

# *The Silver Lining*

*It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed,  
because his compassions fail not.  
They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.*

*Lamentations 3:22-23*

*August 2009*

Sermon by Bro. Don Steidl, Akron, OH

## II Samuel 15 and Acts 8

We read here of a time in King David's life that was probably one of the saddest situations he had to deal with. We know that David, from his youth up, as he grew up as a shepherd boy, this is just so far removed, the situations that he was taken into from the time he spent watching the sheep in the fields. But I think those times he spent there prepared him for the things he had to go through.

I think as he watched those sheep, probably at night and during the day, there many times wasn't a whole lot to do. He looked around and he thought about the things that he saw. He thought about the Word of God. He thought about the Lord. Those things began to grow within his heart. He began to grow in faith, even as a young man.

We can see that as God worked with him later, as his faith grew, he had such a great faith. We remember the time that he went down and Goliath was challenging his people. David couldn't understand that. We know that he was such a great man of faith. Yet there were times that, as he was trying to be faithful to God, Saul was trying to kill him because the Spirit of God had departed from Saul because Saul had sinned and disobeyed God.

So we can see that David's life did have a lot of sorrow in it. Yet he could say as the Psalmist, the Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down by green pastures. He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul. (Psalm 23:1-3) That is the thing we need to remember, even as children of God. Even though God is our shepherd and He goes with us, there are times when we do get into great tribulation. Sorrow that we maybe never even thought that we would have. Even as David probably never dreamt that his own son would turn against him in this way.

Yet we can read here, even as David had the faith to say, take that ark back into the city. If God is going to deal well with me, God will return it (II Samuel 15:25). If not, he was going to accept that at the hand of God. We think of the time that David must have

learned, even the time when the ark was captured by the Philistines and it was brought back again, the Israelites tried to take that ark with them. They thought that it would help them in the battle. But they had displeased God. They had sinned. So they had that upon them, that they were going to be defeated. I believe it was even the time that Eli's sons were killed. God had told him that that was going to happen. And the ark was taken. They thought the ark was something that was going to prevent them from falling into the hands of the Philistines. We can see that, because sin was within them and God needed to deal with that, it didn't do them any good to take the ark with them. We can see that when it was with the Philistines, the plagues that came upon them. They had returned it in a special way. (I Samuel 4-6)

Other times, when David went to move the ark. They didn't do it the way they were supposed to do it. They used beasts to do it and it was supposed to be carried by men. When one of the men went to steady it, one of the oxen had stumbled, he was destroyed. (II Samuel 6:2-7) So David knew that even though the ark would be back in Jerusalem, if God was with him, he didn't have to fear. He could realize and know that surely goodness and mercy would follow him all the days of his life. He would dwell in the house of the Lord forever (Psalm 23:6), even though now during this time he had struggles.

In our walk of faith, there will be times that we are going to have struggles, but it says, He restoreth my soul (Psalm 23:3). There's times that we go through storms. We can look ahead and know that the Lord is going to be with us. He is going to prove Himself, even if we would read farther on here, God was with David. Even though it caused great sorrow to David, we know that Absalom was defeated (II Samuel 18:14,15) and David was restored again (II Samuel 20:3). But even more than being restored to the place of King, I think he was again restored to having peace with God. Knowing God was with him.

As we think of that Psalm that David had wrote about the Lord being his shepherd, I don't know a lot about sheep, but I think that when sheep lie down in a pasture, it means that they

*Sermon continued on page 40*

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"...ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness..." (Galatians 6:1)

## Light From The Word



Writings based on God's Word

August 2009

Practicing Biblical Brotherly Admonition

"Be ye holy, for I am holy" (1 Pet. 1:16). In these words, God imparts his fundamental purpose for us. We are created in God's image and commissioned to continue His work in the world to glorify Him (Gen. 1:26-28). The Word also exposes our failure to fulfill this purpose. "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone," said Christ to those who condemned the adulterous woman (John. 8:7). No man qualifies (Rom. 3:23). Since that fateful day when Adam and Eve chose their own will over God's, we are all born sinners in a fallen world, and have all likewise sinned (Is. 53:6).

We can be thankful that God has mercifully provided a way of redemption. He came to earth to "bear witness unto the truth" (John. 18:37) so man could repent of his sin. When He overturned the moneychangers' tables (Matt. 21:12-13), when He charged that the chief priests were further from God than harlots (Matt. 21:31) and when He rebuked Peter, saying, "Get thee behind me, Satan" (Matt. 16:23): in each case, He was pointing people to the truth (Matt. 16:23).

Although the truth is humbling, we must honestly pursue it for the sake of our eternal souls (Prov. 4:13; Heb. 12:11). We don't want to justify ourselves; we want to see ourselves in the mirror of God's Word, trusting Him to admonish us when we stray (2 Cor. 13:5). His Word is "quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword... a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Heb. 4:12). It cuts to the core of our hearts, exposing our transgression before our Maker.

Biblical admonition may be painful, but it is good. Paul writes that all Scripture "is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). Doctrine confronts us with the reality of our condition, reproof convicts us of sin and prompts repentance, correction restores us to the proper path, and instruction guides us along that path. We must seek biblical admonishment in all honesty and humility.

Sometimes, God admonishes us

through the words of godly men, and we should welcome being exhorted and warned by someone who loves us enough to do this in a biblical manner (1 Thes. 5:14). Christ has given us the example of the shepherd who loses a sheep. "Doth he not leave the ninety and nine and goeth into the mountains and seeketh that which is gone astray? And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep than of the ninety and nine which went not astray" (Matt. 18:12-13). This is the heart of the Father – to restore that which was lost. He employs us His children in this work, so we should thank God for each other.

In addition to humbly receiving biblical admonition, we must be faithful when God calls us to convey it to others. When we observe what we believe is sin, trespass or fault (all three are used interchangeably in the Word) in a brother, we must first prayerfully examine ourselves for any "beam" that might be in our eye (Matt. 7:1-5). Only after this is removed should we proceed further. Christ explains the rest of our responsibility in this process in Matt. 18:15-20. We are to talk to our brother about the matter "alone" lest we fall into the sin of gossip ourselves. This ensures that we act in God's interest, not self interest, with the purpose of restoring one to truth – to "gain our brother." We are to warn him lovingly, not shame him (1 Cor. 4:14). Our desire should be to restore him "in the spirit of meekness" (Gal. 6:1), for it is not our authority, but the authority of God's Word that enables us to do this (Rom. 15:14), and only by His grace.

We should also be guided by a sense of humility and a realization that what we have perceived may in fact be different from the reality of what has occurred. We should approach our brother with a spirit that seeks to gain understanding and acknowledges our limited perspective.

Christ's instruction also implies that our admonition should not be anonymous. We are to "go" to our brother, not hide behind a veil of secrecy. God has always dealt with sin directly, and proper brotherly admonition is done at His direction and with the authority of His Word. If we are unwilling to identify ourselves, we should (a) re-examine our scriptural re-

sponsibility and motives in the matter and/or (b) ask God to direct someone else in this work and let the matter rest. Previous discussion of anonymous admonition in a Light from the Word article (1998) describes this as being clearly in conflict with the Word.

If our brother does not hear us, we are to return to him with two or three witnesses – not the whole church. To involve more than a few is inappropriate at this stage, as it may lead to gossip and further stain the church with sin. It is the purity of the church that we are seeking to restore by confronting the sin of a brother.

If the trespasser still refuses to acknowledge his sin, then – and *only* then – should we take the matter before the church. We are not to take it to the world. God has charged the church with this work, and it is only His Word that will convict, correct, and instruct. The world cannot redeem such a man, so if he rebuffs a loving church functioning under the authority of God-ordained leadership, he has nowhere else to go. He is to be unto us "as a heathen man" (Matt. 18:17).

This may seem harsh, but it is what Christ has instructed us to do. He gave himself for the church "that he might present it to himself a glorious church... that it should be holy and without blemish" (Eph. 5:27). If a brother refuses to submit to Him when confronted with His Word, he commits the same error as the Original Sin of choosing his own will over God's, thus separating himself from the holiness of God and from the fellowship of God's people.

Although the church does not judge his eternal destination, when it restores a man to fellowship, it parallels his restoration in heaven (Matt. 18:18). When the church rejects an unrepentant sinner, it parallels his rejection in heaven. Christ directs us to pray that His "will be done on earth, as it is in heaven" (Matt. 6:10).

What a solemn responsibility for God's people both in giving and receiving biblical admonition. Let us continually humble ourselves before Him and our brethren as we strive to obey His will and conform to His image of holiness.

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@mtco.com



## 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

### RGMMI - A Light in the Darkness of India

An unexpected stop by an Indian missionary at the home of an Apostolic Christian minister in Rittman, Ohio in the 1960's opened the door for our church to be involved in the Rural Gospel and Medical Missions of India. Mr. B.B. Bhagwat had founded the mission in 1938 and could see that his involvement would be coming to a close in the future. He was looking for a church group that would be committed to carry on the mission work he had established.

After visiting a number of other Apostolic Christian Churches, a formal request was made to the Elder Body to have brothers go to India in the 1970's and review the work of RGMMI. Several trips were made and after a number of discussions by the Elder Body, a seven member board was appointed in 1980 to manage the assets of the Bhagwats after their death and provide spiritual counseling and guidance to the staff that operated the various components of the mission.

#### A comprehensive ministry

Today the mission consists of several churches, many village prayerhalls (places of worship), two boarding homes, vocational training schools, an elementary school, a small hospital and numerous medical clinics. The boarding homes are located on two RGMMI campuses and are for young boys who are orphans, from broken families, or children of rural families living near RGMMI prayer halls that do not have access to schools.

RGMMI also sponsors over 50 girls at an orphanage in the city of Monmad, located about 50 miles

from the mission headquarters at Nashik, India.

#### English school

The English Medium School at Khardi, completed with help from the U.S. churches three years ago, is beginning another term. Over 125 students are enrolled in the first six grades. Many of them are Hindu children from the area and their parents appreciate the opportunity to have their children learn English which will make them more qualified for employment upon graduation. The youngest boys of the RGMMI boarding home at Khardi also attend this school.

#### Medical

The medical arm of RGMMI will be greatly enhanced with the services of Dr. Ashwin Parkhe who has completed his medical studies this summer. He is the oldest son of the director of our mission, Dr. Surendra Parkhe. Amit Parkhe, the youngest son, will be coming to the United States in August to participate in an advanced medical program at the University of Illinois in Springfield. He also plans to return to work in the RGMMI mission in two years.

#### Group home for orphans

In July, the first occupants of the new RGMMI/Loving Shepherd Ministries Group home for orphans near the church in Balhana will arrive. The building was completed late last year but due to political unrest in the area, the admission of candidates was delayed. The recent elections in India have diminished the boldness of militant Hindus in their actions against Christians. Many prayers were lifted up to the Lord in the last year for areas in India where

Christians were persecuted or were under threats from these groups. Five children have been selected to be the first individuals that will receive the benefits of living in a home filled with the love of God.

The USA Board of Directors senses the need for ongoing visits to India to provide counseling and guidance to the administrative and spiritual staff of RGMMI. A visit to India is being planned this fall. Not only will there be a tour of the various facilities, but time will be spent interacting with the Pastors and Evangelists by addressing a number of spiritual topics followed by in depth discussions.

Many prayers have been offered for Damayanti Parkhe, the wife of our mission director. She was called to her eternal reward on June 25th after an extensive battle with cancer. She served as director of the Mission's vocational and educational programs. The family is very appreciative of the many prayers of believers who have prayed for her and will continue to intercede for her family.

#### To learn more

Brochures have been developed about the work of RGMMI. A new DVD illustrates the history of India, the current economical and political climate of India and the work of RGMMI. Brochures and DVD's are available from the national World Relief office in Remington, IN ([www.acworldrelief.org](http://www.acworldrelief.org)).

The USA Board appreciates the many prayers and support for the work of RGMMI. To date there has been no clear direction for our brethren to assist onsite in this mission on a long term basis. We wait upon the Lord for His guidance as we serve these dear ones in India.



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

## Restoring Oakville... A Labor of Love

For nearly an entire year volunteers have been traveling to Oakville, Iowa to aid in the work of rebuilding a community destroyed by the flood of June 14, 2008. The breach of the Iowa River levee just west of Oakville resulted in flooding of more than 400 homes and the loss of nearly 17,000 acres of crops. In addition, hog confinement buildings, grain bins and implement sheds all suffered from the beating waves generated by the winds over "Lake Oakville."

Thankfully, advance warning had resulted in the removal of most household items, farm machinery, livestock and grain before the flood waters came. But the result was water to a depth between four and twenty feet throughout the affected area. What remained were basements filled with water and mud. Homes were saturated to the first floor or above, depending on the location. Some homes were accessible only by boat for a period of five to six weeks. In addition, the lives of more than four hundred families were turned upside down. How thankful we are that we can trust in the One who holds the whole world in His hands.

As the water slowly receded, the task of removing all of the soaked carpet, padding, drywall and insulation was the first step in the long road to restoring a home. Walls were stripped to the studs for the purpose of drying out. Pumping water from flooded basements and removing mud and debris followed. During the clean-up phase, volunteer help was offered to anyone whose house was accessible. Huge piles

of soaked debris became a common site next to every dwelling.

As time passed and the teams of volunteers responded to the need for help, the efforts began to shift from clean-up to rebuilding. Initially, rebuilding efforts were focused on the homes of the church family. By the end of December, most of these homes were at or near completion. Many hog buildings had also been restored and new pigs were being introduced into these buildings.

In January, the rebuilding efforts turned to residents of the community outside of the church family. Work continued through the cold winter months as volunteers braved the elements to come to Oakville and lend a helping hand. As much as possible, work projects were scheduled inside of heated houses. The Winter Work Project continued through the winter and ended the last week of May.

### Brotherly love in action

The out-pouring of love and support from the brotherhood is beyond expression. Only those who experienced this devastating loss can know the feeling of despair and helplessness that it brought. To look out across the water and see only the rooftop of your home and to know that all you had invested in hopes of a bountiful harvest is lost. It brings to mind Job who also suffered great loss and yet retained his faith in God, his provider. In Oakville, the Provider worked through the hearts and hands of His people to restore what was lost in the flood.

Through the generous support of compassionate hearts, more than 1.5 million dollars of financial aid has been shared with the victims of this flood. Over a period of nearly

eleven months, volunteers have given their time and talents in helping restore the homes and lives of those who had lost so much. More than forty-two thousand hours of volunteer labor have been recorded in this project. Approximately fifty homes have benefited from the help of volunteers in restoring them to like new condition. Grateful families are moving forward in life with a new appreciation for the help of a "Good Samaritan".

### Praise ye the Lord!

On the evening of May 23rd, Oakville community families whose homes had been a part of the rebuilding project were invited to church for dinner and a short dedication service. Bro. Kent Heimer, counseling elder for the USA Committee encouraged each family to be a praying family, looking to God above in all of their needs. Bibles with family names imprinted on the cover were presented to each homeowner. Children's bible story books were also given to families with young children.

With tear-filled eyes, many expressed their deep appreciation for the love that had been shown to them. "We could never have done it without your help," they said. It is our prayer they will recognize the Lord Jesus living in the hearts of those who came to help and give Him the praise.

As a project of the USA Committee of World Relief, it is our prayer that this effort has been a blessing to all who participated in the opportunity to serve. We are thankful for all the support that has been given to this project. May all praise, honor and glory be to our God – the only true Provider.

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
HOME FOR THE  
HANDICAPPED  
www.achh.org**

Proverbs 3:5 begins: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart...."

Imagine yourself being a resident of a long term care facility. Maybe you are in a long term care facility, and know what being a resident there is really like. Perhaps you have a family member who is a resident in a long term care facility.

These residents usually have to trust their care to another person. Ultimately, we trust our care to our Heavenly Father. In order to have peace of heart and mind, we have to trust Him with all our heart!

The Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped is such a long term care facility. There are many residents who trust others to care for them. And, because the Lord is Head of our facility, we trust Him with all our heart to enable us to care for our residents in the best way possible.

God has richly blessed our residents. The staff in turn is blessed to be able to spend time with these wonderful people.

The Home consists of separate homes each providing a unique level of care so that residents can be as independent as is possible.

Following is a short rendition of a segment of time at one of our newly opened homes in a Morton community neighborhood. It is a nice 4-bedroom home in which four ladies dwell. These four ladies initially resided at our 16 person homes, Oakwood Estate and Linden Estate. The house functions pretty much like any household would.

One evening visitors stopped by the newly opened home. It was just shortly after they had all moved in. They were very excited when these unannounced visitors arrived. The visitors were a couple that happens to

be friends with each of the ladies living in that house. They stopped by to welcome them to their new home.

These house mates had just finished setting the table for dinner, and were waiting for their casserole to finish baking in the oven. One of the women was taking a nap in her room, since it was not her turn to help with dinner preparations. The other ladies promptly (and proudly) asked if the guests wanted a tour of their new house. With pride they invited the guests to see their individual rooms, the living room, kitchen, den, laundry, patio, and other parts of the house. A great exchange occurred among these friends.

The casserole was ready. The guests thanked the ladies for their hospitality. At the dinner table, a prayer of thanks was offered, and fellowship 'round the table began.

There is a trust that travels from staff to resident/resident to staff as we seek the Lord's blessing and provision for these efforts... for His Glory!

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**GATEWAY WOODS  
APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
CHILDREN'S HOME  
Kevin Fiechter**

Our Leo Church congregation has been discussing Biblical Peacemaking for six Wednesday evenings. The topics have been challenging, rewarding, and convicting. We understand that we will have conflicts in life. The question is, how will we handle these issues in life? Will we work them out, or will we escape or attack the situation? If we have the desire to glorify God in every situation, I believe most conflicts will be handled in a peaceful manner. But how do we accomplish this task? We need to be completely honest with ourselves, don't we? We need to get the beam (log) out of our own eye (Matthew 7:5) to be able to see clearly.

Another key element is understanding that God uses conflict to reveal our idols. We might think an idol is a statue, but the meaning goes much deeper. A good definition for an idol is anything apart from God that we depend on to be happy, fulfilled, or secure. It is something other than God that we set our hearts on, that rules us (Eph. 5:5), or that we trust, fear or serve (Isa. 42:17; Matt. 6:24). Yes, we need relationships in life, but if we depend on them to make us happy, fulfilled or secured at all times, we will be disappointed, because that person(s) will fail us at some point. Then, when that individual doesn't satisfy us, we might start demanding things from them, which could turn into judging and punishing that particular person. When we don't have our hearts completely fixed on God, our hearts tend to become angry, bitter, resentful, malice, disappointed, depressed, judgmental, etc.

Oh, but isn't it wonderful that we serve an awesome God! Remember God is all-powerful and all-loving, as Psalms 62:11-12 says, God has spoken once, twice have I heard this, that power belongeth unto God. Also unto thee, O Lord, belongeth mercy. Let us continue to put our trust in God in order that we will free ourselves to respond to conflict in a biblical manner. We understand that confession brings freedom. Are there people/situations in our lives that are hindering us from having peace with God and others? If so, take it to God and to others in repentance to receive God's refreshing forgiveness. Don't allow Satan to enslave you any longer. Remember, God is faithful!

**NEWS:**

- Our 33rd Annual Sale will be history when you read this. We are very thankful for all the great donations and wonderful support we receive

from all who attended and contributed to this great event for our on-going work with at-risk children. Look for more news in the next issue of The Silver Lining and The Gate Post.

- We were blessed to have Bro. Justin Wiegand as our Top Quality Coordinator this summer. Bro. Justin says, "I never cease to be amazed at how much can change in a year and how consistently faithful our God proves. He is infinitely far above life yet intimately involved. I love that we can rest in change that He guides.

I returned to Gateway Woods this summer, which is consistent with last, but in a slightly different capacity. I led the volunteer program last summer as Coordinator. This summer I was responsible for the Top Quality program. Top Quality is a work program for Gateway Woods residents. My responsibilities were to interview and "hire" residents to work for the program and lead them as they worked on various jobs gathered from church and community members. Jobs will generally consist of yard work, landscaping, painting and automotive washing and detailing.

God has guided some amazing other changes culminating this summer. Sis. Kirsten Sauder and I were united in marriage on July 26. We will be spending a bit of time in Sierra Leone, Africa, before moving to Campaign. Pray for wisdom, breaking and guidance as we join in life and ministry for His purpose and glory. God is good!"

- Gateway Woods School has also been very blessed by Bro. Joel Stickling, as he served in a summer internship position. Bro. Joel shares "As some of you may already know, last year Gateway Woods began offering an education internship. I left Peoria, Illinois, which is where I attend school. As a student, I always

look forward to the summer months. This summer I had the privilege of working for Gateway Woods. The past two summers I have had the opportunity to serve as a volunteer and during that time have been able to know several of the very special children staying here. I am thankful for the opportunity to encourage the residents that I worked with in the classroom.

During this last school year in Peoria, I have been blessed with the opportunity to take part in the Boys Club program at the South Side Mission. I have experienced the powerful impact you can make in a young person's life. My goal this summer is to provide a role model and a positive influence for the kids at Gateway Woods. The Leo church congregation has made me feel so welcome in the past and I am very thankful to be able to spend another summer with them.

- We are very thankful that God continues to provide us with the right Staff. We currently have two career positions open at Gateway Woods. The first is a position for an Alternate Houseparent couple. The second open position is for 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!

- We want to express our sincere thanks to all of the volunteers who came out here this summer. Their attitudes and hearts amazed us as God used them to help out with the various projects around our campus. Thank you for your time and efforts!

- You are an important advocate to help us spread the word about God's work at Gateway Woods. Please continue to lift us up in prayer, check our website [www.gatewaywoods.org](http://www.gatewaywoods.org) of-

ten for updates, and make sure that you're on our mailing list. In an effort to be as efficient as possible we are gathering as many email addresses as we can for our E-Post. Please send a message to [mail@gatewaywoods.org](mailto:mail@gatewaywoods.org).

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**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
PRESCHOOL  
Athens, AL  
Sarah Hodel**

We want to say "Thank you" to Sis. Deb Blunier (Eureka) for coming down to volunteer a week at the preschool. Also thank you to her two nieces, Rachel and Whitley, for coming and helping out as well. We always appreciate the work that gets done and the kids love having them around for the week!

There is still a need for another teacher to come. Please consider this opportunity if you are able. It is open to someone who is either single or married, and it would be a blessing for anyone who came. If you are interested, please contact Bro. Mike Moore. He can be reached at (256)729-0620 or (256)777-3390. Also you can get a hold of him at 8653 Beechwood Rd., Athens, AL 35611.

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS  
Louise Hall**

We have been a very blessed congregation in the recent weeks. Blessed with plenty of sweet fellowship as we have had many visitors from all over. We are thankful for all who come and we especially want to thank our visiting ministers. Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville) was here twice in the last month and we truly appreciate his efforts. Also sharing the Word with us this month were Bros. Glen Braker (Princeville), Daron Price (Milford) and Keith Hinrichsen (Phoenix).

Our biggest blessing has been seeing Luke Moore (Bro. Mike and Sis.

Pam) come to the Lord in repentance. We are so excited that he has taken this step. Also, Matthew Moore (Bro. Mike and Sis. Pam) gave his testimony and was baptized on July 19-20. It was such an encouraging and uplifting weekend for all of us. We pray the Lord would strengthen Matthew as he continues on his spiritual journey.

Many of us had the opportunity to spend the weekend with the Atlanta congregation for our VBS weekend. We enjoyed seeing old friends and making some new ones. Our theme for the weekend was Noah's Ark. The question was asked "Are you on board?". Bro. Les Kaeb (Francesville) and his whole family were able to join us for the weekend as Les taught us.

Our prayers go out to those who have been in the hospital. Our Sis. Joyce Ray (Bro. Milton) had eye surgery and we are thankful she is doing better. Our friend Mae Haggemaker also had surgery on her foot. We pray for her healing.

We were excited to have Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard come for a visit while they are home from Haiti. Tim and Joan called Athens home for quite awhile and it is always good to have them back. We are thankful for the work in Haiti they are willing to do and keep them in our prayers.

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### ARIZONA, PHOENIX Heather Hinrichsen

We thank Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Altadena), Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville) and Bro. Robert Knochel (Bay City) for their willingness to share God's Word with us.

"For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up

for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

*II Tim. 4:6-8*

Bro. Herb Knochel Sr. passed from this life to his eternal reward on July 14. He leaves behind his wife, Sis. Johanna; two sons, Bro. Nathan (Sis. Kathy) and Bro. Herb Jr. (Sis. Laurie); one daughter, Sis. Jodi Klotzle (Elder Bro. Tom, Altadena); 12 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. We pray the Lord will cover the family with His love and peace during this difficult time.

Sis. Kathie Labudde (Bro. Larry) also spent time in the hospital to receive a chemo treatment.

Bro. Herb and Sis. Laurie Knochel became grandparents again to Cosette Marie Virkler on June 19. Her parents and big sister are Bro. Nathan, Sis. Natalie and Portia Virkler (South Bend).

We remember in prayer the Elders and their responsibilities to God and the church as they gather for the Conference. May each of us strive towards total submission to God, thereby making their responsibility of shepherding a blessing and a joy.

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### ARIZONA, PRESCOTT Denise Steidinger

In the past month, the Lord has provided strength and encouragement from His Word through the willing service of our ministering brothers: Bros. Duane Reutter (Rockville), Herbie Knochel, Jr., Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich and Jim Meiss (Phoenix). Currently our congregation is not meeting on Wednesday evenings, so we were thankful that Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Morris) was willing to have a service during the midweek on July 22.

On July 7, we had a farewell picnic for Sis. Nicole Wiegand (Gridley) who spent five weeks here this summer and Sis. Cassie Bertsch (Bluffton) who spent one week here. They both were such a blessing and encouragement to our congregation.

Our congregation had our third Bible Study on the Fruit of the Spirit this past month. The last weekend of July we held our first Invite-A-Family with a day of worship and a picnic at a park. It was a blessing and we hope to make this an annual event.

As always, we extend a warm welcome to anyone who plans on passing through Prescott or is wanting to support a small church, to come and worship with us. We always appreciate the fellowship and encouragement of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

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### ARIZONA, TUCSON Lisa Knapp

Many from our little church were blessed to be able to travel to Philadelphia for the wedding ceremony of Bro. Jamin Steffen and Sis. Lauren Wiegand. What a privilege to witness the vows of two special young people promising to love the Lord and each other for as long as they live. We are thankful to have Bro. Jamin and Sis. Lauren with us as they both continue their educations at the University of Arizona. May God richly bless your marriage.

Because all three of our ministers traveled to the wedding, our little church was in need of a minister and once again the Phoenix pulpit was there to help out. Bro. Keith Hinrichsen spent the day in Tucson and provided the Word over the pulpit for which we are very thankful. God's blessings to you, Bro. Keith, for your willing heart and sacrifice of time.

We just finished up three evenings



of Vacation Bible School. Our theme of "Spiritual Gifts" was new territory for some of us, especially our children. Trying to get them to think about how their talents and abilities could be used for God's kingdom was interesting and challenging. Seems like I usually walk away having learned more than my students and this year was no exception. Maybe VBS isn't as much for the children as we tend to think! Many thanks to everyone who taught the children classes, the adult class, made crafts with the kids, provided wonderful snacks and helped clean up. Many hands made light work (or at least lighter). Kids of all ages thank you!

Sad to report, summer finally made it's appearance after a lengthy and unusual delay. We enjoyed a wonderful June with temperatures in the 90's and mild mornings and evenings. But alas, summer has arrived bringing with it temperatures around 105-110 and we are, of course, complaining once again! Our monsoon storms are offering some relief and entertainment.

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### **CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA** **Bro. Daniel Luthi**

A funeral and burial service for Bro. Glenn Hackenjoes (Sis. Kay, Eureka, IL) was held June 22 at our church. He had passed away at the church home in Eureka, IL. Bro Glenn was an active member and a minister in our church for some time prior to moving to Eureka. It was a beautiful time of remembrance that day for our congregation as we gathered with the Hackenjoes family to remember Bro. Glenn at the church, the cemetery, and then over lunch following the service.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Jody Klotzle (Elder Bro. Tom) and the Knochel family in Phoenix, AZ. Bro. Herb Knochel (Sis. Joanne), Sis. Jody's father, has

passed away recently. Losing a father, a grandfather, or a husband, is never easy. We continue to hold the whole Knochel family and Sis. Jody up in prayer.

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### **CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO** **Yasmin Koehl**

Time continually goes by, bringing new seasons and changes with it. But when time brings a child to the age of accountability, and true repentance occurs, a baptism is planned. It's a time in our lives and in our church that we look forward to and cherish. Especially as we recognize that our goal as believers is to live a sanctified and holy life in Christ and to have true communion with Him. We were thankful and very happy for Sis. Brittney Wagenbach as she made her vows in baptismal waters before brethren and God to remain true and faithful to Him and erected a covenant with the Lord. Our congregation rejoiced to be able to greet her as a sister in Christ along with her family, Bro. Doug, Sis. Lillian (parents), Bros. Brent and Brian, and Sis. Breana (siblings).

Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN) assisted our Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic in this holy work. Visiting Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle and ministering Bro. Joe Klotzle (both from Altadena, CA) along with their wives also worshipped with us. We were thankful for each one who came to lend their love and support. Our prayers continue with Sis. Brittney that she will always feel the ardent love our church holds for her and that she will now only continue to grow in the Lord. That together as a congregation we can be a constant light to her and all our young people, be an encourager and together hold each other accountable so we can all serve our Saviour and King in the realms

above!

It was with much thanksgiving and joy we welcomed our Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic back from his mission trip to the Ukraine, Romania and Hungary. He was deeply missed and we praised God for his safe return. We also pray the Lord's blessings upon his efforts there and the other brothers who accompanied him. Many of us may never have the opportunity to serve in this capacity overseas to our European brethren, but we can hold them up in prayer as the believers did in the new testament for each other.

"Two are better than one; Because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: But woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up."

*Eccles. 4:9-10*

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### **KITCHENER, ONTARIO** **CANADA** **Johanna Fortenbacher**

My Lord an offering do I bring;  
my heart I give to Thee.  
I gladly give this heart of mine,  
which Thou dost ask of me.

*Zion's Harp #163*

John and Liz Kralt have experienced the miracle of becoming a new creature in Christ, by their new walk of life, restoration of peace with God and man and bearing the fruit of the Spirit by God's grace. Previously Jesse Ursu was also announced for baptism. We anticipate the upcoming baptism for John, Liz and Jesse.

The following ministers came to visit this month: Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Maryanne, Smithville), Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie, Rittman), and Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto). Thank you, brothers, for your willing efforts to come and min-

ister to us.

**\*\* Important notice to Americans crossing the Canadian boarder by land - See Page 46 of this issue.**

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**COLORADO, DENVER**  
**Ann Gonglach**

“The mountains shall bring peace to the people...”

*Psalm 72:3*

Summertime brings many vacationers to the Rocky Mountains and we appreciate seeing old friends and making new ones. It's a blessing and encouragement to us to have our brethren worship and fellowship with us. For three Sundays this summer, we had additional services in Winter Park and Larkspur, CO. Thanks to our visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Bro. Gary Endress (Sis. Evelyn, Bradford, IL), Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Patricia, Congerville, IL), and Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH).

In July, we held our annual Vacation Bible School. Our Sunday school students and those who volunteer to help enjoy this special week each year.

We welcome Bro. Matt and Sis. Rachel Fehr, who have moved here with their children from West Bend, Iowa.

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

I and my house, we are prepared, as long as to us life is shared to serve Thee, Lord, sincerely. Thou shalt be Master of the house, who with His blessing us endows and may we love Thee dearly. Bless all, though small as Thy lowly,

pure and holy congregation to Thy great name's adoration.  
*Zion's Harp #160*

Fathers have a special place of remembrance and recognition this month. How thankful many of us can be for the earthly fathers we have had, and those who have been like a father to many by offering their love and example. Fatherhood is quite a calling, and it is good to set aside time to thank them and encourage them to carry out their duties as God has laid out.

Many visitors have come our way over the last several weeks, which has been very nice! Ministering Bro. Jerry Bauman, his wife, Sis. Martha, and their family (Rittman, OH) were with us and we thank Bro. Jerry for ministering the Word to us. We also enjoyed a visit from Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL) and ministering Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl, Eureka, IL). It was truly a blessing to have all of these brothers with us. May the Lord bless their efforts in preaching the Word in our midst.

Our friends, Brent and Rachel Moser, welcomed their first child just recently. A little girl, Addison JaNae, is the newest member of this little family. Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Joan Moser and Bro. Ed and Sis. Beverly Gerber. May God bless these new parents and give them strength and wisdom in the months and years to come.

For those who have lost loved ones recently, we offer our prayers and support to each one in their loss. Our friend, Sylvia Foote's mother passed away and we extend our love and support to her and her family, Bro. Arthur Jr. and their children. Bro. Lester Heintz suffered the loss of his brother, Clifford Heintz. Our friend, Andy Ouellette, slipped into eternity after a courageous battle with Lou Gherig's disease, leaving his loving

wife, Annette; his son, Marc (Lynn); his daughters, Sis. Sue Kloter (Bro. Jason) and Michelle Ouellette, as well as his grandchildren and many friends and co-workers. May these family circles find peace in the events that have been and look forward to a future that is in our Master's keeping.

Several of our number have been in the care of physicians lately. Among them are Sis. Eloise Webb and Sis. Aline Ballasy. Our prayers remain with them as they recuperate. May God be near each one and provide healing and comfort.

Our thoughts and prayerful support will remain with our Elder brethren as they prepare to meet at the Brotherhood Conference next month.

And finally 'bove all we pray that in this house no spirit stay but only Thine own spirit; Our conduct here to regulate, and perfect order to instate, in holy, God-like manner. Amen! Amen! Come draw near us, Sun of clearness, truthful witness, shine in heart and soul with clearness.

*Zion's Harp #160*

How well our Heavenly Father provides for us each day, and how much more we can be thankful for His presence than even our fathers on this earth. May we strive to please Him in all things!

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

Our caretakers for July are retired Elder Bro. Bob and Sis. Gloria Walder from Congerville, IL.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane, Silverton, OR), Bro. Curtis Kaufman (Sis. Caroline, Tucson, AZ), Bro. Dan Goric (Sis. Mary-Lou, Rockville, CT), Bro. Jedd Rocke (Sis. Marsha,

Goodfield, IL) and Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Sis. Michelle, Philadelphia, PA). Other visitors this month were from Morton, Eureka, Fairbury, Forrest, Bloomington, and Roanoke, IL; Leo and Remington, IN; Junction, OH; and Phoenix, AZ.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bob Welk as he has several doctors appointments and probable surgery this week.

We have an opening for caretakers in December. You would not need to be here the entire month; just a couple of weeks would be a blessing to the congregation and would allow you to partake of this area's Christmas activities. Please contact Sis. Doreen Steffen at [bdsteff@yahoo.com](mailto:bdsteff@yahoo.com).

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

If you are planning to visit Washington, D.C. area for vacation or business, please contact Bro. Joe and Sis. Holly Bohart at [jbohart@gmail.com](mailto:jbohart@gmail.com) or Sis. Henrietta Meyer at (703) 904-8301 for assistance and to let us know how many to expect for Sunday services. If you would like to get together on Saturday evening, please let us know that as well. We would be happy to have an evening of fellowship and/or singing.

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**FLORIDA  
FORT LAUDERDALE  
Renee Mangold**

We were thankful that Bro. Ron Jones (Portland, OR) came and shared God's Word with us this month.

Congratulations to Sis. Tara Hohulin (Bro. Mike and Sis. Faye) upon graduating from ISU this fall. Sis. Tara is currently in Mongolia teaching English to future teachers and is planning to begin teaching this fall in Illinois. Our prayers are with Sis. Tara that she continues to be uplifted by our Lord and has a rewarding Christian life in her future.

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**FLORIDA  
NORTH FORT MYERS  
Victor and Dorothy Beer**

Our small summertime number is being thankful like King David was many years ago.

"I will love thee, O Lord, my strength. The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust: my buckler and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from my enemies."

After such blessings of many from up north, during the middle of the winter, we are real thankful for the visitors from Sunday to Sunday. Of course, greetings from Hungary and other churches far away were appreciated recently, too. Our privilege to travel from church to church means more and more to us.

This last month we were blessed by two visiting ministers to our congregation. Our Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi and children, Wolcott, IN) were here with us. Our grateful thanks to them.

Our Sis. Carolyn Siegle is recuperating well from recent surgery, whom we welcome back to church. Sis. Jeanie Haerr (Bro. Ray) has recovered satisfactorily from her recent hospitalization, too. Each one's

health is important to our little group.

Our project to have a photo book with a photo of our members and occasional visitors has finally been finished. It is a welcome help for some of us with shorter memories.

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**FLORIDA, SARASOTA  
DiAnne Brown**

Summer is in full swing on the southwest coast of Florida with sweltering days and afternoon showers you can set your clock by. In the Midwest, when the rain came, the days' activities were usually cancelled because even after the storms subsided, the mud and humidity would linger. In our coastal clime, however, the sands drain the daily deluge so effectively that often within minutes it's barely a memory. It reminds us of the powerful filter of Jesus blood and how effectively it washes away our transgressions...barely a memory.

Just one month ago, we rejoiced at the 70th anniversary of long-time Sarasota residents, Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Margaret Pflederer. We were saddened to hear of the passing of Sis. Margaret on July 17 and send our deepest prayers for God's love and comfort to lift dear Bro. Lloyd and ease his grief. Sis. Margaret always offered a warm smile and helping hand, and we celebrate her lovely life of faith.

Sis. Betty (Bro. George) Siladie continues to strengthen and recover from her hip replacement surgery. We really miss them both and pray they are able to return to services soon.

Bro. Glenn (Sis. Sandee) Price continues his rehabilitation and recovery at Health South in Sarasota. We pray God will continue to strengthen him and Sis. Sandee on this long road back to health. We miss his cheerful smile and hearty laugh

and pray he will soon be able to rejoin us for worship.

Sis. Lindsay Brown has gone to serve at the Gateway Children's Home in Leo, IN, for several weeks this summer. We trust God will find many ways to use her talents to assist in the very worthy Lord's work being done there. This would be a good time to remember the Gateway Woods Sale will be Saturday, August 8. We hope to see you there.

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### GEORGIA, ATLANTA

We would like to thank the Athens congregation for their contribution in our VBS weekend. It was greatly appreciated! We want to also thank the ministers, Bro. Les Kaeb (Francesville, IN), Bro. Mike Moore, and Bro. Kerwin Edelman, and their families. Our theme this year was "Noah's Ark". One of the simple, yet significant, quotes was, "The ark was built by amateurs and the Titanic by professionals" and "What is God asking YOU to do?" So often we forget that God has a purpose for each of our lives. Who knows how big it might actually be! Just as Noah found grace in the eyes of God, in the same way, God has given us grace (Eph. 2:8). Let us not miss the opportunity like so many people did long ago, but jump into the ark so that we're prepared when the rains start pouring down!

Although our church has been growing, we still have to say good-bye every once in a while. We are so sad to lose Bro. Nick and Sis. Sandra Waibel, Elijah, Caden, and Liam, but wish them the very best as they will be attending Francesville, IN. We are also sad that Bro. Doug and Sis. Kary, Lexy and Brayden, are leaving us so soon, but pray God will bless them as they continue to serve Him in St. Louis, MO. We will miss you both very much! Thanks so much for the blessing you both were to our little

church. Come back and visit often!

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Jaye Rinckenberger (Goodfield, IL) and Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO). Thanks for being used of God to minister to our church! God bless you.

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### ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Doreen Moser**  
**Jenn Johnson**

Step into the Water, wade out a little  
bit deeper  
Wet your feet in the water of His love

Encouraging our children and adults, ministering Bro. Justin Koch (Washington, IL) and Bro. Darren Plattner (Champaign, IL) and their families came to spend a Saturday with us for Vacation Bible School. For those who have not tasted of God's love, they were encouraged to make that step. For those of us who are converted, we were encouraged to wade out a little deeper. If we lay aside our self and think what we can do to encourage and uplift our brothers, our brotherhood would be stronger and Satan would have a tougher job in creating divisions.

Come join in singing, praises to the  
Lamb of God

A singing shower was held for Bro. Jordon Steffen and Sis. Shayla Messner and Bro. Troy Steffen and Sis. Linda Fulop. Our prayer for both couples is that they will trust God and look to him each step of the way.

There is victory for the Christian, who  
walks the narrow way  
There has been a prize appointed, for  
the soul who does not stray  
Oh, I want to live for Jesus, so that I  
can rest with Him forever and live  
eternally!

Our friend, Daniel Martin, has

gained the victory and found peace with the Lord and desires to be baptized. May he always want to live for Jesus and shine his light in this world.

It's time we the people stand up for  
what is right  
It's time we square our shoulders back  
and raise our swords to fight  
For the Bible is our weapon and the  
Spirit is our shield  
The church needs more of its mem-  
bers to be workers in the field...

Sunday after Sunday we are ex-  
horted to work in the Lord's vineyard  
and to shine our lights, so all may  
come to know the Lord. We thank our  
visiting ministers and their families,  
Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN),  
Elder Bro. Ron Schambach, and Bro.  
Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL).

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### ILLINOIS BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

**Alissa Kieser**  
**Jacki Masters**

"And he said to them, "Go into all  
the world and proclaim the gospel to  
the whole creation."

*Mark 16:15*

We were blessed this last Sunday  
to have the Bible Class students and  
chaperones share stories and pic-  
tures from their mission trip to Sun-  
set Gap Tennessee. It was  
encouraging to hear how they were  
able to share the Gospel and to be a  
light to those in need. As always, our  
amazing God blessed and touched ev-  
eryone's hearts in His own special  
way.

We thank our visiting minister,  
Bro. Arthur Mueller (Belvidere, IL),  
for sharing a Wednesday evening ser-  
vice with us this month.

We rejoice with three families as  
they welcome newborn babies into

their homes. First, Micah Andrew arrived into the loving home of Bro. Darin and Sis. Jessica Leman with excited brothers, Ethan and William, on June 29. Grandparents are Mary Flicker and Fred Basham and Bro. Howard and Sis. Gloria Leman (Morton).

Bro. Andy and Sis. Brooke Fuecht, along with big sister Annika, welcomed little Alexa Grace into this world on July 1. Grandparents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Cheryl Baurer (Roanoke) and Bro. Jordan and Sis. Kathy Feucht (Princeville).

Twins, Riley Faith and Gavin Arthur, arrived to thankful parents, Bro. Brett and Sis. Jen Heiniger, on July 7. They are welcomed by big sisters, Ethne and Catie. Pleased grandparents are Bro. Tim and Sis. Cathy Hohulin (Roanoke) and Bro. Ron and Sis. Kayleen Heiniger.

We extend love and prayers to our dear Sis. Kayleen Heiniger (Bro. Ron) who is recovering well from her recent surgery. We want to pray specifically for her steady recovery, sustained strength, and courage to face whatever the future may hold.

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

“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven.”

*Ecclesiastes 3:1*

On July 26, Bro. Marvin Leman (Sis. Jane) announced his retirement from the ministry. Twenty-eight years ago, Bro. Marvin was put into the ministry and retired exactly to the day of when he was put in. We appreciate all the years of labor Bro. Marv and Sis. Jane put in serving us in the Eldership. We will miss their presence dearly as they have made the Princeville congregation their

home. May God richly reward them throughout the remainder of their lives here on earth.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla) and Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget), both of the Chicago Church. We are thankful for the pure Word of God and the brothers who are spent on our behalf.

Brad and Rachel Kieser became first-time parents. Blake Leroy was born on August 4. Grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma Kieser and Ron and Sis. Deann Baer, all of the Bradford congregation.

God be with you 'til we meet again.

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### **ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN** **Jackie Eisenmann**

Sunday, June 28, was the date for the annual Sunday school picnic held at a local park in Champaign. Once again, it was a wonderful time for all who attended, young and old. It is a special blessing to share this special day with the students.

We want to thank our visiting ministers who came to support and bless us by speaking the truth to our church. Bro. Tim Roecker (Peoria, IL) was in Champaign on Sunday, June 5. Sunday, June 12, Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL) was used on the pulpit. That Sunday we were blessed by many visitors, since that was the weekend of our annual “Invite a Friend” host weekend. We enjoyed fellowship, food, and singing after church at a local park. We want to thank all of our guests who made the effort to come and visit. Come again anytime!

Our congregation is taking the Wednesday evenings of July and studying the book of Philippians together. It has proven to be a blessing as we are learning together. One theme that continues to shine through is “Rejoicing in the Lord”. Philippians 4:4 states “Rejoice in the

Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.” It is such a good reminder of how good we have things in this life and how we should be praising God for what He has done for us. Even Paul stated this many times despite the tribulations of being imprisoned.

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### **ILLINOIS, CHICAGO** **Rachel Meyer**

Greetings from Chicago. We thank Bros. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) and Byron Stoller (Gridley, IL), for ministering to us this past month. May God bless you.

Our dear friend, Gary Halfer, passed away unexpectedly on July 14. We assure his wife, Diana, and son, Christopher, that our prayers are with them. It really is a struggle to try to understand God’s perfect timing.

We are pleased to have Bro. Blake Knapp and Sis. Tanya Wulf joining our Chicago congregation. Both have moved for employment and we pray they will feel at home.

We all were thoroughly blessed during Vacation Bible School, June 22 – 25. The following ministers inspired us and our sincere thanks go to them for traveling our way. On Monday, Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) spoke about Noah – “What Does God Want Us to Build?”; Tuesday brought Bro. Nick Gutwein (West Lafayette, IN) to share about Esther – “What Are We Willing to Risk for God?”; Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL) taught Wednesday about Daniel – “Who Should We Be Putting Our Trust In?”; and rounding out the week was Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN) teaching about Jesus – “The Best Example of Obedience”. I often take for granted that VBS always seems to be well done. Behind all of the blessings the children and adults receive are a committee, volunteer teachers, and many others who help in the kitchen, etc. I am sure many hours, sacrifices,

and prayers were put into our VBS planning. Thank you, dear organizers, for your unselfish work.

Our Sunday School Picnic was held at Bro. Randy and Sis. Heather Knapp's home on June 28 after church. Thanks to all who were there and to the Knapp's for their hospitality.

Note: I thank Sis. Julie Eisenmann for being willing to take my place as Silver Lining reporter temporarily.

I am preparing to leave within a few days of this writing, Lord willing, for the Far East to help start a school for children with autism. If God wills, I plan to stay six months and I ask with all my heart for your prayers. Thank you to those who have already expressed their love and encouragement – especially my dear Chicago church family.

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### **ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**

**Vickie Maul**

**Janie Waldbeser**

Bro. Al Zimmerman of Forrest and Sis. Melba Steffen were united in marriage on July 5. Bringing us the Word of Truth on this special day were Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest) and ministering Bros. Paul Zimmerman, Gary Brown (Forrest), Ken Schneider (Remington), Paul Gasser (Akron), Joe Gerst (Iowa City), Marvin Steffen (North Fort Myers) and Floyd Frieden (Elgin, IA).

Also joining us this month was ministering Bro. Art Mueller (Belvidere). May God richly bless them for their labors of love.

Our annual all Church picnic was held on a beautiful Sunday afternoon at the park. It is always a blessing for young and old to gather together, for each can be such an inspiration to the other.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Cheryl Eisenmann are thankful for the safe

arrival of their new baby girl, Laura Kay. Welcoming her home are siblings, Tyler, Amanda and Philip, and grandparents, Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Eisenmann and Bro. Bob and Sis. Rosie Frank (Tremont).

Spending time in the hospital this month were Sis. Virginia Ehman and Bro. Vernon Clauss (Joann).

Our Sis. Louise Manz is now residing with her daughter, Sis. Edna Martin in Princeville. We pray she will find grace and comfort during this time of adjustment.

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### **ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE**

**Holly Zobrist**

“For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.”

*Mark 10:6-8*

On June 28, many of us visited our congregation in Roanoke for the wedding of Sis. Livy Leman (Bro. Ben and Sis. Janet, Roanoke) and Bro. Caleb Zobrist (Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie, Magdalena). May God be near them as they walk the road to Heaven together.

Bro. Vic and Sis. Betsy Rinkenberger were thankful for the safe arrival of their first daughter, Lexi Lynn. Also thankful for her safe arrival are grandparents, Bro. Ron and Sis. Kay Rufener and Bro. Mike and Sis. Pat Rinkenberger. Sis. Betsy was also our hospital patient this month. We're thankful that she has had a smooth recovery.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Austin), Bro. Dana Indermuhle (Sis. Joy, Sardis), Bro. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville), and Bro. Glen

Braker (Sis. Audrey, Princeville). We appreciate their willingness to serve us.

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### **ILLINOIS, ELGIN**

**Amy Gasser**

**Miriam Gasser**

In Ephesians 5: 25-26 we read that Christ loved the church and gave Himself for it that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word. We are grateful when ministers yield to the inspiration of the Spirit and allow themselves to accomplish this cleansing. Christ's intent is “That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.” Eph. 5:27

May God bless ministering Bros. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) and Nathan Wieland (Goodfield, IL) for their labors, as well as Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), who presented an interesting Bible study on “Hospitality” July 1.

It was encouraging to hear that our repenting friend, Maria Steffen (Bro. Dave and Sis. Linda), has found peace with God and man. She and four other converts hope to give their testimonies and be baptized the weekend of August 1-2.

After working and living in Singapore for one and a half years, Bro. Ryan and Sis. Becky Weiss and their children, Kaitlyn, Kenton, and Ethan, have returned to the States and will be attending church in Elgin. Welcome home!

Sis. Kay Cargill (Bro. Jerry) is recuperating at home after having knee surgery. Health continues to be a challenge for many, including Carolyn Feucht (Chuck), Sis. Jeannette Moser, Bro. Don Schambach (Sis. Leann), Sis. Deb Sauder, and Matt Steffen (Natalie). The Apostle Paul

acknowledged the frailty of our human condition and the hope beyond when he wrote "For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come." Hebrews 13:14

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## ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Dee Baer  
Jodi Blunier**

Bro. Jonathan Leman (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy) and Sis. Becca Leman (Bro. Chris and Sis. Marlene) joined hands in marriage. May God be the center of their hearts and home.

We welcomed Sis. Katie Wiegand (Bro. Andy and Sis. Vicki) and Bro. Clayton Schumacher (Bro. Dan and Sis. Heidi) into the brotherhood. May God's Spirit keep them.

New babies continue to bless our families. Brooklyn Jo entered the home of Bro. Dan and Sis. Kelly Knecht. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandy Knecht and Bro. Kurt and Sis. Olivia Blunier. Sadie Lynn joined Bro. Tony, Sis. Lisa, Levi and Annelise Metzger's home. Grandparents are Bro. Harlan and Sis. Shirley Metzger and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Sherry Stoller. Madison Elise was added to Bro. Tyler, Sis. Tiffany and Autumn Knapp's home. Grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Lori Knapp and Dave and Diane Eastman. Jillene Renae arrived at Bro. Merle, Sis. Rachel, and Corbin Stoller's home. Grandparents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Lola Stoller and Bro. Mark and Sis. Bonita Bahler (Remington, IN).

Ongoing prayers are said for Sis. Lucille Gramm and Bro. Bob Zimmerman (Sis. Cathy) who struggle with health problems.

We appreciate visiting ministers who have come this month: Bro. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis), Bro. Arlen Leman (Forrest), Bro. Nate Wieland (Goodfield), Bro. Wayne Wiegand (Goodfield), Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury), Bro. Bill Schick

(Magdalena, MX), Bro. Floyd Frieden (Elgin, IA), and Bro. Kent Getz (Elgin, IA).

May God watch between us while Bro. Nathan and Sis. Cheryl Wiegand and their family live and study near Briedenbach, Germany. They will be assembling with brethren there.

### *Note of Thanks:*

We want to thank everyone who remembered us with cards, phone calls, flowers, money, well wishes and prayers on our 60th Wedding Anniversary. We appreciate them all. God bless you.

*Bro. Eli and Sis. Helen Fisher*

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## ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Elizabeth Fehr  
Anna Schmidgall**

We were privileged to host a 45th annual Fort Sam reunion, which brought a number of visiting ministers into our congregation, including: Elder Bro. Charles Sauder (late Sis. Miriam, Tremont) and Bros. Nelson Beer (late Sis. Shelby, Milford, IN); Garry Bucher (Sis. Lois, Valparaiso, IN); Floyd Graves (Sis. Linda, Croghan- Naumburg, NY); Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse, IN); Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA); Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX); John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA); and retired ministering Bros. Max Reimschisel (Sis. Judy, Wichita, KS); Ben Wysong (Sis. Janice, Sabetha, KS); and Pete Baltic (Sis. Karen, Mansfield, OH). It was a very blessed weekend.

Other ministering brothers who visited us this month are: retired Elder Bro. Marvin Leman (Sis. Jane, Bradford); and Bro. Todd Graf (Sis. Lydia, Akron, OH); Bro. Clint Schmidt (Sis. Magdalena, Winthrop, MN); and Bro. Kerwin Edelman (Sis. Sara, Athens, AL). We are always thankful to have Bro. Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Austin, TX) back in our

midst.

We give our support to Bros. Kevin (Sis. Kati) Meiss and Bill (Sis. Shay) Stork, who were chosen to be new Sunday School teachers. Retiring teachers are Bros. Alan (Sis. Linda) Walter and Keith (Sis. Kristine) Steidinger. We thank them for their service.

June 20 was the wedding day for Bro. Michael and Sis. Rachael (Steidinger) Slagel. Parents of the happy couple are Bro. Doug and Sis. Dixie Steidinger and Bro. Raymond and Sis. Gladys Slagel.

Bro. Ben Herr and Sis. Tessa Nussbaum were married in Forrest on July 12. Their parents are Bro. Terry and Sis. Deb Nussbaum of Forrest and Sis. Cindy Herr. We wish both these couples God's blessings as they begin their lives together.

Bro. Mclane Steidinger (Bro. Ted and Sis. Sara) and Sis. Leah Stoller of Gridley (Bro. Clark and Sis. Cindy) have been drawn together by faith. Our prayers are with them as they plan their upcoming wedding.

Rejoicing over their first-born are Bro. Kyle and Sis. Alicia Steidinger. Jackson Kyle was born July 10. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Anna Schmidgall and Bro. Randy and Sis. Dawn Steidinger.

Bro. Martin and Sis. Trish Steidinger have great reason to rejoice as their children, Karla and Kirk, have begun their repentance. "What joy I feel, what peace is mine, As I my all to Thee resign!" (Hymns of Zion #259)

Our fervent prayers are with Bro. Kevin and Sis. Kara Moser and family, as Bro. Kevin was recently injured in a farming accident. Also convert Esther Koehl (Dick) and Sis. Donna Huber (Bro. Jesse) were recently hospitalized and are recuperating at Fairview Haven. May God be very near to them both and bring healing.

May God comfort Sis. Becky (Bro.

Carl) Kieser and family in the tragic accident and loss of her nephew, Landon Kuenzi of Silverton, OR.

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### ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Jill Wenger  
Lisa Aberle**

Baptized into Thy name most holy,  
Oh Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,  
I claim a place, though weak and  
lowly,  
Among Thy seed, Thy chosen host,  
Immersed with Christ, I'm dead to  
sin;  
Thy Spirit now shall live within.  
*Zion's Harp #41*

Bro. Colin and Bro. Clint Steidinger (Bro. Ray and Sis. Shelly) and Sis. Betsy and Sis. Larissa Steidinger (Bro. Glen and Sis. Holly) experienced this most important step in their lives as they made a Holy covenant with God in the waters of baptism. Here to help our Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer with this wonderful work were Elder Bros. Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL) and Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA).

We appreciated the Holy Spirit working in Bro. John Hartman and Bro. Paul Kilgus, both of Fairbury, IL, as they ministered God's Living Word to us. We thank these brothers for being willing to serve.

Thus united, And in concord,  
Let us walk the path of life;  
Hand in hand, O may love bind us,  
For each other's welfare strive.  
*Zion's Harp #237*

On July 5, our Bro. Al Zimmerman and Sis. Melba Steffen were united in marriage at Cissna Park, IL. Then on July 12, Bro. Ben Herr (Fairbury, IL) and Sis. Tessa Nussbaum became one in the Lord. Parents of this happy couple are Bro. Terry and Sis. Debbie Nussbaum and Sis. Cindy Herr (Fairbury, IL). May God bless these

two new couples, and may they continue to feel the Lord's presence and peace in their lives as they walk together as husband and wife.

We offer our support to Bro. Josh Zimmerman (Sis. Molly) and Sis. Carol Edelman (Bro. Ken) who have been called to teach our children in Sunday school. We also extend our thanks to Bro. Arlen Leman (Sis. Denise) and Sis. Stephanie Zimmerman (Bro. Jeff) for the time they have spent loving and teaching our youth in Sunday school.

We are thankful to report that another soul, Daren Anliker (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda), has turned to the Lord in repentance. May he turn from serving self to do as the song so wonderfully quotes:

Higher than the highest heavens,  
Deeper than the deepest sea,  
Thy love at last has conquered,  
None of self and all of Thee.  
*Gospel Hymns #149*

Our prayers and thoughts are with those who spent time in the hospital. We pray that Sis. Alma Jean Schmidgall (David) feels the Lord's comforting presence upholding her during this time of serious illness. We are thankful to report that Bro. Craig Rudin (Sis. Trudy) is recuperating nicely after back surgery. There are others, too, in our congregation with various health issues and we pray God will be near and bring comfort and peace to each one.

We extend loving sympathy to Bro. Ken Steffen (Sis. Janice) as he bade farewell to his sister, Donna Whitson of Winfield, KS; and to Sis. Jean Ricketts (Bro. Nick) on the passing of her mother, Margaret Morgan of Grantville, KS. We pray that the Lord will comfort the hearts of those that mourn.

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### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Donna Wyss  
Rita Bauman**

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Sis. Rhonda (Bro. Loren) Zeltwanger in the passing of her father, Jack Morton (Hancock, MN). May the Lord comfort their family in this time of sorrow.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Bros. Paul Kilgus (Sis. Carmen, Fairbury, IL), Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL), Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton, IN), and Tom Bolliger (Sis. Jane, Tremont, IL). Thank you for lending yourselves in the service of our Lord.

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."  
*Luke 15:10*

How thankful we are that our dear friend, Jill Wagner (Bro. Greg), has answered God's call and is seeking her soul's salvation in repentance. We pray that God will grant her grace to turn her back to the world and keep her eyes on the cross.

Our prayers were extended to Bro. Norm Musselman (Sis. Eileen) who was hospitalized this past month. We are thankful he has returned home.

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward."  
*Psalms 127:3*

Bro. Brent and Sis. Abby Schmidgall became first-time parents to Piper Q. on July 28. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Cindy Schmidgall and Bro. Carly and Sis. Deb Hoerr (Peoria, IL).

May God grant them wisdom as they raise their precious little daughter.

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

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High."

*Psalms 92:1*

Indeed, it is a blessing in worship, not only to hear the sound of the Gospel, but also to sing praises, and to give thanks. While we are blessed by the utterances of the Holy-Spirit inspired words from our ministers, we are additionally blessed by the songs and the prayers. The simplicity of our worship services, unhindered by theological complexities, is a true blessing, and worthy of continuance.

It seems there is a fair amount of illness. And many souls struggle with health issues. We can be thankful, however, that modern medicine helps attend to the many ailments of brethren, and can often provide relief and healing, thanks to God. Don Gilmore had surgery and has since returned to his home.

Bro. Larry Kiefer had surgery, and has recovered. Several are scheduled for upcoming surgery: Jerry Christensen, Barry Ehresman, and Sis. Betty Klopfenstein.

Sis. Leah Stoller was announced to be married to Bro. McClane Steidinger (Fairbury). She is the daughter of ministering Bro. Clark and Sis. Cindy Stoller. His parents are Bro. Ted and Sis. Sara Steidinger (Fairbury). Their wedding has been scheduled for September 20.

Bro. Jamin Ringger was married to Sis. Whitney Menold at Princeville on July 19. His parents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Coleen Ringger. She is the daughter of Bro. Fred and Sis. Nancy Menold (Princeville). We offer our best wishes to this young couple as they set up residence at 108 E. Seventh Street in Gridley.

Sympathies are offered to Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marjorie Witzig over the passing of his remaining sibling, Sis. Ruth Meyer, Fairbury. Also, we accord sympathies to Bro. Bill and Sis. Patty Schifferer at the passing of his grandmother.

Lindsey Kaupp, daughter of Bro. Tim and Sis. Betty Kaupp, is leaving to attend school in California. Bro. Justin and Sis. Kirsten Wiegand are serving in Sierra Leone, Africa.

At this writing, the Elder Conference is a few weeks away. Surely, we wish for the presence of God's Spirit at these meetings, and pray that all conclusions will be in accord with His perfect will for the benefit of the brethren.

## **ILLINOIS, MACOMB Norm and Jan Rechkemmer**

"Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."

*Hebrews 13:1-2*

With great joy and anticipation, we are planning Wednesday evening services in Macomb again this fall. The Lord willing, services will be held twice a month in our home. Please spread the word to all students at Western Illinois University and anyone living in the area. Following are the dates for the first semester:

August 26  
September 9 and 23  
October 7 and 21  
November 4 and 18  
December 9

Services will be held in our home at 11116 N 1000th Road, Macomb, IL, 61455. Singing begins at 7:15. We can be reached at 309-231-0098 or 309-313-4924 and by email at

janorm67@yahoo.com for directions and more information.

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

Bro. Ted Hirstein (Sis. Joyce) gave our Wednesday evening Family Worship topic; the title was "The Four C's To Freedom in Christ". CALL, CONVICTION, CONFESSION, and CONVERSION were shared by Bro. Ted as the four "C's" required to receive freedom in Christ Jesus. Thank you, Bro. Ted, and also to the other ministers we had the privilege to receive spiritual insight from: Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridgett) and Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla), both from Chicago; Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend); Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill) and Bro. Wayne Leman (Sis. Julie), both from Roanoke.

The news of the engagement of Sis. Larissa Witzig to Bro. Justin Steffen was announced on June 28. Sis. Larissa is the daughter of Bro. Phil and Sis. Cindi Witzig. Bro. Justin is the son of Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen Steffen (Bluffton).

July 12 we witnessed the marriage of Sis. Brittany Kaiser and Bro. Ryan Leman. Sis. Brittany is the daughter of Bro. Allen and Sis. Brenda Kaiser. Bro. Ryan is the son of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Julie Leman (Roanoke).

On July 18, Trent Kaufman was united in marriage to Lisa Horne. Trent is the son of Bro. Jeff and Sis. Rhonda Kaufman.

Shane Getz and Ellen Turbett were united in marriage on July 25. Shane is the son of Bro. Doug and Sis. Carol Getz. We ask for God to be in the midst of these marriage commitments, and that He will be honored in all things throughout their lives.

In the midst of their own sorrow, only by the grace of God could they continue to minister to others. Sev-

eral have lost loved ones this past month. Bro. Scott Hodel lost his brother, Bro. Steve Hodel (Sis. Joyce, Roanoke), in a tragic accident over the 4th of July. Our love and sympathy go out to Bro. Scott and his family.

Sis. Lydia Hauter lost her son-in-law, Gary Halfer (Diana); and also lost her sister, Sis. Martha Bowald, Roanoke. Our prayers and sympathy are with Sis. Lydia.

Bro. Lloyd Pfloderer's wife, Sis. Margaret Pfloderer, passed away July 17. Those surviving are sons, Steve (Susan) Pfloderer and Brent (Donna) Pfloderer, and daughters, Linda (Larry) DeLong and Cindy (Phil) Oberlander; also three sisters, Carolyn Schlachter, Eileen Knapp and Sis. Helen (Bro. Howard) Zobrist.

On July 13, Sis. Phyllis Farney went to her Heavenly reward. She is survived by one sister, Janice (Daniel) Sturm, and two brothers, David (Sharon) Farney and Dan (Mary) Farney. Our prayers are with each one in their sorrow.

We are rejoicing with Bro. Denny and Sis. Beth Mott as they became grandparents to a new baby boy. Marcus was born to Sis. Laura and Bro. Nathan Wiegand on June 17. Siblings are Mary Beth, Anna, and Alex.

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### **ILLINOIS, PEORIA** **Pam Fritzenmeier**

Wren Alea Kellenberger was born to Bro. Dave and Sis. Michelle on May 29. She was welcomed home by her big brother, Tyden, and sisters, Shaeya and Tekoa. Wren's grandparents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Beth Herman and Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Kellenberger (Washington).

On Saturday, June 27, we heard the testimonies of three young men, then witnessed their baptism the next day. Our new brothers in faith are Tate Hohulin (Bro. Mark and Sis.

Jan), Jason Grassi (Bro. John and Sis. Cheryl), and Josh Graham (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Pam, Princeville). We thank Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton), and Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville) for their ministry on this special day.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held at the Fellowship Hall Sunday evening, June 28, the last day of regular Sunday School. Everyone enjoyed this time of fellowship and games. May God bless all the teachers for their willingness to serve in this important ministry of planting the seed in the tender hearts of our future church.

We are thankful to report a new convert, Caleb Roecker, son of Bro. Tim and Sis. Diane.

Also, we have three young ladies who have found peace and look forward to giving their testimonies and being baptized the weekend of July 25-26. They are Bethany Reinhard (Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan), Shelby Waibel (Bro. Matt and Sis. Lisa), and Jessica Sauder (Bro. Dave and Sis. Rachel). Let's keep these dear young ones in our prayers.

July 11 was the wedding day for Jacob Meister (Bro. Spark and Sis. Rhonda), and Andi Gerst (Bro. Jim and Sis. Diane). We are thankful another household has been established in which God is at the center and wish them God's richest blessings.

Several in our congregation have experienced health issues. Bro. Bob (Sis. Betty) Miller has received the disheartening news of the re-occurrence of cancer. Mary Funk is suffering from medical conditions due to an accident last November. Please pray for healing and grace to endure.

Sis. Megan Kieser (Bro. Mark and Sis. Cathy) has moved to Taylor, where she has found employment and will also be volunteering at His Ranch. God bless her for her desire to serve.

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### **ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**

**Linda Joos**  
**Connie Christ**

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

*Genesis 2:24*

Sis. Whitney Menold (Bro. Fred and Sis. Nancy) and Bro. Jamin Ringger (Bro. Stan and Sis. Colleen) of Gridley, IL, were united in holy matrimony on July 19. We pray God will richly bless them in their life as one in the Lord.

Brian Joos (Bro. Rolland and Sis. Linda) and Jodi Delheimer (John and Sharon) of Flanagan, IL, were united in marriage on July 11. We pray God's blessings on them as they also begin on life's path as husband and wife.

We rejoice with our Sis. Raquel Knobloch (Bro. Alan and Sis. Mary Ann) and Bro. Michael Herrmann (Bro. Allan and Sis. Rose) as their engagement was announced on July 19. Our love and prayers are with them as they prepare for their marriage in the Lord.

"Faithful until death remain! For the crown of life be striving!" ZH #105 Our dear Sis. Esther Herrmann (late Bro. Bob) has won the victory. She reached the age of 99 years and was faithful until the Lord called her home. Her funeral was July 2. Our love and prayers are with her children which include Bro. Howard (Sis. Mary Ann) and Bro. Allan (Sis. Rose), both of Princeville, Karen (Joe) Burgess of Dunlap, and her daughter-in-law, Kathy Herrmann (late Robert) of Roanoke.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers this month which included Bros. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Da-

vid Hartter (Sabetha, KS) and Ken Schneider (Remington, IN). May God continue to bless all the ministering brethren who are willing to submit to the Spirit and bring the Word of God to us.

Bro. Jordan and Sis. Kathy Feucht have been blessed with a precious granddaughter, Alexa Grace, born on July 1 to Bro. Andy and Sis. Brooke Feucht of Normal. Big sister, Annika Joy, also welcomes her home. Bro. Brad and Sis. Cheryl Baurer of Roanoke are her maternal grandparents.

Sis. Edna Martin's mother, Sis. Louise Manz from Cissna Park, has recently moved to Princeville to stay with her daughter. We welcome her and appreciate her in our fellowship.

Our thoughts and prayers continue with our loved ones who are experiencing life's battles with the physical afflictions. Sis. Arlys Martin is recovering from hip surgery and Sis. Arlene Knapp has recently had more health struggles while residing at Skylines. We need the prayers of those we love!

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## ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Jamie Hodel  
Judy Sauder**

"What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder."

*Mark 10:9*

Many new homes have been established in our congregation this past month. Steve Ott (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marilyn) married Brittney Bachman on June 27. Brittney's parents are Steve and Coleen Bachman of Roanoke. On June 28, Bro. Caleb Zobrist (Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie, Magdalena) married Sis. Olivia Leman (Bro. Ben and Sis. Janet). July 12 was the wedding date of Bro. Ryan Leman (Bro. Wayne and Sis.

Julie) and Sis. Brittney Kaisner (Bro. Allen and Sis. Brenda, Morton). Laura Leman (Bro. Bill and Sis. Jeanne) became the bride of Mark Dugger on July 11 in Atlanta, GA. Mark's parents are Russ and Brenda Dugger of Atlanta, GA.

"And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours..."

*Revelation 14:13*

Our congregation was reminded of the seriousness of this life as our Bro. Steve Hodel was quickly taken Home on July 3. Bro. Steve leaves behind his wife, Sis. Joyce, and their family: Sis. Katie (Bro. Tony) Mueller, Sis. Annie, and Megan, as well as two precious grandchildren, Jordan and Tess Mueller. Bro. Steve also leaves behind five brothers: Mike (Billie Pat) Hodel and Bruce (Donna) Hodel, both of Hayti, MO, Herb (Susie) Hodel of Roanoke, Mark (Pam) Hodel of Normal, and Bro. Scott Hodel of Morton; and four sisters, Mary (Rod) Huber of Valparaiso, IN, Susan (Tom) Davis of Pottersville, NY, Sis. Jan (Bro. Kent) Heimer of Taylor, MO, and Annie (Paul) Trapp of Valparaiso, IN.

Our congregation also bid a final farewell to our retired Elder Bro. Don Sauder who passed away on July 12. Our prayers are with his children: Kathryn (Harley) Jordan of Glenn Ellyn, IL; Sis. Lynne (Bro. Phil) Hodel, Ben (Faye) Sauder of Loveland, CO; Bro. Frank (Sis. Kathy) Sauder, Doug Sauder of San Francisco, CA; his brother, Bro. Gerald Sauder, and sister, Sis. Mary (Bro. Walt) Schwind, and also his grandchildren. We pray that both of these families can find comfort in the promises of God and trust that "the Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken

heart..." (Psalm 34:18)

We were thankful to have many visiting ministers with us for the funerals of our departed brothers.

Sharing in Bro. Steve's funeral service was Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield), and Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor). Assisting with Bro. Don's funeral was retired Ordained Deacon Bro. Bill Hodel, retired Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton) and retired Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley).

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we should walk in newness of life."

*Romans 6:4*

On June 24 we were able to witness the testimony and baptism of Sis. Britney Durand (Tom and Sis. Marsha.) We praise God for His work in her life.

We rejoice with Bro. Bill and Sis. Patsy Kaeb in the birth of their new granddaughter, Daisha Leigh Plattner, born on June 15. Daisha is welcomed home by parents, Bro. Kirk and Sis. Keri (Jamaica), older brothers, Drew and Truitt, and paternal grandparents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Marlene Plattner (Princeville). Bro. Gary and Sis. Elna Wettstein are also welcoming home a new grandchild. Aylee Jane Wettstein was born on June 15 to Andrew and Rebekah Wettstein. Aylee's maternal grandparents are Russel and Angela Bradle of Eureka. Bro. Bob Zimmerman welcomes a new grandson, born on June 29. Joel Steven was born to Bro. Steve and Sis. Tammy Hofstetter (Washington). Joel's older brother is Luke. Alexa Grace Feucht is the new granddaughter of Bro. Brad and Sis. Cheryl Bauer, born on July 1. Alexa is welcomed home by parents, Bro. Andy and Sis. Brooke Feucht (Bloomington), and older sister,

Annika. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Jordan and Sis. Kathy Feucht (Princeville).

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## ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell  
Janice Sauder**

It is always a blessing to have visitors with us at Tremont and we enjoyed each one who came this past month. We especially want to thank Bro. DeWayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN) for sharing the Word with us.

Congratulations to our high school graduates: Alan Aberle (Bro. Tim and Sis. Candi), Bethany Dill (Bro. Dave and Sis. Ann), Trent Kaiser (Bro. Don and Sis. Sandy), and David Wagenbach (Bro. Ron and Sis. Liz). We ask the Lord to guide their futures.

The engagement of Sis. Julie Kaeb (Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb) to Bro. Josh Stoller (Bro. Roger and Sis. Mary) of Gridley, IL, was made known recently. Congratulations also to Brett and Tessa Kaiser, as they exchanged wedding vows June 27. Their parents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Marcia Kaiser and Bruce and Mary Kamp of Mackinaw, IL. May God bless both of these young couples.

Our congregation joins in prayers for our dear ones who have had serious illness or surgery: Sis. Chris (Bro. Andy) Aberle, Bro. Nic Rassi, and Bro. Ken (Sis. Amy) Koch. We will continue to pray for God's healing hand in their lives.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Rosie Frank are happy to welcome another grandchild, Laura Kay. She is the daughter of Bro. Steve and Sis. Cheryl Eisenmann of Cissna Park and her siblings include: Tyler, Amanda and Philip. Bro. Pete and Sis. Debbie Aberle also welcome a new grandchild, Austin Joel. He is the son of Rodney and Staci Aberle and his big brother is Micah. Little Whitley Jo

joins the family of Bro. Derek and Sis. Leann Sauder. Lexi and Wesley welcome their new sister home, along with grandparents, Bro. Steve and Sis. Mary Sauder and Bro. Stan and Sis. Lola Stoller (Eureka, IL).

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,  
Sing His mercy and His grace  
In the mansions bright and blessed,  
He'll prepare for us a place.  
When we all get to heaven,  
What a day of rejoicing that will be!  
When we all see Jesus,  
We'll sing and shout the victory.

*Gospel Hymns #792*

Our love and sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Vera Aberle at her passing from this life. May God comfort her beloved husband, Bro. Walter; two sons, Michael (Su) Aberle of Taneyville, MO, and David (Malinda) Aberle of Bloomington, IL; two daughters, Sis. Lynnette (Ron) Menold and Sis. Carol Aberle; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Sis. Matilda Koch and Sis. Eunice Rowell.

### *Note of Thanks:*

Words alone cannot express the gratitude for all the love and kindness shown to our family since my accident. May God richly bless each one for all the prayers, visits, cards, food and other gifts.

*Sis. Anne Zuercher and family*

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## ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Linda Folkerts  
Elizabeth Heinold**

Oh, how marvelous! Oh, how wonderful!

Is my Savior's love for me!

*Hymns of Zion #174*

Greetings of love to you all in our marvelous and wonderful Savior's name!

We so appreciate the loving service of our visiting ministers this past month, including Bro. Bill Schick (Sis. Joan, Magdalena) on July 12, Bro. Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron) on July 19, and Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City) for our monthly Bible Study on July 1.

Many from our church attended our annual Sunday School Picnic on July 12. What a blessing for old and young alike to enjoy a beautiful afternoon in the fellowship of the "family of God"

Our congregation was thankful to receive another little blessing from God on June 29. Bro. Steve and Sis. Tamara Hofstetter welcomed Joel Steven into their hearts and home. Big brother Luke was delighted, as was Joel's grandpa, Bro. Bob Zimmerman, of Roanoke.

It was with sadness yet joy for a victory won that we said a final farewell to Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke). He was counseling Elder for our congregation for many years, and we have a sincere appreciation and respect for this loving man who gave of himself in so many ways. We extend our prayers and sympathy to his family.

We continue to pray for those of our flock who have been struggling with illness. Bro. Ed Teubel spent some time in the hospital. May the Lord be near him and may he be lifted up by our prayers.

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## INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Grace Gerber  
Stefanie Kipfer**

"Though troubles assail and dangers affright....The Lord Will Provide!"

This month the Bluffton congregation has been praying for several

church members and families. Nikki, the six-year old daughter of Scott and Jamie Johnson, was struck by a car while riding her bicycle. God has been faithful in that situation and little Nikki is recovering nicely. She is the granddaughter of Bro. Joe and Sis. Denise Maller. We also have been praying for Bro. Steve Reinhard as he has had some bleeding in his leg and has spent time in the hospital. We also include Sis. Renee and family in our prayers during this difficult time. Our Sis. Jan Sutter has been experiencing difficulties with cancer. She and Bro. Bob are in our thoughts. The Bluffton congregation has also sent our sympathies to our good friends in India, Dr. Parkhe and family. Dr. Parkhe recently lost his wife to a battle with cancer. We pray that he and his family feels God's love and our prayers from across the world. As a church, we are relying on the Spirit to comfort and uplift our hurting friends and family.

We are always thankful to be able to announce souls that have made a decision to follow the Lord. This month five young men made this decision. We wish Troy Fiechter (Elder Bro. Lynn and Sis. Ronda); Bart Frauhiger (Bro. Kris and Sis. Ann); Josh Fiechter (Bro. Brad and Sis. Lynn); Jeremy Stroup (Bro. Joe and Sis. Julie); and Brockton Tonner (Bro. Dean and Sis. Julie) God's richest blessings as they turn away from their old lives and start a new path with Christ.

Two families also had new beginnings with the birth of their children. Bro. Austin and Sis. Rachel Smith gave birth to their first child, Lydia Marie. Lydia is the granddaughter of Bro. Larry and Sis. Deb. Kyle and Alyssa Gerber rejoiced when Rafe Samuel came into this world. Rafe is the grandson of Bro. Sam and Sis. Mary Jo Gerber (Bluffton North) and Bro. Ken and Sis. Judy Kipfer. What

a blessing children are!

God's will and provisions were demonstrated this month with the engagement of three couples. Bro. Brian and Sis. Joy Tonner were pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Alyssa, to Bro. Travis Fiechter, son of Bro. Doug and Sis. Jill. Sis. Larissa Witzig (Morton, IL) was announced to our Bluffton Bro. Justin Steffen. Justin is the son of Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen Steffen. Bro. Larry and Sis. Deb Reinhard also announced the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Julie, to Bro. Matthew Freed, son of Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy (Indianapolis). The Bluffton congregation is rejoicing with these couples and their families in this new and exciting time.

This month, we witnessed two Bluffton weddings. Bro. Mitch Fiechter, son of Bro. Tony and Sis. Peg (Bluffton North) and Sis. Jenna Imel, daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Sharon, were united in marriage. Bro. Chandler Gerber, son of Bro. Todd and Sis. Michelle (Bluffton North), and Sis. Rachel Neuenschwander, daughter of Bro. Terry and Sis. Jean, made a lifetime commitment. The Bluffton congregation also celebrated the wedding of Bro. Jamin Steffen and Sis. Lauren Wiegand in our Philadelphia, PA, congregation. Bro. Jamin is the son of Bro. Bob and Sis. Marcia.

It seems every month that there are heartaches and joys to share, but regardless of what the Lord brings our way, we know that the Lord will provide.

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**INDIANA  
BLUFFTON NORTH  
Jessie Longenberger  
Sherry Pfister**

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we

might be made the righteousness of God in him."

*II Corinthians 5:21*

Lord, I am fondly, earnestly longing  
Into Thy holy likeness to grow;  
Thirsting for more and deeper communion,  
Yearning Thy love more fully to know.

Open the wells of grace and salvation,  
Pour the rich streams deep into my heart;  
Cleanse and refine my thought and affection,  
Seal and make me pure as Thou art.  
*Hymns of Zion # 171*

We rejoice with the decision of one more soul, Connor Pfister (Bro. Dan and Sis. Sherry), to come into our church fellowship as he seeks the Lord in repentance.

Sis. Susie Maynard has recovered from minor surgery and is anticipating another minor ear procedure.

We were blessed with the presence of visiting ministers, Bro. Ben Manz (Sis. Caroline, Junction) on June 28 and Bro. Allen Stoller (Sis. Susan, Bluffton) on July 19. We are grateful and encouraged by their service.

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**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE  
Mildred Clauss  
Jacki Huber**

This is the season when many families gather for reunions. It is always a blessing to be reunited with loved ones whom we have not seen for a time and with whom we have binding ties. The Camp Pickett Soldier's Reunion was hosted here in Francesville by several veteran families in our congregation on June 27-28. Those brothers have a special tie because of their special circumstances at that time in their lives. Everyone whose heart is bound in Christ's love anticipates that glorious reunion with Him in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. (I Thess. 4:17).

Our congregation will deeply miss Bro. Jeff and Sis. Sue Neihouser and their family when they move to Morton, IL, where Bro. Jeff has accepted a position. He has faithfully served us in the ministry for more than eight years and Sue has capably managed the maintenance at Parkview Village for the past several years. Changes do come; and because we are trusting in an unchanging Lord, we look to the future with confidence knowing that He will direct our paths. (Pr. 3:6)

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Nick and Sis. Sandra Waibel and their children who will be moving to our area from Knoxville, KY, with a job transfer. We pray for God's continued blessings in each of their lives.

Bro. Chad and Sis. Pam Huber and their family are back from Jamaica for a furlough from their duties there. We are always thankful when they are able to spend time here. At our regular Family Hymn Sing on Sunday evening, July 19, they gave an informative update of their mission work in Jamaica. The Lord's mercies are from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him (Ps. 103:17) and He is able to meet our every need.

Sis. Tess Gutwein has returned from Haiti and has accepted employment. Her sister, Alisha, is here for a summer visit, but will return to Haiti with her parents, Bro. Jan and Sis. Val, after their furlough in the fall.

Sis. Gail Gutwein has returned from mission work in Argentina to spend time with her mother, Sis. Marian Gutwein, and other relatives and family members. It is always a blessing to have her assemble with us.

Several from our congregation have been hospitalized: Bro. Jim Bogaert, Bro. Phil Gutwein, Sis. Margaret Anliker. We are glad to report all are now doing well.

We send our best wishes and pray

for God's blessings on the marriage of John Eide and Joan So. His parents are local residents, Karen Albrecht and Chuck Eide; and her parents are Jenny Lau & Ming So of Hong Kong. The young couple resides in Indianapolis.

We thank Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lyn, Indianapolis) and Bro. Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla, St. Louis) who were visiting ministers on July 19. May God bless and reward them.

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### INDIANA INDIANAPOLIS Gail Bradford Sandy Lichtle

We are thankful for the safe return of the group who traveled to Magdalena, Mexico, in June to work on a new group home at CVE. It is a joy and blessing to help our Brothers and Sisters in the Lord who serve in the mission field.

On June 28, Bro. Jonathan Wales (Don and Sis. Carol, Kansas City) and Sis. Melanie Levy (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue) were united in marriage. We wish them God's richest blessings upon their new life together in the Lord. We want to thank Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) and Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City, MO) for being with us on the wedding day. We appreciate their servant hearts.

June 28 was also a special day for Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy Freed as their son, Bro. Matthew Freed (Bluffton, IN) and Sis. Julie Reinhard (Bro. Larry and Sis. Deb, Bluffton, IN) announced their engagement. We pray for God's blessings to be with them as they plan an October wedding.

We rejoice with three souls who have been announced for peace: Megan Gudeman (Bro. Tim and Sis.

Mim), Kaylin Leuthold (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Doreen), and Stacey Lichtle (Bro. John and Sis. Sandy). We are thankful for what God has done in their lives and, Lord willing, look forward to their testimonies and baptisms later this summer.

Jaimie Oppermann has answered the Lord's call and is seeking Him in repentance. We pray for God's grace and guidance to be with her as she grows in her walk with the Lord.

We sincerely welcome Sis. Kayla Eberhardt (Bro. Fred and Sis. Kathy, Taylor, MO) and Sis. Ashley Troxel (Bro. Kim and Sis. Lisa, Bluffton, IN) to our congregation. Sis. Kayla is working as a nurse at Methodist Hospital, and Sis. Ashley is employed at Community North Hospital as a nurse.

Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie Bollier were blessed with a grandson, Jaece Andrés Vogt, who was born on July 1 in India to Bro. Lon and Sis. Sarah Vogt. Jaece is welcomed home by his big sister, Aesha. July 12 was a special day for Sis. Ginny Zeller as her grandson, Cedric Dhruv (Drew) Gutwein, was born to Bro. Stan and Sis. Andrea Gutwein. Bro. Stan, Sis. Andrea, and family are currently home from the mission field in India.

On July 12, a memorial service was held to commemorate the life of Jane Czerwinski (Tom, South Bend, IN), daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Gail Bradford. We continue to uplift the family in prayer to our heavenly Father and pray for His grace, strength, and comfort to be with them. We thank Bro. Walter Rager (Sis. Sharon, Toledo, OH) for sharing the Word with us and having a part in the memorial service.

Our congregation recently held our Sunday School teacher election. Those voted into new positions include: Bro. Mark Beebe, Bro. Makoto Inoue, and Bro. Adam Merkle. We thank the outgoing teachers for their

labors of love and encourage the incoming teachers as they teach the precious Word to our children.

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## INDIANA, LACROSSE

**Bethany Johnson**

**Julie Rocke**

Summer is officially here and with it seems to come a lot of traveling! We miss those of our congregation that are gone from time to time on vacation or visiting family. We enjoy the visitors that occasionally spend a Sunday with us as they are traveling through.

We enjoyed the ministries of Bros. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI), Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH), Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit, MI) and Larry Wenninger (Sis. Joyce, Latty, OH). We pray for God's blessings on these brothers and their families as they gave of their time for us.

Sis. Dorothy Stewart spent a few days in the hospital. We are glad to see her assembling with us again. Jonathan Rocke (Bro. Brad and Sis. Julie) fell and broke his arm. We're thankful that God's healing mercies have been extended to both of these loved ones.

Our summer local work project was a re-roofing project scheduled for July 10-11. We appreciated all of those who came to help both on and off of the roof, for those who provided meals and especially for those who prayed! The impending storms went around our area all day long, allowing the project to get finished in one day with no rain!

We bid farewell to Josh Troxel (Bro. Tom and Sis. Luann) who headed to Washington D.C. for a month-long internship, and then overseas for a semester of study abroad. May God watch over him and bring him safely home in due time. We also bid farewell to Sis. Michelle Steidl, who has been with us for the

years of her schooling, and has now moved back home to Akron, OH. We so enjoyed having her with us and wish her God's blessings and direction as she pursues employment.

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## INDIANA, LEO

**Elizabeth Schrenk**

**Abigail Schrenk**

"From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD'S name is to be praised."

*Psalm 113:3*

During the summer months in the northern hemisphere, the morning and evening sky provide us with beautiful designs of God's handy work. As we ponder each sunrise and sunset, may we worship the LORD and give Him praise. May we all find that our hearts and voices praise the LORD from the rising of the sun to it's going down.

We are very blessed to announce the arrival of two wonderful babies. On July 1, Kylie Rose arrived into the family of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Heather Drayer. Kylie is welcomed home by siblings, James, Dayla, and Ethan. On July 17, Bro. Marc and Sis. Diann Grim rejoiced in the arrival of little Tyler. Tyler has three big brothers, Isaac, Micah, and Wesley. We pray God will use these two couples for His glory as they raise their children in the fear of the Lord.

We said our good-byes to Sis. Pat Fischer as she moved to Eureka, IL. We rejoice with Sis. Pat in her move but we will miss her friendly smile in our congregation.

During the month of June our children participated in our annual Vacation Bible School. For two weeks they learned about the Biblical steps to resolve conflict. We pray our children will hide these truths in their hearts.

We want to extend our thanks to

Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City, MO) for sharing the Word of God with us this past month. It is always a delight to have family and friends visit our congregation.

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## INDIANA, MILFORD

**Pam Beer**

**Carol Hurd**

O worship the King all glorious above,  
And gratefully sing His wonderful  
love;

Our shield and Defender, the Ancient  
of days,  
Pavilion'd in splendor, and girded  
with praise.

These words came to mind when it was announced that Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter's topic for the next Bible study was "worship". Bro. Bill and Sis. Emily also spent Sunday, June 28, with the Milford congregation.

Darcy Price, daughter of Bro. Phil and Sis. Jane, is Milford's only High School graduate this year. Congratulations, Darcy! May God bless you in your future studies.

The reunion of Bro. Ezra and Sis. Luella Beer's family brought visitors to the Milford congregation on Father's Day. The guest minister for the day was Bro. Daren (Sis. Rita) Metz from Gridley. The greeting of friends and family is one of God's blessings.

We continue to pray for God's healing powers for Sis. Shirley (Bro. Jesse) Beer as she has had good reports following surgery.

Also continuing prayers for Bro. Don and Sis. Ruth Beer as they struggle with health problems.

Ben Schlipf and Sarah Marty have announced their plans to be married on August 21. Ben's parents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy Schlipf. Sarah's parents are David and Mary Marty. May God bless this marriage.

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**INDIANA, REMINGTON**

**Jenni Honegger  
Marcella Tyler**

Greetings from Remington! We are grateful that both Sis. Arlene Kilgus (Bro. Earl) and Bro. Phil Isabell (Sis. Diane) are once again worshipping with us after having surgery recently. We pray that God will comfort their hearts and draw them closer to Him during their time of sickness and injury.

We rejoice with Bro. Dave Bahler (Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette) and his new bride, Sis. Laura Virkler (Bro. Andy and Sis. Becky, West Bend, IA) as they begin their life as one in the Lord. They were married in West Bend on July 5, and we pray they will enjoy a long and loving life together of serving the Lord and each other.

We enjoyed the efforts on the pulpit of Bro. Calvin Schneider (Sis. Jeannie, LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Rustin Meister (Sis. Amanda, West Lafayette, IN). We are thankful for their labor on our behalf. What a blessing that God provides just the right person to deliver just the right message for each one of us at just the right time we need to hear it!

Bro. Dana (Sis. Lea) Nieman and his son, Kade, have recovered from their tractor/semi accident and we are thankful and blessed to have them worshipping with us once again. May God be praised for His infinite mercy and answers to our prayers!

*Note of Thanks:*

We would like to express our appreciation for all the prayers and deeds of kindness done on our behalf since the accident. The love and support we have felt through this difficult time in our lives has meant so much to us. May God richly bless each one.

In Christian Love,

*Bro. Dana & Sis. Lea Nieman and*

*family*

Our dear Sis. Emily Kilgus has gone to her reward after suffering a stroke. Sis. Emily had been a resident of Parkview Haven in Francesville, IN, for several years, although we always enjoyed her presence when she was able to attend services with us here in Remington. Please pray for her surviving sisters, Sis. Alta and Sis. Mary Kilgus and Sis. Esther (Walt) Bahler, and for the extended family during this time of loss. Although we will miss her, we are thankful for the example Sis. Emily gave us of a race well run.

**INDIANA, SOUTH BEND**

**Joshua Martinez**

“And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.”

*Revelation 21:4*

Greetings of love from South Bend!

Two dear souls with special ties to our congregation, our friend Jane Czerwinski (Bro. Bill and Sis. Gail Bradford, Indianapolis, IN), and Bro. Herb Knochel, Sr. (Sis. Johanna, Phoenix, AZ) have fought the good fight, finished their course, kept the faith and find themselves safe in the arms of our Lord Jesus. Our thoughts and loving prayers are with their families, husband Thomas and son Guinness Czerwinski, and granddaughter Sis. Natalie Virkler (Bro. Nathan), respectively.

Proverbs 16:31 says: “The hoary (white, gray) head is a crown of glory, if it be found in the way of righteousness.” This precious verse certainly applies to our dear Sis. Pauline Laidig

who celebrated her 98th birthday on July 2.

Sis. Keyna Martinez (Bro. Joshua) has completed a three-year Family Physician Residency. Sis. Keyna will remain at Memorial Hospital in South Bend for another year as part of their Health Services Management Program.

We are thankful for the blessings of health and healing. Our surgical patients this month included Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi) and Bro. Ed Lester (Sis. Tricia).

Blessed be the tie that binds and the many visitors we had this past month from Arizona to Canada and many great places in between. Special thanks go to visiting ministers, Bro. Herb Knochel, Jr. (Sis. Laurie, Phoenix, AZ) who shared a Bible study on Onesimus with us, Bro. Daron Price (Sis. Monica, Milford, IN), and Bro. Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL).

God be with you ‘til we meet again!

**INDIANA, VALPARAISO**

**Marguerite Hoerr**

Retired ministering Bro. Todd Feller shared the pulpit with Bro. Mike Thomas the Sunday of July 19. Todd has shown love to our ministers from time to time when they are alone on a Sunday. Love like this speaks true and clear.

One morning I read in our devotions, “Applying God’s Word to Daily Life” about “Making Do.” It reminded me of a time in my life when I was invited by Bob’s Aunt, Sis. Emily Hoerr, to go with her to California to visit Bob while he was in service. We were engaged at the time. He was on an Army Hospital Ship and once in a while was in port. I needed clothes to make the trip. Mom read about making a suit out of a man’s suit that had become too shiny to wear. One could take it apart, turn the material and



use it on the non-shiny side. We laid out the pattern and it fit perfectly and I was excited about a new suit that wouldn't cost anything. That night my five year old brother saw the scissors lying on the table and took a couple cuts with it. I was upset, thinking that now it was impossible to make that suit. I cried and he cried because he was so sorry. My Mom, who kept her head, said, "I think it will still work if we make the jacket a bit shorter." She was right. It did work, and I made my suit and I could wear it for the trip. Bernie was happy. I was happy. The Devotional referred to the scripture in Ecclesiastes 7: "Better is the end of the thing than the beginning thereof." It was a lesson I will never forget.

From time to time we have visitors drop in and we hope they feel the welcome in our hearts. We hope, too, that more visitors will find their way to our little Valpo church which is just 2 3/4 miles South of US 30 on State Road 49.

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**INDIANA  
WEST LAFAYETTE**

**Hollie Meister  
Darlene Walder**

We gathered again this month for Family Praise Night. Everyone enjoyed singing beautiful songs, delicious food, and fellowshiping with one another.

Our congregation rejoices with Jaimie Oppermann who has begun repenting. We pray God will lead, guide, and direct her during this time.

We are thankful for Bro. Matt Widmer's safe return from his mission trip to Jamaica. His time there was very precious and memorable.

We are so very thankful for our ministers who serve by preaching His Word to us each week. Their time and effort are appreciated and respected.

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**INDIANA, WOLCOTT**

**Lynell Blume  
Donita Edelman**

Our annual Sunday School Picnic was held on June 28. It was an enjoyable afternoon of fellowship as we partook of the Potluck supper, sang hymns, and had a short program. Various students were recognized as they were promoted to their next classes. We thank our Sunday School teachers for all their efforts in teaching our youth about God's love and His plan of salvation.

Bro. Derek and Sis. Theresa Blume were blessed with the arrival of a precious baby boy on June 30. Orrin Neal joins his siblings, Emma, Levi, and Marie, at home. Also happy for a new grandchild to love and cuddle are Bro. Tim and Sis. Rachel Schwab and Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynell Blume.

Visiting us this past month were Bros. Dale Banwart (Sis. Missy, Congerville, IL) and Jerry Wagenbach (Sis. Bonnie, Oakville, IA). May the Lord bless these dear brothers as they continue to work in the Lord's vineyard.

We want to remember in prayer those that suffer infirmities of the flesh. Bro. Mark Schwab and Sis. Glenna Minniear both required medical attention this month.

As the Brotherhood Conference approaches, may we all pray for our dear Elders as they gather together with a goal of uniting our hearts through obedience to God's precious Word.

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**IOWA, BLOOMFIELD**  
**Christy Wiegand**

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive

their sin, and will heal their land."

*II Chronicles 7:14*

As we celebrated Independence Day on July 4, we were reminded to be thankful for our freedoms, especially the freedom to worship. We were also reminded to pray for our nation, as we see change coming so fast.

We rejoice with Bro. Ron and Sis. Christy Joos at the arrival of another grandchild. Courtney Jacklen was born to Charles and Tammy Lucie. Excited big sisters are Sierra and Alexis. We look forward to meeting little Courtney the next time they visit us in Bloomfield.

June 28 was the date for our annual Sunday School Picnic, which also marks the last day of Sunday school before summer break. We want to thank our outgoing teachers, Bro. Eugene Joos and Sis. Rita Wettstein, for all the time and effort that they put into teaching the students.

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

There are loved ones in the glory  
Whose dear forms you often miss,  
When you close your earthly story  
Will you join them in their bliss?

Will the circle be unbroken  
By and by, by and by?  
In a better home awaiting  
In the sky, in the sky?

*Hymns of Zion #222*

Sis. Arlene Weissinger's (late Bro. Milo) earthly toils have ended as she was laid to rest this month. She will be missed by all of us as well as her sons, Don (Sandy) and Dale, and grandson, Tyler. Our sympathy also goes to sister-in-law, Sis. Charity Scheitlin.

We also will miss Bro. Earl

Massner (Sis. Ada) as he has gone to be with his Savior. Bro. Earl and Sis. Ada have assembled with us for several years after he was confined to a wheelchair. We extend our sympathy to his children, especially Bro. Dennis (Sis. Gail), Sis. Carol (Joe) Bonnesen, Lyle (Deb), and Bro. Dean; and his brothers, Bro. Ken (Rose), Bro. Lloyd (Sis. Mary) and Bro. Dale (Sis. Evelyn), and sisters, Sis. Rosie (Bro. Bill) Obermann and Sis. Dorothy (Bro. Dick) Taeger from our congregation.

We also had a memorial service for Eleanore (Perdelwitz) Mode. She is survived by her husband, Charles; daughter, Martha Lisa Flinsch; and one brother, Bro. John Perdelwitz (Oakville).

It was nice to have visiting Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville) share the Word with us again.

Bro. Phil and Sis. Kelli Schulz welcome little Tristan Edward into their home. Big brothers, Quinton and Connor, are excited with their little brother. Tristan's grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Tina Frank (Oakville) and Bro. Gary and Sis. Melody Schulz. We are thankful Sis. Kelli is home again after a little set back.

Sis. Maye Heiniger also spent some time in the hospital, but is back home again.

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### **IOWA, ELGIN Maria Rocke**

We welcome Sis. Tammy Mayhall (Eureka, IL) into our congregation. May God continue to provide her direction as she settles in.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers that have recently come to share the Word with us: Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA), Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary,

Zapata, TX) and Bro. Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA).

Farewell, mortality; Jesus is mine.  
Welcome, eternity; Jesus is mine.  
Welcome, O loved and blest,  
Welcome, sweet scenes of rest,  
Welcome my Saviour's breast;  
Jesus is mine.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Jim and Sis. Marcy Knobloch and their children in the passing of Jim's mother, Sis. Vicki Knobloch (Bro. Gilbert, Lester, IA).

On May 24, Monica Butikofer of Akron, OH (Bro. Lon and Sis. Sandy) and Michael Milovancev (Branko and Vida, Akron, OH) were united in marriage. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they make their home together in Akron.

Our prayers are with Sis. Marcy Knobloch and Ashley Callahan (Jeff and Tammy) as they both are recovering from surgery.

On July 20, Jisela Jolien Schupbach was welcomed into her family by parents, Nathan and Melissa, and brothers, Colton and Dylan. Jisela's grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Janet Schupbach and Terry and Kaylene McNally (Postville, IA). Also on the 20th, Maribelle Saige was welcomed into her family by parents, Nick and Meg Benson and brother, Noah. Maribelle's grandparents are Bro. Tim and Sis. Kathy Butikofer and Mark and Mona Benson.

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### **IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Rhoda Plattner**

As always, we wish to thank the many visitors that we have enjoyed over the past several weeks here in our small church. Assisting on the pulpit since our last update have been Elder Bros. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City, MO) and Mike Leman (Sis. Deb, Denver, CO), Bros. Roy

Koehl (Sis. Jenell, Morris, MN), Ron Isch (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS), John Rowell (Sis. Nelda, Burlington, IA), Jerry Meeks (Sis. Christine, Sabetha, KS), Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA) and Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor, MO).

A little bundle of joy, Jacob Michael, was recently born to Dwayne and Sarah Lester and we rejoice for his safe arrival. Siblings, Anna, Matthew, Cora and Regan, welcome Jacob home.

We also want to extend a warm welcome to Bro. Chris and Sis. Dixie Messner (formerly of Iowa City, IA). Bro. Chris has obtained employment in the Des Moines area and we look forward to having them worship with us.

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

Bro. Roger and Sis. Rhonda Reker welcomed another granddaughter on June 7. Grace Alexis was born to John and Rachel Toyne (Burlington, IA) and joins her big sister Claire. Ron and Audrey Landherr were also blessed with another granddaughter. Josh and Heidi Hydeman (Kansas City, KS) and Adelaide welcome Britta Marie to their family on June 10. We pray for God's blessings on these couples' efforts to raise their children and teach them of our Lord.

We will miss Bro. Kris and Sis. Dixie Messner as they have moved to Des Moines for Bro. Kris' job. We enjoyed the year they spent with us and pray God's continued blessings on them.

We look forward to meeting all the college students coming to our area for schooling this next year. We are planning to have our annual College Student Welcome Picnic on Sunday, September 20, and invite all new and returning college students, as well as their families, to join us for worship

and the picnic following the afternoon service. Please contact Sis. Connie Gerst (319-846-2348) if you will be attending college in the Iowa City or Cedar Rapids area and she can give you details regarding the picnic.

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

Our congregation has had many occasions that have provided us with ministering brothers to be with us. We extend our appreciation to: Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL), Bro. Todd Zollinger (Silverton, OR), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Ron Jones (Portland, OR), Bro. Jim Koehl (San Diego, CA) and Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL).

Mike Ter Wee (Jerry and Mary) and Tina DeSchepper are engaged to be married. We wish them God's blessings as they plan for this important step in their lives.

"The Lord is my Light and my Salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"

*Psalms 27:1*

Our hospital patients this past month include: Sis. Angie Metzger (Bro. Brian), Bro. Willy Knobloch (Sis. Helen), Sis. Emma Knobloch, Sis. Betty Popkes (Bro. Jeff), Emily Ter Wee (Chad and Sandi) and Mallory Gramstad (Bro. Kjert and Sis. Michelle). May God provide healing and comfort to all that are dealing with physical afflictions.

First-time parents, Aaron and Robyn Metzger, welcomed a precious son, Colt Jeral, into their family on June 20. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Beth Metzger and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda Wulf (Morris, MN).

For Thy most wonderful redemption,  
For the atonement of our wrong.  
For Thy most gracious invitation...  
And for Thy Word with promise  
strong.

Yea for the comfort of Thy Word:  
Our hearts bring thanks to Thee, O  
Lord.

*Zion's Harp #75; vs. 2*

The weekend of June 12-13 our congregation heard the provings and witnessed the baptisms of five dear souls. Sis. Stacey and Sis. Shannon DeSmet (Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley), Sis. Joanna Knobloch (Bro. Terry and Sis. Elaine), Sis. Alice Schmidt (Bro. Mike and Sis. Mavis) and Bro. Alvie Meyer (Bro. Dean and Sis. Linda) have become a part of the beautiful body of Christ and we wish them God's grace to stay true and faithful to their baptismal vows. Elder Bros. Art Nohl (Morris, MN), Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA), Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA) and Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) were here to assist in this work as well as ministering brothers, Bro. Roy Koehl (Morris, MN), Bro. Greg Braker (Lamar, MO), Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA).

*Note of Thanks:*

I would like to thank each and every one for their prayers, visits, deeds of kindness and helping out in one way or another, while I had surgery and at home recuperating. May the Lord richly bless each and every one.

In Humble Love,  
*Sis. Eleanor Popkes*

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

"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom

they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

*Romans 10:2-3*

We are so thankful that God has raised up ministers from our congregation to preach the Word. Our prayerful support is extended to Bro. Tom (Sis. Mary) Lanz and Bro. Mark (Sis. Sally) Schmidgall in their new responsibilities in the body of Christ.

"So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?"

*I Cor. 15:54-55*

Our Bro. Earl Massner passed from this life on June 23. Our prayers are ascending to Heaven for his wife, Sis. Ada, and their children, Bro. Dennis (Sis. Gail), Sis. Carol (Joe) Bonnesen, Lyle (Deb) and Bro. Dean.

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever."

*I Peter 4:11*

We thank our visiting ministers, Bro. Matt Steffen (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO), for bringing the Word of Life to us.

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

“Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.”

*Psalm 143:8*

God's richest blessings are extended to Bro. Kurt Zaugg (Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie) and Sis. Ruth Feuchtenberger (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Karen, Morris, MN) as their engagement was announced on June 21. Also planning to marry late this summer are Trudy Grimm (Eli, Jr. and Margaret) and Jake Eaton, St. Mary's, IA. May both couples joyfully and yet seriously prepare for this important step in their lives.

Bro. Dave Bahler (Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette, Remington, IN) and Sis. Laura Virkler (Bro. Andrew and Sis. Becky) were united in holy matrimony on July 5. Bro. Dave's grandfather, Bro. Marshall Heinold (Sis. Janice, Ixtlan, Mexico), was able to be in West Bend and assist Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm with the ceremony. May Christ's presence be felt in their newly established home.

Visiting ministers both for the wedding and for the month included: Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb, Remington, IN), Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL), Bro. Edwin Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern, KS), Bro. Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda, Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Dan Moser (Sis. Anne, Elgin, IL). A sincere thanks to all for their visit and their service.

We sympathize with Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gail Massner and their family at the loss of Bro. Dennis' father, Bro. Earl Massner, from Oakville, IA. May the Massner family be comforted knowing Bro. Earl is truly at rest.

Bro. Lee and Sis. Alicia Fehr welcomed MaKenzi Ann into their hearts and home on June 18. Aubrey, Ashley and Allison now have a new baby sister to play with. Grateful grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Fehr and Bro. Fred and Sis. Joann Maul (Cissna Park, IL).

Sis. Matilda (Bro. Elmer) Fehr returned to West Bend after a lengthy hospital stay and now resides at the care center here. Sis. Ruth Metzger did the same, and we pray God will be near and will grant them much peace.

Cody Schmidt (Bro. Neal and Sis. Angie) and Ernest (Sis. Edith) Kellenberger both were surgical patients this past month. We are thankful Cody has nicely recuperated, and Ernie is now at the care center in Algona. We are prayerful that God can heal each one.

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**JAPAN, SHIODA****Carrie Ito**

We are thankful for the safe arrival of Bro. John and Sis. Wanda Kinsinger and their family from Korea. They are settling in nicely to the home on the church grounds and have already been a blessing for our small congregation.

We also enjoyed a visit during the week from Bro. Shayne and Sis. Emily Fehr (Denver) and were able to do a little sightseeing in the Shioda area with them.

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**JAPAN, TOKYO****Jana Klaus**

We had our annual business meeting in late May and kept most jobs the same as last year. We are thankful for each person who can help our little church function with God's grace. We also take the time to discuss special topics and this year a main one was ideas for more outreach. The suggestion was brought up to invite every Sunday school student that had at-

tended in the past, that we still had contact info for, to both Sunday School programs, as a start. Many of these students stopped coming once they reached junior high, but many are now married and/or working and one just never knows how that seed planted long ago has taken root. Thank you for prayers for those who are searching to find the grace to come back to church.

We extend a hearty welcome to the Kinsinger family, Bro. John and Sis. Wanda and children, James, Jesse and Joy, who have relocated from Korea to our Shioda church house. We look forward to them being a part of our team here and pray for God's rich blessings on this new phase in their life.

We were blessed with an abundance of visitors this summer. Ministering Bro. Chris Wuethrich (St. Louis, MO) made his first trip to Japan with his company and willingly gave of himself in preaching the Word. We hope he comes back again! And, a group of 4 took a medical trip to Indonesia and included Japan as a stopover. Bro. Shayne and Sis. Emily Fehr (Denver, CO) stopped through on their way over and were able to worship and fellowship with us. Then, the other two, Sis. Cheryl Herrmann (Princeville, IL) and Sis. Rita Knobloch (Lester, IA) stopped by on the way back and were able to worship with us. It was such a blessing to hear of how the trip went from them and see the pictures. We are thankful God blessed their efforts and provided safety.

With thankful hearts, we said good bye to Sis. Kimberly Lehman (Wolcott, IN) as she finished her two month stay at the Klaus house as a helper/Christian friend and also as a support to our church. May God bless her for her willing and loving service.

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**KANSAS, BERN**  
**Sheri Edelman**  
**Jill Meyer**

“For thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness.”

*Psalms 18:28*

We thank the visiting ministers that taught us recently: Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Gridley/Lamont, KS), Bro. Les Kaeb (Sis. Christine, Francesville, IN) and Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA). May God bless you for lending yourselves on our behalf.

Kari Meyer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Kaye) has announced her engagement to Mark Hertzal (Elder Bro. Gerry and Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS). We ask God's blessing on their upcoming marriage in the fall.

Sis. Pat (Bro. Don) Menold had knee surgery this month. May God heal her quickly!

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**KANSAS, FORT SCOTT**  
**Martin Hohulin Sr.**

The month of July brought numerous visitors to our area and to church. Accordingly, we received many blessings.

Sis. Deloris Marti (Gridley, IL), her daughter, Sis. Darleta Gramm, and her son, Tyler, came to visit Bro. Tyler and Sis. Tina (Gramm) Banwart and their daughter, Talya. While in town, Tyler mowed several yards in Fort Scott.

Just a few days later, the Massner reunion was held in Fort Scott. These are the descendents of Bro. Dave and Sis. Carrie (Reber) Massner. Three of their children are deceased: Sis. Mary Huber, Roy, and Bro. Ray. The five surviving girls that were present are Sis. Pearl Miller (Sabetha, KS), Sis. Lillian Fischer (Bro. Lyle) and Sis. Ethel Smith (both of Fort Scott), Sis.

Emma Dee Hoerr (Bro. Robert) and Sis. Ruthie Hoerr (Bro. Louis) (both of Taylor, MO).

Three ministers were at the reunion: Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie Miller, Bern, KS), Bro. Jeff Streitmatter III (Sis. Lynne Fischer, Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Dean Steffen (Sis. Carol Miller, Belvidere, IL). There were also many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. During the afternoon service, some of the young boys sat on the ladies' side. When services were over, they filed out with smiles on their faces. It was a weekend to remember and we thank God for the many blessings we received.

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**KANSAS, KIOWA**  
**Janice Bahr**  
**Jennifer Stewart**

Bro. John (Sis. Lori) Baumgartner of the Bern congregation shared the Word of God with us this month. Thank you for coming and giving of yourself in the Lord's work.

Our prayers are with Annabelle Kisling (Bro. Frank) as she is in the hospital. She has been fighting an infection and is having a slow recovery.

May God be with each and every one of you as you travel through the coming month counting your blessings as you go.

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

We rejoice with our convert, Justin Isch (Sis. Liz), who has found peace with God.

Our Sunday School students enjoyed Vacation Bible school where they learned about the sower of the seeds and the mustard seed of faith. We thank all those who helped and pray that someday the seeds that were sown in these young and tender hearts can bring forth the fruit of repentance.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Cory Metzger (Sis. Jody, Wichita, KS). We appreciate his willingness to be used in the Lord's service.

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

New Sunday school teachers for the 2009-2010 year are Bro. Loren Edelman (Sis. Jeanne), Bro. Erik Hertzal (Sis. Shelli), Sis. Carrie Grimm (Bro. Wayne), Sis. Betsy Strahm (Bro. John), and Sis. Jean Wenger (Bro. Wayne). We are thankful for the teaching of God's Word that they, along with the continuing Sunday school teachers, will impart to our children.

Bro. Willard Bahr (Sis. Eloise) was laid to rest on July 3 in Detroit, MI. He and Sis. Eloise were long-time residents of Sabetha and part of our church family for many years before moving to a retirement facility in Detroit, near their children. We were saddened to hear of his passing but know that he has gone on to his great reward! His family will remain in our thoughts and prayers as they will surely miss their father, grandfather, brother, uncle and cousin.

On July 7 we enjoyed perfect summer weather for an all-church potluck picnic.

We continue to pray for those of our congregation that are experiencing physical afflictions. Sis. Marian Kellenberger (Bro. Gene), Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger (Bro. Jay) and Bro. Larry Bailey (Sis. Linda) have recently undergone surgery. Bro. Carl Strahm (the late Sis. Sharon) has also been facing health issues.

Visiting ministers for this month included Bro. Ed Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern, KS), Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City, MO), and Bro. Brent

Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City, MO). As we think about our world and the daily turmoil and unrest, it is easy to become discouraged and give up hope. However, our spirits were uplifted as Bro. Brent encouraged us to look up, heavenward, fighting the fight and hanging onto the ship of the Lord because soon the Lord will come and it will all be over. We need to thrive on hope, a confident expectation, and continue to hang on until we receive our reward.

### *The Ship of Faith*

Though great dangers oft surround us  
 passing through life's stormy sea  
 where the clouds of gloom and darkness  
 hover o'er our heads, and we  
 through the tempest must keep rowing,  
 in distress and scarcely knowing  
 whether we the poor, unknown,  
 of our Lord are left alone.

Yet the Lord is ever near us;  
 He doth guide our vessel's course;  
 He would test our love and firmness,  
 giving storm and wind their course.  
 That our faith be shown in clearness,  
 seemingly He hides His nearness;  
 if we plead with fervent will,  
 He will bid the sea be still.

He is Lord; when He commandeth  
 storms abate, and ocean waves  
 will, although they rage with madness,  
 gently cease; for He who saves  
 gives repose; and in distraction  
 it is He who gives protection;  
 He will ne'er His own forsake,  
 nor His holy covenant break.

Therefore, trusting in God only,  
 place your confidence in Him;  
 He is near, though we feel lonely,  
 help delays and light grows dim.  
 Be consoled and trust in Jesus,  
 in this Rock your strength increases;  
 let your faith rest in His blood,  
 fearing neither storm nor flood.

*Zion's Harp #94*

## KANSAS, WICHITA

### Emma Miller

We rejoice to hear of the birth of a baby girl born to Stephanie and Nathan Schweizer on June 17. Little Lilly Marie is the granddaughter of Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Ruth Long. This makes her the great-granddaughter of Sis. Lillian Bowers.

We have had the opportunity to share our fellowship with Debbie Fehr Greenway who is in Wichita for the summer. She plans to go back to Illinois before school starts.

Our part of Kansas has been subjected to violent weather patterns this year. Recently Wichita was bombarded with hail large enough to damage some parts of the area. Adding hail to strong winds does not make for a pleasant situation.

The weekend of June 11-12 was extra special to our congregation. We had two visiting ministers. Bro. Clint Schmidt and his brother from Winthrop, MN, were in town on other business. We thank Bro. Clint for his willingness to minister to us Sunday morning, and then in the afternoon, Bro. Howard Plattner ministered to us. Howard's roots are deeply embedded in our Wichita fellowship. He recalled some of the milestone events in his Christian development such as his conversion, employment, marriage, and parenthood. We thank both of these brothers for their scriptural messages.

### *Adagem*

Before attempting to read this, look at the words in bold face type from the top to the bottom. Read just the bold type. Then, read each line left to right. I did not find the word adagem in any of my dictionaries. I learned about them at a special meeting of the Kansas Authors Club several years ago.

### *Hosea 14:9*

**For** your information  
**The** books of the Bible expound on  
**Ways** to choose a lifestyle—  
**Of** living so that it honors  
**The** Creator. Our  
**Lord** and His heavenly crew  
**Are** nearby in the  
**Right** place at the right time to direct  
**And** protect  
**The** trusting souls who  
**Just** do not understand how one  
**Shall** be changed, even as they  
**Walk** forward  
**In** the path prepared for  
**Them.**

## KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

### Barb Huber

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.”

*Ephesians 6:10*

What an encouragement to hear these words spoken that we may be prepared to stand against the wiles of the devil. God allows the trials of this life to test and strengthen our faith.

This past month, the World Relief Committee surveyed several work projects in Kentucky. We were privileged to have them come and worship with us on the evening of July 14. What a blessing and joy it was to fellowship with these dear brethren. Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO) and Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL) exhorted us through God's Word to “be a Joshua and a Caleb”, as they stood up against the other spies to go in and possess the promised land, Canaan. “Be strong in the Lord, fight the good fight of faith, and finish hard!” What a challenge, but also so encouraging!

Other visiting ministers who blessed our assembly were Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL) and

Bro. Dale Banwart (Sis. Melissa, Congerville, IL). We want to thank each of you for all your efforts. May the Lord bless and reward you and your families for your faithfulness to serve Him.

We extend a warm welcome to come and visit us in Lexington. You may contact Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541. Church services are held at 3938 Becknerville Rd., Winchester, KY. Directions to the church are: **From Lexington:** I-75 exit #110(US 60), east about 6 miles to Road #1923 (Combs Ferry Road), right about 5 miles to Road #3371 (Becknerville Road), left approximately one block on the right. **From Winchester:** Road #1958 (Bypass) south to Road #1927 (Colby Road), west about 3 miles to Road #3371 (Becknerville Road), left 2 miles on the left.

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### MEXICO, IXTLAN

**Matt Gerber**

“Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

*Acts 2:39*

On a sweltering Sunday with hundred degree heat and humidity, a crowd of all ages packed around a swimming pool in Barra Vieja, Guerrero, Mexico... but nobody jumped in. All eyes were glued upon four adults who stepped down into the water to make a profession of faith and a covenant of faithfulness to their Savior. It must have been a strange sight to people accustomed only to infant baptisms. These four individuals were the first Apostolic Christian converts baptized in Barra Vieja.

Barra Vieja is about 12 hours by bus from Ixtlan. The gospel began to

be shared here some years ago when several converted sisters starting going back to their home town of Barra Vieja to teach VBS for the children and talk with their family members about Christ. Seeds were planted in hearts, and eventually four people repented of their sins and were converted—Bro. Bartolo Ramirez Rosario and his wife, Sis. Kike (Virginia) Angelito Villalba, Sis. Maria de la Cruz Villanueva Ojeda, and Sis. Maria de la Paz Salinas Manzanares. Since then, many different brethren from the U.S. and Mexico have visited Barra Vieja to help nurture and teach these new believers, who don't yet have a local minister or established church. This time of careful nurturing and growth was perhaps longer than usual due to the distance from Ixtlan, as well as the lack of a foundation of basic Biblical knowledge. The time taken to build on the foundation of Jesus Christ - the Solid Rock - has given the opportunity for their fruit to demonstrate the transforming power of Jesus to an entire community. The baptisms were an occasion of great thanksgiving to God for His work of transforming lives and spreading the gospel.

On another note, we're also thankful for Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy Schrenk, and the eye team who came to Ixtlan and performed a number of successful eye operations. A highlight was one man whose cataract was so bad he could only distinguish the movement of light. The day after surgery his vision was 20-20! But even more than physical healing, we desire for people to have the veil removed from their spiritual eyes so they can “see Christ” and become converted.

### MICHIGAN, ALTO

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

Our very dear and sincere convert, Eric Cooper, gave his testimony and was baptized on June 6-7. It is encouraging to hear about how God has changed hearts and lives. We saw the glow on his mother Mary's face as she realized a longstanding desire for her son was being fulfilled.

The annual Father-Son campout continues, “rain or shine”, and it must be admitted that there was more than a threat of rain this year. Nonetheless, the food, fun and fellowship were fantastic, as usual.

We'd like to extend our thanks to Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL) for visiting and preaching. Sometimes it seems like we should proffer thanks to ALL the ministering brethren more often for their tireless presence on the pulpit, preaching God's Word.

We are sorry to report that Bro. Nate (Sis. Kathy) Knochel's father passed away in Phoenix. Bro. Herb (Sis. Joanna) will be missed greatly by his family. We appreciate the additional fellowship of Nate and Kathy's family when they spend their summers in Michigan, and we regret that this sadness has come upon them.

The 7th and 8th grade Sunday school class hosted a fancy, delectable meal for our seniors. Several decades ago when I was involved on the hosting end, the word “senior” seemed very self-explanatory. Nowadays, it just sounds too close for comfort, and I know the temptation is to be offended at the label. However, the students' intent was to do something for others, and I hope they were successful in letting these “mature mentors” know that they are worthy of honor and respect. Interaction between generations is a goal worthy of pursuing!

**MICHIGAN, BAY CITY****Sarah Knochel****Janelle Ramseyer**

June 20-24 was Vacation Bible School week for Bay City. We appreciate the efforts of all the teachers, cooks and volunteer support who made the week a blessing for all the young children. We were blessed with two visiting ministers that expanded on the topic of Our Mission. Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) spoke on Wednesday evening. His topic was "What is My Mission" and Bro. Dale Frank (Sis. Tina, Oakville, IA) spoke on "What is Our Mission". We're thankful Bro. Dale was able to stay over the weekend and minister onto us on Sunday. Also, Bro. Dave Steffen (Sis. Linda, Elgin, IL) ministered to our congregation, recently. May these brothers be blessed for their willingness to serve.

Our hearts are saddened, yet we rejoice that Bro. Erwin Wieland has won his race here on earth. We want to remember his wife, Sis. Nina, and his children, Rhoda (Emery) Minger, Thomas, Carlton (Mary), Rebecca, John, Daniel, Leon (Jennifer), Bro. Brian (Sis. Charlene) and Marvin. Bro. Erwin is also survived by one daughter-in-law, Judy (Roger) Parker; eleven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

We also want to remember the family of Bro. Herbert Knochel (Sis. Joanna, Phoenix, AZ) as he passed away recently. Bro. Herb and Sis. Joanna were raised and married in Bay City and then moved to the Phoenix area due to Herb's health issues. We want to remember his siblings from our congregation, Bro. Norman (Sis. Leanore), Bro. Floyd (Sis. Mar-ian), Bro. Vic (Sis. Elinor), Fred (Helen), and Sis. Alvina Wackerle. Sis. Joanna was a Waibel before they were married and has many siblings yet in the Bay City area. Our prayers

are with each one.

We have two from our congregation that spent time in the hospital recently: Bro. Robert Knochel and Sis. Lois Wieland. We pray that the Lord would provide healing strength such as would be His will.

*Note of Thanks:*

We want to express our sincere thanks and appreciation for the many prayers and kind deeds that were extended to our family during the passing of our husband, father and grandfather, Bro. Erwin "Dewey" Wieland. May God bless you all.

*Sis. Nina Wieland & Family*

**MICHIGAN, DETROIT****Kay Rauhe****Manuela Denes**

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."

*Matthew 6:33*

The theme for this year's Vacation Bible School was "Parables of the Kingdom". What a blessing for our young ones to be able to share these lessons with each other. We are so thankful to all who worked to make this time so meaningful to the children that attended!

"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."

*Psalms 30:5*

Our prayers and sympathy go to those who have lost loved ones this past summer. Mourning the loss of Bro. Dewey Wieland (Bay City, MI) are Sis. Ella Schlatter and Sis. Arlene Belsley. It was on a beautiful summer day that we bid a final farewell to our beloved Bro. Willard Bahr (Sis. Eloise). He will be missed by his children, grandchildren and great-

grandchildren. Many of us are truly grateful to have had such examples of faith in our daily lives. We shall miss their daily presence but know that one day our rejoicing will be great! Thanks go out to Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) and Elder Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS) for officiating at the funeral service.

The residents at Woodhaven are always thankful for those brothers and sisters that volunteer their time during the week. A special thank you goes out to Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI) for leading the worship service during the month of July.

"Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness."

*Psalms 30:4*

It is hard to believe that this month we celebrated the 21st Choir Benefit Day for our Woodhaven home! We are so thankful to the choir and church for all the hard work that goes into making this day so blessed and successful each year. We also appreciate those brothers and sisters who come from out of town to lend their God given talents to this event.

A hearty welcome goes out to Bro. Joel Virkler, his wife, Sis. Amber, and baby Liam as they make their home with us here in Detroit. We are always happy to have a new family added to our small community and hope that they will feel at home in Detroit with us very soon.

We are so thankful that Caleb Ramseyer (Bro. Mark and Sis. Kelly) has decided to give his life over to the Lord and has started to repent. Prayers and blessings to him during this very special time!

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Linda Shaw as her brother Tom undergoes treatment for cancer and for her sister-in-law Sandra who suffered from a heart attack recently.



A prayer for a quick recovery goes out to Sis. Arlene Belsley as she underwent surgery for a broken leg.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach would like to share their gratitude and appreciation with the following note:

It is so blessed to be a part of such a gracious fellowship. We are humbled and extremely gratified for being able to celebrate our 65th wedding anniversary and we thank first our great God and His precious Son, our beloved holy fellowship of brethren, our family and many friends. We thank them for sharing with us their best wishes and kindness with their phone calls, visits and overwhelming cards, letters and notes. From the depth of our hearts we hope to express our most sincere gratitude and may God bless you all for your love!

Humbly,

*Lorene and Ben Maibach*

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### MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS

#### Mary Mogler

It was wonderful to have Bro. John and Sis. Jane Wiegand and their family from Silverton, OR, in our presence once again, and also a blessing to have Bro. John share God's word. Although a number of years have passed since they lived here, friendships were quickly renewed, and it seemed like old times.

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in Him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

*John 15:5*

Our week of Vacation Bible School was enjoyed by young and old alike, and the energy and enthusiasm the students brought to it was a joy. It was good for all of us to be reminded

daily of the abundant life "on the vine" in contrast to a life apart from the vine.

Congratulations to Bud and Tera Runquist and big sister Melina as they welcome Kenadee Lynn into their family. Dan and Lola Deragisch are the happy grandparents. We look forward to having little Kenadee join our congregation.

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### MINNESOTA, MORRIS

#### Susie Wulf Sheila Reuter

We were very thankful for visiting ministers this month. Bro. Galen Rokey, Bro. Darren Fehr, Bro. Dan Moser, Bro. Ted Luginbuhl, Bro. Duane Roche, Bro. Todd Stoller, Bro. Ken Wuethrich and Bro. Brandon Emch all brought the Word to us. May God be their rich Rewarder.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Myra Koehl were blessed with their first baby, Lance Edward. Bro. Loren and Sis. Melinda Schmidgall were able to bring baby Brenton Loren home after some time in the hospital. His sisters, Breanna and Britta, are excited for a baby brother. Bro. Kurt and Sis. Savannah Wulf, along with children, Emmitt, Lane and Reid, welcome home Nolan Harold. Daughter Cassidy Jo was born to Mark and Becky Reuter. Big sister Blaire welcomes her home. We congratulate grandparents, Bro. Jeral and Sis. Linda Wulf, on the arrival of their grandson, Colt Jeral. Parents are Aaron and Robyn Metzger of Lester, IA.

The engagement of Sis. Heidi Wulf (Bro. Stan and Sis. Pam) to Bro. Caleb Pfaffmann (Bro. Robert and Sis. Lily, Washington, IL) was announced. May God be their three-fold cord. Sis. Ruth Feuchtenberger (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen) is engaged to Bro. Kurt Zaugg (Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie) of West Bend, IA. May they feel God's

grace as they become one in the Lord.

This month Travis Moser, Hazel Moser and Stella Moser all spent time in the hospital. May God's healing hand be upon them.

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### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

#### Julie Schmidt Lindsay Schmidt

Peace, perfect peace,  
In this dark world of sin?  
The blood of Jesus  
Whispers peace within.

*Hymns of Zion #26*

We rejoice when a soul humbles themselves and is able to leave this world of sin to seek a higher calling. Our hearts delight when that convert finds peace with God and man and is ready to become a part of the Family of God. Our congregation rejoices with Emily Steiner (Bro. Glen and Sis. Rachel) as it has been made known that she feels the whispered peace within. We look forward to her baptismal day when she will be brought into the Family of God.

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

*Proverbs 22:6*

Our congregation was blessed with another bundle of joy. Big brother, Garret Schmidt, welcomed home Wil James on July 3. We pray that God will help parents, Bro. Nick and Sis. Julie Schmidt, to train up their children to honor and obey God. Wil's grandparents are Bro. Verl and Sis. Jamie Schmidt (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Wilma Knobloch (Lester, IA).

"And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at

Jesus' feet; and he healed them."

*Matthew 15:30*

We pray for Jesus' healing power for all those who have had physical or spiritual needs. We hope that Sis. Georgia Messner will continue to feel His healing as she recovers from her eye surgery.

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**MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY**  
**Brittany Fehr**

Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL) was our visiting minister this month. May God bless him and all our ministers and continue to guide them by His Spirit to continue preaching the truth.

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**MISSOURI, LAMAR**  
**Rebecca Dotterer**  
**Dana Kellenberger**

This month we were thankful to hear that our convert, Jessica Luthi (Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jodi), has found peace. We are thankful God is still calling souls in repentance and pray He will continue calling many before the day of grace is closed.

We have been blessed with many visitors this month. We are reminded what a precious privilege it is to travel and fellowship with our brethren across the land.

Bro. Brandon and Sis. Sarah Gudeman (Bradford, IL) moved back home to Bradford after worshipping with us for several months. We wish them God's blessings and direction in their lives.

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**MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS**  
**Meagan Wuethrich**

We have been blessed with several visitors this month; some passing through while on vacation, others in the area for a wedding, and some coming just to visit and add to our fellowship. We would especially like to

thank our three visiting ministers and their families; Bro. Randy and Sis. Becky Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Bro. Alan and Sis. Sarah Schambach (Remington, IN) and Bro. Matthew and Sis. Rebekah Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL).

Our dear friend, Berniece Stuber, has had diagnostic surgery this month, so we ask for your prayers for her and her family as they await her diagnosis.

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**MISSOURI, TAYLOR**  
**Kathy Eberhardt**

We have noticed traveling in the countryside how the days are shortening and the corn is maturing so fast. So life is passing so quickly also. As summer is rapidly coming to an end, are we maturing for our heavenly home?

As the children are leaving for school and college, may God grant them wisdom to higher learning. God knows your heart, nothing can be hidden from Him. You can deceive man and yourself, but God can no man deceive.

With our July Bible Study, we have enjoyed many visitors this month. The topic for this month is "Dare to be a Daniel". Visiting ministers this month include Bro. John Baumgartner (Sis. Lori, Bern, KS), Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth, Wolcott, IN), Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL), Bro. John Rassi (Sis. Heather, Tremont, IL), Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridgett, Chicago, IL), Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL), Bro. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL), Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL), Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL), and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. Lavonne, Sabetha,

KS),

We express our deepest sympathy to the Bro. Steve Hodel family of Roanoke, IL, and to his sister, Sis. Jan Heimer (Elder Bro. Kent), in our Taylor congregation. We pray the Lord will bring your hearts comfort and lead you on peaceful pathways.

There is rejoicing in Heaven over one sinner that repenteth. We sang in Sunday School, "Ring the Bells of Heaven" for Josh Eberhardt, son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Kathy Eberhardt.

We have had a blessing this summer in our church with all of the brothers and sisters and friends that have come to help on His Ranch. Thanks for being part of our congregation this summer. May God bless you all as you travel back to your home congregations.

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**NEW YORK**  
**CROGHAN-NAUMBURG**  
**Hope Graves**

We rejoice with Brian and Julie Farney in the birth of their second son, Caleb Michael. Caleb was born on June 26 and joins big brother, Alex, at home. May the Lord richly bless this growing family.

Our annual hot-dog roast was held at the Croghan Recreational Park on Monday evening, June 29. It was a beautiful evening of fellowshiping with our church family.

We have enjoyed many visitors this past month. Many came from near and far to celebrate Sis. Charlotte Virkler's 90th birthday on July 17. She was very surprised when all of her family members could come and share this special day with her.

Our prayers have extended to Bro. Lowell Virkler who was hospitalized this past month.

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**OHIO, AKRON**  
**Mara Henico**  
**Rachel Pamer**

“Daniel’s den of lions  
 Teaches true and sure  
 When on God depending  
 We can feel secure...”

*Zion’s Harp #148, v. 4*

Our thoughts and prayers are with our Sis. Elizabeth Yovichin and her family as her husband, Bro. Albert, was recently laid to rest. How thankful we can be for God’s provision so that we don’t need to fear death, but instead can completely trust our heavenly Father to guide us through this life so that we are fit for His service above!

Our visiting ministers this month included Bro. Gene Lehman (Sis. Verna, Wolcott, IN), Bro. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi, Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA). May God bless each of these brothers and their families for being willing to share the Word of Life.

We are thankful that the high school juniors and seniors who went to Jamaica on a work team were able to return safely and with many memories. Seeing how destitute some people are in this world is perspective-changing and eye-opening. May we always be willing to let our light shine wherever God places us and be willing to share what God has given to us with the less fortunate.

**OHIO, COLUMBUS**  
**Julie Grimm**

God’s Word was brought forth by the following visiting brothers: Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH), Erik Givens (Princeville, IL), Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville, OH), Tim Ramsier (Rittman, OH), and Jesse Bedolla (Detroit, MI). We are thankful for the many visitors who support our congregation as well as those who

serve us in the ministry.

**OHIO, JUNCTION**  
**Vicki Boroff**

Bro. Dave and Sis. Kathy Manz are happy to have another grandchild; Lanae Marie was born to Bro. Matt and Sis. Deanna Manz (Toledo). Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen Manz are also thankful grandparents as their most recent granddaughter, Anna Elizabeth, was born to Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jennifer Manz (Latty).

The engagement of Sis. Mindy Gasser (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue) to Bro. Caleb Stoller (Bro. Bill and Sis. Barb) of Latty was announced. We wish them God’s blessings.

We also would like to thank Bro. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA) for bringing the Word to us. We appreciate his efforts.

Cody Etter (Barb and Rob Brink, and Len “Chip” Etter) married Beth Morris on July 18. We wish them God’s many blessings and guidance in their future.

**OHIO, LATTY**  
**Amanda Wenninger**  
**Carmen Eisenmann**

Bros. Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb, Remington, IN) and Earl Beery (Sis. Susie, Rittman, OH) were our visiting ministers this past month. A special thanks to these brothers for their efforts, and we pray God will bless them both.

Dustin Stoller and Beth Taylor became one on June 20. His parents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Jodi. May God bless this couple as another home has been established.

While one couple was recently married, another couple is making plans for their own wedding day. Bro. Caleb Stoller (Bro. Bill and Sis. Barb) is engaged to marry Sis. Mindy Gasser (Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue, Junc-

tion, OH). They are anticipating an October 4 wedding date. Congratulations and may God bless them during their engagement time!

While Latty has had much joy this month, there is also a touch of sadness. Sis. Desma Klopfenstein (Bro. Lee) recently lost her father, Larry Davis. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her and her family circle in this time of grief.

I am choosing to end this article on a joyous note! Marla Sinn (Bro. Todd and Sis. Janet) has begun her repentance. As a recent high school graduate, what a wonderful time of life for her to give her life to the Lord!

**OHIO, MANSFIELD**  
**Esther Baumann**

Warm congratulations to the young couples in our congregation who have recently married: Elijah Foss (Rick and Sis. Susan) married Becky Stubbs (Cathie); and Jesse Dotterer (Bro. Gaylord and Sis. Betty) and Laura Bruner (Dan and Jo) were united in marriage. We wish them God’s richest blessings.

Bro. Mike Garunovic (Sis. Jelena) has recently been hospitalized and continues to appreciate your prayers.

Humble thanks to Bro. Steve Martin (Sis. Vicki, Eureka, IL) and Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Pat, Congerville, IL) for serving us in the ministry this past month. We also thank our own Elder and ministers for their tireless labors of love on our behalf.

Congratulations to our recent graduates: Sis. Lydia Dotterer (Bro. Gaylord and Sis. Betty) graduated as a medical assistant; Lauren Sauder (Bro. Dan and Sis. Pam) and Sis. Becky Baumann (Bro. Mike and Sis. Lilly) both completed their Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degree. We pray for God’s continued guidance in their lives.

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**OHIO, RITTMAN****Heidi Rufener  
Laurie Beery**

Thoughts and prayers have been with Bro. Chet Rufener (Sis. Roma), Bro. Jeff Ryan (Sis. Kathy) and Sis. Luann Musser who have spent time in the hospital recently.

Holly Winkler and Andy Anschutz were united in marriage on May 16. Their parents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Margie Winkler and Ken and Mary Anschutz.

We are thankful that souls are still turning to the Lord in repentance. Our prayers are with Austin Beery (Bro. Aaron and Sis. Lynne) and Kent Dotterer (Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy) as they begin their walk with the Lord.

Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) recently ministered to us. We are thankful for each one that is willing to serve us in this way.

Sis. Lucille Blough is thankful for the safe arrival of her grandson, Jude Alan, born to Bro. Alan and Sis. Renee Blough (Sardis, OH) on June 18. Jude's siblings are Kyria, Haven and Malachi.

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**OHIO, SARDIS****Faith Beard**

Consider ye mortals, the wonders of nature  
Which God in wisdom did create.  
Did not our Creator in power and order  
For man His wondrous works instate?

How can we behold the great work of creation  
And not feel moved His name to praise?  
From whom are these wonders? O give Him the glory!  
Our voice in honor to Him raise.  
*Hymns of Zion #49, vs. 3,4*

The last Sunday of June was spent gathered high up in the hills in our New Martinsville, WV, church for our annual memorial service. Hymns are sung using the old Heft books, and without the conveniences of padded benches and indoor plumbing and electricity (except for the sound system used for the overflow), it is a nice encounter with past days. So as the song and worship services are held overlooking the hills and valleys, our praise is two-fold: for the remembrance of our heritage and, as the song above suggests, for the wonder of His creation.

Ministers serving us that weekend were Bro. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce, Akron, OH), Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI), Bro. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield, OH), and Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago, IL). We thank them for their willingness to speak the Word of Life.

The miracle of the first birth for mankind was shown once again on June 28 as Emil Joseph Beard entered this world. He is the son of Bro. Seth and Sis. Faith Beard and the little brother of Olivia, Greta and Mara. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Dee Beard, and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lois Maibach (Smithville, OH).

"And Jesus saith unto them, Yea; have ye never read, Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou hast perfected praise?"

*Matthew 21:16*

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**OHIO, SMITHVILLE****Ruth Gasser  
Edith Miller**

During the past month, we were blessed with the ministry of Bros. Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), Kenneth Dietz (Bradford, IL), Mark Ramsier (Sardis, OH) and Tim

Ramsier (Rittman, OH). May God continue to bless these brothers with wisdom to bring forth the Word in truth.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who must spend time in the hospital. We wish the blessing of healing to Sis. Marjorie Zollinger (Bro. John) and Sis. Shelly Beery (Bro. Dwaine) and Bro. Steve Hofacre (Sis. Jollene), who have all experienced afflictions of the body.

We welcome four-year old Yikealo David Maibach, who was recently adopted from Ethiopia by Bro. David and Sis. Larisa Maibach. We trust the Lord to provide wisdom and understanding to his new parents as they nurture him and teach him the way of the Lord. Grandparents of Yikealo are Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann Maibach and Bro. Larry and Sis. Joyce Wenninger (Latty, OH).

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lois Maibach welcomed a new grandson in the birth of Emil Joseph Beard, born to Bro. Seth and Sis. Faith Beard (Sardis, OH) on June 28. Emil is also welcomed by three sisters, Olivia, Greta and Mara, as well as paternal grandparents, Bro. Ed and Sis. Dee Beard (Sardis, OH). May God's blessings rest upon each home.

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

Greetings of love to all!

The warm days of summer are upon us and how lovely it is to see all the beautiful colors that the Lord has provided for us!

Troy Manz, along with his parents, Bro. Matt and Sis. Deanna, are thankful for the safe arrival of Lanae Marie. We trust that Bro. Matt and Sis. Deanna will continue to look to our Savior for guidance in rearing their little ones.

It was a nice Sunday when we gathered for our Sunday school pic-

nic. It is always a blessing to spend time with our youth.

We were blessed with many visitors this past month. Joining us on the pulpit were our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH), Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH), and Bro. Tom Troxel (Sis. LuAnn, LaCrosse, IN). May God bless them and their families as they do His will.

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## OREGON, PORTLAND

**Renee Angstrom**

Our visiting ministers this month from Silverton were Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty), Bro. Ed Knecht (Sis. Judie) and Bro. Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michele). We appreciate their support and bringing forth the Word.

Hospitalized this past month was Bro. Ray Cooper (Sis. Ginny). We pray for Bro. Ray as he continues to heal.

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## OREGON, SILVERTON

**Deb Roth  
Kris Luthi**

The Sunday School is our delight.  
We love it more and more...  
We thank you loving teachers, too,  
For all your love and care.

*Hymns of Zion #73*

Our annual Sunday School Picnic was held on June 20. We appreciate all the time and effort the Sunday School teachers put into organizing games and crafts for each of the classes. This is a highlight of the summer for many of the young ones. The rest of the church joined them later to enjoy the meal and an opportunity to fellowship.

“Now therefore hearken unto me,  
O ye children: for blessed are they  
that keep my ways. Hear instruction,  
and be wise, and refuse it not.”

*Proverbs 8:32-33*

The blessings were many as the Bible Class and their teachers enjoyed time together for our annual Bible Class Weekend, June 26-28. We were grateful that Bro. Gary and Sis. Paulette Sinn (Latty, OH) and their children made the effort to join us. After a day of activities on Mt. Hood, Bro. Gary very warmly spoke to the class and encouraged them to make wise choices in their lives. On Sunday we appreciated Bro. Gary bringing forth the Scripture in truth and simplicity for all of us.

On July 5, we were blessed to have another visiting minister among us. We want to thank Bro. Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park, IL) for willingly serving us the Word. We also want to thank Bro. Wayne Fehr (Portland) for sharing God's Word with us.

Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Kristy Kuenzi are thankful for another son, Russ Terrence, born on July 4. His siblings at home are Micah, Drew and Kate. Grandparents are Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann Kuenzi and Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich. Emery Rose was born July 7 to parents, Bro. Nelson and Sis. Lisa Kuenzi. She is welcomed home by big brother Sutton. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Barb Kuenzi and Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte Metzger (Lester, IA).

Travis Kuenzi, infant son of Bro. Adam and Sis. Lori Kuenzi, had an extended hospital stay after peritonitis complicated his stomach surgery. He is home now and making improvement. May they be encouraged and feel God's caring hand upon them. Bro. Jason Kuenzi (Sis. Jo), and Evelyn Hari also had surgery this month. We pray that they both may have healing.

Jesus knows thy sorrow,  
Knows thine ev'ry care;  
Knows thy deep contrition,  
Hears thy feeblest pray'rs;

Do not fear to trust Him,  
Tell Him all thy grief;  
Cast on Him thy burden,  
He will bring relief.

*Hymns of Zion #74*

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Art and Sis. Mary Beth Kuenzi as they have suffered a great loss in their family. Their son, 19 year old Landon Thomas, was tragically taken in a car accident on July 11. He is mourned by siblings, Sis. Rachel, Bradley, Jordan, Derrick and Shane, and young nephew, Trevon. Our hearts go out to this dear family and we pray that God can comfort their hearts. Landon touched many lives and will be greatly missed. Grieving grandparents are Sis. Janet Kuenzi (the late Bro. Lee), and Leo and Marge Buchheit. A great number of Aunts and Uncles, cousins, second cousins and friends here in our congregation and elsewhere feel this tragic loss. May each one seek comfort from our loving Father in heaven. Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL) and Bro. Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka, IL), along with our own local ministers, were able to both comfort and teach as they ministered to each one in the funeral and graveside services.

We are going down the valley one by  
one,  
Human comrade you or I will there  
have none,  
But a tender hand will guide us lest we  
fall,  
Christ is going down the valley with us  
all.

*Gospel Hymns # 798*

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## PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

“But they that wait upon the  
LORD shall renew their strength;  
they shall mount up with wings as ea-  
gles; they shall run, and not be weary;

and they shall walk, and not faint.”

*Isaiah 40:31*

May we continue to wait upon our LORD, neither weary nor faint. Whether we shall run or walk, may we be renewed in strength. We are thankful here in Philadelphia for good health and the peace of God that bears us up “with wings as eagles”.

We want to thank Bro. Chuck and Sis. Debbie Kellenberger (Elgin, IL) for their visit to Philadelphia. Bro. Chuck shared the Word of Life with us; another example where we were renewed in strength. We appreciate each visitor. Keep us in mind if you travel to the east coast.

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

We are thankful for the strengthening we have received from God’s Word, brought to us with such love and willingness by our recent visiting ministering brothers: Elder Bros. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy; Alto, MI) and Ken Indermuhle (Sis. Linda; Sardis, OH), and Bros. Randy Gudeman (Sis. Becky; Francesville, IN) and Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy; Champaign, IL). We have also been encouraged by the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Champaign, Eureka, Fairbury, Forrest, and Gridley, IL; Francesville, IN; Bern, KS; Alto, MI; and Latty, 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: Taylor, MO (8/23); Goodfield, IL (8/30); Lamar, MO (9/6); Bay City, MI (9/13); Forrest, IL (9/20); and Morton, IL (9/27). 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 usually meet on Wednesday evenings for a

song service at 7:15 p.m. and would welcome any midweek visitors. Contacts are Bro. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder, (615) 373-8928; Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz, (615) 866-5543; and Sis. Gwen Leuthold, (615) 356-5755.

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### **TEXAS, AUSTIN** **Amy Ringger** **Serenity Ringger**

We enjoyed a visit from Bro. Doug and Sis. Krista Stoller and their daughter Ashlyn who recently moved to the Dallas area. We hope they’ll be able to join us here as they are able.

Thank you to our visiting ministers: Bros. Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville), Jim Vierling (Sis. Linda, Eureka), Leland Plattner (Zapata), and Elder Bro. Dave Graf (Sis. Barb, Akron). Other visitors were from Forrest, Gridley, and Bluffton. Thanks for coming!

The following is the minister schedule for Sept: (6) Elgin, IA; (13) Morris; (21) Washington; (29) Peoria. We extend a warm welcome to anyone who may be in the area to worship with us, on Sundays or mid-week. 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. After a possible visit, as the Spirit moves you, we welcome you to come and live in our area to support our small church. In addition to the contacts in the minister book, you may contact our local minister, Bro. Dennis (Sis. Diane) Rassi at 309-275-7775.

Directions to our church are these: from the intersection of Hwy. 71 and 21 on the west side of Bastrop, go east on Hwy. 71 about 1/2 mile and take the first exit (by the Ford

dealership), proceed on the east-bound frontage road about 4/10 mile. The church is on the right. It is located about 18 miles east of the Austin airport. The address is 1025 W. Highway 71, Bastrop, TX 78602. It is a one-story building with a limestone facade, 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 took them to the east side of town, rather than west. We advise following the directions herein 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** **Joyce Nohl**

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Kenneth Dietz (Sis. Mardell, Bradford, IL), Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA), Bro. Tony Manz (Sis. Denise, Junction, OH) and Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX). It is such a blessing to have brothers and sisters in faith willing to serve our small congregation. May God bless each one for their efforts.

We would like to encourage those who plan to come South for a summer vacation to consider the Valley for a Sunday of fellowship and worship. 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: (Sept. 13, Bern, KS); (Sept. 27, Tremont, IL); (Oct. 11, Gridley, IL); (Oct. 18, Detroit, MI); (Oct. 25, Morton, IL).

Our address is: Holiday Inn Express, 1921 South 10th Street. Turn 1 ½ blocks off the Expressway on 10th

Street. Services will be held at 10:30 and 12:30. Please see ministers' directory for local contact information.

**VERMONT  
NORTH CLAREN-  
DON/NORWICH**

**Nathan and Miriam Reutter**

Recently we read in the scriptures the parable of the sower and the seeds. How some fell on good ground, but the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches came and choked out the Word. In this busy time and age we live in, it is easy to be distracted by so many things around us calling for our attention. Let us pray for one another that this would not be our lot, but that we would strive for that quiet and peaceable life spending much time in prayer and reading God's Word.

We thank those ministers and their wives who brought to us the Word this past month. They were: Bro Warren Zahner (Sis. Bonnie, Rockville, CT), Bro. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL), Bro. Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH),

Bro. Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay) and Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Sis. Cheryl), both from Rockville, CT.

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 (802-293-2724). 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:

Mid-week services  
(Contact local brethren)  
Sunday Morning Service  
10:10 AM  
Sunday Afternoon Service  
12:15 PM

Sunday school is held during the morning service.

If anyone is interested in purchasing beautiful head-coverings handmade from our dear Sisters in Ixtlan, Michoacan, Mexico, please contact Sis. Areli Reutter at Home: 802-862-0830 or Cell: 860-878-9346 or by email at areutter@ hotmail.com. Inventory is available upon request. This is a wonderful opportunity to support those of the household of faith (Galatians 6:10).

**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)**

**Interested in Houseparenting?**



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

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

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

*"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*

*Sermon continued from page 2*

are fed and they don't fear. So David had that time, he knew that time would be within his life. Even as he struggled here, even in this life, there are valleys. Hills that we have to go up and valleys we go through sometimes. But the Lord is with us and when we have struggles, the Lord is going to be with us. We can feel Him. Even though we pass through the valley of the shadow of death, the Lord is with us (Psalm 23:4). And none of us have suffered the grief, the rejection and the sorrow - even probably not that David did here - and how much less our Lord.

The Lord came down here and He came to those who should have received Him. He came to the Jews who should have known that He was the Messiah. Yet, they rejected Him. They called Him deceiver. They mocked Him. They blasphemed Him. Yet He was willing to shed His blood and die for them. We know that the end of our faith is the salvation of our souls. We can dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

When we think back upon the Jews that felt threatened by our Lord Jesus Christ when He was here, because of His teachings and because they thought they were going to lose the power that they had, we can see that when they crucified the Lord, they didn't stop what had begun with our Lord. We see that it only grew. We remember how they banded together and how they thought they would kill the Lord and then when He arose, they decided that they would hire soldiers to say that His body was stolen. They tried to stop the spreading of the Word of God. But we can see that it was such a powerful thing that it continued to grow and continued to spread.

Even as we read now, the spreading of it was by the Holy Spirit that worked. Remember even when our Lord was here, as He walked in the flesh, He would teach multitudes. Sometimes thousands of people would be gathered together to hear Him. Even as we were reminded recently, that would have been a miracle in itself, that one man standing there, maybe if he was out in the water somewhere, speaking to thousands of people, that they could hear Him and

understand what He spoke. With the noise of the crowd and the spreading out, we know that was a miracle that the Lord was able to do that.

But He was very limited, even then, in the Word that He was able to speak. We know that He sent forth His disciples that time and other times He sent others before Him to prepare the places He was going to go. We know that when they went into a city, He said their peace was to be on that city. (St. Matthew 10:5-13) He went throughout the places of Judea and even down to Samaria at times. Yet we know it was very limited because the Lord was spreading His Word, just Himself in the flesh.

When the time came that He was going to leave, He told His disciples He was going to leave them. He was going to go to the Father. They should rejoice in that He was going to do that. He said that He was not going to leave them comfortless but He was going to send a comforter. He said it was necessary that He go, that the comforter could come. (St. John 16:7)

We know that we have the Holy Spirit with us at all times. Even when the disciples were in the flesh, we know that they could go to the Lord and speak to Him. But He was limited by the flesh and He wasn't with them the same way He is with us with the Holy Spirit now. So we know that was one way. But the Lord had another way. To send a comforter, the Holy Spirit into men's hearts, that the Word of God, the Gospel could go forth. We can see how it worked in the men of old, the apostles.

Remember how it came that they had been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and He had told them, when He had seen them the last time, go to Jerusalem and wait for the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4). We know they went there. Remember how the day of Pentecost, the Spirit came upon them and they spoke in tongues (Acts 2:1-11). Then the Word of God began to spread and multiply in such a great way. It spread out in a way the Lord was not able to do when He was limited by the flesh. Even though He could speak to multitudes.

Then we can see here how the Lord continued to work through the Holy Spirit to spread His Word. How Philip

was so instrumental in spreading the Word of God. Even as we see here, the Jews had killed Stephen here, many were scattered throughout except for the apostles. They buried Stephen and they made great lamentation over him, because he was such a faithful brother in the Lord. (Acts 8:1,2) We know, even us now, as we have those that would part out of this world, we know that there is sorrow. We sorrow but not as the world does. We sorrow because there is within us, when one would leave this world, even as Stephen here of old, when he left, it was not that they didn't have a hope for eternal life or they did not believe that they would see him again or did not believe in the resurrection. But there was just such a close bond of faith that that separation, even for a short time, felt painful to them. They sorrowed for that. But they had that hope, even as we have that hope when those who we love do pass out of this world.

We can see how Philip was led by the Spirit and went down to Samaria (Acts 8:5). The Spirit led him in different ways. Even as we read here of two men who heard the preaching of the gospel of the Word. Both of them made a choice that they wanted to avail themselves of this salvation. It seems possibly this first one, this Simon, maybe didn't have the right motivation in the beginning. He was one that the people looked up to formerly. They thought he was of God. Yet, even as we read the Word, we can gather that he was not. So he decided he was going to join himself unto this power, which he was very wise to do. That he would turn from that and seek this. But it seemed possibly that maybe he didn't dig the foundation of faith as deep as he should have. (Acts 8:9-13)

So we can see when we want to turn from the things of the world and become the Lord's, how important it is that we dig down deep. To examine our thoughts and examine the Word of God. Let the Lord lead us. Also the brothers that God would lead, whether it would be our Elder Brother or possibly our parents, those that would be spiritual within the church.

We can see how that happened in the life of the eunuch. The eunuch was an Ethiopian. He apparently came from a long distance. We can see how



God looks down and must see each sincere and upright heart that wants to know His will. He was apparently reading the books of the Old Testament. He was reading in Isaiah where it tells of the time of our Lord Jesus Christ. He was of a humble heart and he wanted to know, what do these things mean? (Acts 8:27-31)

As we think about it, he could see these Jewish people and he was looking into their faith, the faith that they had. Yet, they were controlled by the Roman Empire. But he knew that there was something special about these people. There was something special about their God. I think throughout history, the children of Israel, even though at times they suffered persecution and men tried to destroy them, yet God has kept them as His nation. We can see it is a witness of God's faithfulness, unto His promises unto Abraham. Even unto us, that we can be confident that what He promises us, He will be with us.

As this Ethiopian could see that there was something special and seeking to find what the truth was, he must have been one that, even as he read Isaiah, he pondered, who was he speaking about? I believe that he also probably had read the Word. He diligently had a law work within his life, even as each one of us in our walk of faith, as we want to repent and be converted, we know that the law comes and we feel convicted of the law. We see where we have failed. Many of us try on our own to change by the law, by doing it ourselves. We find that we can't do that. The Ethiopian was probably at that point within his life. He had read the law and he was going on reading the prophets, trying to glean, what was this special God and His people? Trying to understand it.

We can see the change that came in his life when Philip got up and he spoke to him. He was a very humble man and Philip asked him, do you understand what you are reading? He said, no, how can I except someone explain it to me? (Acts 8:30,31) I think that is the attitude that we need to take. Not only in repentance, but farther on within our walk of faith. We know that there are different times that we look into the Word of God that we don't always have the answers. But

we need to look to God. We need to pray. We need to think upon the Word and look to those whom God has given the responsibility as under shepherds, that understanding might be given to them. Or those that have walked the path of faith and have shown their faithfulness for many years. We can often go to them and ask them things that we don't understand. Some things maybe God wants to wonder about, to ponder. He doesn't give us to know all things of eternity. All things even within our very own lives, how they are going to work out. We can have that confidence and know that He is with us.

We can see how this happens to this Simon. Apparently somewhere in his repentance and conversion he didn't dig deep enough. Maybe he didn't put out all the pride that was in there, that he wanted that later on when he saw that the Holy Ghost was given by the laying on of hands. He wanted that power also. (Acts 8:18) So maybe it was not completely out or maybe it was something that came back within his life.

We know as we would repent, we put things out of our lives. We know that most of us struggle against pride and different lusts. We are given the victory over those so they don't control us. We know that Satan is going to come back again and he is going to try to tempt us in those ways. But apparently we need to be more steadfast than this man was here. We know he was warned that he better repent and pray perhaps it could be forgiven him, the very thought that he had (Acts 8:22). We need to guard against our thoughts, even as the thought might begin to come to us. That we don't let thoughts that deal with pride or lust begin to grow within our hearts to think about them. If we let them grow, sooner or later they will bring forth fruit.

I remember years ago, as a young man, it was explained to me that if any of those thoughts would come to us, whether they would be pride or lust or whatever, it is like a bird. We can't stop a bird from flying over our head. We can stop him from building a nest on it. So when those thoughts might come, if they be things that we have put out of our life and Satan might try

to bring them back again, we don't have to dwell upon it. We can go to the Word of God in prayer. We can go to those, as we spoke, not only when we are repenting, but after we are walking a walk of faith. If we have some struggles, we can go to those that are strong in the faith that we look up to. That have walked many years with the Lord. We can ask them for their experience and their help. For their prayer. We know that the Lord does hear and He does answer that prayer.

So we can see how it was able to be explained to this eunuch here, that it was the Lord Jesus Christ and what He had done for him. It is just like it was in our life, after we have been repenting for a while, maybe struggling and making restitutions and confession, then all of a sudden it just seems to come together, that we are given a light. Then there is no more condemnation but that we believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for us and we have that peace with God. We can say, even as he, "...what doth hinder me to be baptized?" Acts 8:36. First has to come that cleansing of the heart. The law has to work there. Then when that faith and that belief comes in the Lord Jesus Christ, then we are ready to go ahead and be baptized with the water and with the Spirit, to become children of God. To go, even as this eunuch did and I often think, what great faith he had! It says, "...he went on his way rejoicing." Acts 8:39. Philip went the other way but he had the faith and knew it was God working in his life that had brought him that far. Philip was part of it. God used Philip. But it was God's Holy Spirit that directed him within his life. I think that even as he knew that he was going to go back to Ethiopia for his responsibilities, he knew God was going to be with him. He could go rejoicing.

That is the same way with us. At times we may go through some struggles, as we said, even as David of old saw some very heart breaking struggles. We can go rejoicing, knowing that God is with us. He that has begun the work within us will continue it. Because it is His good will to give unto us the kingdom.

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### **Introduction and awareness of the needs in Haiti**

In the early 1960's. Brother Henry Beer visited a mission outpost in Jeremy, Haiti, through an acquaintance, Robert Rocourt, from Wenona Lake, Indiana. At about the same time, Brother John Wagler and his wife, Sister Ann, went to Haiti and worked at the Albert Schweitzer Hospital as gardeners and ran an orchard. Through the connections established by both groups, others began supporting Albert Schweitzer and Grace Children's Hospital with material aid. In 1969 Brothers George Bruellman and Herman Norr became involved in organizing shipments of animals, grain, clothes and some medical supplies through other organizations, like Heifer Project, CARE (Cooperative American Relief Everywhere) and Mennonite Central Committee.

Word spread about the aid being supplied through the Heifer Project, CARE, and the Mennonite Central Committee; and a growing number of brethren from our churches began to support these organizations. These individual charitable activities generated further discussion within the church leadership and raised awareness relative to the malnutrition, poverty, and starvation in Haiti.

### **The World Relief Committee Formed**

At the Brotherhood Conference in Bluffton, Indiana, in October, 1963, the World Relief Committee was formed. Initially their task was to study the feasibility of the church becoming more involved in direct help to the poor and needy. The World Relief Committee decided at that time to give financial support to existing organizations such as the Heifer Project and CARE, rather than to provide direct support. The recommendation to support these groups was approved at the Brotherhood Conference in Tremont in 1964.

## **History of Apostolic Christian Missions in Haiti**

### **First Shipment to Albert Schweitzer Hospital**

Two brothers from Francesville and two brothers from Bluffton accompanied the first shipment of cattle which was sent through the Heifer Project to Albert Schweitzer Memorial Hospital in Haiti on February 18, 1965. This shipment consisted of eight purebred Holstein heifers and one registered Holstein bull.

### **Contributions Sought for World Relief**

Contributions were solicited from the national church membership, and World Relief disbursed \$360,000 from 1964 to 1970; and from 1971 to 1976, the amount grew to \$1,033,070. Further details of the World Relief activities and organizations that were supported financially can be found in the book, *Marching to Zion*, pages 481-491.

### **Medical Assistance Begins**

Medical assistance had its early beginning at the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Northern Haiti at Deschappelles, in 1969. Financial support for the purchase of medications and other material aid and supplies was given. Annual visits were made to assess the need and determine the best way to help as well as to give encouragement. Mutual relationships were established between Dr. and Mrs. Mellon, who were the founders of the hospital. Similar support and material aid was also given to Grace Children's Hospital in Port-au-Prince.

### **Palm Grove Mission**

Brothers became acquainted with the Palm Grove Mission projects in Haiti in 1982, and were impressed with their work. A visit to Puit Sales revealed the need for a lunch program for students. Some years later it was learned that theft of grain, intended to feed the poor, was common; and Palm Grove Mission needed safe storage for grain. Thus, a grain bin was sent to secure storage. Later, water projects were funded,

school roofs were put on, school desks were provided, and support was given for student education.

### **Work Team Projects Begin**

Work team projects began in 1982 when a number of other brothers within the Apostolic Christian Church became aware of the extent of poverty in Haiti and had the opportunity to join a work team through World Team mission to help on construction projects in Southern Haiti. According to records that were kept in 1983, approximately 17 volunteers labored on various projects supporting the poor in Haiti. More than 2,000 volunteers participated in World Relief work supporting the poor between 1983 and 2000.

### **The Apostolic Christian Church Provides Help for MEBSH**

In 1986-87 two brothers learned of an organization called MEBSH, (Missionary Evangelical Baptist of Southern Haiti) and went to Haiti to become more acquainted with their work and to learn how the Apostolic Christian Church could help. In 1988, five brothers traveled to Haiti and met with leaders of MEBSH. MEBSH was already involved in reaching out to the poor both spiritually and with physical resources, specifically building schools and sponsoring student education. However, they had identified great financial and material needs that they were unable to supply. The Apostolic Christian Church realized that they could supplement the work by providing material aid, financial support, and volunteers to help put roofs on schools and build school desks. Bob Stewart was the initial missionary with World Team who coordinated the work for volunteers on construction projects with MEBSH. In 1998, Ron and Linnea Shick took over the MEBSH construction department when Bob Stewart retired.

### **Caribbean Committee Formed**

The National World Relief Committee,

*continued on next page...*

...continued from page 43

now the National World Relief Board, asked that the Caribbean Committee be formed in 1988 to assist in identifying priority projects in Haiti and Jamaica to be supported. This committee began to focus on how they could help serve the poor in Haiti and Jamaica.

### Medical Assistance Grows

Opportunity to expand support for medical work came through association with MEBSH, when Caribbean Committee members visited and became acquainted with the work going on at Hospital Lumiere in Bonne Fin. Five American missionary physicians and their families were living on the hospital grounds and working in the hospital. The medical and surgical services provided to the people were of very high quality and known throughout Haiti. Financial support and material aid were provided for the hospital at Bonne Fin and for the out-patient clinic at Les Cayes, both in Southern Haiti.

### Nursing Home Receives Support

World Relief also began to support Asile Dorcas, a nursing home managed by MEBSH, after visiting the home on a trip in 1988. It was a home for elderly people who had no family and had no way to support themselves. Approximately 20 to 30 elderly people were living there under very meager conditions. A great blessing was obtained by groups visiting and singing hymns together with the residents. Singing the old traditional hymns, even though in two separate languages, bridged the communication gap and brought great blessing to all. Asile Dorcas remains a highlight of every team who visits Les Cayes.

### Hospital and Clinic in Les Cayes

Due to a variety of factors, since 1998-1999 the provision of health care has shifted from Hospital Lumiere in Bonne Fin to Les Cayes. Now a well-run, very busy outpatient clinic and hospital with 40 beds has developed in Les Cayes. Providing physical support gave much assistance to the clinic and to the hospital. Since 2007, World Relief is also sending

medical teams to assist clinic and hospital staff in giving care.

### King's Hospital and Orphanage Receive Support

In the mid 1990's support for the medical work was expanded to support King's Hospital in Port-au-Prince, which was founded by Dr. Hubert Morquette and his wife, Dr. Junie Morquette. Dr. Morquette had been the administrator of Hospital Lumiere in Bonne Fin; but as his family grew he moved them to Port-au-Prince. When Dr Morquette was asked how our church could help, he identified many needs; and our World Relief began sending support. After the Morquettes founded King's Hospital, they also developed King's Garden, which is an orphanage that accepts children off the streets and from families too poor to provide for them. A new hospital and children's home is under construction and completion is planned for 2009-2010.

### Well-Drilling Program Begins

In April, 1987, a Bluffton brother saw an article in the Well Drillers Journal stating that people in Haiti were praying for someone to help them acquire clean water. He and others sent the first well drilling rig to Haiti and then enlisted help from Brothers in Tremont. Brothers from Francesville were asked to design and provide special hand pumps for the wells. Over the course of time, Haitians were trained to drill the wells. The Apostolic Christian Church helped by giving training and providing equipment and supplies. Fifty-five wells were drilled in 2008. Since the inception of the work, the estimated number of wells drilled amounts to more than 300, bringing fresh water to Haitians, which has been a tremendous benefit for the Haitian people.

### Trade Schools Developed

In the ensuing years World Relief work expanded to include the development and support of trade schools, teaching skills such as woodworking, plumbing, electrical, welding, metal work and masonry. The number of volunteers for work projects continued to increase as did the financial support to World Relief.

Three trade schools were developed, many wells were drilled, and teams were sent down in support of all these projects.

### SEED Ministries

In the years of 1992 - 1994 contacts with Franz and Doris Clotaire made the Caribbean Committee aware of the work of SEED Ministries, which taught agricultural skills to the Haitian people. SEED represents Service, Evangelization, Education, and Development. In the years since 1994, World Relief has sent financial aid and many work teams to assist this worthy project.

All in all the Apostolic Christian brethren have been tremendously blessed with opportunities to serve the poor in Haiti in many wonderful ways. It has proved to be a vivid example of the truth of the teaching in Acts 20:35, I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

### Timeline

- 1960's – Medical aid begun at Albert Schweitzer Hospital
- 1963 – World Relief Committee formed
- 1979 - A group of brothers went to Haiti
- 1982 - Contact with Palm Grove Mission
- 1983 – The first projects totally from the Apostolic Christian church, of direct support to Haiti, which was the poorest nation in the western hemisphere, were approved by the World Relief Committee in 1983
- 1983 – 2002 = 107 projects (work teams)
- 1987 – Well drilling in Haiti begun
- 1988 – Support for MEBSH construction and medical projects
- 1994 – Alliance begun with SEED Ministries

### Resources for this information:

*Brothers: Wendell Gudeman, David Bertsch, Jim Hoerr, Roger Sauder, Harold Witzig, Ed Roecker, Howard Getz, Earl Sauder, Tim Butikofer, Tom Hitz, Bob Pfloderer, and Sister Elaine Stoller (Norr), and the Book, Marching to Zion, pages 481-491.*

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### Dealing With Change Part 2

We recently discussed various types of change and how there are some changes over which we have complete control and others that are completely out of our control. It is the latter category which causes us the most stress as we struggle to cope and deal with those changes.

Within the five types of change we mentioned, there are several ways to further categorize them; developmental, transitional, sudden versus gradual, unexpected versus expected, unplanned versus planned, chosen versus un-chosen, emotionally pleasant, and emotionally painful.

Some examples of change are: moving, attending a different school, illness, job change, loss of job, moving to a nursing home, birth of a child, marriage, children leaving home, accident, death, loss of bodily function or ability, graduation, aging, and changes in the lives of others around us. Of course, this list isn't all inclusive but gives an indication how broadly change affects all of us.

We read in God's Word, *Psalm 46:10* "Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth." It is easy for us to read that and believe it but when we are confronted with life-changing events; it is difficult for us to simply "be still".

It is the uncertainty of life that makes us feel "out of control" and we don't like the feeling of not knowing the outcome of something before we start it. When we feel that way we often want to just take over for God and fix things on our own. Our tolerance for uncertainty is related to the amount of control we feel that we have. Resilient people tend to focus more on the areas over which they have control and implement coping strategies where no immediate solutions exist.

People react to change in multiple ways according to their perspective. How we make sense of what we're going through is more important than what we're going through in how we cope with it. We read in *James 1:2* "My breth-

*ren count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations [trials]; knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience."* It is difficult to find joy in the sudden loss of a loved one or the discovery of a life-threatening illness. Nevertheless, having an eternal perspective is ultimately the key to acceptance.

*Psalm 27:14*, "Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord."

*Matthew 11:28-30*, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

*Psalm 27:13-14*, "I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living."

*Jeremiah 29:11*, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

*Isaiah 40:31*, "But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."

*Isaiah 49:15-16*, "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me."

So, we can see in these few verses that God does care about us and our wellbeing and that we are never forgotten. Whatever it is that we are going through (good or bad), God would like to help us grow to know and trust in Him more deeply. However, Satan would like to hurt us thereby. It is evident throughout the Scriptures that God's people not only acknowledged their struggles but also clung to their belief that God would see them through.

Many different feelings come over us as we deal with change in our lives and they greatly depend upon what we're going through and the perspective we have. We won't necessarily react to a

change the same way someone else does.

**Excitement** – looking forward with anticipation

**Mixed Emotions** – feeling two or more emotions at the same time; often ones that appear to be opposites

**Sadness** – feeling sad; we may sometimes wonder if life will ever be happy or normal again.

**Shock** – state of confusion; sometimes numbness

**Free Floating Emotions** – feelings appear "for no reason" – we may feel like crying but not know why

**Denial** – refusal to deal with the reality of the change

**Bargaining** – attempts to try to hold on to what is perceived to be lost

**Anger** – frustration with oneself, others, or God

**Depression** – feeling down, hopeless

**Anxiety** – tension, worry

**Fatigue** – lack of energy or motivation, burn out

Some practical steps in dealing with change are:

1. Step back and get a godly perspective
2. Take time to be alone with God
3. Share your burdens with others
4. Don't be afraid to ask for help
5. Pray and also ask others to pray with you
6. Acknowledge that a change is occurring and that it will take time for you to adjust.
7. Take care of your physical health

Change is inevitable and the success of our coping mechanism is largely dependent upon our perceptions, our resiliency, and our faith.

*1 Peter 5:7*, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

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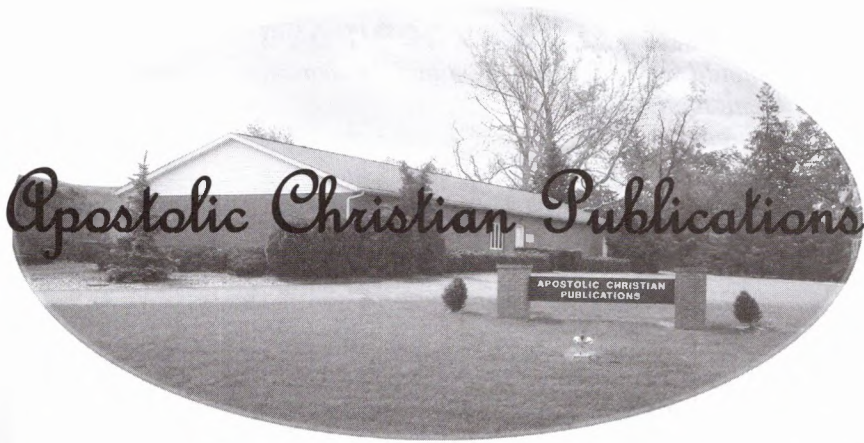
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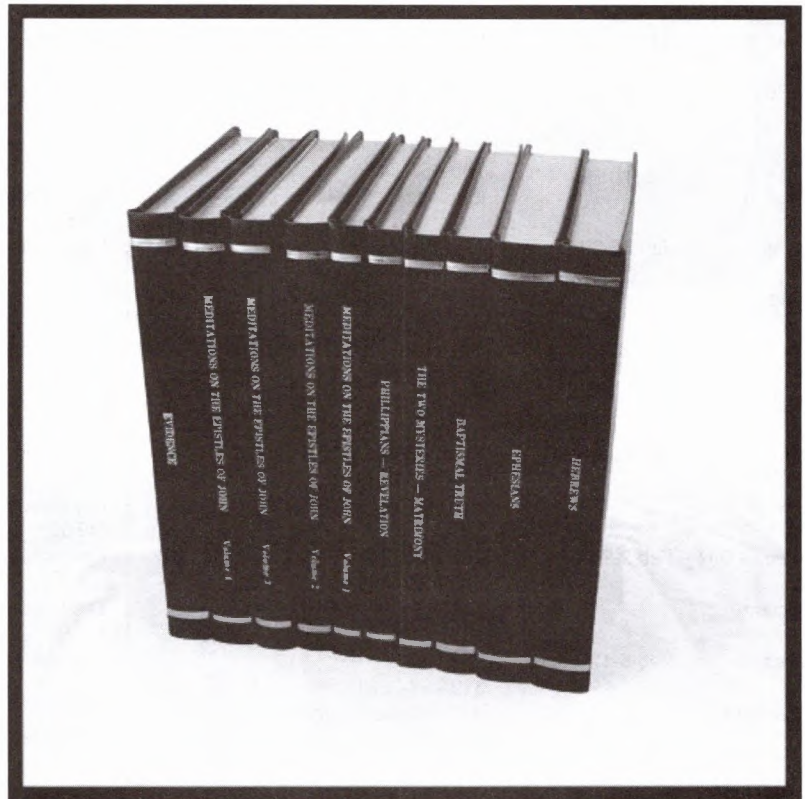
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## CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2009/2010

*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).*

### HAITI

*Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 -[www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/)*

Project	Year 2009	Coordinator	Capacity				
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Nov 17-24	Troy Stuber 309-925-2603 troystuber@verizon.net	4	Croix De Bouquets Lifeline Constr/Medical	Feb 9-16	Neil Bahler 815-692-2370 nbahler@gmail.com	12
Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Dec 4-11	Ted Habegger 260-694-6765 tjh@citiznet.com	12	Haiti Palm Grove Construction	Feb 12-20	John Aberle 785-459-2423 jraberle@hotmail.com	
Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Dec 4-11	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	4	Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Feb 22-Mar 1	Randy Kieser 309-695-6340 kieser84@geckcoct.com	12
Les Cayes MEBSH Haiti Support	Dec 11-14	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	Invitation	Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Mar 3-12	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	4
Project	Year 2010	Coordinator	Capacity				
Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Jan 8-15	Ron Palitto 330-336-5373 Ronp@palittoconsulting.com	12	Les Cayes FRW Simone Orphanage	Mar 12-19	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	12
Haiti Palm Grove Construction	Jan 15-23	John Aberle 785-459-2423 jraberle@hotmail.com	12	Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Mar 19-26	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	12
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Jan 22-29	Troy Stuber 309-925-2603 troystuber@verizon.net	4	Les Cayes MEBSH Haiti Support	Mar 26-29	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	12
La Higuera - D/R Lifeline Construction	Jan 26-Feb 2	Jim Koehl 309-377-3201 jmkoehl@yahoo.com	12	Les Cayes MEBSH Maintenance	Mar 26-Apr 2	Jon Zeller 309-266-9009 jzeller@mtco.com	12
Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Jan 29-Feb 5	Dean Pashak 989-662-7685 dwpashak@charter.net	12	Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Apr 23-30	Troy Stuber 309-925-2603 troystuber@verizon.net	4
La Romana - D/R Lifeline Construction	Feb 2-9	Ted Steidinger 815-867-6452 tsteid@route24.net	12	Les Cayes MEBSH Medical	May 7-14	Keith Knepp 309-467-4691 kknepp@mchsi.com	8
Les Cayes SEED Agriculture Aid	Feb 5-12	Dale Frank 319-766-3661 dtfrank@louisacomm.net	12	Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Jun 4-11	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 topnotch@home.ffni.com	4

### 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 August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 -[www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/)

Project	Year 2010	Coordinator	Capacity				
Kingston School CCCD	Jan 2 - 9	Roger Stoller 309-747-3228 rstoller@gridcom.net	40	Jamaica Deaf Village CCCD	Jun 11 - 19	Ted Hirstein 309-266-8769 hirstein@mtco.com	40
Kingston School CCCD	Mar 20 - 27	Roger Stoller 309-747-3228 rstoller@gridcom.net	40				

**MEXICO**

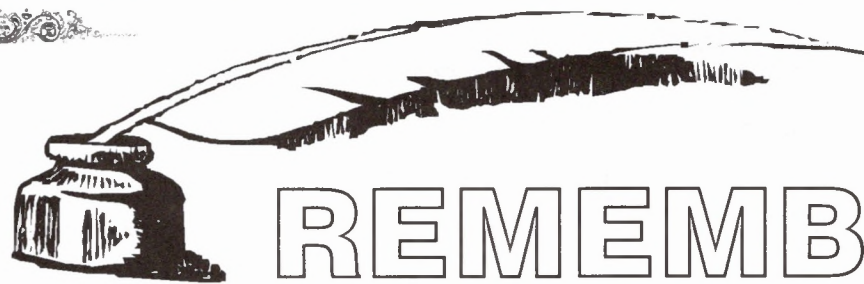
If anyone is interested in leading a team to Mexico, contact Bro. Mike Fiechter at 260-597-7330 or [mfiechter@onlyinternet.net](mailto:mfiechter@onlyinternet.net)  
Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 -[www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/)

Location	Year 2009	Coordinator				
Juarez Medical	Sep 16-23	Cheryl Herrmann cherrmann@verizon.net		Magdalena Construction	Nov 21-28	Rod Schmidt 303-774-7913 rschmidt@Acosta.com
Zacatecas, MX Medical	Oct 14-21	Cheryl Herrmann cherrmann@verizon.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*

*The following remarks are part of a two-part series listing the reasons to be thankful for the Apostolic Christian Church.*

### **I am Thankful for the Apostolic Christian Church Because:**

— Congregational singing is practiced, rather than just by those who have the most talent or the most beautiful voices. The *Zion's Harp* hymns have a deep spiritual meaning that reflect the faith of those who wrote them. The hymns are a source of inspiration that encourages us to greater faithfulness.

— Our sisters wear a modest head covering, are in subjection to their husbands or fathers, and are silent in church.

— We recognize the power of Satan and that he is never finished trying to cause us to fall, but we know that God is all powerful and will help us defeat Satan.

— We have standards by which we live, but we leave the eternal judgment to God.

— We appreciate the name of our church, Apostle-like, Christ-like. We follow Christ

and the Apostles.

— Sermons are for instruction, encouragement, and admonition rather than for entertainment.

— Elders, ministers, and Sunday School teachers and others who serve the church are chosen from the congregation.

— Our simple faith has been preserved over the years by faithful brethren who were willing to sacrifice all for the benefit of others who would come after them — including us.

— We believe our faith (and practice) is precious and worth preserving.

— Elders and ministers do not require more of the brethren than they are willing to do themselves.

— We are taught the standards of godly headship. Brothers are the spiritual leaders of the home and of the church. Humble submission and accountability to church leadership and to all the brotherhood helps to preserve the faith.

—*Author Unknown*—

### **Copies Available**

Copies of this writing will be printed into a one-page handout for distribution. They are available free of charge. To order as many copies as you want please write to: Remembering, P. O. Box 404, Pontiac, Illinois.

### **Special Request**

In the last issue, the Remembering Column asked for historical articles to be sent for inclusion in the Silver Lining. This is another request, and we offer special thanks for those of you who have responded. We are again hoping you will take the time to scan your closets, bookcases, and other storage areas for appropriate historical items relating to our faith and church. In addition to possibly mailing items to us, you may fax them to 815- 842-3027, or email them to [perry@gridcom.net](mailto:perry@gridcom.net).

*By Perry A. Klopfenstein*

### **Next Issue:**

Newspaper article about our Akron, Ohio, congregation

# The Light Of Hope

## “The Beauty Of Holiness”

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

“Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.” These words are written in one of David’s psalms as recorded in I Chronicles 16:29, and repeated in Psalms 29:2 and 96:9, the latter possibly having been written by Moses. Both David and Moses were guilty of murder at some time in their lives and they seem to be unlikely candidates to be exhorting others to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. They must have had the assurance of complete forgiveness and cleansing in order to write that. I believe they had that assurance. We must remember that Moses appeared with Christ and Elijah on the mount of transfiguration, an indication of complete forgiveness.

The word “beauty” brings to our minds something visual, something we see with our eyes. Generally speaking, women like to be beautiful and men like to be handsome, attractive to look upon. I Peter 3:4, however, teaches us that adornment or beauty should be, “The hidden man of the heart.” The Apostle Peter here purposely uses the word “hidden” to negate the idea that something beautiful is visual. There is a hidden, non-visual beauty, too, which I believe applies in the exhortation to worship the Lord in the

beauty of holiness. However, it is not all hidden. The way we dress and adorn ourselves is indicative of what is within us, the condition of the heart.

The word “holiness” certainly challenges us to, by God’s grace, live pure and holy lives, but even with our best efforts, we may fall short sometimes. Hebrews 12:10 reads, “That we might be partakers of his holiness.” This teaches us that there is another dimension of holiness, that Christ’s holiness is shared with us. We are partakers or recipients of His holiness. This aspect of holiness is visual to God but not to man, except by the way we speak, adorn and conduct ourselves. I Timothy 2:9 exhorts women to adorn themselves in modest apparel, and I believe the same holds true for men. It’s the apparel, or lack of it, that causes so much trouble and heartache.

The word “worship” indicates that we are in submission. We realize that we are much lower than the One we worship. We must submit ourselves one to another, so long as that submission is not contrary to what is taught in the Bible. James 4:7 tells us of another submission, which is the most important. It reads, “Submit yourselves therefore to God.”

In order to worship God in

the beauty of holiness we must recommit ourselves to God. We do believe in the living Creator God. The creation, including human beings, did not just happen to fall into place. We do believe that Jesus Christ is God’s Son, that He died for us and arose again, and that we are able to live holy lives if we avail ourselves of the grace offered to us.

We should remember that true worship is more than just going to church. We should have a mind to honor and worship God. Romans 1:25 tells of some who, “worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator.” In the world as a whole, people want to worship something or somebody they can see. That’s why the children of Israel made themselves a golden calf. That’s why in Kamakura, Japan, there is a giant statue of Buddha. We are called upon to worship Him whom we cannot see with our eyes. Let us be careful not to begin to worship the creature, the created, more than the Creator. And let us strive to be holy as He is holy.

There are many things we do not know or understand but one thing we do know is holiness is beautiful.

希望の光

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*The voice said, Cry.  
And he said, What shall I cry?  
All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness  
thereof is as the flower of the field:  
The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:  
because the spirit of the Lord  
bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass.  
The grass withereth, the flower fadeth:  
but the word of our God shall stand for ever.*

*Isaiah 40:6-8*

