshua, to Caroline Hirt (Doug and Jean Hirt). It took place on October 3 at the Belle Isle Botanical Gardens in Detroit.

“Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.”

*Romans 15:13*

What a blessing it is to be able to announce that our dear Carrie Ramseyer (Bro. Mark and Sis. Kelly) has found peace for baptism! We rejoice with her and her family and look forward to her testimony and baptism, Lord willing, in the near future.

A few news items to keep in mind for the coming holiday season are the Sunday School Christmas program at Woodhaven at 10:40 a.m. and at the Church at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 14. Christmas caroling is scheduled for Saturday, December

20, starting at Woodhaven at 5:30 and ending at Woodpointe at 7:30 with refreshments. Please invite your family and friends!

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## MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS

**Mary Mogler**

It was a blessing to greet our two visiting ministers, Bro. Art Mueller (Sis. Marlene, Belvidere, IL) and Bro. Rod Bajema (Sis. Twyla, Lester, IA), and we were thankful once again for this precious privilege. We are grateful first to God for blessed inspiration and also to each brother for being a willing servant.

Much joy is felt by parents, Brent and Tina Deragisch, as they welcome Preston Daniel into their lives. Big sister Kendra and grandparents, Dan and Lola Deragisch, are excited to add a boy to their family.

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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. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO), Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA), Bro. Mike Baumann (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA).

Our hearts are filled with joy when we hear of souls that have turned their heart to the Lord. Rita Wulf (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda) and Travis Moser (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karen) have begun their repentance. We trust God will grant them grace to build that firm foundation.

Two families in our congregation have been blessed with new babies. Mylie Jo was welcomed into the home of Bro. Mitch and Sis. Abby Fehr. Thankful for a new little sister are

Monte and Maddie. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy Fehr and Vance and Kim Gullickson and Mark and Mick Ekren. Also Wyatt Edward was born to Bro. Tom and Sis. Trish Koehl. Excited to have a new little brother is Blake. Grandparents are Bro. Karl and Sis. Marilyn Koehl and Bro. Russell and Sis. Vera Manz (Junction, OH).

September 28 was the wedding day of Sis. Annie Messner and Bro. Darrin Knapp (West Bend, IA). Their parents are Bro. Beirne and Sis. Joyce Messner and Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna Knapp (Oakville, IA). May God bless this couple as they begin their life together as one in the Lord.

Our prayers go out to those who have spent time in the hospital: Sis. Sophie Nohl, Bro. Larry Nohl (Sis. Bonnie) and Virgil Sauder (Mildred). We put our trust in the Lord that He will provide for each one and heal according to His will.

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### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Rachel Steiner  
Julie Schmidt**

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

*Psalm 133:1*

At a small church, every visitor is a special blessing. This month we've been privileged to host several events including our annual Pork Chop Supper, single groups from various congregations, as well as 5-12 grade students and their teachers from Bloomfield, Garden Grove and Elgin, IA, congregations. We pray that Christian friendships were made or strengthened and that all feel welcome to visit us again.

Those visitors who have been used in the Lord's vineyard on the pulpit this month were ministering Bro.

Brad Funk (Sis. Laura, Garden Grove, IA), Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN), Bro. Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Joe Dotterer (Sis. Rose, Bloomfield, IA), and Bro. Wes Moser (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA). We are so thankful for each one and pray for their heavenly reward.

We were thankful to host Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) who was willing to lend himself on our behalf and exhort us on a topical Bible Study about being spiritually vs. carnally minded (I Corinthians 3). What a blessed weekend it was.

Our prayers go out to Bro. Wes and Rhonda Schmidt and their family in the loss of Rhonda's mother, Marilyn Hartmann. May the Lord heal and comfort as only He can.

Those recovering from surgery this month are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Marcelle Dapper and Jacob Isaacson (Jerry and Melissa). May God grant strength and healing.

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### MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

**Brittany Fehr**

We would like to thank ministering Bro. John Rowell (Sis. Nelda, Burlington, IA) for his labors for our congregation and for the area Bible Classes. He spoke on Saturday evening of the Youth Fellowship weekend, held on September 20-21, and ministered on Sunday. May God bless him and Sis. Nelda, as well as the students and teachers that made the effort to attend.

We rejoice with ministering Bro. Brandon and Sis. Maria Emch on the birth of their son, Jesse Brandon. Siblings Anna and Timon have also excitedly awaited their brother's arrival. We are thankful for the addition to our congregation! May God grant His wisdom and grace to Bro. Brandon and Sis. Maria to raise these children

according to His will.

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### MISSOURI, LAMAR

**Dana Braker  
Becky Luthi**

Among our visitors this past month was Bro. Neal Widmer (West Lafayette, IN). We appreciate his willingness to serve us in the ministry.

Sis. Evelyn (Bro. Leonard) Marti spent a short time in the hospital. We trust the Lord will continue to heal and provide for her as she recuperates at home.

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### MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

**Meagan Wuethrich**

With the passing of summer, our number of visitors has lessened, making us appreciate our visiting ministers even more. Special thanks to Bros. Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL), Dave Marquart (Sis. Lori, Taylor, MO), and Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol, Gridley, IL).

While the holidays may be filling up the calendar, we extend a welcome to anyone with an open weekend to visit St. Louis!

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### MISSOURI, TAYLOR

**Kathy Eberhardt**

Are we as soldiers of the cross reading our letters from home, the Bible? We heard a new way of explaining faith — a fantastic adventure in trusting Him. These are two good things to be doing to help us through the not so good news in our media.

Bro. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL) shared a Bible Study entitled "Knowing God's Will". God reveals by His Spirit the paths we should take. We should always remember to search His Word. God looketh at the heart, not the outward appearance.

Our hospital patient this month

was Bro. Jeff Rocke. May God grant him healing.

We enjoyed the many visitors coming to the Taylor invite. The theme for the weekend was "Army for One". Greetings were given from 24 different congregations.

We were reminded that Satan is our enemy, not our Brothers and Sisters.

We also hosted the Taylor Sunday School invite, which included Sunday Schools from Oakville, Burlington and Bloomfield. It was good to see so many High School students. Remember students, God grades on the cross, not the curve.

On October 4, Darin Heimer (Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan) and Danielle Graupman (Dennis and Donna) exchanged their vows in holy matrimony. May God bless their union.

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**NEW YORK  
CROGHAN-NAUMBURG  
Hope Graves**

We were blessed to have retired Elder Bro. Roy Grimm and his wife, Sis. Donna, visit our congregation for the weekend of October 11-12. Bro. Roy is retired from the ministry at our church in Taylor, MO. We shared a potluck dinner together on Saturday, followed by a singing and are thankful for each visitor we had with us.

We are thankful that Vincent Farney has come through open heart surgery and is now recovering at home. We pray for the Lord's nearness as he continues to heal.

We were glad to see our convert, Jacob Farney, when he was able to come home on leave for his grandmother's funeral. He is currently in California and we are thankful for the love that has been shown to him by our brethren there. We are looking forward to having Jacob permanently back in our area soon, Lord willing.

We pray that the Lord will be a comfort to the family in their loss

Rejoice, the Father loves us here.  
In sympathy remembers,  
And all the gifts we need to cheer,  
So graciously He renders.  
What lack we then,  
Yet further when  
Our Father has such pleasure,  
To share with us His treasure?

*Zion's Harp #206, vs. 1*

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**OHIO, AKRON  
Mara Henico  
Rachel Pamer**

We are thankful that God provided so that our Bro. Carl Graf and Sis. Michelle Hrubik could return safely from a Medical Dental Team to Mexico. We trust that God blessed their efforts and will give them many fond memories.

We've been blessed to have several visiting ministers this month. We are thankful that Bro. Marvin Leman (Sis. Jane, Bradford), Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary Ann, Fairbury), and Bro. Tom Bahler (Sis. Lanae, Rockville) were able to serve us in the Word. We pray that God will bless them and give them courage to continue to speak the Truth in love.

We welcome our friend, Richard Farkas, who is from Hungary, and hope he will feel at home as he assembles with us.

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**OHIO, COLUMBUS  
Sarah Rufener**

September 21 was our annual college welcome picnic for students in the Columbus area. Our congregation is thankful to have new and returning college students in town with the commencement of local colleges and universities. We pray for them as they begin or continue their studies, and have fervent hope that these young adults may have the grace to follow God's direction in their lives.

Our church has been richly blessed in the past few years with an increase of young families with children. Subsequently, we have recently formed an additional Sunday school class (splitting up the pre-school children from the 1st through 5th graders). What a privilege it is to nurture the seed of faith in these young and tender hearts!

Our deepest sympathy and prayers are with Bros. Todd and Matthew Saurer and their family in the recent loss of both of their grandmothers (Sis. Freda Rehkla of Toledo and Sis. Esther Saurer of Rittman). We are thankful for our Heavenly Father, as He is our source of comfort, peace and strength during the loss of a loved one.

Visiting ministers for the past month are: Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Sis. Judy, Forrest), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction) and Bro. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield). Thank you for your willingness to be used for His service.

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**OHIO, JUNCTION  
Vicki Boroff**

Bro. Russ and Sis. Vera Manz are happy to have another grandchild; Wyatt was born to Bro. Tom and Sis. Patricia Koehl (Morris). Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn Manz are also thankful grandparents as their most recent grandson, Gavin, was born to Mike and Kim Manz. Bro. Rex and Sis. Vicki Boroff have been blessed with the arrival of their firstborn son, Remington Eugene. Remington's grandparents are Wilbur and Diane Klopfenstein of Salem, OR, and Rex and Pauline Boroff of Paulding, OH. Bro. Don and Sis. Connie Manz are grandparents for the third time in so many months; London Benjamin was born to Cheryl Manz.

Our love and prayers go to the family of Bro. Michael and Sis. Jodi



Schneider in the loss of their newborn, Levi John. Siblings are Joel, Lynelle, Lathan, and Thad; and grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley Ifft (Forrest) and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra Schneider (Forrest). We wish the entire family the Lord's comforting hand during this time of grieving.

We are thankful that Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary Ann, Fairbury) was willing to join us for a weekend to assist with the reading of the Memorandum. We also appreciated having Elder Bro. Ervin Knecht (Sis. Sandra, Eureka) join us for a Sunday when they visited their family in Junction. We were blessed through the services of these brothers.

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#### **OHIO, LATTY**

##### **Amanda Wenninger Carmen Eisenmann**

The weekend of October 4-5 was a blessing for our congregation as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of three new sisters in Christ. We wish God's blessings to Sis. Chelsea Williamson (Bro. Jason and Sis. Wendy), Sis. Jessica Wenninger (Bro. Randy and Sis. Joni), and Sis. Abby Greutman (Bro. Greg and Sis. Kristy). Elder Bros. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) and Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN) were with us that weekend and we greatly appreciate their service.

We would like to say many thanks to Bro. Ted Witzig Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton, IL) from ACCFS for providing a women's seminar for the ladies in our church. It was a blessing for all of us who were able to attend. We also appreciate his willingness to minister to us the following Sunday. We were also blessed to have ministering Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL) visit us this month.

October 4 was the birthday for

Elaina Lyn born to Bro. Ross and Sis. Joy Stoller. Grandparents are Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth Stoller and Bro. Mark and Sis. Benita Bahler (Remington, IN), and older siblings are Blake and Ava. Our prayers are with Elaina as she was born with some health complications that extended her hospital stay, but we are thankful she is now at home. First-time parents, Ryan and Kayla Bagley, welcomed Briley Sue into their family on October 16. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol Stoller and David and Susan Bagley.

Our prayers and sympathies are with Sis. Lillian Schlatter at the death of her sister, Sis. Freida Reklau, from Toledo, OH.

We also extend many prayers out to our hospital and surgery patients this month. They are Sis. Dorothy Stoller (Bro. Wayne), Sis. Ede Stoller (Bro. Glen), Sis. Casey Wenninger (Bro. Seth), and Bro. Chris Laukhuf (Sis. Rachel).

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#### **OHIO, MANSFIELD**

##### **Esther Baumann**

We rejoice with Sis. Staci Beer (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Robin) and Bro. Kurt Fiechter (Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth) of Bluffton, IN, as they were united in marriage on September 21. We were thankful for all the visitors who could join us including Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Sis. Ronda, Bluffton, IN) who served us in the ministry.

Sis. Roma Them was called Home to be with the Lord on September 19. Our sympathy and prayers go out to her family.

Drew Michael was born on September 29 to Bro. Nathan and Sis. April Ramsey. Looking forward to having a playmate is big brother Cole; excited grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Laura Ramsey and Bro. Bob and Sis. Mardel Dotterer (Rittman, OH).

Continue to pray for our recently hospitalized brethren: Bro. Dave Eyerly (Sis. Edna), Bro. Charles Sauder (Sis. Marcella) and Sis. Delores Hill (Bro. Mick).

We thank Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH) for his willing service to us in the ministry.

In this Thanksgiving season, though the times be uncertain, let us heed to God's timeless truth and "Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;" Colossians 4:2.

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#### **OHIO, RITTMAN**

##### **Laurie Beery Linda Zollinger**

Haste and seek your soul's salvation;  
Heed the Word of God today.

*Zion's Harp #52*

We rejoice that John Stoller (Bro. Gregory and Sis. Joy) has made known his desire to follow the Lord and seek his soul's salvation. May he feel an abundance of God's grace.

Visiting ministers this month included Bros. Todd Stoller (Latty, OH), Greg and Matthew Rassi (Chicago, IL), Tony Manz (Junction, OH), Brian Huber (Francesville, IN), and Wayne Wiegand (Goodfield, IL). We are thankful for willing servants and pray God will richly bless each one.

Our hospital patients this past month were Bro. Vern (Sis. Deanna) Lanz, Sis. Lillian (Bro. Andrew) Maibach, Walter (Betty) Marquart, Sis. Elizabeth Beery, and Jeannette (Ronald) Woyat. We pray for all those in sickness and suffering.

Calla Nicole Steiner came to bless the family of Bro. Joel and Sis. Katrina on September 25. Allison, Ashley and Haley welcome their new baby sister along with grandparents, Bro. Matthew and Sis. Gail Steiner and Bro. Daniel and Sis. Diane Gas-

ser. Bro. Mike and Sis. Heather Katanic along with Emily and Kaden welcome Trace Jonathan born September 29. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Heather Pelfrey and Maria Katanic. Carter Frederick Miller was born October 9 to Bro. Marlin and Sis. Tonya Miller. Big brother Kolton and grandparents, Bro. Michael and Sis. Norene Miller and Bro. Fred and Sis. Connie Domka (Mansfield, OH) welcome Carter. Tom and Shelly Baltic welcome twins, Carson and Carrigan, born October 16. Isaac welcomes his new brother and sister along with grandparents, Bro. Daniel and Sis. Betty Baltic. Bro. Robert and Sis. Mardel Dotterer welcome a new grandson, Drew Michael, born September 29 to Bro. Nathaniel and Sis. April Ramsey (Mansfield, OH). Also, Bro. Dean and Sis. Jan Hartzler welcome a new grandson, Conrad Ernest, born October 1 to Bro. Eric and Sis. Jami Hartzler (Sardis, OH). May God continue to bless these precious little babies and their dear families.

Our sympathy and prayers are with Bro. David and Sis. Kathy Ault in the loss of his mother, Gladys Ault; Bro. Henry (Sis. Bertha) Kiser in the death of his sister, Katherine Bartrum; Lynn (Bob) Tollafeld in the loss of her brother, Tom Breece (son of the late Bro. Bill and Sis. Pearl); and Sis. Joan (Bro. John) Hartzler in the loss of her brother, Bro. Aquilla Barna, who passed away October 1 at our nursing home after spending many years in the Phoenix, AZ, congregation. Also, Sis. Esther Saurer passed away October 9 at our nursing home. Surviving are children, Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Saurer (Smithville, OH), Sis. Marilyn (Bro. Edward) Trent, Dan (Sis. Brenda) Saurer, Sis. Joann (Bro. Ronald) Christian, and daughter-in-law, Mary Lou Saurer (the late Thomas). May God comfort every grieving

heart and provide His tender love and compassion.

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### OHIO, SARDIS Faith Beard

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

*St. John 1:1*

We have been so blessed with a number of visiting ministers this month. Bringing us the Word from the pulpit were Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH), Bro. Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit, MI), Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago, IL), Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL), and Bro. Art Ingold (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman, OH).

“A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.”

*St. John 16:21*

Bro. Eric and Sis. Jami Hartzler are rejoicing with the birth of their son, Conrad Earnest, born October 1. Leah and Grace are his older sisters, and grandparents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Jan Hartzler (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry Zollinger. Also, announcing the birth of a new grandson is Bro. John and Sis. Paula Figel. Grady Jace is the son of David and Amy Figel, born on October 16.

On October 18 we held our annual Pig Roast as we enjoyed the fall weather, the “old-fashioned” activities, and mostly, our visitors. We appreciate all those that traveled the distance to gather with us and all the efforts made to bring the food and activities of the day together.

We remember in prayer Bro. Garth and Sis. Hannah Maibach as they continue to travel to/live in Columbus to be with their little Colby. Colby continues to thrive and develop unexpectedly well, for which we praise God! Also seeing some time in the hospital was Bro. Alan Blough (Sis. Renee).

We read that the angels in Heaven rejoice when a sinner repents! (Luke 15:10) We also have great joy here on Earth to hear the news that two of our friends have made the decision to turn their backs on the world’s temptations and instead seek out the Lord’s will in their lives. Making this choice are Josh Ramsier (Bro. Mark and Sis. Alice) and Alysha Figel (Bro. Andy and Sis. Cyndi). We pray God’s grace to be granted to Josh and Alysha as they start on that narrow, lesser traveled path.

“Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.”

*Ezekiel 36:25-26*

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### OHIO, SMITHVILLE Edith Miller Ruth Gasser

“Thou crownest the year with thy goodness; and thy paths drop fatness.”

*Psalms 65:11*

Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Ann Zollinger welcomed a grandson into the family circle on August 22. Paul and Carol Zollinger have been blessed with Levi Michael. Sis. Lucille Gasser (Rittman, OH) also shares the joy, as maternal grandmother.

The Lord has blessed Bro. Eric Miller and Sis. Sharla Steiner with faith to blend their lives as one, as their engagement was announced to the congregation. Bro. Larry and Sis. Edith Miller and Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue Steiner are their parents.

We pray that the Lord will strengthen and heal the sick and suffering, according to His plan, and we wish that for Sis. Carol Schuster (Bro. George), who was hospitalized and experiences bodily afflictions.

On October 12, our dear Sis. Esther Saurer (Rittman, OH) was laid to rest, as her funeral was conducted in Rittman. She leaves behind a large family, including son, Bro. Roger (Sis. Sue) from the Smithville congregation, as well as a granddaughter, Sis. Pam Zollinger (Bro. Marvin). Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue have since experienced the loss of Sis. Sue's mother, Sis. Freda Rehklau of the Toledo congregation. We pray that all will be comforted by God's Spirit in times of grief and change.

Grace and goodness He has promised;  
He's a true and mighty Lord.  
Nothing then shall ever part us;  
He will keep us by His Word.  
Though I must endure affliction,  
Yet I feel my Lord's affection;  
He is here by strength in life,  
And helps me in ev'ry strife.

*Zion's Harp #157*

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**OHIO, TOLEDO**  
**Teresa Rywalski**  
**Rebecca Beard**

Greetings of love to all of you!

We were blessed to have two visiting ministers this past month. Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis, OH) and Bro. John Grimm (Sis. Julie, Columbus, OH) stood before us and proclaimed the Holy Word. May God provide for these dear brothers and their families as only He is able.

Safe in the arms of Jesus,  
Safe on His gentle breast,  
There by His love o'er-shaded,  
Sweetly my soul shall rest.

*Hymns of Zion #218 (chorus)*

Sis. Freda Rehklau went Home to rest in those arms. We will miss her gentle loving way. She is survived by her children, Sis. Marie Kieser (Bro. Chuck, Atlanta, GA), Howard Rehklau (Chris, New Albany, OH), Sis. Janet Kipfer, Sis. Joyce Rehklau, and Sis. Sue Saurer (Bro. Roger, Smithville, OH); and a sister, Sis. Lillian Schlatter (Latty, OH). May they feel the prayers of each of us.

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**OREGON, PORTLAND**  
**Renee Angstrom**

We were blessed this month to have visiting with us Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA) and Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty, Silverton, OR). We would like to thank you for sharing the Word with us.

Last Sunday Elder Bro. Art Metz shared with us the Communion Exhortation. We appreciate this reminder of how we should prepare ourselves to take part in this blessed occasion. Following the Exhortation we started the series of recordings from the August, 2008 Elder Conference. We are thankful for the efforts put forth from our Elder Brethren to bring forth these teachings.

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**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**Cindy Metzger**

September 21 was the wedding day for Bro. Robert and Sis. Melissa Rokey. Their parents are Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Phyllis Rokey (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Jim and Sis. Barb Kuenzi. We wish them God's richest blessings in the marriage together.

We were thankful to have with us

Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary Ann, Fairbury) for the testimonies and baptisms of Sis. Laura Sherman and Bro. Darwin Sinn (Bro. Tom and Sis. Edith). Our prayers are with these two souls as they grow in their walk with the Lord.

On October 5, we witnessed the marriage of Bro. Josh and Sis. Tresa Hansen. Their parents are Bro. Tim and Carol Hansen and Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene Dettwyler. May Bro. Josh and Sis. Tresa always look to God to be the center of their lives.

Other visiting ministers that we wish to thank this past month are Bro. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA), Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Liz) and Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy) of Portland, OR.

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**PENNSYLVANIA**  
**PHILADELPHIA**

Bro. Ed Lanz had a short hospital stay this month. Several test and medical procedures were conducted and Bro. Ed was able to continue to his daily routine. Such events remind us of our human frame - we can be so thankful that God has each one of us in the hollow of his hand.

This month we've had visitors from Princeville, Kansas City, Gridley, Detroit, Bern, Smithville, Rockville, Washington DC, Lester and Rittman. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), as well as ministering Bros. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) and Ed Strahm (Bern, KS) share God's Word with us. We thank all for your visit and for the blessings you brought to us.

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

We are thankful for the Living Word of God, shared with us by our recent visiting ministering brothers: Bros. Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon;

Lamar, MO), Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol; Gridley, IL), Bill Waibel (Sis. Carol; Bay City, MI), and Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana; Iowa City, IA), and Elder Bro. Ted Witzig, Sr. (Sis. Cindy; Morton, IL). We have appreciated the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Congerville, Gridley, and Morton, IL; Iowa City, IA; Bay City, MI; Lamar, MO; and Mansfield, OH.

If you are traveling in or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Champaign, IL (11/23); Forrest, IL (11/30); Bloomington-Normal, IL (12/7); and Indianapolis, IN (12/14). We do not have visiting ministers scheduled for December 21 or December 28, but if local brethren are in the area we will gather for tape services. 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. 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**

What a blessing it is to have faithful messengers bring forth the Word. Elder Bros. Peter Petrovic (San Diego), and Dennis Warner (Sis. Esther, Lester); and Bros. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata), and Brian Waibel (Champaign) were with us in July and August. We appreciated our visitors from Forrest, Gridley, Bluffton, and Eureka.

“Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

*Philemon 1:3*

Recently we heard that in Paul's letters, when he says grace and peace be with you, grace comes before peace. We were reminded that if we use the grace of God, then His gift of peace follows.

Eli Ringger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Amy) has testified that because of the grace of God, he has received the gift of peace. Because of this, October 19 was a special day for our church. We welcomed Bro. Eli Ringger into the Brotherhood following his proving and baptism. Elder Bros. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Becky, Lamar) and Peter Petrovic (Sis. Marian, San Diego), along with Bros. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata) and Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Fairbury) were here to carry out and support the work of God.

Other ministers who were willing serve us lately were Bros. Paul Schmidgall (Sis. Shawn, Morris), Ron Steiner (Sis. Ruth, Rittman), Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lyn, Indianapolis), and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago). We appreciated our visitors in the past month from Lamar, Smithville, Bluffton, Rittman, Congerville, Francesville, and Rockville.

The following is the minister schedule for December: (7) Bluffton North, (14) Sabetha, (21) Eureka, (28) to be determined. 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.

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**TEXAS, McALLEN**  
**Sandy Kipfer**

Greetings to all in the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We thank our visiting ministers and their wives, Bro. Paul Zimmerman (Sis. Loretta, Forrest, IL) and Bro. Bill Schick (Sis. Joan, Magdalena, Mexico), along with their children, Benjamin and Katie, for taking their time and effort in expounding to us the written Word of the Lord. May God continue to richly bless them.

We would like to encourage those who plan to come south for the season or a vacation to consider the valley for a Sunday of worship and/or making the valley your home while you are in Southern Texas. We are small in number and are happy to have visitors come and spend some time with us. The following churches are scheduled for services: (November 23, Smithville, OH), (December 7, Chi-

cago, IL), (December 21, Peoria, IL), (January 4, Princeville, IL), (January 17, Peoria, IL).

Our address is: Holiday Inn Express, 1921 South 10th Street. Turn 1½ 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.

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

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

*Psalm 127:3*

Bro. Mark and Sis. Luella Hoffman were pleased to announce the newest arrival to their family. Little grandson John Ryan was born to their daughter and her husband, Rachel and Ryan Dearborn of Rockville, CT. Big sister Allison welcomed him home.

Bro. Kirby and Sis. Areli Reutter

also welcome a new addition to their family. A dear little 7 year old boy, Keith, has come to live with them as a foster child. Little Isaac has much enjoyed his new playmate. We are thankful for both these families as they have a new child to love, nourish and train up in the ways of the Lord!

Once again our cups are filled to overflowing. We have been fed from the Living Word and enjoyed blessed fellowship this month. We want to thank our faithful ministers who came to share with us the Word. They were Bro. Dan Goric (Sis. Mary Lou, Rockville, CT), Bro. Marvin Leman (Sis. Jane, Bradford, IL), Bro. Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT) and Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL). May God's blessings be with each and every one who shares in the furtherance of the gospel message of salvation!

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:

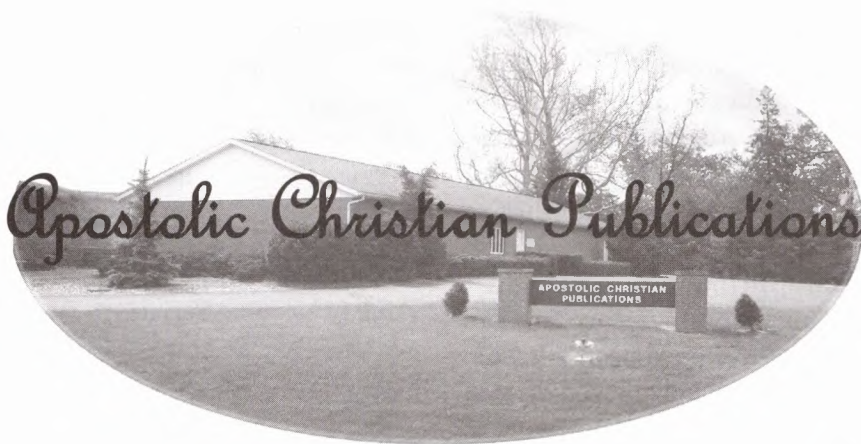
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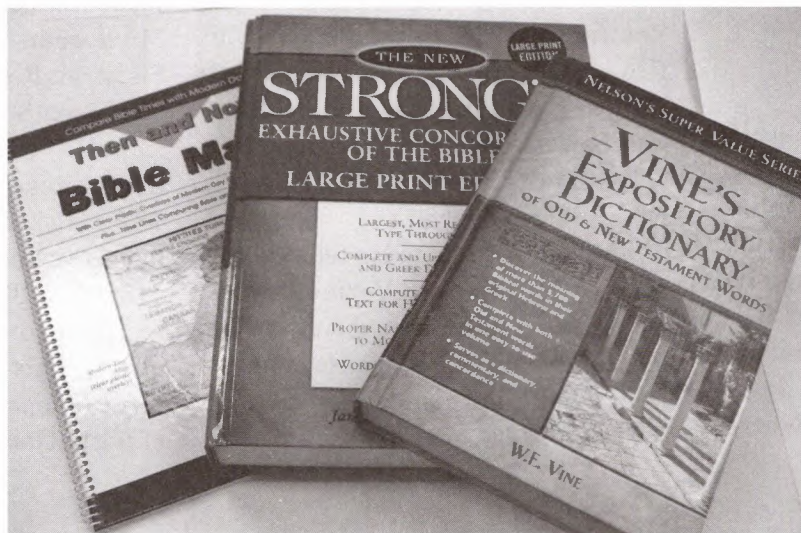
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### Love Languages in Marriage - Loving Well (Part #2)

In last month's issue, we introduced the idea of love languages in marriage and explored the first two love languages: Words of Affirmation and Quality Time. In this month's edition, we continue the topic by learning more about the final three love languages: Gifts, Acts of Service, and Physical Touch.

#### 3. Gifts.<sup>1</sup>

From the beginning of time, our heavenly Father has revealed himself as a generous giver of good things: "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17). God has given us his Son (John 3:16), the beauty of Creation (Genesis 2:15), and gifts of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:4). Proverbs 17:8 tells us that "a gift is as a precious stone in the eyes of him that hath it." An individual with the primary love language of Gifts sees gifts as visual symbols of thoughtfulness and expressions of love. Gifts can be purchased, found, or made; and the price of the gift is usually of little regard. Small or large, gifts are appreciated when they are given as genuine tokens of love and give evidence of consideration.

*Examples of giving Gifts  
to your spouse include:*

Finding a picture of the two of you, framing it and giving it as an unexpected gift.

Making a homemade greeting card.

Putting thought into anniversary, birthday, and Christmas gifts. Ask close friends and family for ideas and try to recall things your spouse mentioned that he or she would like.

Finding opportunities for spontaneous, unexpected gifts such as flowers (hand-picked or bought), or a refreshing beverage on a hot day.

Hiding a small gift or note in your wife's purse or in something your husband takes to work.

**NOTE:** Buying things for your spouse without showing interest in or spending time with him/her, etc. will seem like you are trying to buy love. Remember that spouses with a Gifts love language feel loved because of the thoughtfulness that the gifts reflect.

#### 4. Acts of Service.<sup>2</sup>

Jesus gave us the example of being a servant. In Matthew 20:26-28, He was clear that we, as His followers, are supposed to have servants' hearts: "... whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." Individuals with an Acts of Service love language feel loved when their spouses

display a servant attitude by their actions. You can express love to a spouse with this love language by helping out with everyday tasks/chores. This will include acts done "on the spur of the moment" as well as times when you plan to set aside time to help out. Acts of Service require various degrees of time, energy, and effort; however, the key is performing them out of love. Also important is receiving them out of love, and not out of a sense of entitlement. Jesus provided us with a clear illustration of expressing love in an Act of Service. He humbly took the role of a servant and washed his disciples' dirty, calloused feet (John 13:1-10). Jesus performed this act not out of obligation, but out of love and desire.

*Examples of giving*

*Acts of Service to your spouse include:*

When your spouse requests a chore to be done, trying to get it done before he or she has to repeat the request.

Getting up a little earlier than normal to do one of your spouse's duties he or she normally does in the morning. For example, if your spouse usually makes the coffee in the morning, take on that job once in a while and then prepare him or her a cup just the way they like it.

Washing your spouse's car and filling it up with gas.

Offering to run errands for your spouse.

Taking the initiative to clean up a room in the house or do some yard work outside.

Sorting through some of the boxes or piles of stuff that have been neglected for a while.

Working with your spouse on one of his or her regular tasks such as scrapbooking or working on the car.

**NOTE:** An attitude on the part of the giver or receiver of the Act of Service that radiates "you owe me for this" is not appropriate. Also, an attitude of "I'll do it, but I don't like it" doesn't qualify for Acts of Service. Your attitude is the key. Also, Acts of Service shouldn't be used as a way to get something for yourself. That is, don't just help your spouse when you are trying to get on his or her good side so you can then get him or her to go along with your plan on something. Remember that the purpose of Acts of Service is to express love to your spouse.

#### 5. Physical Touch.<sup>3</sup>

Jesus understood the power of touch. He took the time to hold the young children that were brought to him. Jesus "put his hands upon them, and blessed them" (Mark 10:16). Also, even though He had the power to heal without physically touching, He took that extra step with many of the people that He healed (e.g., Matthew 8:3, 15; 9:29). Hugs, kisses, and other loving touches are appreciated by nearly everyone. However,

for someone with the Physical Touch love language, physical reminders are the most important messages of love. If your spouse has this love language, you must learn from him or her what things he or she appreciates the most. Also, your spouse may have preferences for certain types of touch that he or she finds most appropriate when you are home alone versus out in public. For people who speak the Physical Touch love language, drawing close physically parallels drawing close emotionally. Expressions of Physical Touch may be as simple as a hand on the shoulder or may be as complex as a massage or physical intimacy.

*Examples of showing love  
with Physical Touch include:*

Making touch a part of your daily routine, hugging or kissing when leaving for the day or coming back together.

Learning how to give back rubs or massages in a way your spouse enjoys.

Putting your arm around your spouse when sitting next to him or her.

Holding hands or linking arms: while praying, when walking side by side, when you are sitting by each other.

**NOTE:** Even within marriage there are appropriate and inappropriate ways to touch. Make sure that you are not touching in ways that seem intrusive or uncomfortable for your spouse. Don't confuse the Physical Touch love language with being intimate. Most physical touches are simple reminders of love that do not lead to physical intimacy.

*Learning about each  
other's love language*

Remember that your spouse will most likely respond best to a combination of all of the love languages even though he or she is likely to have one or two that are most important. Don't be surprised if you and your spouse have different love languages; this is very common. Your goal should be to continually learn about your spouse's love language(s) and to teach your spouse about your love language(s). Expressing love in marriage is part of an ongoing process. It is not a "one-time-fix" or saved only for special occasions. An attitude of, "I told him/her I loved him/her when I married him/her, he/she should just 'know' it now. Why do I have to keep saying/showing it over and over?" is neither Christ-like nor healthy in marriage. Making the effort to express love to your spouse in the ways that are most important to him or her is a true act of love and is honoring to Christ and your spouse.

<sup>1</sup> Gary Chapman, *The Five Love Languages*, (Chicago, IL: Northfield Publishing, 1995).

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, 97-113.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 115-130.



## 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:

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6. Have treatment philosophy compatible with the mission of Gateway Woods - Apostolic Christian Children's Home.
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*For further information and a job description, please contact:*

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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*

*Sermon continued from page 2*

cause the discussion was, how do we get them to think about honesty without defining honesty for them, letting them come up with their own definition of honesty? We don't want to impose on them our values. So, we want you to think about honesty but we want you to define it yourself.

We talked about cheating in the classroom. We all know what cheating is. Frankly, I don't have a problem of imposing my view of cheating on the students. In fact, no professor does. Yet we aren't really going to call it that. We do this little dance around, pretending like we are really teaching the students, but we don't really want to teach them because we don't want to impose anything. In consequence, these values become completely meaningless. Yet, that is kind of our age, we don't want to impose anything on anybody. Until it hurts us. When they cheat on me, I am not going to accept a student saying, well, my definition of plagiarism does not include what you just said.

To me being honest means to download...you know there is a website called Cheat. Cheathouse.com. You can download essays. Actually, the website was called Cheat. Cheat! It noted in there, we have come under a lot of criticism. Yeah, no kidding! But maybe somebody's definition of honesty does not include downloading something like that. So am I suppose to accept that, as a professor? 'Oh, I'm so sorry! My definition says you shouldn't download from the internet but since you do and that's part of your definition, well then I have to let you go.' Of course not! We'd never do that. So we play this fiction.

God doesn't play the fiction. That's what's so remarkable about the whole thing. God doesn't play that fiction. He doesn't do that. He doesn't say, 'Thou shalt not commit adultery. Of course, I want you all to sort of just define it for yourself. Come to your own idea of adultery.' No, no, no. That's why we have the Scripture. To tell us what adultery

is. God is really very serious about it. Because it's His very nature Himself. So as we think about these, let's take them seriously also.

It's part of the Old Testament. We often think the Old Testament laws, that's the old thing. That's the 'Old' Testament. But Jesus upheld these and the early church upheld these. And if they really do reflect the very nature of God, and God does not change, then just because this is part of the Old Testament, the old law, does not mean that we can just dispense of them. We must take them in the sense that they are given.

Interestingly, I had never seen this done before. It was really neat. This brother, a week and a half ago, he found Scriptures in the New Testament which reflect on the Ten Commandments. The most obvious one, where Jesus was healing somebody on the Sabbath and He said the Sabbath was created for man, not man for the Sabbath (St. Mark 2:27). Or adultery, you have heard it said, Thou shalt not commit adultery. But I say if you look on her to lust after her, you have already committed adultery (St. Matthew 5:28). Thou shalt not murder, but I say if you hate your brother, you are murdering (I John 3:15). So Jesus commented on virtually all of these. Some of them were a little bit of a stretch. But it works for me. Where he is commenting on the original Ten Commandments and flushing them out and helping us really get the sense of it. It was a really worthwhile thing.

"I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." Exodus 20:2. It is interesting because then He gives them some rules. In America, we often think of rules as being bondage. Sometimes they are. We talk about the government that governs least governs best. The government that governs best governs least. Something like that. Statement that may have come in some shape or form from Thomas Jefferson. It is our cultural ethos, that the fewer laws we have, the

better, because laws mean bondage.

God starts off here, I brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Isn't that interesting. I am going to give you these rules and I want you to know I am not the God of bondage. I am the God of deliverance from bondage. Paul repeats this in the New Testament, as he talks about the Christian is really free (Roman 8:2)! We live in freedom! But what does that mean? We can't understand freedom as meaning simply doing as we wish! For then all we are doing is living in bondage to our flesh. Freedom means we are free to follow God! We are made, we are designed, we are fashioned to worship God and to worship Him only. We are made, we are designed, our purpose, our place in this life is to worship God. If we can worship God, the more we worship God, the freer we are.

We design things in our society. We design things. We make things for certain purposes. This may not be a very good analogy; I think of a sports car. Every once in a while I see someone driving a sports car and they are driving fifty on the interstate. I think, here you are driving a Corvette. What are you driving fifty for? I can do that in my Camerons. I don't need to spend eighty thousand dollars on a Corvette to drive fifty. What do we say? Set it free. Don't we say that? Set that car free! What does it mean? It was made to cruise. It was made to go really fast. Maybe that is a poor example but we use that term, right? When something is used for the ultimate of what it was designed for, we say, set it free. It is free. It is doing what it was supposed to do. Driving fifty to a Corvette is like bondage, right? It is bondage! Set it free!

We are made to worship God! We often don't. We start worshipping our self. God says, look, I am going to free you from that bondage! I am going to set you free to do what you were really made to do! This is what you were made to do. This is what you were made for! The problem is, is sometimes we don't sense that be-

cause we have been corrupted by sin. Our bodies have been corrupted and bent out of direction toward God and direction toward self service. Because of that, we don't have peace. We sin as we grow older and we follow the flesh. We sense that war that Paul talked about. We know what is right. We know how we should be living and yet our flesh keeps taking us the other way. There is a war inside of me. I know what is right and I want to do what is right and yet my flesh is just constantly yanking me the other way! (Romans 7:14-25)

Peace comes when our body lines up with our Spirit. Peace comes when we are living the way that we are supposed to be living. God, in His graciousness, then says, now, I am going to tell you. I am going to tell you, this is what you are supposed to do. This is what you are made for. So walking in obedience then brings us peace. We are free. We are at peace. Because we in a sense, are doing what God has designed us to do.

So these Ten Commandments are not ten bondage rules. They are not ten things that God, in His mischievous or His evil diabolical sense is going to say, ha! I am going to reach down and I am going to force them this way or that way. No. God, who is truth and life, says, this is what is truth and life. I don't like so don't you like. I am not unfaithful in my commitments. So you don't be unfaithful in your commitments. I don't serve stupid purposes. I don't serve dumb purposes. So don't you serve dumb purposes. I don't make something out of some burnable thing, some mortal thing that is going to go away. I don't fashion something and then give it more honor than it should. Neither should you. All of these things reflect God Himself. The more we follow them, the more we bring our life into line with His commands, the more we know Him and the more at peace we are. Because we are doing what we are made to do. We are doing what God has made us to do.

So He says, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." v.3. Thou

shalt have no other gods before me. Isn't that interesting. I wonder what that means. No other gods before me. What is a god, anyway? What is a god? Thou shalt have no other gods before me. What is a god?

I think back then people perceived God or the gods as the powers that made the world go. I think in the context of this age and this society, a god was something that just did things in the world. That threw lightning bolts down. That made the rivers rise and fall. That drew the sun across the sky. Because of this, those who did not know the true God, worshipped a whole bunch of gods. There must be a god that pulls the sun across the sky. Or the sun itself is a god that flies across the sky. There is another god that keeps the moon up there, holds it up there and makes it go across. When your hut gets hit by lightning, the god of lightning got mad at you.

So there are gods all over the place. To worship them was simply a way to keep them off your back. You are here in this world surrounded by all these forces, all these powers. You don't really want to get hit by lightning. So you worship the god of lightning to make sure he stays away. If you make him mad, he will throw a bolt down and fry you. You don't want to get fried so you offer some sacrifices so he stays away. Of course there is almost an infinite number of powers that govern the world. We call them laws of nature now. But back then they perceived them as gods, individual gods. So they have a whole bunch of different gods.

Of course, then they added to the phenomena the fact that different peoples had different gods. Well, there is a god of this area and a god of that area. A god of this people or that people. You see this in the Old Testament different times, where people say, oh, you have to stay away from 'the God of Israel'! As though God Himself was just simply 'the God of Israel', and just concerned Himself with the people of Israel. Or the god of the Egyptians. Or the god of these people or those people. Everyone has

their own little set of gods that they are worried about.

What do you do with these gods? You sacrifice to them. You do things for them. You try to obey them. You try not to make them mad! So they treat you right. In a sense, you try to manipulate them so they would treat you right.

He says, Thou shalt have no other gods before me. He reveals Himself, His nature and what He wants, in these verses and in later ones. In this chapter and through these first five books, and really through the Scripture, He reveals Himself as somebody different. Somebody different than that. First of all, He is not constrained. He says, Thou shalt have no other gods before me. I am the One. In fact, as you go on, He says, hear, oh Israel. The Lord thy God is one! One! You worship one God. As you go through the Scripture, He makes it so clear, not only is it that I am the top God, it is that I am the only God. So there is only one.

As you read through here, we get the sense of other things. For instance, the next one, I am not a graven image (v. 4). You think that fire is bad. So what do you do? You make some sort of idol that looks like fire. You think that a bull is really strong and powerful and you could get gored by a bull. So what do you do? You make a god that looks like a bull. I am not like that, He says. Don't make me into that kind of thing. Don't make me into something that can get burned. Don't make me into something that you fashioned yourself.

Several times in the Scripture, He talks about how people will take a piece of wood. They'll use half of it for fire wood and the other half of it to make a god out of it! Stop and think about this. One half goes in the fire and gets burned up. The other one you make a god out of it? It can't be a god. Come on, think about this. I am not a physical thing like this. I am transcended. I am above all of this. I created all this but I am above all this. And there is no other. This is

*Sermon continued on page 44*

*Sermon continued from page 43*

a profound thing!

As I sit here preaching, I notice that some people are fading out. Perhaps because - I know, we already know this. We already know. God is the only one. You know what? This is a huge thing! This is a huge thing! Especially for these kind of people right here. If you imagine that you had to please five hundred different gods and there is a god for the lightning and there is a god for the thunder and there is a god for the floods and a god for the rain, and a god for the sun and a god for everything else, and all of a sudden God says, don't worship any of those things, you worship me only, that takes faith! That takes faith! That takes faith that in fact, there are no other gods. Because if there is a god of lightning and you quit worshipping him, you're fried. You're done. You better be persuaded there is only one God!

How do you, sitting here falling asleep, how do you know there is only one God? Maybe there is another god out there and we are not worshipping him. Maybe so. How do you know it? It takes a certain amount of faith. In the revelation of the Scripture, I am very confident there is only one God. But the point is, we say, yeah I know, we already know this. But at this time, this was huge. There was no other god. Don't you dare worship anything else. Not only 'don't you dare', but the fact is, why would you? It's bondage. I am leading you out of bondage. Why worry about and stress about and sacrifice for a god that didn't even exist? Dumb. So God says, don't do that. Worship one God. I know that it's a step of faith, but worship one God. Only me. And I don't look like everything else.

The early Christians got in big trouble. One of the reasons why the church incurred persecution the first few centuries is because they didn't worship a physical object. The Romans did. They would go into a Christian church and they would say, 'where is your god? We don't see a god. Where is the god? We are in

your temple. Where's the god?' 'He is invisible. He is transcendent.' 'Oh, you are an atheist.' They actually accused Christians of being atheists because they didn't have a physical thing to kneel down before. 'You must be an atheist. You don't believe in gods.' 'Yes, we do. He is transcendent.' 'No you don't. There is nothing there. I don't see it. Show me your god.' 'I can't show you. He is above this. He is not a dumb piece of stone.' 'Well you must not...' They couldn't get it in their brain that God is transcendent. That God does not look like this. These are profound verses! Ones to wake up for!

Think for just a few seconds - and then go back to sleep - but for a few minutes, grasp the historical impact of what He is saying. We're used to that. In fact, to be honest with you, I think any time we get used to something in Scripture, we suffer for it. Anytime something becomes, 'yeah, the usual, I know that', we are going to suffer for it. Cause the next challenge is, do you really worship this God? What does it really mean to worship this God? What does it mean to worship Him?

Nobody brought in calves to be sacrificed today. Are you sure we didn't need a calf here? That's how people have been doing it for centuries, all over the world. For a millennia. Bring a calf. Bring a sheep. Bring a goat. Bring a pigeon. Bring a duck or a goose. Bring them in here. How do you know God doesn't want that? How do you know? All the other so called gods wanted them. How do you know that our God doesn't? How do you know the one, true, living God doesn't? How do you know? Well He says not. Okay, so He says, don't worship me with ducks and that sort of thing. So how do you worship Him?

I know. Through what we call 'relationships'. Just stick with me here for a couple of minutes. We go from an age where God is all around and gods are all over the place. You have to do all sorts of things to keep those gods at bay, to make sure they don't ruin your life. If you can manipulate

them to make your life better, then you are even better.

God comes and says, I am not like that. I'm not like that. I'm not an object. But He retains some of the worship. You will come and you will bring calves. You will sacrifice things to me. I accept that as worship. If you, in faith, in obedience to me, in a desire to worship me, bring calves and sacrifice those calves, I will honor that. That is worship. That is one aspect of worship to me. But you only have one God. You do it this way. This is how you sacrifice these things. If you are obedient, that is worship.

Then as you go through the Scripture, you get to the prophets and what do the prophets say? You know what? Here is a secret. God didn't want your calves. He wanted your heart. That's what He wants. Go ahead and offer those calves, but be aware it is the condition of your heart. You don't go out there and sin and do however you want and then just come in here and offer sacrifices and ...that's good! That's like it used to be. No. God doesn't want your calves. He wants your heart. You sacrifice from your heart.

Then you go to the New Testament. What happens? The sacrifices stop. Because of Jesus Christ, He fulfills those sacrifices. No longer do we bring things and offer them on an altar. Now the Scripture says, look, you don't have to do all of that. What you do is you worship Him in the Spirit and in truth. You worship Him in Spirit and in truth. Okay. So now we are that far. People still perceived that God was all around. There is only one God but He controls everything.

You can read diaries of a couple hundred years ago. It's really amazing and fascinating stuff. The diary of Samuel Sewall. He is a Christian colonist in the Massachusetts, New England area. He wrote this really great diary in which he talked about life as it was happening around him. It was very evident that he perceived the hand of God in so many things all around him.

A better one, Joslin, his first or last name, I can't remember. It's been longer since I read that one. Everything that happened he would interpret as an act of God. To where he would say things like, he would write in his diary, this morning my daughter got sick. It must be that I haven't been praying hard enough. My business suffered today. I think it is because I am not a godly enough father. I made more money this week. God is blessing me. It could be because I am reading the Bible more.

You see things in diaries like that. Things like, somebody's house gets hit by lightning. We had a neighbor get hit by lightning. We go over and say, I'm so sorry. Can I help you? You console them. Back then you would walk up to them and say, you made God mad! What did you do? Confess it. You did something wrong. Admit it because God threw lightning down and hit you. There is only one God but He still is very much involved that way.

Then you move through the seventeen hundreds. What happens? You get this idea that, actually, there is a God, but He designed the world that functions by itself. What happens is lightning is just a natural phenomenon, governed by the laws of physics. And I believe that. But a consequence of that is God becomes more distant.

Now here we are in the year 2008. Who is God? Who really is God? You're sick, you go to a doctor. Your house gets hit by lightning, you get a contractor to get it fixed back up again. Have insurance to repay it and it's just too bad. Your tree falls over on your house. That wasn't God. It was the fact that my tree was dead. I should have had it taken care of. I got sick. What was it, God making me sick? No, it was probably because I did this when I was young and it affects me now. Or I should be eating better and I didn't. It's all natural. We can explain everything by nature now.

In other words, what I am trying to say is, God is becoming more and more distant. You know what I am

saying? I think as Christians, sometimes, I wonder, as American Christians, if God isn't just sort of a useful thing now. What is Christianity? We say Christianity is a relationship. That's nice. That's manageable. It's a relationship. It's not a religion. Religion is bad. Now we say, it's a relationship. Yes, it is but what kind of relationship is it?

I like the word 'religion'. I come up with these books I'd like to write but I never do. I probably never will. But I like to come up with the titles of them anyway. I'd like to write a book with the title 'Bring Back Religion; Why American Christians Need Religion'. The reason is because of what we are talking about right here. God has become an innocuous relationship. Somebody irrelevant to how I live day by day. And I excuse it by saying, well, I'm saved by grace and He's my friend. He's also the God who came down on a mountain and He shook the mountain and He threw lightning down and freaked the people out! To where they said, don't let Him talk to me anymore (v. 19). It's the same God! He's not a fuzzy little, cute little thing that we just kind of sing half hearted songs to. He's God! He deserves our worship.

Worship should not be constricted; 'Oh, I don't have to bring cows, I don't have to do that. Oh, these are the laws, I am not under the law'. You know what religion is? Religion is how you live out your relationship with God. Religion is when you get up in the morning and you guide your life by what He wants you to do! That's religion. Religion means you seek after Him by reading of Him and learning of Him. Religion

means when you reach a point in your day when you know you should be doing something and you don't want to do it but you do it anyway, because He's God and He deserves your obedience. That's religion. There's nothing wrong with it.

We need the relationship. But out of that relationship needs to come a whole life. Which is what God was wanting right here. He doesn't need the calves anymore. Thank the Lord He doesn't need calves anymore! Literally, thank Jesus Christ He doesn't need calves anymore. But what does that mean? We come in here and we just go half hearted in our worship? Because, after all, He doesn't need calves. What does that mean? I can sit here and fall asleep? No! It doesn't matter. I can fall asleep. It doesn't really make any difference. In the whole scheme of things, you are not going to be condemned to hell if you fall asleep in church. I am well aware of that or I would be condemned already. BUT, I can't sit there and say, 'it doesn't matter. I am saved by my relationship with Christ. I don't know Him very well. It's kind of like a distant cousin. Second cousin twice removed. But I've got a relationship with Him!'

He's God! He's still God. He needs to be the all encompassing purpose of our life. We need to be forming our days in worship in honor of Him. Seeking Him. Desiring to know Him. Keeping our eyes on Him. On no other gods but only on Him. Worshipping Him and worshipping as our God. May God give us the grace to do so.

### **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

## 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

Lynn Stieglitz  
Counseling Elder

*"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*

## Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services

515 East Highland St,  
Morton, IL 61550  
309-263-5536 (local#) 309-263-6841 (fax)

**877-370-9988 (toll free)**

[www.accounseling.org](http://www.accounseling.org)

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

## POSITION AVAILABLE Assistant to the 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

# AT THE PRINTER

## The Second Edition of “Marching to Zion”

• CHURCH HISTORY •

**1800s**

Includes description of church origins in Switzerland. Presents the story of how Samuel Froehlich began preaching and new congregations were established.

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### Please Note:

- A complete *name* and *topical* Index
- Distribution planned to all congregations
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This project is sponsored by the Elder Body under the guidance of an Elder History Committee. The computer disks from the first edition (1984) were obsolete so *Marching to Zion* was completely re-typeset. It represents a thorough Apostolic Christian Church history in America, from 1847-2007.

## CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2008/2009

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 October 13<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@citznet.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@geckcoct.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 Wuethrich 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				

### 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



## JAMAICA

*Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of October 13<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 Open to all	Mar 7 - 14	Roger Stoller 309-747-3228 rstoller@dtnspeed.net	40 (Open)	Jamaica Deaf Village CCCD	May 22 - 30	Ted Hirstein 309-266-8769 hirstein@mtco.com	40
Kingston School CCCD Gridley SS Only	Mar 21 - 28	Roger Stoller 309-747-3228 rstoller@dtnspeed.net	40 (Full)	Jamaica Deaf Village CCCD Akron, Rittman, Smithville SS	Jun 20 - 27	Jay Maibach jmmaibach@embarqmail.com	40
Montego Bay School CCCD Bluffton SS	Mar 21 - 28	Gene Gerber 260-824-4601 ggerber@meyerbuilding.com	40				

## MEXICO

*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 October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2008 -[www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/)*

Location	Year 2008	Coordinator					
Magdalena Construction	Nov 22-29	Rod Schmidt 303-774-7913 rschmidt@Acosta.com		Magdalena Construction	Mar 14-21	Joe Darlington/Purdue Purdue University 815-245-7913 joedarlington@gmail.com	
Magdalena Construction	Jan 3-10	Darl Rassi 815-867-2195 mr.rassi@gmail.com		Reynosa Construction	Mar 21-28	Mark Sauder/U of I University of Illinois 309-202-3279 markus_329@yahoo.com	
Magdalena Construction	Jan 10-17	Steve Kaeb 217-379-4707 kaeb@illicom.net		Magdalena Construction	Mar 21-28	Pete Aberle Tremont Bible Class 309-925-5969 dpabfrms@hotmail.com	
Magdalena Construction	Jan 17-24	John Teubel 815-657-8721 jteubel@maxwire.net		Magdalena Construction	May 30-Jun 6	Seth Beer Phoenix Bible Class 602-918-1722 sethbeer@gmail.com	
Magdalena Construction	Feb 14-21	Steve Veins 860-871-8329 veins1@earthlink.net		Magdalena Construction	Jun 13-20	Brent Knobloch 815-923-4736 bmknob@mc.net	
Agua Prieta Construction	Mar 7-14	Kevin Gerber 260-565-3313 kevgerber@yahoo.com		Agua Prieta Construction	Jun 20-27	Brad Leman 260-273-1953 crazyhorsebrad@gmail.com	
Magdalena Construction	Mar 7-14	Dustin Huber/ISU Illinois State University 309-825-0864 dustin.huber@verizon.net		Magdalena Construction	Jun 20-27	Aaron Klopfenstein Indianapolis Bible Class 317-596-8739 aaronklop@sbcglobal.net	
Agua Prieta Construction	Mar 14-21	Steven Sauder/ICC-Bradley Illinois Central College/Bradley 309-657-2067 stevensau@gmail.com		Magdalena Construction	Jun 27-Jul 4	Kent Mogler 651-452-8586 kent.mogler@comcast.net	

## USA World Relief Committee

*For area work or disaster projects, please contact the following USA committee member:*

* Bro. Kent Heimer	<i>Counseling Elder</i>	Taylor, MO	Cell# 573-248-5701
* Bro. Paul Kaeb	<i>Chairman</i>	Bern, KS	Cell# 785-547-5269
* Bro. Chuck Kellenberger	<i>Sec/Treasurer</i>	Elgin, IL	Cell# 224-629-6531
* Bro. Les Schambach	<i>Administrator</i>	Elgin, IL	Cell# 630-247-5271
* Bro. Arnold Gerst		Taylor, MO	Cell# 217-242-8996
* Bro. Tom Neuenschwander		Bluffton, IN	Cell# 260-307-6026
* Bro. Ray Slagel		Fairbury, IL	Cell# 815-848-3714



# REMEMBERING

## *Our Spiritual Heritage*

In 1978 (thirty-years ago) the Gridley, Illinois, and Roanoke, Illinois, Young Groups combined their efforts to compile a 16-page booklet of interviews with elderly brothers and sisters in those two congregations. Favorite songs, verses and sayings formed the core of this booklet entitled, "For Where Your Treasure Is, There Will Be Your Heart Also." (Luke 12:34)

Many of these brothers and sisters (perhaps all) are now gone onto their reward. Very likely most of them were taken up in the church during the 1920's, 1930's and 1940's, and sometimes their responses reveal the mindset of that era.

### **Roanoke Brothers and Sisters**

Anna Hernfeld listed her favorite Bible verse: "The Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14)

Her words of advice? "I know the Bible is true. Some people don't think it is, but I do. I believe we can say we believe this, too."

Ellen Siebenthal's favorite verse was "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." (Psalm 46:1)

Lloyd and Cynthia Aeschleman gave their favorite saying: "What sunshine is to flowers, smiles are to humanity. There are trifles to be sure — but scattered along life's pathway, the good they do is inconceivable."

The favorite chapter of Dorothy Bittner was Psalm 139, especially the following verses: "O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising. Thou understands my thought

afar off.....and lead me into the way everlasting."

Mae Sauder gave some advice: "Train yourself not to be offended by something so insignificant that you carry a grudge for years."

D. B. "Happy" Hodel said his favorite chapter in the Bible was Psalm 1.

Minnie Lemman listed a favorite poem:

A bell is no bell until you ring it.

A song is not a song until you sing it.

And love in your heart wasn't put there to stay —

Love isn't love till you give it away.

Louis and Fannie Zimmerman told their favorite Bible verses: "Godliness with contentment is great gain." "Do unto others as you wish they would do to you." "God resisteth the proud but giveth grace to the humble."

Emma Blunier reflected back on her repentance: The following verse came to mind so much and it gave me hope that God would answer my prayer and give me peace: "Ask and it shall be given you; seek and ye shall find; knock and it shall be opened unto you: For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." (Matthew 7:7,8)

Laura Weyeneth indicated her two favorite songs: (1) I Must Tell Jesus; and (2) Did You Think To Pray? And she told of her favorite Bible chapters: (1) I Peter 1; and (2) The 90<sup>th</sup> Psalm.

### **Gridley Brothers and Sisters**

In a section entitled Food For Thought, brothers and sisters listed many varying spiritual thoughts:

Anna K. Miller: "Grace to live for the Lord."

Matilda Alt: "Don't look any further than our wonderful church because if you can't find it here you can't find it anywhere.

Ella Cargill: A favorite saying: "Only one life, t'will soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last." Setta Klopfenstein, widow of Elder Joe M. Klopfenstein, also expressed an appreciation for the same saying.

Henry Gramm: "Don't force your ideas on others but allow others to form opinions and then, as much as possible, live peaceably with all men."

William Gramm: "Seek the Lord in your youth and stay with him all your life."

Alwin Funk: "Whatever you do or say, the next time do it a little better."

Joe and Ida Rinckenberger: "Live up to the doctrine of the church."

### **Church History Book**

The second edition of *Marching To Zion* is now at the printer in Fort Scott, Kansas. Over 8400 copies have been sold. After the books are printed, they will be shipped to a bindery, and eventually shipped to the individual congregations. The 810-page book will be available through your local church, Apostolic Christian Publications, and from the author (800 847 6686). The initial cost is \$20, based on the volume order. Subsequent printings will be smaller, and the cost will be higher.

*By Perry A. Klopfenstein*

### **Next issue:**

More comments from Gridley and Roanoke brethren

# The Light Of Hope

## “Dead To Self”

*Retired Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan*

When the Lord Jesus Christ came to earth, it was a big adjustment for Him. A hymn writer describes it in this way, “Out of the ivory palaces, into this world of woe.” At the age of twelve He stayed in the temple in Jerusalem and visited with the teachers there. When Mary and Joseph came searching for Him, concerned for His safety, He replied, “How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?” When Christ was 30 years of age, He began His ministry by saying, “Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Matthew 4:17. After that He healed people, taught the people about God, and predicted that He would die to pay a ransom for all. Matthew 20:27, 28, “And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.” It was

a big change for Christ to move from heaven to earth, but He adjusted.

People resist change. Some things can only be explained by the word, CUSTOM. We may say, “We like what we are used to and we do not want to change even if your suggestion is an improvement and Biblical.” I am not advocating change for the sake of change, nor am I advocating any change which moves us farther away from what the Bible teaches. But changes that are good, we must adjust to, especially changes that help us to be more spiritual.

It was a struggle for Christ to adjust to the idea of bearing all our sins on the cross, and to be reconvinced that it was the Father’s will. But He adjusted, and went all the way to Calvary for us.

Peter was a fisherman. It was his means of a livelihood. The change in lifestyle from being a fisherman to following Jesus

through the countryside, was tremendous. But he adjusted.

The Apostle Paul was a persecutor of the Christians until he met Christ on the road to Damascus. He became a Christian himself and preached the Gospel to many. This was a big change, but he adjusted.

My wife, Lois, and I, have spent over 54 years together here in Japan. We are acclimated and can speak the language. For us, stress from society is almost zero. In our church, we do not have to be so dressed up. Men members wear white shirts and neckties out of respect for God, but friends often come pretty much as they are. In a small church you are thankful for anyone who comes to church, even if they do not wear a white shirt and a necktie. On November 1 we moved into Skylines in Peoria, Illinois. America will be different, but with God’s help through your prayers, we will adjust.

# 希望の光

THE SILVER LINING  
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MRS. CHARLES WALDER

533 N 3RD ST

CISSNA PARK IL 60924-9782

A photograph of a ram with large, curved horns lying on a grassy hillside. The ram is the central focus, looking towards the camera. The background shows a hazy, mountainous landscape under a clear sky. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

*Know ye that the Lord he is God:  
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

*Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,  
and into his courts with praise:  
be thankful unto him, and bless his name.  
For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting;  
and his truth endureth to all generations.*

*Psalms 100:3-5*