

# *The Silver Lining*

*And another angel came out of the temple,  
crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud,  
Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap;  
for the harvest of the earth is ripe.*

*October 2010*

Sermon by Bro. Bill Masters, Fort Myers, FL

## II Samuel 7:1-17 and St. Luke 21:29-38

As we stand here before you, especially when we are sitting down there, we walk up and we have a couple of prayers before we approach God's Word. It is a weak feeling to be here. A weak feeling. Weak in the fact that we are to take God's Word, to read and then to meditate thereon. Yet this morning we were reminded through the Word that we are to have faith to trust in God, that He will provide. But then we come back to this age old thing. We are but man. Weak man.

I always say, as we look into God's Word, it is there to teach us, to instruct us as we walk through life. When we take a journey, especially if it is someplace we have not been before, we are either going to look at a map, we are going to call somebody or find directions, aren't we?

We are just journeying here, aren't we? Pilgrims. We might journey for sixty, seventy, eighty, ninety years. Who knows? We might only journey for twenty or thirty. But we need guidance. We need that help as brothers and sisters in faith. Because we are faced with many obstacles every turn in life.

I say it is so wonderful to be here today, as it is on Wednesdays and any Sunday. This great fellowship, this love one for another that we have. But at the end of the service we have to leave, don't we? We have to go home. Go to your condo, wherever it is. And we have a week then to journey. I always said that is why it is so nice on Wednesday evening to get together again. Because we can be recharged. Refortified in the Word. But here again, Wednesday evening after church we are back out there again, aren't we? That is how life is.

That is the other reason that our fellowship is so great. That's why when we see brothers and sisters in faith as we are journeying Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before church, and we see someone out - it might be at the mall, which seems to be the big gathering place, down here in the south anyhow, or wherever it might be that we are doing something, it could be at the park or wherever - but we see a brother or sister in faith and we go over and we visit and we will share, won't we, that kinship that we have. That family that we are a part of. It just strengthens us on our journey.

We have an adversary in our journey. We've talked about it so many times. I think the Bible talks about it, not in a great depth. It is not there in front of us in every page that we go to. But we know that we have an adversary - Satan. That's

why it is tough through the week. It's because he is there to deceive us. That's why we need this guidance.

I had to think, as Brother Tom was preaching this morning, back in the Old Testament, where Moses laid out what God had told him about offering a sacrifice and all of the sacrifices that they were to offer and the certain times and how they were to do it - that was His plan at that time for the children, those chosen Israelite people to do in obedience to God. It was to be from their heart. It is the same way with us today. Even though we live in the new dispensation of grace - the Messiah has come, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior - we still have to live for Him in our heart. That is why we have this great fellowship.

II Samuel 7 is a very familiar piece of Scripture, isn't it? I think David often marveled at his destiny in life. The Bible records that he was a man after God's heart (Acts 13:22). We can see this here. David had a heart to build a house for God. He says, I have a house to live in yet our great God has no house (II Samuel 7:2).

To me it is interesting, as we were reading this, he was talking to Nathan, a great prophet. Listen to what David was saying. What does he do? David says, I want to build this house for the Lord and Nathan says, do it (II Samuel 7:3). But what happened? That night Nathan went home and God talked to him and told him, no, David shouldn't build this house (v.4,5). Told him that his son would build the house and he needed to go back and tell David this (v.13,17).

So often I come back to that in the Scripture. I think so often, as we walk through life, I don't know how you are, but sometimes someone will ask me something or there is some decision I have to make. I always say I don't like to make a decision on the spur of the moment. I prefer to have some time to think about it. Maybe one of the reasons is - and I have never really put it to this Scripture but - so often it is so easy to say, sure. Go ahead. This is what I am going to do. That is what Nathan did for David. He, in essence, said yes. Go ahead and build our great God a house. But God had to come to him and talk to him and explain to him that, no, I don't want David to build this house because he has been a man of war and he has shed a lot of blood.

We can look at that and we could question it in our own mind and say, wait a

*Sermon continued on page 40*

### Cover Verses

Front: Revelation 14:15

Back: Matthew 6:26

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“...upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”  
(Matt 16:18)

## Light From The Word



Writings based  
on God's Word

October 2010

### Who Are We?

God has preserved a living faith and doctrine through His grace and acts of providence over centuries of time. It is our sincere hope that a greater appreciation of God's faithfulness and a better understanding of our particular spiritual heritage will bring increased gratitude for our high calling. This can help shield us against the influence of unsound doctrine.

Three basic, uncompromising teachings of Christ help define the doctrine of His true church. The first defining doctrine is belief in a true spiritual rebirth as Jesus taught Nicodemus, “*Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God*” (John 3:5). Our first birth produces the sinful nature of Adam in all our lives. “*Behold I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me*” (Psa. 51:5). A new spiritual birth is necessary so that the old man is crucified and we no longer serve sin (Rom. 6:6). This new birth is made possible by grace through faith in Christ's shed blood, which results in repentance, conversion, baptism of faith (Acts 2:38) and Christ dwelling in us (Gal. 2:20).

The second defining doctrine is a change in behavior as we become a “new creature” in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17) through the miracle of conversion. We become renewed in the spirit of our mind and put on righteousness and true holiness (Eph. 4:23-24). Good works based on the fruit of the Spirit and Christ-like love exemplify our renewed nature (Gal. 5:22-23; 1 Cor. 13). The early believers demonstrated this love by returning good for evil, even when under heavy persecution. They did not bear arms or go to war because they loved their fellow man. They enjoyed a unique and precious spiritual fellowship based on true Christ-like love.

Christ and the Apostles consistently taught the third defining doctrine of separation from and nonconformity to the world. Jesus said of His followers, “*They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world*” (John 17:16). The Apostle John taught, “*Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him*” (1 John 2:15). The world can be defined as human life and society without God.

With the initial rise of Christianity in the first century, Satan tried various tactics in

his battle against the church. First, he brought persecution upon the new church to destroy it outright, but instead the church flourished and increased. As believers scattered, they preached and lived the Word wherever they went (Acts 8:4). About 300 years after the death of Christ, the Roman Emperor Constantine was moved to halt the persecution and promote Christianity as the religion of the empire. While this brought a welcome relief to persecuted believers, the new edict involved the mixing of Christianity with pagan religions. The officially recognized “church” lost its distinction and became corrupted by the world. Separation of church and state was not an option, because a common religious loyalty bound all together. The introduction of child baptism facilitated this homogeneous society, for everyone was to become a member of the state church at birth. For centuries, the Bible was kept unavailable to the common man. As the religion and commandments of men increased in emphasis, the light of truth diminished, and the flame of true love flickered and grew dim as the church entered the Dark Ages.

Even in such difficult times, a remnant of the true faith remained, and Satan changed tactics once again. In a subtle maneuver, he offered the choice of embracing a partially “reformed” church or persecution and possibly death as a heretic. The Reformation did place emphasis on the authority of Scriptures, justification by faith and the value of serving others, and it helped define the priesthood of all believers. However, some believers quickly realized that the Reformation only partially addressed the doctrinal errors of the state church.

One notable example of standing firmly on the counsel of God's Word was the Schleithem Confession, in which a group of Swiss believers responded to seven major errors of the state church. Baptism of faith was reserved for those who had consciously repented and experienced a true spiritual rebirth; church discipline was applied to erring members; closed communion was practiced; separation from the world was enjoined; sound church leadership was sought from within the congregation; they refused to bear arms against their fellow man; and they abstained from swearing of oaths. Many of the reformers considered these true believers as heretics and persecuted them ruthlessly.

A group of these believers became known as Anabaptists, or New Baptists, mainly because of their strong belief in adult baptism based on faith. Their doctrinal motto was “*Sola Scriptura*,” which meant that the Scriptures alone formed the foundation of doctrine and life. This movement, along with other means used by the Holy Spirit, influenced Samuel Froehlich, a young seminary student in Switzerland. After his conversion, the Lord blessed his ministry and in 35 years a fellowship of believers (church) had grown to about 110 congregations in several European countries. This church spread to America in 1847 where we know it as the Apostolic Christian Church of America. The Apostolic Christian church has continued over the years to seek diligently to follow the whole inerrant counsel of God.

History reveals that many individuals and churches lost their way when they left the defining doctrines of Christ. Some groups became friends with the world in doctrine and life style and became a nominal church. The Word tells us clearly “*...the friendship of the world is enmity with God...*” (Jam. 4:4). On the other hand, some focused too much on themselves and quenched the Spirit of true love. Christ warned the church of Ephesus that though they were sound in doctrine, they had “*left their first love*” and were in need of repentance (Rev. 2:2, 5).

God has been faithful in preserving a living faith for all remnants of faithful believers that truly love Him, “*...the LORD thy God, He is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments...*” (Deut. 7:9). We pray that our children will follow this heritage of faithfulness and experience the wonderful works of God. “*That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children: That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments*” (Psa. 78:6, 7). Through God's grace and mercy, we can answer the question, “Who are we?” with the same identity expressed in last month's article: “I am a believer and follower of Jesus Christ.”

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](mailto: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

### Mexico Update

#### Ixtlan grade school grows

Take 15 first graders and 12 second graders and what do you get? If you add, you come up with a total of 27 students. While this figure is accurate numerically, it falls short experientially. To really understand the effects of increasing from 8 total students last year to 27 students this year, it would be more accurate to multiply 15 and 12! That's what it feels like!

People in the community were hesitant about the school when it started, but their confidence increased after hearing and seeing positive results in the students during the first year. As they say in Mexico, "Gracias a Dios" ("Thanks to God"), and thanks to the generosity of our American brethren, the school is growing. The work is God's, and if anything good is accomplished in the lives of the students, the credit is His.

The work with the school hasn't been without challenges. It has proven difficult to find qualified teachers, a challenge we'll constantly face. Yet the uncertainty has provided an opportunity to trust God, cry out to Him, and watch in gratitude as He provides.

The true mission of the school is twofold. First, to provide quality education for the students. The second part of the mission is to gently, consistently, and patiently expose students and families to Jesus Christ, the living Savior who rescues sinners from bondage and transforms us into who we were meant to be. Because almost none of our children come from Christian families, we need loving wisdom to be sensitive to where they are spiri-

tually. At the same time, we need humble boldness to never compromise the truth of God's Word or water down the Gospel. There is no other hope for the world. We want to see God's will accomplished by the conversion of lost souls.

#### Churches deep in Mexico need your prayers

##### ► Ixtlan

In September, to God's praise three converts were baptized and added to His family. He has been showing our church family just how precious every believer is, how important our relationships are, and how actively Satan is trying to destroy these very things. Please pray for us as Christ prayed for Peter (Luke 22:31-32).

##### ► Barra Vieja/Lomas

Can you imagine if the only spiritual instruction you received was, at best, once a month when visitors came? The closest minister twelve hours away? The most mature believer among you baptized only a year ago? This is what life is like for the four believers in Barra Vieja/Las Lomas.

Clearly, the Holy Spirit is present with them to teach and comfort them, and He will not abandon them. But they continue to pray for God to send someone who can live among them and disciple them in the paths of the Lord. The need for a long-term couple to provide spiritual leadership is even more urgent because there are now young people (especially some of the believers' children) showing interest in the Word.

Summer VBS was held both in Barra Vieja and in Las Lomas, with roughly 100 children attending. In

Las Lomas, the children were so excited they would show up three hours early. By the time the teachers arrived, the children had already sung all the songs!

The living conditions in Barra Vieja and Las Lomas are very humble. In previous years in Las Lomas, the children and teachers gathered outside under a big Tamarind tree, as pigs and chickens occasionally ran through and added to the drama of the lesson. Some of the children brought boards or bricks to sit on; others were content to sit in the dirt. This year it was raining, but thankfully a neighbor let them use the garage. There were no chairs or tables, so the children packed together on the concrete floor. But they don't seem to mind. They are thrilled to receive anything, even a pencil, as a small prize for attendance or memory verses.

##### ► Morelia and Queretaro

In Morelia, several new women and some of their children have been attending services. About 50 children attended VBS. The need exists in both Morelia and Queretaro for brethren to move there to encourage these small groups of believers. Brothers or couples would seek to establish themselves in their neighborhoods and work places, building relationships with people and looking for opportunities to share the Gospel. By doing this, they would be participating in the Lord's work of adding to the church (Acts 2:47). Please continue to pray for laborers, Mexican and American, to go to the harvest fields.

*Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.* John 4:35



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

## Jamaica Deaf Village

We are richly blessed by the many opportunities available to us through World Relief to perform acts of service for those in need in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Although these acts of service are one of the four pillars of our precious faith, so often we find that it provides an opportunity to support the other pillars of preaching to the lost, nurturing and developing the believer, and preserving sound doctrine. In June 2010, a team of 45 brothers, sisters, and friends representing 19 of our congregations experienced the blessing of service at the Jamaica Deaf Village.

## Team center building

For the past several years, the focus of work teams visiting the Jamaica Deaf Village has been the construction of a new team center building. Currently, work teams are able to stay on site, but must take up valuable space in the dormitory areas to do so. Once the new building is completed, work teams will have a place with sleeping, eating, and fellowship areas, and thus make room to accommodate new families and residents of the village. This year, the team was able to focus on laying block on the second floor of the team center as well as more detailed duties of finishing the first floor.

## Remember the Sabbath

Although the entire week was filled with blessings, many team members found the activities of the Lord's Day to be especially uplifting. After beginning the morning with a service led by the team minister, the team had the special privilege of worshipping with the deaf. What a moving experience it is to see

God's people hearing with hearts rather than ears and praising Him with hands of praise! Although the form of communication is different, the message from the Bible is the same transforming Word needed by hearing and deaf alike.

On Sunday afternoon, the team had another unique opportunity to see a special expression of faith alive in the residents at the local infirmary. Although we might liken the infirmary to our nursing homes, the conditions are far from comparable. For those visiting for the first time, the sight of many beds arranged so closely together is heartbreaking. Teams are inspired by the faith and gratitude the residents express toward God and Jesus Christ for all they have been given. The team is able to sing songs out of the Hymns of Zion, many of which the residents join in singing from memory.

Each team member also has the opportunity to visit, pray, and read Scripture with residents. On Sunday night, the team comes together and shares the moving experiences of the day and to testify of the faith they had witnessed, a faith that might be uncommon to what many of us previously experienced. But that is precisely what we are called to by Jesus Christ.

## Spiritual growth

The theme for this year's work team was spiritual growth based on 2 Peter 3:18, *"But grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever."* It is incredible to see how the Lord is able to work in the hearts of His children when we are in a place where we can truly lay aside the weights that

beset us and be removed from the thorns of life that often seem to choke the Word and keep us from truly bearing the fruit the Lord desires. From the time we gather together at the start of the day until the time we conclude the evening activities, we enjoy rich spiritual blessings that we ordinarily do not experience back home. After both breakfast and lunch, we are able to take time to sing hymns together as well as have a Scripture reading. Each evening, a brother shares a devotion from the Word, followed by one or two of the team members who share their testimony of how the Lord has worked in their life.

Throughout the day, prayer is a central focus of the group as each team member remains focused on praying for the team, CCCD, the Jamaica Deaf Village, people back home, and a myriad of prayer requests that come to us throughout the week. At the end of the week, each team member was given an opportunity to share how the Lord had been working in their heart and how they had been called to grow spiritually. Although it was evident that the Spirit was working in each heart, the team rejoiced together over four young men who repented of their sin and began a new walk with the Lord that week in Jamaica.

As the trip came to a close and team members began departing to their home congregations, everyone gathered on the Jamaican hillside to sing *"Blest Be the Tie."* Even though we shared tearful farewells in parting, each team member returned home with their cups running over with blessings and eager to serve the Lord more faithfully in their daily walk of life.

## **APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED**

Looking back on the past year at the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped, the Lord through His church has been found faithful again. When the scripture says "great is Thy faithfulness" in Lamentations, we understand that it was a time of lamenting. While the rest of the State of Illinois laments over it's poor financial management, we have been able to experience Christ's strength being made perfect in man's weakness. In the past 12 months we have experienced the longest period without payments from the State. The State has owed the agency as much as \$3.4 million dollars. With the help of the church we have continued to meet payroll.

The Apostolic Christian Church brotherhood has stood in unity by our side in providing quality care for those who cannot provide for themselves. We believe more than ever before, the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped has been on the minds of the brethren. We can feel this through the prayers, phone-calls, volunteerism, and donations. While we are thankful that this has been a record year for donations, we see the need for contributions to cover a larger portion of the budget as a trend and not a single year solution.

Whether large concerns, such as safe quality care of residents and meeting the budget, or the smallest of matters, we ask you to keep the residents, staff, family members, counseling elders, board members, administration, and yes, even the State of Illinois, in your prayers.

## **GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME**

**Olivia Wuthrich**

God is so good! He is able to provide and comfort us with each step we take, if we let Him. It did take some time for Him to convince me of this. I am so thankful for His patience!

In November of 2009, I had started to think of a place to work, as I would be graduating that December with an Associate Degree in Office Professional. In other words, I would become an administrative assistant or secretary. In my mind, the ideal job would be as a Secretary at a hospital within about a 30-minute radius from my hometown in Central Illinois. Unfortunately, jobs were not available and it did not look like any would be opening anytime soon. God, of course, had a much bigger and better idea.

After a time of job searching, I heard an announcement at my home church asking for someone to fill an open secretary position at Gateway Woods in Leo, IN. Many of my friends commented that they had thought of me during the announcement. They gave me all sorts of encouragement to pray about the position and, if it was God's will, to give Gateway Woods my resume and application. I was hesitant at first to even think about the position, as working five hours away from my family was not ideal. I was then reminded of how God knows best. After praying hard about the decision, God gave me such an excitement about it that something had to be done. As I worked on the email cover letter and the resume that I was going to send along, I prayed that if this secretary position was God's will, that the job would be provided. I knew, and still know, that God does not give us anything that we cannot

handle with Him beside us. Once I had submitted my resume and interviewed, the hardest waiting period of my life began, but God was there as He always is. He gave me peace knowing that even if I didn't get the position that this whole process was not a loss. Not only was God teaching me patience during the wait, He was also teaching me how to step away from my comfort zone and to trust in Him. I was still nervous while waiting to hear back after my interview though. Then, once the position was offered and I realized I would be moving away from everything I knew, the butterflies hit me at full force.

I thank God for this blessing each day, to work for and with both the children and staff here at Gateway Woods. I've learned that Gateway Woods is more than just the Residential portion, or the children that reside on campus. We help many others, with God's provision and guidance, through our School, our Home-Based Services for families away from the campus, our Foster Care Program and our Adoption Program. With around 50 staff members total, this organization is much bigger than I had ever thought it to be.

We thank you for your prayers and support!

### **NEWS:**

- Thank you to all who joined us for our annual buffet breakfast at the Grabill Fair this year. We were blessed with just over \$6,000 and also enjoyed a great time serving together as a staff and building relationships with the local community. Praise God for His blessings!

- Gateway Woods welcomed two new residents to campus this past month. Please pray with us as these two boys become accustomed to their new homes in the Maple and Cypress Houses. It can be difficult for new residents as they experience a very

different living situation than that which they have experienced at home.

- It was a sad day for many on campus as we said goodbye to Sis. Chalise Steffen. Sis. Chalise has decided to move back to Illinois and pursue new opportunities. We are very thankful for her years of service here at Gateway Woods as an Assistant House Parent and we wish her well and offer our support in her new ventures.

- We are very thankful that God continues to provide us with the right Staff. We currently have one career position for IL Adoption Manager open at Gateway Woods. 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!

- 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) and our Facebook page at [facebook.com/gatewaywoods](http://facebook.com/gatewaywoods) often for updates, and make sure that you are 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  
Cassie Bertsch**

There has been much excitement here at the preschool, including tornado drills, fire drills, birthday cupcakes, and .....more hot weather (still in the 90s)! A birthday is a BIG DEAL when you are turning 4, and

we like to celebrate by having a little party with candles and cupcakes. When it's all over, there is frosting and crumbs everywhere....especially all over little faces and up little noses and even one child with some on her eyelash!

After practicing our fire and tornado drills, the children were very curious about these "tornados". The kids could not quite hear the difference between "tornado" and "tomato". I had a very difficult time explaining that tornados were very DIFFERENT than tomatoes! By the end of the day, I finally had them understanding that flying tomatoes would be far less dangerous than tornados.

Speaking of the weather, one day we were playing outside, and one little boy looked up and asked, "Miss Cassie, what are those white things?" I told him they were clouds, which thus began a five minute conversation about what comes from clouds. We established that rain and snow comes from clouds, but then it got interesting. He decided that bicycles, hot dogs, and caterpillars also came from the clouds. Then, an eaves-dropping little girl made the most astounding declaration of all, "AND BABIES TOO!" I finally admitted my defeat: there is only so much a preschool teacher can teach 3 year old children.

The school year is now in full swing with a new letter to learn every week. We've already covered A, B, C, and now D. We've made crafts of astronauts, apples, alligators, butterflies, baskets, bears, camels, cookies, candies, dinosaurs, donuts, and ducks. Our kids really enjoyed making (and eating) the cookies! We also learned about creation, Abraham, and Isaac with a great verse to learn each week. A favorite this month comes from Proverbs 20:11 and is good

for even the oldest of us to think about: "Even a child is known by his doings."

Two teaching positions are available. If you think you might be interested, or if you have any questions, please contact Bro. Mike Moore (256)729-0620 - home, (256)777-3390 - cell, or [ALM38@aol.com](mailto:ALM38@aol.com).

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**ALABAMA, ATHENS**

**Louise Hall**

This month has been a blessing! We had the privilege of traveling to Bluffton, IN, for Labor Day weekend. Two van loads made the 8 hour trip to greet friends and fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ. We would like to thank all for the overwhelming hospitality and love shown to us during our visit. We have also been blessed by some visitors to Athens this month. Bro. Matthew Steffen (Princeville, IL) and his daughter, Sis. Myca Steffen, shared in sweet fellowship and a delicious potluck. We also appreciated our dear Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) coming down to help shepherd this congregation. Bro. Ken Wuethrich and his wife, Sis. Lyn (Indianapolis, IN), also gave of their time to bless us here in Athens.

We are overjoyed at the wonderful miracle of a new believer in Jesus! In such a small congregation, one soul means a lot to us and to the Lord! Bro. Kerwin and Sis. Sara Edelman's daughter, Amber Edelman, has made a beginning with our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Please join with us in praying for this dear new babe in Christ.

There has been some tragedy here as well and our hearts go out to Sis. Hazel Vibbert as her daughter, Vickie Strasser, was killed in a house fire. Please send prayers and cards to: Hazel Vibbert, c/o Penny V. Frederick, 4813 Gettysburg Rd., Knox-

ville, TN 37921. Also, Whitney Barnes was burned in a house fire with 3rd degree burns. She is the granddaughter of Sis. Ola Mae Barnes and the niece of Sis. Barbara Coulter and Sis. Louise Hall. Eric Coulter (son of Bro. David and Sis. Barbara Coulter) has also been suffering from some illness in Forthood, TX, where he is stationed in the military. In times of darkness, we are thankful to be able to turn to God's Word as our light:

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

*Psalm 119:105*

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### ARIZONA, PHOENIX

**Heather Hinrichsen**

We rejoice with the angels to learn that Steven Emch has begun the path of repentance. His parents are Bro. James and Sis. Gina Emch.

The Phoenix, Tucson and Magdalena junior and senior Bible classes traveled to San Diego for the Labor Day weekend. The Lord granted them safe travels and a wonderful time spent with the California Bible classes. Thank you to the San Diego congregation for their love and hospitality.

We keep our students in prayer as they head back to school — elementary, high school and college.

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### ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

**Denise Steidinger**

Our congregation was blessed with fellowship and ministering God's Word from Bros. Mark Wettstein (Sis. Karen, LaCrosse), Kevin Knapp (Sis. Dixie, Bloomington), Herbie Knochel (Sis. Laurie, Phoenix), Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Phoenix) and Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction). We thank them and their wives

for visiting us.

We welcome Bro. Zach Roth to our congregation from Forrest, IL, and pray God's blessings upon him.

Bro. Ed Schambach has been hospitalized this past month. Please lift him and his wife, Sis. Jenny, up in prayer. Also, Bro. Glenn Furrer had surgery recently and is recovering well. Praise God for His great love for us!

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### ARIZONA, TUCSON

**Lisa Knapp**

We're in our September routine with kids back in school, the weather starting to show signs of cooling off and we are anticipating some beautiful fall days. We have settled into the 90's for our daytime highs and hopefully seen the last of 100 degree days until next May or June. Our evenings are cool and some mornings have been almost "crisp"!

We welcomed back Sis. Is Bauer after two months away from us visiting family and friends in Illinois. We are glad to have her back and hope she feels happy to be home again.

We were visited recently by Elder Bros. Jon Kokanovich (Phoenix) and Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia). We thank them for their love and their service on the pulpit on our behalf. We always trust God will add His blessings to our appreciation!

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### CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

**Yasmin Koehl**

"Let all those that seek thee rejoice and be glad in thee: let such as love thy salvation say continually, The Lord be magnified."

*Psalm 40:16*

Our congregation rejoiced as Sisters Anne Marie and Cassandra Yen sought the Lord, found Him through

a true repentance and erected a covenant with Him in baptismal waters. We pray that all of us as brothers and sisters might always be glad in the Lord, magnify Him and show Him sincere devotion with our obedience to His Holy Word. As Jesus reminded us, if we love Him, we will keep His commandments.

It was a tremendous blessing to have the assistance of Elder Bro. Dave Graf (Sis. Barb, Akron, OH) join us for this glorious occasion. We appreciated his immense love for the Lord, the brethren, the heritage of our faith and the encouragement He gave us all through the Word that was shared. We pray the Lord's richest blessings and an extra measure of grace upon him and our dear Elder Bro. Peter for their efforts throughout the weekend as they bear the responsibilities the Lord has placed on their shoulders and look unto the Lord for guidance to hold fast unto sound doctrine so many more can find a true repentance.

We were happy with Bro. Jim and Sis. Hildy Koehl as they thanked God for a new granddaughter, Anya Joy, born to thankful parents, Bro. Corbin and Sis. Stacey Fehr, of Morris, MN. We are appreciative for the blessings God gives us in little precious packages of joy.

With joy and thankfulness we praise God that Lizzy Fulop (Bro. Denes and Sis. Joy) has turned to the Lord in repentance. May she grow in grace and truth and feel the prayers of those lifting her up.

We were thankful for visiting ministers amongst us. Bros. Justin Moser (Sis. Robin, Altadena, CA), Keith Hinrichsen (Sis. Tammy, Phoenix, AZ) and Joe Klotzle (Sis. Sue, Altadena, CA) served us from our pulpit.

Our Sunday School classes commenced with the company of four dif-



ferent Bible classes as we hosted the students from our closest neighboring churches. We deeply thank our Sunday school superintendent, Bro. Doug Brewer, and his wife, Sis. Janelle, for their many efforts and labors of love on our Sunday school's behalf. We also would like to extend our thanks to Sis. Maggie Bozzay as she will be teaching our youngest children. Our prayers are with our three teachers, Bro. Doug, Sis. Maggie and Sis. Janelle. We pray the Lord will be their great Rewarder as they plant the seeds of Christ's love in tender hearts.

Our hearts were saddened as Sis. Pearl Bozzay received news that her sister in Hungary passed away. We continue to keep Sis. Pearl and her family in our prayers during this time of loss.

"And now, Lord, what wait I for?  
My hope is in thee."

*Psalm 39:7*

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### **KITCHENER, ONTARIO CANADA**

#### **Johanna Fortenbacher**

Bro. John and Sis. Liz Kralt and their daughter Shelby are very thankful to have a new baby, Chloe Elizabeth, born on September 10. Her grandparents are Jerry and Nellie Kralt and Brian and Sandi Klassen from B.C. Chloe can be thankful that she is starting her life in a loving Christian home.

Sis. Eva Toth and Bro. Doug Bradle announced their wedding engagement on September 12. Her parents are Sis. Maria Toth from Kitchener and Zoltan Toth from Serbia. His parents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Ila Bradle from Eureka. They are planning to complete all paperwork before their marriage, so we pray that all will go smoothly. God bless you two as you grow in love for each

other.

Ministers that came this month were: Bro. Dan and Sis. Dianne Stoller (Rockville), Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Rassi (Tremont), Bro. Lenard and Sis. Charlotte Meyer (Chicago), Bro. Tim and Sis. Joni Ramsier (Rittman) and Bro. Todd and Sis. Lydia Graf (Akron). We appreciate your sermons and are very thankful you came to Kitchener.

"I will bless the Lord at all times:  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth. My soul shall make her boast in the LORD: the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad."

*Psalm 34:1-2*

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### **COLORADO, DENVER Lily Zarkovacki**

My broken body thus I give  
For you, for all; take, eat, and live:  
And oft the sacred rite renew  
That brings My wondrous love to  
view.

*Gospel Hymns, #606, vs. 3*

We appreciate the efforts of Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS) in assisting our Elder Bro. Mike Leman in sharing of Holy Communion. What a blessing it is to be reminded of the sacrifice our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ made for us!

We are also thankful for visiting Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI). We pray that God would bless him for sharing the truth.

In days of youth seek ye the Lord,  
His love and truth with one accord,  
Go offer Him thy youthful days  
and walk within the Saviour's ways.  
Go offer Him thy youthful days  
and walk within the Saviour's ways.

*Hymns of Zion #135, vs. 1*

What a true blessing it was for the Denver Bible class to host 34 chil-

dren and parents from Kansas for the annual Kansas-Colorado Bible Class youth fellowship gathering on the weekend of August 28-29. We held the retreat at Frontier Ranch in Buena Vista. Our theme was "Dare to Make your Life Count". Our thanks to our guest speaker, Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL), for encouraging our teenagers to stand up for what's right!

We hope that the friendships that were made will continue.

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### **CONNECTICUT ROCKVILLE Laura Virkler Bonnie Bahler**

Fall in New England is here, and it seems new every year to see the changes in the landscape. The harvest is in, and the hills are beginning to show patches of bright color. It is certainly a beautiful time of year, and thankfully brings visitors to us! No matter what the reason is, fellowship with our brethren from other places across the land is a welcome delight.

Visiting Elder Bros. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) and Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) spent a blessed weekend with us this month. We also had the privilege to fellowship with ministering Bro. Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis, MO) on a Sunday this month, and Bro. Don Sinn (Sis. Linda, Silverton, OR) on a Wednesday evening. It is so appreciated when brethren make the effort to be with us when they travel in our area. May each of these brothers feel the blessing of the Lord in their labors.

"Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband."

*Ephesians 5:33*

Bro. Louis Lipton and Sis. Deborah Hoffman were united in marriage the weekend of September 19. Their parents are Jeff and Joanne Lipton and Bro. Mark and Sis. Luella Hoffman. We wish a special blessing on these family circles as they are blended together.

Another couple will be taking this step of faith in the coming weeks, Lord willing. The engagement of Bro. Duane Zahner and Sis. Beth Wagenbach was announced to the congregation. Parents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Sally Zahner and Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary Wagenbach. May the Lord richly bless them as they look forward to a life together in Him.

Bro. Walt Limberger (Sis. Charlotte) was recently hospitalized, and we pray that God would continue to heal and restore for those who have not been well.

“And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you”

*1 Thessalonians 3:12*

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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WASHINGTON  
Henrietta Meyer**

Our caretakers for August were Bro. Don and Sis. Lorna Schrock from Morton, IL. We are booking church caretakers for 2011, and have these months available: January, February, May, June, September, October, November and December. If you have a desire to support our small church in this way, please contact Sis. Doreen Steffen for more information at [atdksteffen@gmail.com](mailto:atdksteffen@gmail.com) or 301-681-1502. We have been richly blessed by our caretakers over the past four years, and we look forward to getting to know and fellowshiping with more in the coming

year. We also encourage past caretakers to come again!

Without a resident minister, we are always thankful for ministers and their families traveling the many miles to serve us. Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA), Elder Bro. Duane Rocke (accompanied by his daughter, Allison, Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Dave Zehr (Sis. Vicki, Gridley, IL) and Bro. Jeff Grimm (Sis. Ruth, Goodfield, IL). Other visitors were from Rockville, CT, and Morton, IL.

The weather has cooled down, the crowds are smaller and the trees will soon be turning, all good reasons to visit the nation's capital, plus your attendance would be a blessing to our small congregation.

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.

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**FLORIDA  
FORT LAUDERDALE  
Renee Mangold**

We were thankful to have visiting ministers: Bro. Bill Masters (Sis. Mary, N. Ft. Myers, FL), Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL) and Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Sis. Stephanie, Smithville, OH). We pray for God's blessings on His servants.

September brings a back to school time for the children and we pray that God will be with them and watch over them during the coming school year. Whether here in Ft. Lauderdale or around the country, wherever Christian parents are prayerfully sending their children and young adults back into the world, many prayers follow them

each day along the way.

We have been fortunate not to have experienced any major storms this season and are thankful that once again, we have enjoyed a beautiful summer. As the year turns we realize how fleeting time is and even here where our seasons are marked differently, the passing of time is a testament to the eternity that awaits. We are grateful for the reminders that come to us as we experience life and appreciate it.

Most of the vacations of our local brethren seem to be past, and so we are looking forward to our winter residents returning and renewing our fellowship with them.

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**FLORIDA  
NORTH FORT MYERS  
Victor Beer**

We've been blessed at the end of the summer to have some of our property owners being with us while they refurbish their properties, before they come down for the winter. With a report of some of our folks up north being on the sick list and being hospitalized, we are all called to be in prayer for them. We do assure them of that.

With fall coming on us, we look forward to many visiting us soon. Our Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni) blessed us with their visit to share the Word with us, which we always appreciate. During his visit, we discussed how some recent possibilities for service have surfaced here at Fort Myers. With the warm winter weather, the beaches, etc., we sometimes overlook the personal and private needs of the poverty around us. It looks at this time that God is finding avenues of service for us and also many who want to be used for His service.

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**FLORIDA, SARASOTA****Kim Ott**

“He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young.”

*Isaiah 40:11*

On September 12, our Sarasota congregation held an Elder ordination for our Bro. Jeff Streitmatter. Assisting in this special service were Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL), John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington, IL) and retired Elder Bro. Ben Maibach. Other visiting ministers with us on this day included: Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago, IL), Bro. Roger Sauder (Sis. Judy, Fort Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH), and Bro. Marvin Steffen (Sis. Rhea, North Fort Myers, FL). Following the service, a delicious dinner was lovingly prepared for all to enjoy. Once the dinner was completed, the church presented Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann with a gift of a shepherd's staff in thankfulness for all of the years he has shepherded our flock. A staff was also presented to Elder Bro. Jeff Streitmatter as a symbolic reminder of the leadership responsibility of our congregation. With thankful hearts we pray a special blessing on the Elders and ministers who assisted in carrying out this important ordination. Also, many heart-felt thanks to all who so beautifully prepared the fellowship hall and dinner, to the children who sang, and the many loved ones that helped in preparing and serving the meal. The outpouring of love from the Church is truly a witness of servant hearts.

As the days grow shorter and the

weather cools down, we look forward to the return of our seasonal residents. We pray for their safe travels as they soon will join us once again for the winter months.

**GEORGIA, ATLANTA**

On September 26, our church was filled to capacity and very blessed to witness the Elder ordination of Bro. Tom Waldbeser. Bro. Tom, along with his wife, Sis. Sue, and children, Drew, Elise, Sheree, Ashlyn, and Wynn, received much encouragement. They continue to request prayers on their behalf. Assisting Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) in the work were Elder Bros. Dan Kilgus (Remington, IN) and John Laukhuf (Latty, OH). Also present were retired Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Elder Bro. Jeff Streitmatter III (Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Neal Widmer (West Lafayette, IN). It was a great blessing to have each of these brothers' and their wives' support.

Bro. Jerry Bauman, along with his dear wife and daughters (Rittman, OH), served us in the ministry on September 12. We always enjoy having them stop to visit Bro. Jerry's sister, Sis. Peggy Camp and family!

**ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE****Doreen Moser  
Shayla Steffen**

“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.”

*Psalms 18:2*

*The Lord is my Rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer...*

Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin, IA) brought forth the solid unchanging Word of the Lord this month. We were reminded Who is our rock, where our fortress is and Who has delivered us from sin.

*My God, my strength, in whom I will trust...*

As we again gather together to listen to the Conference tapes, the way is clearly marked by the Word of the Lord. The only way we will obtain our heavenly home is by trusting our Lord each step of the way in good times and in the trials that come our way. By our own strength we can do nothing, but with the Lord's help each step is possible.

*My buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower...*

Our Bible class invited the Chicago and Elgin Sunday school classes to spend the day in Belvidere. Throughout the years being in Sunday school we endeavor to teach the children that the Lord is their shield and protection, their power and deliverance, their refuge and safety. There is nothing in this world that comes close to what the Lord can do for them. As teachers, we feed and water, but only the Lord can give the increase. We pray that the weekend was a blessing for all.

What else could we possibly want or need in this world? Our God has provided it all and all we need to do is trust and obey.

**ILLINOIS  
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL****Jacki Masters  
Heidi Rinkenberger**

“Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it.”

*Proverbs 16:22*

With the new school semester starting, we are always excited to meet the new students who come to the Universities in town. It is always special to see the young men and women in church and have them worship with us. We had the ISU Welcome Sunday, August 22, and were blessed to have two ministering fathers with us: Bro. David Steffen (Elgin, IL) and Bro. David Oberghel (Peoria, IL). May the students this year grow in the knowledge and wisdom of our Heavenly Father.

We were also so blessed to have Bro. Darren Plattner (Champaign, IL) and his family with us and Bro. David Marquart (Taylor, MO) and his wife this month as visiting ministers.

Bro. Rick and Sis. Shawn Masters welcomed another little girl into their family. Kenzie Olivia was born on August 12, joining other siblings, Cody, Kaitlyn, Kylie and Khloe. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Masters (Ft. Myers, FL) and Bro. Everett and Sis. Beverly Hari (Bloomington).

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

“But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.”

*1 Thessalonians 4:14-15*

Several families experienced the loss of a parent this past month. Sis. Doris Guingrich of Eureka passed away. She is the mother of Sis. Becky Pyles (Bro. Dennis). Sis. Doris' fu-

neral service and burial was here at Bradford as she was a former member here. We extend our prayers to her family and extended family. Bro. Robert Joos (Sis. Becky) and Bro. Ralph Joos (Sis. Jenny) experienced the loss of their father, Bro. Robert K. Joos (Peoria). May the Lord comfort them during this time of parting.

We rejoice with our new convert, Allaina Stoller (Bro. Nate and Sis. Sherrill), who turned her life over to the Lord this past month. We pray she will find the refreshing peace that comes when one makes a full conversion in Him.

Our hospital patient this month was Bro. Matt Elsasser (Sis. Becky). We pray that he may find strength from the Lord for a full recovery.

God be with you 'til we meet again.

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

Greetings from Champaign-Urbana! Another month full of events and news has past. Our congregation hosted a Haitian linens sale with the help of our Sisters from Cissna Park. It was a success and we are thankful to have the opportunity to help support those in Haiti. We had the opportunity to have Bro. Tim Sauder from the Leo Children's Home with us on September 19. Bro. Tim gave an informative talk on God's work that is being done for those children that are served through this ministry.

Fall brings some annual traditions for our church in Champaign. We enjoyed the Illini Grove Picnic on Wednesday evening, September 15, on the U of I campus. It gives us the opportunity to fellowship with each other on campus, where it is convenient for our students. It was a beautiful evening this year! September is

the month that our church gets it's annual deep cleaning. We all joined together for a couple of evenings of cleaning. Many hands make light work.

Sunday, September 26, was our annual "Invite-a-guest" potluck. We were excited to have such a wonderful turn out of guests from so many of our churches! We are thankful that Bro. Arlen Leman (Forrest, IL) was there for the day and was willing to be used by God from the pulpit. May God continue to bless Bro. Arlen, his family, and his ministry.

Wednesday evening, September 8, brought us Bro. Neal Widmer (West Lafayette, IN) and Bro. Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN) and we appreciate their ministry to us! May God continue use these Brothers!

We are thankful that little Trace Fehr (Bro. Tom and Sis. Sarah) is at home and is recovering nicely from his surgeries. He is beginning to make appearances and we are so thankful to meet him and are enjoying another baby in our church!

Last, but not least, we were excited to hear of the engagement of our Sis. Hannah Waibel (Bro. Brian and Sis. Wendy) to Bro. Grant Herrmann of Princeville, IL. Grant is the son of Bro. Dean and Sis. Dawn Herrmann. We wish Hannah and Grant many blessings as they put their trust in Him to direct their lives. We look forward to their January 2 wedding!

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**ILLINOIS, CHICAGO**  
**Julie Eisenmann**

As fall begins, and the leaves start changing their colors and the works of His fingertips surround us, we find ourselves wanting to worship our Heavenly Creator.

We felt the presence of God's Spirit, during Bro. Brad Eisenmann's Elder ordination, and the

blessing of many visitors. Elder Bros. Curt Frank (Lacrosse), Ron Messner (Washington), and Mark Bahr (Detroit), gave exhortations respectively to the "church and ministers", to "Sis. Cindy and their family", and to "Bro. Brad" as part of the ordination service. Then Bro. Dale Eisenmann had the ordination prayer as the four elders laid their hands on Bro. Brad's head. It was a day of tears and memories and thankfulness for God's provision for Chicago church. Bro. Dale and Sis. Judy Eisenmann have been such a blessing all these years, and we thank them for their years of faithful service and love for the church.

We were exhorted to pray earnestly for our new Elder and his family and that God's will might be done as the future unfolds. Again and again the message was preached; not to fear, but to pray and our great God will provide. Other visiting ministers with us that day included, Elder Bros. Jim Plattner (Princeville), Paul Messner (Winthrop), Dan Kilgus (Remington), Ed Schwartz (Bluff-ton), Retired Elder Bros. Phil Stettner (Bluffton North), Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Marvin Lemman (Bradford), Joe Braker (Morton), ministering Bros. Ken Eisenmann (Cissna Park), David Steffen (Elgin, IL) and David Eisenmann (Champaign). It was a wonderfully blessed day for our congregation.

We thank the Lord for our new Bro. Jay and Sis. Mallory Nicholas who gave their testimonies and were baptized at Bluffton North.

Our prayers go out to Sis. Judy Snyder and her husband Tom, as they mourn the loss of his mother. May God wrap His loving arms around them in this time of grief.

Also we are praying for Sis. Rachel Meyer as she travels to Bangladesh for the month of September. May

God provide safety for her and give her the grace to be a witness for Christ.

We want to wish Sis. Pauline Schrenk (our oldest sister) a very happy Birthday! She turned 98 this month and what a special sister she is!

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**ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**  
**Vickie Maul**  
**Marilyn Maul**

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord..."

*Psalm 127:3*

God has blessed the home of Bro. Nick and Sis. Andrea Walder with another precious little boy, Jacob Benjamin. He is welcomed home by Drew, Brett, Kayla and Clint, along with grandparents, Bro. Dennis and Sis. Sharon Walder and Bro. Fred and Sis. Joann Maul. Thankful for the safe arrival of baby Anthony James (AJ) are grandparents, Bro. Roland and Sis. Mary Anne Young. Anthony's parents are Joni and Tony Lenzini. Also thankful for a new granddaughter are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Gloria Laubscher. Sage Gloria was born to Bro. Jason and Sis. Rebekah Stoller (Washington).

Visiting us on the pulpit this month were ministering Bros. Ken Schneider (Remington), Don Sinn (Silverton), and Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington-Normal). May God bless them for their labors in our precious faith.

On July 24, Katrina Kaeb (Bro. Eric and Sis. Lou Ann) and Anthony (AJ) Nowaczyk (Ron and Kathy) were united in marriage. We wish them God's nearness in their lives together.

We look forward to the day when we will never say good-bye to those we love. We bid an earthly farewell to

our dear friend, Liz Rudin. We pray for her loved ones left behind; her husband Gary and their children, Wes and Rhonda Knight, Greg Rudin, Tim and Dawn Wright and Chris and Lynnette Rudin; 7 grandchildren; her three brothers, Bro. Wayne (Sis. Gloria) Laubscher, Bro. Walt (Sis. Sylvia) Laubscher and Ed Laubscher; and her father-in-law, Bro. Ben Rudin.

On Sunday, September 12, our Sunday school students hosted our annual Senior Citizens meal. It is always a blessing to see the young and old sharing time together. We pray our students will always remember these special times together.

Sis. Joann (Bro. Fred) Maul and Bro. Les (Sis. Dorothy) Walder have spent time in the hospital this month. May God grant grace and strength for each daily need.

*Note of Thanks:*

I want to thank everyone that remembered me after my surgery with cards, gifts, phone calls, visits and prayers. It was greatly appreciated. May God bless every one of you.

In Christian Love,  
*Sis. Judy Edelman*

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

The home of Bro. Kurt and Sis. Julie Schrock was blessed with a new baby boy. Corbin Lee is welcomed home by his older brothers, Josiah and Gabriel. Also thankful for his safe arrival are grandparents, Bro. Ken and Sis. Janet Schrock and Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Ellen Zimmerman.

Doug Schmidgall (Bro. Mike and Sis. Diane) and Michelle Zimmerman (Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Ellen) have announced their engagement. Bro. Arlen Edelman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Nadine, Eureka) and Sis.

Marissa Schieber (Bro. Mike and Sis. Mary) have also announced their engagement. May the Lord be near to these couples and may they look to Him to be the center of their home.

Visiting ministers this past month include Bro. Mike Ursu (Sis. Barb, Kitchener), Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Lisa, Eureka), and Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sis. Linda, Sardis). May God bless them for bringing us God's Word this past month.

Bro. Bill Dietrich (Sis. Sherri) fell and had a head injury. We are thankful that he has recovered nicely.

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### ILLINOIS, ELGIN

**Amy Gasser  
Miriam Gasser**

We thank Bro. Ron Joos (Bloomfield, IA) for reading and expounding upon God's Word, when he and Sis. Christy were in Elgin on August 22.

Sis. Erika Furj had a knee replacement in late August. She is recovering well and was encouraged by the many cards, visits, and prayers. We hope to see her back in church soon.

Our sympathy is extended to Roger and Mary Kay Smithberg's family in the loss of Roger's grandfather, La Verne "Gene" Funk. He passed away September 14 at the Asta Care Center in Elgin.

The Sunday School's annual Pancake Breakfast was prepared and served at the Fellowship Center on September 18. The teachers and students appreciated those who showed their support by attending and donating toward the cost of ACYF buses and other Sunday School expenses.

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### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Dee Baer  
Jodi Blunier**

God has moved the hearts of Bro.

Doug Bradle (Bro. Roger and Sis. Ila) and Sis. Eva Toth (Zoltan and Sis. Maria, Kitchener, ON) to announce their engagement.

Joined in Holy Matrimony were Bro. Todd Fehr (Bro. Ken and Sis. Sandy) to Sis. Kandi Carr (Glen and Sis. Becky Bauman); and Bro. Colin Knapp (Bro. Steve and Sis. Lori) to Sis. Kyla Edelman (Bro. Keith and Sis. Nadine). Blest be the tie that binds.

Two baby boys blessed our congregation. Caleb Roy joined Bro. Jared, Sis. Marsha and Laura Ehnle. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Carol Ehnle and Bro. Stan and Sis. Lola Stoller. Justin Matthew was added to the family of Bro. Matt and Sis. Nancy, Jennifer, Jessica, James and Jodi Rocke. Grandparents are Bro. Merle and Sis. Bev Rocke and Bro. Bill and Sis. Sharon Dotterer (Lamar, MO).

Prayers for the sick include Bro. Maurice Crawford (Sis. Joyce), Bro. Earl Zimmerman (Sis. Elsie) and Sis. Donna Wettstein.

Sis. Elsie Zimmerman (Bro. Earl) sorrows the loss of her sister, Mary Pfeiffer, of Morton.

Sis. Doris Guingrich was kindly taken from life. Left to mourn her passing are her children, Sis. Carol Hohulin (Bro. Harold, Goodfield), Sis. Judy Cottrell (Eureka), Sis. Becky Pyles (Bro. Dennis, Bradford), Bro. Wayne (Peoria), David (Peoria), John (Gwen, Chillicothe), Norman (Cheryl, Chillicothe) and Daniel (Sandy, Indianapolis, IN). Also surviving are two sisters, Sis. Bena Mae Rocke (Eureka) and Sis. Lois Descarpentrie (Roanoke), and a brother, Bro. Bill Fehr (Roanoke). Her husband, Bro. Ed, preceded her in death, as well as two sons, Bro. Richard and Larry, and three brothers. Her services were held at the Bradford church, where she previ-

ously attended.

We are thankful for the labors of visiting ministers, Bro. Randy Beer (Milford, IN), Bro. Ron Isch (Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Greg Braker (Lamar, MO), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury), Bro. Jeff Grimm (Goodfield) and Bro. Kerwin Edelman (Athens, AL).

#### *Note of Thanks:*

I would to thank all of my family, church family and friends for your prayers, cards and gifts during my surgery and time in the nursing home. May God richly bless you one and all.

*Bro. Lester (Sis. Ruth) Martin*

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### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Angela Herr  
Kay Steffen**

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord..."

*Psalm 127:3*

Bro. Joel and Sis. Amber Plattner welcomed Landon Kyle into their hearts and home on August 30. Micah and Leigha are excited to have another playmate. Thankful grandparents are Elder Bro. Rick and Sis. Mary Plattner and Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise Kilgus (Forrest, IL).

In sorrow and pain  
Thy trust do retain  
in Jesus the merciful Saviour.

*Zion's Harp #46, vs. 1*

While we rejoice with those who rejoice, we also weep with those who weep. Our prayers have been with Bro. Denver and Sis. Sharon Rassi as they grieve the loss of their baby girl who was born prematurely on August 28. We also think of grandparents, Bro. Dennis and Sis. Diane

Rassi (Austin, TX), Morris Kaeb, and Chuck and Brenda Mueller, at this time of loss.

We also extend our deepest sympathy to Bro. John and Sis. Eunice Stork and their family in the death of his brother, Donald Stork (Mary), on August 28. Our thoughts and prayers are also with Bro. Ben and Sis. Marguerite Lorch in the loss of their sister-in-law, Mary Ann Lorch (John), who passed away on September 16.

Sis. Edna Feller, of our Cissna Park congregation, resided at our Fairview Haven Nursing Home for several years and passed away on September 22. We extend our sympathy to her family as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

Joan Gaston, Sis. Esther Koehl (Dick), Bro. Rich Walter (Sis. Colleen), Arlene Farley (Charles), and William Fehr (Helen) have recently spent time in the hospital. May God's healing hand be upon each one according to His will.

Ready to go, ready to stay,  
ready my place to fill;  
ready for service, lowly or great,  
ready to do His will.

*Hymns of Zion #124*

Two sisters have been called upon to help teach our preschool classes in Sunday school. We give our support to Sis. Melanie Teubel (Bro. Ed) and Sis. Trish Steidinger (Bro. Martin) as they teach our children.

Our prayers are with Sis. Renee Slagel (Bro. Ray and Sis. Gladys) as she has felt God's direction to take a six week teaching position in Les Cayes, Haiti. May God bless her labors of love as she works in Haiti.

We appreciate each visiting minister who recently shared God's Word with us, including Bro. Tony Manz (Junction, OH), Bro. Dennis Rassi (Austin, TX), Bro. Gary

Anliker (Elgin, IL), Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), and Bro. Craig Stickling (Peoria, IL). May God bless these brothers for their willingness to be used in the Lord's service.

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**ILLINOIS, FORREST**  
**Lisa Aberle**  
**Lynn Dotterer**

"...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 2:38*

We rejoice with Caleb Kelson (Bro. Paul and Sis. Sherri) as he begins his repentance. We also rejoiced to witness the baptisms of Nathan Kuntz (Bro. Rollyn and Sis. Brenda), Jesse and Amanda Zimmerman (Bro. Kent and Sis. Paulette), and Jeana Leman (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Carol). May each one look to God for guidance and direction.

We thank Elder Bros. Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO) and Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN) for assisting with the baptism weekend. We also want to thank our other visiting ministers for their labors on our behalf. They were: Bro. Clint Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), Bro. David Eisenmann (Champaign, IL), Bro. Jacob Kuntz (Croghan- Naumburg, NY), Bro. Paul Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO), and Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA).

Bro. Mark and Sis. Natalie Schneider welcomed Ian Jesse into their family. Ian's thankful sisters and grandparents are: Allie, Kate, Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise Kilgus, and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra Schneider. Alea Kay Anliker was born to Bro. Corbin and Sis. Heidi. She is welcomed home by big sister,

Ashlyn. Alea's grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda Anliker and Bro. Tim and Sis. Charlene Hartter (Sabetha, KS). First-time parents, Bro. Ben and Sis. Susan Mueller, were blessed with a son, Bentlee John. His grandparents are Sis. Cindy Herr (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida Mueller. Mason John is the newest member of Bro. Jay, Sis. Jolene, Bailee, Jessica, Kylee, Brandon, and Tucker Mueller's family. Mason's grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Loida Mueller and John and Edna Haas.

Kyle Knapp (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Jean) and Carissa Slagel (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Kathy) exchanged wedding vows on September 11. Justin Koehl (Bro. Jim and Sis. Diane) and Shana Hetherington (Mike and Debbie Kaye Craddock) are engaged to be married.

Bro. Duane Schneider, convert Lorri Lanz (Damon), Bro. Dan Banwart, and Bro. Larry Bachman (Sis. Donna) have all spent time in the hospital this past month. May they feel our prayers.

Bro. Zach Roth has felt the Lord leading him to Prescott, AZ. We will miss Bro. Zach, and we wish him God's blessings in Prescott!

We extend our love and sympathy to Sis. Wendy Gutwein at the death of her grandmother, Sis. Edna Feller. Our Sis. Dorothy Bachtold passed away. Her children are: Roger and Shirlene, Sis. Miriam and Bro. Ben Metz (Francesville, IN), Bro. Herb and Sis. Jan, Sis. Roberta and Bro. Wayne Broquard, Sis. Gloria and Bro. Wayne Drayer, and Bro. Sam and Sis. Betty (Elgin, IL). May they feel God's nearness during this time of sorrow.

*Note of Thanks:*

Many thanks to our church family across the miles who have remem-

bered us during the illness and passing of our dear husband/father. We appreciate the notes, cards, words of encouragement, gifts, and most of all the prayers. May God bless and reward each one for reaching out to us during our time of need.

*Humbly, The Brian Ricketts family*

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## ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Donna Wyss  
Kayla Wiegand**

On September 1, we were thankful for our dear minister that was raised up from our congregation to serve us as a deacon. Our prayerful support is given to Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Sis. Peg) as they assume this new responsibility. We trust that the Holy Spirit will guide them.

“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.”

*John 3:17*

We are so thankful for our two new converts, Alex Knepp (Cassie) and Will Rokey (Bro. Ben and Sis. Shelley), as they have answered God’s call and have made a new beginning. We pray that they will feel the Lord’s presence and direction.

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord...”

*Psalms 127:3*

On September 13, Emma Lynn was born to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Janel Wiegand. Emma was welcomed home by her brother Max. Grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Kary Wiegand and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Marilyn Blunier.

Now it is accomplished! I’m no longer

mine;  
Lord, I will forever and always be  
Thine,  
For Thou hast created and purchased  
me too,  
Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou  
makest me new.  
*Zion’s Harp #209, v. 1*

On September 18 and 19 our congregation was blessed to hear and witness the testimonies and baptisms of our new Bro. Matt Grimm (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Ruth) and Bro. Matt Thornton. We were thankful to see how the Lord has worked in their lives.

Hospitalized this month was Chad Gerber (Bro. Roger and Sis. Trish). We pray for the Lord’s healing hand in his recovery.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Carol Hohulin (Bro. Harold) in the passing of her mother, Sis. Doris Guingrich (Eureka, IL).

We have been blessed with visiting ministers this month: our counseling Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL), Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL), and Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL).

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## ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

Sis. Mindy Campbell was announced to be married to Bro. Joel Stickling of Peoria. Her parents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Marcia Campbell. He is the son of Bro. Chris and Sis. Marsha Stickling (Peoria). They are planning a November 21 wedding.

Sis. Melissa Kaeb was married to Bro. Kyle Hangartner of Washington. She is the daughter of Bro. Harvey and Sis. Judy Kaeb, and his parents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Karen Hangartner of the Washington congregation. We wish them God’s grace and much happiness.

Sis. Mary Stoller was hospitalized due to a fall, and then had a stroke. Andrew Howell was hospitalized for a brain hemorrhage. He is the son of Jim and Sis. Eloise Howell.

We surely extend our sympathies to Bro. J. D. Maurer. His mother, Jean Maurer, 87, passed away on September 21.

We appreciated a Topical Bible Presentation by Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago) who drove down on a Wednesday evening. We thank him for the efforts he made.

It is that time of year when farmers are “bringing in the sheaves,” the annual harvest of corn and soybeans.

The harvest of souls is ongoing...and the “fields are white unto harvest.” By preaching, by teaching, by example, by prayer, and by love the Word of God goes out, and it is God’s will that all souls, everywhere, would repent. Yet, a dreadful enemy exists. God does not compel anyone to serve Him, but it is voluntary, and may multitudes attend to the welfare of their souls for all eternity.

Presently, it seems like a time of unsettledness in our nation, with debt and recession as major concerns. The future of our nation and its general direction seem as weighty matters to multitudes. Yet, as children of God, we can rest in His protection and care for us. He will provide day in and day out, and His grace can relieve our any worries that might arise out of today’s seeming uncertainty.

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## ILLINOIS, MORTON Annette Tanner Julie Bahr

We wish to thank the visiting ministers and their families who visited Morton church this past month. They were Bro. Howard Plattner (Sis. Kristen, Alto) and Bro. Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville) who



gave our Family Worship spiritual topic on "Having a Steadfast Mind". He impressed upon us that our EVERY THOUGHT brings us either closer to Jesus or farther away from Him.

A warm welcome is extended to Bro. Klint Gerber who is making Morton his church home! Bro. Klint moved here from Bluffton.

Our love and sympathy is shared with Sis. Dannelle (Bro. Will) Zeller in the passing of her dear mother, Patricia Dunn.

On September 17, with great rejoicing, Bro. Scott and Sis. Janelle Sauder, along with big sisters, Ashley and Haley, welcomed their 6 year old adopted son, James Arthur, into their family home. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Joyce Strunk and Marv and Mary Sauder.

On September 11 many witnessed the marriage of Tracy Zimmerman and Ben Bucher. Parents of Tracy are Bro. Joe and Sis. Barb Zimmerman and Bro. Tim and Sis. Julie Bucher (Valparaiso).

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

We are thankful to report two new converts. Adam Thomas (Bro. Dean and Sis. Teresa) and Shannon Welk (friend of Sis. Chassi Scholl and Adam Thomas) have made the all-important step to live their lives for Jesus.

Two sets of grandparents from our congregation welcomed new grandchildren recently. Gianna Christine was born August 17 to Anthony and Jill Martini, who live in Colorado. Bro. Vern and Sis. Marie Hohulin are her grandparents. Slevin was born August 28 to Daniel and Dalia Kummer. His big sister is Francesca and grandparents are Bro. Chris and Sis. Patty Kummer.

On September 4, Ayla Lynne was born to first-time parents, Bro. Ryan and Sis. Shari Menold. Her grandparents include Elder Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki Martin (Eureka), and Bro. Mike and Sis. Sharon Menold (Princeville).

Amy Leman and Joe Castelli were united in marriage on September 11. Amy is the daughter of Bro. Bob (Sis. Dee) Leman and Jean Nofsinger. Joe's parents are Mike and Jane Castelli. The newlyweds are residing in Joliet.

Our visiting ministers in the past month include Bro. Ron Kipfer (Sis. Linda, Bluffton), Bro. Roger Sauder (Sis. Judy, Ft. Lauderdale), Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington), Bro. Randy Mogler (Sis. Evie, Washington), and Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke). We thank them for their ministry.

Several in our congregation have experienced the death of loved ones. August 7, Mary Renfro passed away. She is Marilyn (Harold) Stickling's mother. John Gehlbach passed away August 23. He is Susan (David) Diggle's stepfather. Bro. Grant (Sis. Mabelle) Rauhaus and Twila Hire's sister, Lorraine Whipple, also passed away. On September 13, Sis. Pauline Hermann passed away. May God comfort your hearts.

We have many in our congregation suffering from various health issues. Please keep these dear ones in your prayers: Bro. David (Sis. Rita) Sauder, Sis. Ella Plattner, Sis. Barb Schafer, Bro. Bill (Sis. Joyce) Waibel, Bro. Jim (Sis. Jean) Huber, and Bro. Verle (Sis. Vonnie) Kieser.

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

"Yea, though I walk through the

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

*Psalm 23:4*

We are so thankful our dear friend, Richard Stahl, could feel this great comfort in his last days on this earth, and he could find that peace that passeth all understanding before he left this earthly pilgrimage. Richard leaves behind several half aunts as well as many "friends with whom we meet and labor in our earthly toil and strife."

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

*Luke 15:7*

We have great joy in our congregation as we have one more soul that has turned to the Lord in repentance. Nathan Braker (Bro. Glen and Sis. Audrey) has found grace to answer God's call. Our prayers are with him and all our converts that they may lay that firm foundation on our Lord Jesus Christ.

We want to thank Bro. Ken Schneider (Sis. Bernice, Remington, IN) for being a willing servant in bringing God's Word to us when they come "home" to visit. May we always remember to pray for the Spirit's presence as our ministering brothers bring us God's Word.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Sharon Menold are thankful and joyful over another granddaughter entering their family. Bro. Ryan and Sis. Shari Menold (Peoria, IL) welcomed their first-born, Ayla Lynne, on September 4.

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### **ILLINOIS, ROANOKE** **Jamie Hodel** **Judy Sauder**

Hosea 12:6 "Therefore turn thou

to thy God: keep mercy and judgment, and wait on thy God continually." We are thankful for the working of God in the lives of Joy Hinrichsen (Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue) and Elizabeth Leman (Dennis and Sis. Karen) who have begun seeking the Lord in repentance.

On Saturday, August 21, our Nursing Home benefit was held. We are thankful for many who supported this day, both in attendance and prayer. Our prayer continues to be that the Nursing Home would be a blessing to many.

Proverbs 18:22: "Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favor of the Lord." August 22 was the wedding of Bro. Kirby Leman (Bro. Don and Sis. Colleen) and Sis. Ellie Wettstein (Bro. Gary and Sis. Elna). Retired Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford) shared in the wedding service.

We welcome Sis. Sarah Hodel back into our congregation. Sarah has spent the past few years working at the Athens preschool.

Hebrews 6:10: "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." We have been blessed to have many visiting ministers this month. On September 5, Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City) and Bro. Brad Strahm (Bern, KS) were with us. Then on September 12, we were thankful to have Bro. Akihiro Ito (Shioda, Japan), Bro. Matt Oesch (Alto, MI), Bro. Randy Mogler (Washington), and Bro. Willis Ehnle (Peoria).

Bro. Tyler and Sis. Beth Sauder became first-time parents on August 25 when Zoe Elizabeth came to bless their lives. Grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Eileen Blunier (Eureka) and Bro. Ed and Sis. Bonnie Sauder.

When a Christian dies  
precious is the prize!  
Lasting joys for days of sorrow,  
Rest from conflict on the morrow  
Follows when he dies.

*Hymns of Zion #248*

Sis. Kathryn Blunier (Minneapolis), sister-in-law to Sis. Pearl Leman, passed away August 19. On September 6, Sis. Doris Guingrich (Eureka) passed away. She was a sister to Bro. Bill Fehr and Sis. Lois DesCarpentrie and a sister-in-law to Sis. Helen Fehr.

### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell  
Janice Sauder**

Our congregation always enjoys visitors who come and worship with us. This past month we have been fortunate again to have visiting ministers. They are: Bros. Roger Sauder (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN), Virgil Kaeb (Sarasota, FL), John Bradle (Roanoke, IL), and Akihiro Ito (Shioda, Japan). May God richly reward them for their willingness to share God's Word with us.

Congratulations to Bro. Pete and Sis. Debbie Aberle, as they have another grandson, Karter James, born on July 22. He is the son of Ryan and Courtney Aberle (Troy, OH) and his big sister is Khloe. God bless this little family!

We're thankful that when we ask, the Lord will hear our pleas for His grace and comforting presence. We continue to pray that Bro. Cleo and Sis. Nancy Koch feel God's love and strength through her illness.

"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 congregation has been listening to the Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. We are thankful for our dear Elder Brothers' sincere efforts, and thankful for the Holy Spirit's power in the topics covered that day.

### ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Linda Folkerts  
Nancy Leman**

It was with much joy and thankfulness on the weekend of August 21-22, that we welcomed Jacob Wyss (Bro. Ed and Sis. Kathy) as our new brother in Christ. May God bless and be near him and may God's light continue to shine in his life. We appreciated Elder Bro. Rod Bajema (Sis. Twyla, Lester), Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City), and Bro. Wayne Wiegand (Sis. Rosemary, Goodfield) who shared the Word with us that weekend.

Our other visiting ministers this past month have been Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton), Bro. Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy, Roanoke), Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Susan, Morton), and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha). Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville) also came for our monthly topical Bible study. We appreciate their faithful efforts in God's service.

We were so thankful to hear of the birth of a precious baby girl, Sage Gloria, to Bro. Jason and Sis. Rebekah Stoller on August 18. Thanks be to God for the blessing of children! Excited grandparents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Gloria Laubscher (Cissna Park) and Bro. Bill and Sis. Kathy Stoller (Princeville).

Sis. Alma Wackerle recently had back surgery, and we pray she can feel God's healing hand as she recov-

ers. We also pray for Sis. Sue Ruppert and Bro. Ed Teubel who have had various health issues to deal with. May God bless these loved ones with His tender love and care.

The fathers and sons from our church enjoyed our annual Father/Son Campout on September 10. Even though it had to be moved indoors due to weather, what a blessing for them to be able share in such a special evening that was enjoyed by all.

## INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Suzie Fiechter**

**Kim Meyer**

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters, in the Lord our Savior Jesus Christ! That right there says it all. We each have personal "Silver Linings" by which we praise God for His work in our lives. We each have a blessed story to tell. When you say, "Greetings" and "Lord our Savior," and refer to fellow believers as Brother and Sister, our church family circle grows exponentially into the Body of Christ. Our praise and prayers go national and even global. Sure that seems overwhelming, but at the same time it should condense our lives in the truth that it is not just about me anymore. When you throw all of our lives into the same pot, we get one result, the Body of Christ. It's not all about the eye or the pinky toe, but about the whole. When I share my testimony, I don't share how my thumb acted for the last 27 years, I share my life as a whole.

One day Jesus Christ is going to present His bride to the Father. He's not going to say, "Check out the eardrum I am marrying!" No, He's going to present His bride who is arrayed in fine linen, clean and white unified in the sum of all of its parts.

I will be the first to confess that I often get too caught up in my little

part or region and forget that I am part of a whole body. Even though I love the body as a whole, may I ask forgiveness on behalf of other parts, like me, who get too caught up in themselves. We should all love and support our church's part in the Body of Christ because God has specific work for each of us to accomplish. We just need to be aware of our role and where we place ourselves when we go beyond God's ordered scheme.

God not only created each of us to take part in the Body of Christ, but He gave us six new babies who will one day, prayerfully, repent and take their role in the Body of Christ. Tyler and Janelle Geels gave birth to Grant on August 18, the grandson of Bro. Dale and Sis. Joni Schwartz. John and Sis. Verona Myers are proud to announce their grandson, Carter, the son of Andy and Jami Myers. Corbin Barry was born to Bro. Jon and Sis. Jennifer Isch. His grandparents would be Bro. Barry and Sis. Imogene Isch and Bro. Gene and Sis. Becky Gerber. Bro. Grayson and Sis. Tara Reinhard have added another precious little bundle, Easton, to their growing family. Easton's grandma would be Sis. Jan Reinhard. Bro. Kole and Sis. Amy Meyer welcomed little Avery into this world along with her grandparents, Bro. Dee and Sis. Laura Neuen-schwander. We also welcome Sis. Laura Ridge from West Lafayette to the Bluffton church as she took a teaching job at a local high school.

We rejoice for Alicia Gerber, daughter of Scott Gerber (Sis. Melinda - dec.), and Ben Frauhiger, son of Kris and Sarah, as they begin their walk with Christ. Edson and Evie Ivins were able to share their testimony of faith as they were baptized together.

The loss of two dear sisters has

been felt by all as we said goodbye to our faithful Sis. Minnie Aschliman (Homer - dec.) and Sis. Berniece Troxel (Bro. Bill). As we sympathize and pray for these two families, we also add the Bertsch family to the list. Bro. Oscar Berstch (Sis. Sylvia) does have cancer but will not be doing treatment. And his grandson, Bro. Zach (Sis. Jenny), will be having surgery on the 24th to remove the tumor in his colon and then resuming treatments after recovery. May these families feel the needed grace and comfort that only come from above as they face these carnal pains.

We were blessed to have some visiting ministers from St. Louis and West Lafayette. Bro. Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis) and Bro. Neil Widmer (Sis. Kristine, West Lafayette) shared the living Word with us during the wedding of Bro. Matt Widmer (Bro. Neil and Sis. Kristine) to our Sis. Tamara Raber (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary). We also had two other weddings. Sis. Alicia Steffen (Bro. Craig and Sis. Jean) was wed to Bro. Matt Schrenk (Taylor, MO), and Bro. Brad Lemman (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Val) was wed to Sis. Charla Zollinger (Leo, IN). We pray these young couples build on the solid rock of Jesus as they establish their homes.

The weather is perfect this time of year for picnics, and Bluffton had two. One was for the energetic K-4 children which is always entertaining to see Kindergarten kids go through a food line all by themselves. Thank goodness for hot dogs and finger food! The second picnic was our 2nd Annual Church Picnic. It was a beautiful afternoon for all sorts of activities and fellowship, food, and singing. What a blessed way to be together as a church with family and friends outside of our usual worship fellowship.

As you take time to read the hap-

penings of all the churches, can I ask that we all say two prayers? One for the details of each of our lives that we need to lift up in prayer because we all know that God does care about our individual lives. The second one would be that as we view each church individually, we would see each church pointing to Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Together, we are forming the Body of Christ and preparing for our wedding day. Remember Jesus is preparing to marry His bride and not just her rib!

“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.”

*I Cor. 12:12*

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**INDIANA  
BLUFFTON NORTH  
Jessie Longenberger  
Amy Moser**

“I have set the Lord always before me: because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.”

*Psalms 16:8*

We were grieved by the loss of two loved ones during the month of August. Sis. Delores Shady passed away on August 7. Bro. Art Kipfer went to be with his Lord on August 13. We continue to be prayerful for their families.

Our congregation was blessed by the sharing of the Word by Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Howard Plattner (Alto, MI) this month. We thank them for their support.

The kindergarten through 4th graders enjoyed a Sunday School picnic on August 29. It was a great time for teachers and students to eat, play games and fellowship.

We were blessed by the testimo-

nies and baptisms of five souls. We wish Rachel Towle, Jay and Mallory Nicholas, Lucas Gerber and Blane Baumgartner God's richest blessings as they continue their walk with Him.

Bro. Shawn and Sis. Mindy Yergler were blessed with a baby girl on August 5. Brielle Marie joins brothers Colton, Braysen, and Ashton at home. Grandparents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Peg Yergler. Great-grandparents are Sis. Carolyn Yergler and Bro. William Neuenschwander.

Bro. Bryan and Sis. Ashton Steffen (W. Lafayette) are the parents of Poppy Louisa Steffen. She was born on August 26. Grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Lori Steffen. Great-grandparents are Bro. Carroll and Sis. Louise Gerber.

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**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE  
Mildred Clauss  
Jacki Huber**

A Christ-centered home is a great blessing! Bro. Jake Tanner and Sis. Melissa Edwards exchanged wedding vows on September 29. Parents of the couple are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Gina Tanner and Patty Hull and Martin Edwards. Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue), now of Morton, IL, gave timely encouragement from the Word for the couple and for everyone present. May God bless their marriage. And may He bless each of our homes as we strive to keep Him as our Head!

Bro. Luke Gudeman (Bro. Randy and Sis. Becky) has gone to Zambia to assist for one year with the “Lifesong for Orphans” project. A farewell singing and fellowship evening for Bro. Luke was given by Bro. Doug and Sis. Margaret Leman at their home. We pray this blessed evening will be a reminder to Luke that his church is praying for him each day

and that the Lord will be honored through his service.

Bro. Jan Gutwein has returned home from La Cayes for a furlough with family and friends. His wife, Sis. Val, and their children returned a few weeks earlier and we welcome them back into our congregation for this time. We look forward to their presentation in the near future of the work being done by them and others serving in Haiti.

Each month on a Wednesday evening we have a Topical Bible Study. Bro. Chris Huber gave this month's lesson on “The Sacrifice of Praise” and brought many important gems to our attention.

Sis. Annabelle Messer (Bro. Carroll) and Bro. Chuck Anliker (Sis. Margaret) are surgical patients and we pray they will each be blessed with a good recovery.

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**INDIANA  
INDIANAPOLIS  
Penny Schroder  
Gail Bradford**

*\*\*Special Note:* During our remodeling project, Sunday worship services are being held at Heritage Christian School, 6401 E. 75th St., Indianapolis 46250. Sunday services begin at 9:10 am. If you plan to visit Indianapolis church on a Sunday or a Wednesday night, please contact one of our ministers, who can provide more details.

We rejoice with first-time parents, Bro. Bryan and Sis. Ashton Steffen, on the birth of their daughter, Poppy Louisa, on August 26. The baby's grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Lorie Steffen (Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Ed and Sis. Annette Bahler (W. Lafayette, IN). Another young one to be loved, nurtured and taught how much Jesus loves His children!

We are happy to receive the announcement that Sis. Katie Zeller (Bro. Eric, dec. and Sis. Ginny Zeller) is engaged to Bro. Eric Frantz (Joe and Sis. Cheri Frantz, Remington, IN). Both currently reside here, and we are hoping that they will make their home here after their wedding. May God bless them both as they begin life's journey together.

We were saddened to learn that Sis. Dee (Bro. Paul) Hangartner has experienced a tragic loss. Her younger brother, 10 years old, passed away near his home in Zimbabwe while on a school excursion. Our love and sympathy extends to Sis. Dee, Bro. Paul and their families.

We thank the following visiting ministers who brought forth God's Word this month:

Bro. Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH) and Bro. Ken Lawson (Sis. Sharon, Atlanta, GA). We are grateful for all the visitors who have traveled to and through Indianapolis and worshipped with us in our temporary location. We can sing joyful songs to our Lord and learn from His precious Word, no matter where we are!

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### INDIANA, LACROSSE

**Bethany Johnson  
Julie Rocke**

"Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life."

*Proverbs 4:13*

As our children headed back to school this month, we pray that they can apply themselves to learning their school work and, more importantly, that they will apply themselves to learning the lessons God has for each of His children.

Bro. Floyd Frieden (Sis. Janet, Elgin, IA) was our only visiting min-

ister this month. We appreciate his service on our behalf.

We are currently listening to the tapes of the General Conference on Wednesday nights. It is a true blessing to sit under the sound of God's Word and feel the Holy Spirit's voice and guidance throughout the different messages.

Sis. Sis Zimmerman (Bro. Richard) fell and is at home recuperating. Maria Stoller (Bro. Ben and Sis. Kendra) spent a couple of days in the hospital this month. We are thankful that she has recovered and is home again.

Harvest arrived earlier than normal this year and is currently in full swing. We are thankful that God has once again provided a harvest for our farm families. We pray that He will extend His mercies in keeping all safe during harvest and with the extra farm equipment on the roads.

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### INDIANA, LEO Kirby Reutter

"And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God."

*Luke 13:28-30*

On August 7, Gateway Woods hosted its annual benefit auction. It was an incredible experience to meet, greet, and fellowship with Apostolic Christians from California to Connecticut to China. If you have never been to the auction before, please consider joining us next year.

On September 13, Bro. Brad Leman (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Val, Bluffton North) and Sis. Charla Zollinger (Bro. Gary and Sis. Terri, Sardis) were united in holy matrimony. Sis. Charla is a counselor here at Gateway Woods. Many young residents were fascinated to observe a

Godly, spirit-led betrothal and marriage ceremony. "This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church" (Ephesians 5:31). A multitude of visitors also joined us for this event, including Elder Bro. Kenneth Indermuhle (Sis. Linda) from our beloved Sardis church.

Many other ministering Brothers and their beloved spouses have joined us in worship over the past couple of months. In no particular order, these couples include: Bro. Matthew and Sis. Bridget Rassi (Chicago); Bro. Randy and Sis. Becky Gudeman (Francesville); Bro. Lenard and Sis. Charlotte Meyer (Chicago); Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter (Rockville); Bro. Andrew and Sis. Jana Klaus (Shioda, Japan); Elder Bro. Thomas and Sis. Jody Klotzle (Altadena); Bro. Timothy and Sis. Gwen Drayer; and Bro. William and Sis. Carol Waibel. Thank you, Brothers, for leading us in worship. "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season" (II Timothy 4:2).

September 15 was the last day that Chalise Steffen served at Gateway Woods as an Assistant Houseparent. After three years of dedicated service to this ministry, we will deeply miss Chalise on our staff. Chalise has accepted employment in Washington, IL, and will be attending our beloved Bloomington congregation. Please come back to visit us, Chalise! Meanwhile, Nichole Wiegand from our beloved Gridley church has joined our Gateway staff as an Assistant Houseparent. In fact, Chalise was hired into Nichole's former position in the Washington school system, while Nichole was hired into the same role which Chalise occupied at Gateway! Is it not amazing to behold the provision and providence of our awesome God? Welcome, Nichole!

On a final note, if you or someone you know is interested in purchasing head coverings handcrafted by our dear Sisters from Ixtlan, Mexico, please contact Sis. Areli Reutter at 260-220-3267 or a reutter@hotmail.com. A complete inventory is available upon request. "Judge in yourselves: is it comely that a woman pray unto God uncovered?" (I Corinthians 11:13).

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### INDIANA, MILFORD

**Pam Beer  
Paula Haab**

As I sit down to write today, I can hear and see the farmers busy reaping an abundant harvest of grain. Oh, if only I could hear of an abundance of souls who have turned their backs to the world and have come to work in God's vineyard. It seems the night is coming when man can work no more.

After a couple of months back home, Sis. Ruth Beer is back in the nursing home. She fell while working in her yard and needed to be hospitalized a few days. We appreciate her faith and patience in her time of trouble. May God continue to carry her along her pilgrim pathway. A few months ago, Sis. Martha (Bro. Don) Haab had hand surgery and recently had surgery on the other hand. We pray she will soon be able to be her busy self.

On September 12, many of us were able to go to Latty, OH, to worship and witness the wedding of Bro. Nelson Beer and Sis. Minnie Sinn. The minister was able to tell us that this isn't the replacement of anyone but the continuance of God's almighty plan. He used the scripture of Rebecca going to Isaac and said Sis. Minnie has been called to go "water the camels" of Bro. Nelson. Our prayers are for God to bless their marriage.

Bro. Regg Beer came home from Ixtlan, Mexico, to introduce his fiancée, Sis. Beverly Schlatter (Junction), to our Milford congregation. A singing shower for them was enjoyed by all. Her father, Elder Bro. Bill and Sis. Emily, and her brother, Bro. Warren and Sis. Cindy and family, were able to stay over for Sunday. Bro. Mark Wettstein (Sis. Karen, La-Crosse) and others also came to worship with us on September 19. These brothers lent themselves in expounding the Living Word. It was a wonderful day of blessings and fellowship. We give our thanks to God and to all who came. We never want to forget to thank our home ministers and tell them we appreciate their labors of love toward us Sunday after Sunday. In times like these, we all need a Savior.

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### INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Jenni Honegger  
Marcella Tyler**

We rejoice with Bro. Eric Frantz (Indianapolis) and Sis. Katy Zeller (Indianapolis) as they announce their engagement and desire to be married in the Lord! Bro. Eric is the son of Joe and Sis. Cheri Frantz of Remington, and Sis. Katy is the daughter of Sis. Jenny and the late Bro. Eric Zeller of Indianapolis. We wish the happy couple all the blessings of God as they start this new journey through life together.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who have shared the Word with us this month: Bros. Tim Zimmerman (Sis. Barb, Lamont-Gridley, KS), Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL), and Tim Dreyer (Sis. Gwen, Bluffton North, IN). We sincerely thank each one for his effort and for spending time with us. I think our denomination is truly uniquely blessed in this regard. To be so united in love by the Holy Spirit

of God that we can welcome ministers from other congregations, whom we perhaps have never met or heard preach, and still be assured that the Word of truth will go forth – what an awesome blessing!

Sis. Cheri Frantz was recently hospitalized and underwent surgery. We know how taxing repeated surgeries can be on a person's body and spirit, and we ask for your prayers for Sis. Cheri. May God's healing hand be upon her to comfort her during this time.

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### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Rachel Langhofer**

We are overjoyed to welcome to our congregation Bro. Caleb and Sis. Laura Schafer who are moving here from Austin, TX. Caleb's parents, Bro. Scott and Sis. Gigi, are thrilled to have their son, his wife, and 1-year-old granddaughter Lily living in the South Bend area again. They will make a wonderful addition to our South Bend church family.

We would also like to thank Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria, IL) for sharing the Word and fellowshiping with us over Labor Day weekend.

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### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

**Marguerite Hoerr**

We are privileged to see another fall season approach us, and as I look out my window by this computer I see maple leaves turning red. Fall is a special time of year for us because it was on September 14 that we met each other for the first time 67 years ago. We have been blest to be married for over 64 years, something neither of us could foresee that day in September, 1943. God has been good to us, and as we enjoy the winter of our lives, we do our best to thank Him for His rich blessings.

One of our rich blessings has been

to find another church home in Valpo that we love and feel welcome in. We spent the first part of our marriage in Peoria and we always loved being there. Then fate intervened and we moved to Milford, IN, just a mile down the road from where I grew up. Needless to say, this was being back in my home church so we felt warmth and friendship there, also. Our family grew up there. Nearly ten years ago we decided if we wanted to see more of our grownup kids, we needed to move closer to them, so we moved to SW Michigan and found another loving church in Valpo, IN. God has been so good to us, and we thank Him often for these blessings.

We feel concern for Bro. Rollie Meiss, who is confined to his home in LaCrosse and who is being cared for by both his devoted son, Dale, and his wife Sherry. Sis. Jo seems to be doing well in a nursing home in Valpo. I just now called and found it was a good time to speak with him. He has no complaints, little if any pain, and said he is cared for so lovingly. We miss him and Sis. Jo during our services, but rejoice with him that he's content in the Lord.

Our first Vacation Bible School speaker was ministering Bro. Randy Gudeman (Sis. Becky, Francesville) who spent a Wednesday evening with our church. His message was so edifying and so appreciated. We weren't able to be there, but due to the kindness of Bro. Ed Lester, Sr., we were able to listen to Randy's message in the comfort of our home on a CD, and we were truly blest by it, as we were blest by the Francesville Brothers who enriched us with their quartet. Ministering Bro. Mark Gerber of the Bluffton congregation will be our second speaker the last week of this month. We very much look forward to his message.

Many of our folks were able to at-

tend the marriage of Ben and Tracy (Zimmerman) Bucher in Morton, IL. Ben is the son of Bro. Tim and Sis. Julie Bucher. They will make their home in Valpo. We wish them God's richest blessings and deep happiness throughout their lives together. We hope to see them often.

Hannah Feller (Bro. Joe and Sis. Jackie) has begun her college days at Purdue, and Tasha Weiss (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Marsha) is back at Valpo. U. Rachel Feller (twin sister to Hannah) is attending Ivy Tech in Valpo. We wish all of them a fulfilling year.

Vacation time seems to be over for most folks, but this past Sunday we were visited by a young family, parents with six children, who had learned about our church and wanted to spend a Sunday with us. We so enjoyed hearing a young baby during our worship time, and were thrilled with their visit. We hope they come back.

Our doors are open to any of you who can visit us. Remember we are just 2 ¼ miles South of U. S. 30 on State Rd. 49.

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### INDIANA WEST LAFAYETTE

**Beth Tonner  
Katie Widmer**

We have had a blessed month with a marriage, baptisms and a birth. Bro. Matt Widmer married Sis. Tamara Raber from Bluffton. May God bless their new lives together as they settle in the Leo area.

Congratulations to Bro. Stuart and Sis. Alivia Gutwein on the birth of their son, Lukas Robert.

It was encouraging to hear the testimonies of faith and witness the baptisms of Bro. Andre Gutwein, Sis. Andrea Furrer, and Sis. Madison Gutwein. Thanks to Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein for assisting our Elder Bro.

Curt Frank.

We also wish to extend our thanks for the visiting brothers who assist with Thursday evening services as Purdue is back in session.

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### INDIANA, WOLCOTT Donita Edelman Lynell Blume

We spent some time as a church enjoying God's wonderful creation at Turkey Run State Park. It was a beautiful day and a great time was had by all.

Our church family is rejoicing with three dear souls. Shane Bahler (Chris and Sis. Teresa) and Eric and Marissa Bahler have been announced for peace. We want to remember to continue praying for them and for all our converts. Although Eric and Marissa are separated from us through the miles, we want to continue to encourage them during this time.

We had our annual invite-a-guest weekend in September. We want to thank all those who came and made our weekend special. We want to extend a special thank you to the Brothers who so willing shared themselves with us through the ministering of the Word, Elder Bro. David Graf (Sis. Barbara, Akron, OH) and Bro. Paul Kilgus (Sis. Carmen, Fairbury, IL). May God bless each one that stands and ministers the Word to us!

We have had two Sisters experience the ailments of the flesh this past month. We will continue to pray for healing for Sis. Glenna Minniear (Bro. Mike) and Sis. Luann Gerber (Bro. Bob) who have each submitted to surgery.

It is with mixed emotions we bid farewell to Sis. Brittany Gerber (Bro. Bob and Sis. Luann). Sis. Brittany has felt the Lord's direction to move to Las Cruces, NM, and she will be assembling with the Tucson, AZ, con-

gregation. We send many prayers with Sis. Brittany as she establishes herself in this new location far from home.

We have spent several Wednesday evenings listening to the Conference Tapes. It is so appreciated the work and time our dear Elder Brothers spend on our behalf. May God be their rich Rewarder.

The sixth, seventh and eighth grade Sunday School classes would like to extend a thank you to the Remington congregation for so willingly hosting the Junior High ACYF this year. A time of making new friendships and fun was enjoyed.

*Note of Thanks:*

Bro. Kip, Sis. Donita Edelman and family would like to extend a humble thank you to all who remembered us during the time of our house fire and the rebuilding process. Each prayer, gift, meal and each one that came and helped was very greatly appreciated. This was a very humbling experience for us and we want each one to know we are expressing our thanks from the bottom of our hearts.

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**IOWA, AMES**  
**Brett Wulf**

We are thankful for the ministering brothers who have been willing to be used in the past month. They were Bro. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora), Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara), and Bro. Tom Lanz (Sis. Mary). May God bless them for their labors.

There are also a few new students this year. They include Steven Schock (Bloomfield), Reed Wagenbach (Oakville), Tad Meyer (Lester), Tory Mogler (Lester), and Andrew Metzger (Lester). We wish them the best in their academic careers.

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

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,  
Just to take Him at His word;  
Just to rest upon His promise;  
Just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."  
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!  
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!  
O for grace to trust Him more.

We can be so thankful to be able to trust Jesus when the cares and concerns of the world surround us and sometimes press in on us.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gerty Esslinger are pleased to announce the engagement and approaching wedding, on March 19, 2011, of their son, Anthony, to Sarah Knutz. Her parents are Bob and Edra Knutz of Mediapolis, IA. The couple plans to reside in Morton, IL. Danny and Sis. Lynn Townsend would also like to announce the engagement of their daughter, Katie, to Dustin Harris. They are planning an April wedding and will reside here in Bloomfield. Congratulations to both couples.

The weekend of August 28-29 was a busy weekend for our congregation. August 28 was the wedding day for Darren Wiegand (Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary) and Amy Nixt. August 29 was the wedding day for Bro. Tim Dotterer and Sis. Laurie Schulz (Burlington, IA). Thankful parents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Rose Dotterer and Bro. Gary and Sis. Melody Schulz (Burlington). May the Lord's blessings be with both couples as they begin their married lives.

Bro. Dale and Sis. Teresa Schock are thankful for the arrival of their first grandchild, Josie Lynn. Bro. Kyle and Sis. Jenny Banwart (West Bend) are little Josie's parents.

We welcome Meridith Klotzel (Akron, OH) and Bro. Chet Schlatter (Bay City, MI) into our church fam-

ily. Meridith will be attending college for the next couple years in our area and Bro. Chet has found employment in our area.

Summer break is over and our Sunday school has reconvened and we are thankful for all the enthusiastic students. Our prayers are with the teachers and students.

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**IOWA, BURLINGTON**  
**Marilyn Anderson**  
**Karla Gerst**

"Love of all gifts is the greatest  
which the spirit does bestow..."  
*Zion's Harp #37*

We witnessed the marriage of Sis. Laurie Schulz and Bro. Tim Dotterer on August 29. Their parents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Melody Schulz (and the late Sis. Karen) and Bro. Joe and Sis. Rose Dotterer (Bloomfield, IA). We shall miss Sis. Laurie and we wish this dear couple God's blessings and may they look to Him as the foundation and head of their union.

Those helping Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall for the day were Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) and ministering Bros. Joe Dotterer (Bloomfield, IA), Bill Brake (Sardis, OH), and Bro. Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA).

We also wish to thank visiting ministers, Bro. Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL) for coming August 22 and Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA) on September 12.

The funeral service for Bro. John Perdelwitz (the late Sis. Viola) was held on September 10. We extend our sympathy to his family. With us for the service were ministering Bros. Dale Frank and Tom Lanz (both of Oakville).

*Note of Thanks:*

We wish to express our sincere



thanks and appreciation for all of the gifts, cards, food and love extended to our family in the sudden death of Clair, our son and brother.

May God richly bless you all.

*Sis. Charity Scheitlin and family*

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

As we observe our Heavenly Father's order in the changing of the seasons, we are mindful of the order He has for each of our lives. Each season is brought to a close by the beginning of a new. We appreciate the years Bro. Scott and Sis. Leona Fehr (West Bend, IA) and their family spent here with us and now our thoughts and prayers are with them in the loss of their son and brother, Joshua. How thankful we can be that our Father, the Author and Finisher, shepherds us through each season of life.

Our visiting ministers this month were our Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA), Bro. Beirne Messner (Sis. Joyce, Morris, MN) and Bro. Wes Moser (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA). We thank these brothers for their labors.

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

Summer has so quickly disappeared and fall is in the air! Once again we gratefully acknowledge the many who visited Garden Grove during the last several weeks. Serving on the pulpit were brothers from Fairbury, IL; Sabetha, KS; Goodfield, IL; and West Bend, IA. We sincerely appreciate their labors in this regard, and have also enjoyed the fellowship of all who traveled along to visit.

We recently began listening to the Brotherhood Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings.

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

Our visitors this past month included Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe (South Bend, IN). We appreciate Bro. Bob's preaching and pray the Lord will bless him.

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

We rejoice with two families that have welcomed newborns into their homes. Bro. Merlin and Sis. Marilyn Meyer are thankful for the arrival of Trissa Gene born on August 30. Jessica, Erica, Javan, Nicole and Jordan are very excited for a precious baby sister. Grandparents include Bro. Pat and Sis. Twyla Meyer and Bro. Nick and Sis. Mary Kuenzi (Silverton, OR). Imena Marie was born on September 12 to Jordan and Masondra Metzger. Big brothers, Koen and Liam, and grandparents, Bro. Art and Sis. Kris Metzger, are happy to have a new little baby to love.

On September 4, Kristy Popkes (Bro. Greg and Sis. Lori) was united in marriage to Brady Mickelson. Gregg Metzger (Bro. Mark and Sis. Audrey) is engaged to Jessica Moore. We wish both couples God's blessings.

We rejoice with Alyssa Messner (Bro. Doug and Sis. Suzette, Minneapolis, MN) as she has begun her repentance. We pray that God will grant her the needed grace to build her house of faith on Jesus Christ, the Solid Rock.

"Peace, I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you."

*St. John 14:27*

Keith and Julie Moser have found that gift of peace with God and man. We are so thankful for them and encourage them to cling to this precious gift that God has given to each of them.

"O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me and keep my commandments always, that it might be well with them and with their children forever."

*Deuteronomy 5:29*

The weekend of September 11-12 our congregation warmly welcomed three souls into the fold. Bro. Ethan and Sis. Trixie Metzger and Bro. Nate Knobloch (Bro. Dan and Sis. Jeanie) shared their testimonies and were baptized. It was a wonderful reminder to hear the provings of these precious lambs as they shared their desires to leave their old life behind and live a holy and sanctified life with a beautiful hope of Heaven. Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL) was here to assist with this work along with ministering brothers: Larry Bahr (Ft. Scott, KS), Clint Beyer (Sabetha, KS), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Mark Schmidgall (Oakville, IA). Bro. Randy Mogler was also with us on August 29. We appreciate all the ministers for their willingness to preach the Truth.

Sarah Leman (Bro. Corey and Sis. Rachel), Bro. Eugene Nester (Sis. Shirley) and Sis. Emma Knobloch have spent time in the hospital. May God's tender hand of healing and compassion rest upon all who are suffering various physical afflictions.

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

Elsa Ann was born August 27 to Bro. Brian and Sis. Heidi Schmidgall, Leah, Owen and Anna.

Thankful grandparents are Elder Bro. Jon and Sis. Julie Schmidgall and Bro. Keith and Sis. Tonya Lanz.

On September 14, first-time parents, Kyle and Jessica Klees, welcomed Kelsie Lynn along with grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Sandy Schaer.

We thank our visiting ministers, Bro. Brad Funk (Garden Grove, IA) and Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Wolcott, IN), for sharing the Word of Life.

We mourned the passing of Bro. John Perdelwitz on September 6. May God comfort his children, Bob and Alice and their families.

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## IOWA, WEST BEND

**Janet Fehr  
Leona Fehr**

Deeply saddened are the hearts of our entire congregation as little six year old Joshua Fehr was suddenly taken from the arms of his parents safely into the arms of Jesus on August 20. Appreciating the support of the brotherhood and left to cherish the memory of his beautiful smile and cheerful, energetic personality are his parents, Bro. Scott and Sis. Leona Fehr, siblings, Kari, Sarah, and Jacob, and grandparents, Bro. Melvin and Sis. Glenagene Fehr, as well as many extended family and special friends. Bro. Andy Virkler (Sis. Becky) lost his brother-in-law, Tony Foti, from Watertown, NY, on September 12. We pray God's nearness and comfort will be felt in all the hurting souls across the land.

We were blessed with many visiting ministers this month. On August 22, Bro. Brandon Emch (Sis. Maria, Kansas City, MO) was here. August 25, Bro. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA) assisted with the funeral services, and on September 5, Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Jim Vierling (Sis. Linda, Eu-

reka, IL), and Bro. David Hartter (Sis. Beth, Sabetha, KS) shared the day with us. We are thankful God's Spirit is as a well springing forth that cannot be quenched.

Surgical patients this month were Cody Schmidt (Bro. Neal and Sis. Angie), Sis. Tammy Knobloch (Bro. Cameron) and Bro. Gary Schneider (Sis. Sue). Also spending time in the hospital were Bro. Alvin Banwart (Sis. Phyllis) and Bro. Albert Banwart. May the Lord touch each one with His caring hand of love.

On a happy note, Bro. Kyle and Sis. Jenny Banwart are the new parents of Josie Lynn, born on September 4. We also congratulate her first-time grandparents, Bro. Kent and Sis. Beth Banwart and Bro. Dale and Sis. Teresa Schock (Bloomfield, IA).

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## JAPAN, TOKYO

**Jana Klaus**

Greetings of love from Tokyo! With the start of September, the schools, and our Sunday School, are back in session. We are thankful for a safe and blessed summer for all, with the exception of little Sato Hideki-kun who broke his arm coming back from his family vacation. We pray for fast healing and are thankful nothing worse happened. The Klaus family is grateful to be back safely from a blessed stay in the States, and I personally thank Sis. Marie for kindly writing these articles for the last two months. I am sure hearing the news in someone else's words was refreshing for all you readers.

We enjoyed having Renae Baer (Bradford, IL) worship with us on September 19. She is Sis. Wanda Kinsinger's sister and is staying with their family out in the country church for a few months. On a personal note, I'd like to mention that

Renae was attending Heartland School, our church school outside of Bradford, IL, back seven years ago when our three oldest children were allowed the experience of joining for a few weeks while we were in the States for the birth of our seventh child. The teachers and children at Heartland School were so receptive to our children and expressed such interest in learning what they could about Japan. Who would have ever guessed that one of those students would one day visit our churches here and even stay in our home? We welcome any other of those students (and teachers!) who may have desire to visit some day!

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## KANSAS, BERN

**Sheri Edelman  
Jill Meyer**

"If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

*St. John 8:31-32*

Our Sunday school is in session again after a summer break. May God lead each of our teachers as they help guide our children to heaven!

We thank Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS) for preaching God's Word to us this month.

We bid a farewell to convert, Nelson Sinn, who has been worshipping with us for the past few months while he worked in the area. The same Sunday we welcomed Hannah Post who is a foreign exchange student from Germany living with Bro. Jay and Sis. Heidi Baumgartner and their family.

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## KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

**Martin Hohulin Sr.**

As I write this, it is a beautiful cool

morning in Southeast Kansas. Our loving God has blessed us with ample rainfall and the long, hot summer is becoming a memory. I am grateful He controls the weather and sends the latter rains spoken of in the Word.

We have had the opportunity to hear two sessions of the Elder Conference during our Wednesday evening services. Personally, I was encouraged that five young Elders were chosen, several of which have already been ordained. This means some churches are enjoying their local Elders for the first time in their history.

We were blessed with visiting ministers: Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago), retired Elder Bro. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City), and Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS). We thank these Brothers for coming and serving us.

The annual Kansas City-Fort Scott picnic was hosted this year by the Kansas City congregation on September 12. This event and visitors to Fort Scott from St. Louis and Illinois served as a reminder of the network of visitors our church enjoys. The blessing of receiving God's Word is magnified when we can share the experience with other believers.

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**KANSAS  
LAMONT-GRIDLEY  
Ester Knobloch**

We have enjoyed the blessing of the fellowship of our precious faith with many visitors. Those with us on the pulpit were Bro. Troy Leyse (Sis. Kelly, Bluffton, IN), Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL), Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Oakville, IA), Bro. Jeff Bahr (Sis. Janice, Kiowa, KS) and Bro. Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Pat,

Congerville, IL). We appreciate their willingness to be used on our behalf. May God add His blessing to the words that were spoken.

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**KANSAS, SABETHA  
Carrie Grimm  
Sally Strahm**

We appreciate ministers who speak the Word of Truth from Sunday to Sunday. Visiting u this month was Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky) of the Lester, IA, congregation.

Our hospital patient this month was Bro. Jerry Meeks (Sis. Christy). May God grant him healing and strength. Our prayers also continue to be with Bro. Frank Hertzell (Sis. Ruth), Bro. Gene Kellenberger (Sis. Marian) and Bro. Elmer Strahm (Sis. Phyllis).

We are happy for first-time grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Shari Eisenbise. Kyson Paul Kaeb was born to Bro. Jason and Sis. Maggi Kaeb of the Bern, KS, congregation.

Children come the grain together,  
While the morning sun doth shine;  
And ere long, beloved brethren,  
It will be your harvest time.

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

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

Hasten gladly to the labor.  
Consecrate to God your heart.  
Say this day unto your Saviour,  
"Lord, I'll gladly do my part."  
*Hymns of Zion #46*

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**KANSAS, WICHITA  
Emma Miller**  
Mike and Fanja Bowers have been

looking forward to taking their son, Phillip, back to Madagascar so he could become acquainted with his mother's side of the family. We are looking forward to have them back in Wichita and to be a part of our fellowship.

Bro. Fred Funk and Sis. Diane (Morton, IL) spent the second Sunday in August according to the rotating minister plan. We appreciate the support of the visitors and their families.

Elder Bro. Jay Luthi and his family assembled with us recently. Bro. Jay and his wife, Sis. Jane, are making progress in guiding their young daughters as they take instructions in their new surroundings. We also learned of the family counseling service our church is providing. Funding it will be a challenge but willing supporters will bring about blessings.

Bro. Al Langhofer reached his 90th birthday. With few exceptions, all of his family worshipped with us. Their hymns of praise were a joy.

Luke Carnahan and Ashley Cummings were united in marriage on September 11.

Bro. Ned Kellenberger from the Kansas City congregation is back at Wichita University to continue his studies in his chosen field of music. We look forward to the contribution he can make as he continues in his studies.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Ann and Bro. Howard Warner. Ann's brother, Andy Jr., was called to his eternal reward recently.

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**KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON  
Barb Huber**

"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*

It's at this time of year when we think of the harvest. We are reminded again how the seasons of life reflect God working in our lives, both physically and spiritually. Recently a visiting minister shared the importance of bearing fruit, and that in doing so, we glorify our Father in Heaven which brings fullness of true joy in our lives. May we continually wash ourselves in the Word, be renewed in Him day by day, and let our hearts be open and fertile, free of thorns and thistles, so there can be evidence of fruit bearing. Then we will reap a harvest of a fruitful life.

We were grateful to have the following visiting ministers share God's Holy Word with us: Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH), Bro. Bill Brake (Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH), Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jackie, Francesville, IN), Bro. John Rassi (Sis. Heather, Tremont, IL), Bro. Mike Moore (Sis. Pam, Athens, AL), and Bro. Mark Rufener (Sis. Julie, Mansfield, OH). We pray the Lord to richly bless them and their families as they traveled many miles to worship with us.

Other visitors who were a blessing to our fellowship were represented from Milford, IN; Bloomington-Normal, Chicago, and Congerville, IL.

This month we want to welcome two precious sisters who will be assembling with us for a while: Sis. Bethany Gerber (Bluffton, IN) who is attending St. Joseph College in Cincinnati, OH, and Sis. Marie Luthi (Lamont-Gridley, KS) who is doing a twelve-week program as a physical therapist assistant in Louisville. May the Lord be near them as they seek to fulfill God's will in their lives.

We welcome you to visit us here in

Lexington. Anyone who may be in our area or travelling through may contact Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541. Church services are held at 3938 Becknerville Rd., Winchester, KY. Directions to our church are now in the 2010 minister's book.

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### MEXICO, IXTLAN

#### Matt Gerber

“Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh... That at that time ye were without Christ... having no hope, and without God in the world: But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.”

*Eph. 2:11-13*

The church in Ixtlan was encouraged by the testimonies and baptisms of three converts: Javier and Veronica Torres (husband and wife), and Leidy Laura Jimenez Lozada. Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Denver) was here, along with a number of visitors from Silverton, Oregon, and family members of Sis. Laura. We also shared Communion together.

*Meet Bro. Javier and Sis. Veronica:*

Bro. Javier and Sis. Veronica's testimony illustrates the power of Jesus Christ to rescue and convert lost sinners. Both of them grew up in alcoholic families. The chain of addictions goes back generations in Bro. Javier's family. His grandfather and father were drinkers, and almost all of his brothers have been in and out of rehab centers. Javier was no different. Sis. Veronica's father died when she was young, and her mother turned to alcohol to anesthetize the pain. Veronica remembers her childhood being so hopeless that when she

was only ten years old she tried to commit suicide by taking a bottle of pills. God had mercy on her, and subsequent attempts to take her life were also unsuccessful. Like her mother, Veronica sought refuge in the false god of alcohol. By the time she met Javier, they were both alcoholics. They only compounded their misery by getting together. Darkness and sin enveloped their lives. As the custom is here in Mexico, they would periodically make a vow to God to not drink for a certain period of time. But as soon as the last day of the vow ended, they would start drinking again. At times they wanted to change their lives but they were powerless to do so. But then they heard the wonderful news of the Gospel, of God's undeserved love for sinners and His gracious provision through Jesus Christ. They heard how their sins could be forgiven and their lives could be converted. As they sought the Lord in repentance and faith, the power of sin in their lives was broken, and they began to experience the cleansing work of the Holy Spirit. Over the course of several years, they attended church and were disciplined. As they grew, they came to the point where they desired to be members of our church and to give testimony to their faith by being baptized. We are thankful for God's work in their lives and for the addition of this young family to our congregation.

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### MEXICO, MAGDALENA

#### Jarrin Rabe

*“Invocaré a Jehová, quien es digno de ser alabado, Y seré salvo de mis enemigos.”*

*II Samuel 22:4*

*“I will call on the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be*

*saved from mine enemies."*

*II Samuel 22:4*

We had a jam packed summer – so full in fact we forgot to write the Silver Lining last month! Our apologies! God has been working here at the orphanage and in our church, for which we are very thankful.

The beginning of July brought us two work teams which accomplished a great deal of work on "la casa verde" (the green house) or our new group home. We had teams from Chicago, IL, and from Detroit, MI, who did amazing jobs! Thank you so much for your labors of love!

Also in July we bid farewell to Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie Zobrist, as well as their two youngest children, Zach and Nate. The Zobrists felt called to return home to Congerville, IL, and serve our Lord there once again. We are grateful for the time we had with the Zobrists here and our prayers are still with their family as they continue the transition phase back into life in the States. Please join us in prayer for this family as well as for Kali. She felt called to stay here and is currently a house assistant with the older girls.

In August we held our Vacation Bible School and were blessed to touch the lives of over 500 kids from the town of Magdalena with the story of Daniel and his confidence in God! What an amazing experience to have our church bursting at the seams with children so eager to learn about Him! We also had several volunteers come down and help us with our VBS. We were thankful to have had Sis. Andrea Ruegsegger, Bro. Isaac Funk, and Miranda Metzger with us to lend several helping hands!

And of course with the end of summer comes saying good bye to several things, unfortunately. We said good bye (reluctantly) to our summer staff

volunteers – Sis. Laura Tucker, Sis. Sarah Frank, Bro. Zach Knobloch, and Bro. Ryan Eisenmann. We said good bye to summer school and all the fun activities it entailed. And we said good bye to so much free time during the days with the kids.

The last week of August our kids started school again. This year things are a little different for about half of our kids because everyone is going to school on campus now! Praise the Lord we now have a school established for all grades and what a blessing it has been so far! Please pray for the coming school year, as there will be many leaps and bounds to cross, but God will provide through each, we know. Pray for our school teachers and for those in charge – that God would give them wisdom through His Holy Spirit for decision making and any other difficulties that may come.

Praise be to God that our new group home is now near complete and is currently being made into a home. Bro. Daniel and Sis. Tamra Coughlin, along with their son Kaeb, are now living in "la casa verde" along with the sibling group of 5. We are so thankful that these kids now have the opportunity to have the love of a godly mother as well as a father. Please pray for Dan and Tami as they transition to be parents of 5 additional children, as well as that the children would be able to trust them with their hearts.

In our church we have had several individuals make beginnings in walking with Christ. We are also planning to have baptisms here on November 21. Please continue to pray for the church of Magdalena – that God's Word would be preached and that His plan of salvation would find and save the lost!

"And immediately he received his

sight, and followed him, glorifying God: and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise unto God."

*St. Luke 18:43*

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**MICHIGAN, ALTO**  
**Listyn Oesch**  
**Melissa Blough**

Praised be the Lord who gives us strength,  
Who leads and gives direction.  
My brethren, when you kneel in prayer,  
For me make intercession.  
'Twill not be vain; prayer as a chain  
Binds us and God together,  
And when we part,  
Unites each heart  
In Jesus' name forever.  
*Zion's Harp #195*

We bid farewell and God's rich blessings to Bro. Derek and Sis. Carrie Steffen (Bro. Terry and Sis. Laurie) as well as Sis. Sheryl Huber (Bro. Ryan and Sis. Terri) with the start of another school year in Illinois.

We rejoice with parents, Don and Sally Meyer, and grandparents, Bro. Joe and Sis. Melva Oesch, as they were blessed with the marriage of their daughter and granddaughter, Katie-Sue, to Travis Seif.

This month prayers were sent heavenward on behalf of our dear Sis. Helen Steffen and Bro. Vern Meyer (Sis. Carol). Both spent time in the hospital and are now home for recovery.

"...for I am the Lord that healeth thee."

*Exodus 15:26*

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

My Lord, an off'ring do I bring;

My heart I give to Thee.  
I gladly give this heart of mine,  
Which Thou dost ask of me.

I give my heart alone to Thee;  
Use it for Thy design!  
This vain world's I would never be,  
Dear Lord, but wholly Thine.

*Zion's Harp #163, v. 1, 10*

The weekend of August 20-21 was the testimonies and baptisms of Sis. Laura and Sis. Kathy Knochel (Bro. Jim and Sis. Kay). We're thankful that Elder Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy, Alto, MI) and Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI) were able to be with our congregation for the weekend.

Bay City hosted Michigan Youth Day on August 27-28. We were thankful to have several Sunday School students and teachers with us from Alto and Detroit. It was a blessing to have Bro. Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo, Leo, IN) speak to the students on the parable of the Great Supper (St. Luke 14). We also appreciate the efforts of Bro. Matt Oesch (Sis. Shelli, Alto, MI).

Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Marianne, Smithville, OH) and Bro. Ken Schneider (Sis. Bernice, Remington, IN) spent a Wednesday evening with our congregation recently while on vacation in our area.

Bro. Chet Schlatter (Bro. Ken and Sis. Pam) has sought employment in the Bloomfield, IA, area. We wish him God's blessings as he begins this new phase of life.

We rejoice with David Waibel as he has surrendered to the Lord in repentance. Our sincere prayers are with him even as he is battling infirmities of the flesh. We trust that the Lord's will would be done in his life.

## MICHIGAN, DETROIT

**Manuela Denes**

**Kay Rauhe**

"Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me."

*Psalms 23:4*

Our congregation was saddened when we heard of the death of Sis. Pat Baran's dad, Bro. Kenneth Ramsier from Rittman, OH. We want to extend our deepest sympathy, continued prayers and love to Sis. Pat, Craig, and their children, Sis. Kristi, Cody, and Karlee. May God's promise to be with us be especially real for them now, and may they know the gentle comfort of His healing touch.

"And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children."

*Isaiah 54:13*

Trey Philip Bahr was born on September 6 to thankful parents, Bro. Scott and Sis. Jamie Bahr. Big sisters, Macy and Kelsey, and big brother, Caden, are anxiously awaiting him at home with kisses and hugs. Excited grandparents are Bro. James and Sis. Louise Menold (Bern, KS) and Bro. Phil and Sis. Dawn Bahr from our congregation. May he always be cradled in love, surrounded by family, and blessed with happiness.

Our heart-felt thanks to Bro. Bob and Sis. Rhonda Knochel for coming to Woodhaven from Bay City, and our humble gratitude for Bro. Bob's willingness to have the church service for our dear Woodhaven residents.

Since the time once again has come for our children to go back to school, we pray that, while they focus on their studies and being with friends, they remember to seek God

as He is always just a prayer away. Special prayers and blessings to Brooke Knochel (Bro. Dana and Sis. Beth), Sis. Kristi Baran (Craig and Sis. Pat) and Katie Lanski (Todd and Sis. Melinda) as they are studying away from home.

Our love to the Sabados family, Sis. Suzanne, Sis. Anna, Pauline, and Joseph; John and Sis. Linda Reardon; Sis. Arlene Belsley; and Sis. Martha Szilagyi as they have been unable to worship with us for a long time; and we really miss them! We need to remember to keep them all in our thoughts and prayers. Amy Ryder, Sis. Bonnie Popp's niece, is undergoing chemotherapy and radiation at this time and would greatly appreciate our thoughts and prayers. "Pray without ceasing." (I Thessalonians 5:17)

The annual Labor Day Father and Child Campout held on Friday, September 3, included dinner, meditation, flashlight hike, and overnight and then on Saturday morning concluded with a yummy breakfast. It's always a fun and wonderful experience filled with blessings and memories.

"Sing praises to God: sing praises unto our King, sing praises."

*Psalms 47:6*

What a blessed weekend we had as the Kitchener church visited us on September 18 and 19. On Saturday, after a delicious meal, our voices blended so well together as we sang songs and praised our Lord. We were so encouraged by the words of their ministers, Bro. Mike Ursu (Sis. Barb) and Bro. Chad Leman (Sis. Kim). A warm thank you for everyone who came! It was a joyous weekend, and we look forward to getting together again.

We always look forward to the

Annual Sunday School picnic which was held this year on September 19. It not only means that Fall is just a few days away and will probably be the last picnic of the season, but it's also a time to be together and to enjoy the awesome fellowship that we have come to love and appreciate!

Since Bro. Dan and Sis. Tamra Coughlin are living as house parents in Magdalena, Mexico, along with their precious little Kaeb, we want to remember them in our thoughts and prayers as they are doing so much in the service of our Lord. Sis. Kristie Meyer will soon be traveling to Leon/Guanajuato, Mexico, to serve on a medical and dental trip. We wish her safe travels and thankful that she is able to serve others. Dr. Parkhe held an informational talk updating us on the ministry and mission work that's going on in India (RGGMI). His son, Amit, was with him. It was such an inspiring evening!

We joyously announce that Caleb Ramseyer (Bro. Mark and Sis. Kelly) has peace, and we look forward to hearing his testimony and sharing the occasion of his baptism some time in the future, Lord willing. It is so wonderful to see how God's love can reach a soul to surrender their lives to Him. May He continue to bless Caleb and his family.

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

*I John 4:12*

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### MINNESOTA MINNEAPOLIS

"For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;"

*Philippians 1:29*

What do we suffer for the name of Christ? What do we sacrifice for His glory? Are we thankful for our sufferings? Do we give thanks for all things?

We are thankful for Sis. Diane (Bro. David) Stewart's improvement and recovery. She is now at home after an extended hospitalization. We continue to pray for her healing.

We are thankful for the brothers who shared the Gospel over the last month: Bro. Jim Meiss (Sis. Candy, Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA).

We are thankful for the new and returning college students this fall: Bro. Daniel Luthi (Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Cox, Washington, IL, and the late Bro. Jeff Luthi, Altadena), Erika Gramm (Bro. Ted and Sis. Wanda, Morris North), Courtney Gramm (Bro. Tim and Sis. Gwen, Morris), Jeff Knobloch (Mark and Sis. Brenda, Morris North), and Angela Knobloch (Brad and Sis. Linda Klostergaard, Lester).

Rochester Services are held the third Wednesday night of every month at Sis. Anne Wagenbach's. Contacts: Bro. Jim and Sis. Deb Tilbury 507-281-2875 or Sis. Anne Wagenbach 507-993-6916. Address 310 16th Ave, SW, Rochester, MN.

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### MINNESOTA, MORRIS Kim Feuchtenberger Susie Wulf

"And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."

*I John 3:3*

We are thankful for the pure Word that was brought to us this month through our home ministers as well as our visiting minister, Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA). We also would like to thank Bro. Dale

Zeltwanger for his many years of faithful preaching to our church. May God bless Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachael as He sees best.

We are so thankful Sara Nohl (Bro. DeWayne and Sis. Janice) has found the need to repent and seek God's direction and way for her life. May God grant her grace to overcome sin, Satan and the world. Our prayer is there would be many more that would seek the way of truth and righteousness.

This month we were blessed with three new babies. Two of the babies were born on the same day. Blair Robert was born to first-time parents, Brad (Bro. Robert and Sis. Gwen) and Jamie (Robert and Mary Kieffer) Feuchtenberger on August 17. Also born that day was Marty Alan Fehr. His siblings are Monte, Madeline and Mylie. Parents are Bro. Mitch (Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy) and Sis. Abbie (Mark and Mick Ekren and Vance and Kim Gullickson) Fehr. Bro. Matt (Bro. Karl and Sis. Marilyn) and Sis. Katie (Bro. Beirne and Sis. Joyce Messner) Koehl were blessed with a little girl, Maria Mae, on September 14. Welcoming her home is Micah and Jenna.

Sis. Karen (Bro. Ken) Koehl was hospitalized this month as she had knee surgery. Also spending time in the hospital was Bro. Chris (Sis. Marion) Moser. Our Sis. Jodie (Bro. Trevor) Schmidgall had a stroke and is doing physical therapy to gain her strength. Our friend, Arlene Griener, has also spent time in the hospital. We pray that God will heal and strengthen each one as He sees best.

**MINNESOTA, MORRIS  
NORTH**  
**Lois Schmidgall**  
**Wanda Gramm**

Greetings in the name of Jesus.

"To every thing there is a season and a time to every purpose under heaven:"

*Eccles. 3:1*

We are enjoying the change of seasons from summer to fall. The colors are so beautiful as we drive through the countryside. Our God is an Awesome artist! We see the fields ready for harvest and the farmers and gardeners gathering in the bountiful harvest. We pray for their safety in this busy time.

Among our many blessings that we have enjoyed is those Brothers who have traveled and brought to us the Word: Elder Bro. Paul Messner (Sis. Jan, Winthrop, MN), Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Deb, Elgin, IL), Bro. Clint Schmidt (Sis. Magdalena, Winthrop, MN), Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae, Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS). Thank you for your love towards us and may God richly bless you.

Our congregation and visitors enjoyed a topical Bible study on "Forgiveness" which Bro. Chuck Kellenberger brought to us. We've been forgiven so much, can we forgive others? With God's mercy and love we can be victorious.

Brothers, Sisters and friends of Morris North spent an evening packing food with the community group for "Feed my starving children".

Sis. Edna Zeltwanger is recuperating at West Wind Village after a fall. Our friend Deb Gunderson is able to assemble again after her hospital stay. We wish them both a com-

plete recovery and that they can enjoy good health again.

We are so thankful for our many visitors this past month. Visitors were from Minneapolis, West Bend, Peoria, Sabetha, Bern, Winthrop, Elgin, IL, Morris and Goodfield. We welcome anyone that is in our area to please come and worship with us.

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom". Our prayers also go with those students who are back to school and those who are attending college.

"Sing unto the Lord; for he hath done excellent things: This is known in all the earth."

*Isaiah 12:5*

**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**  
**Julie Schmidt**  
**Lindsay Schmidt**

Jesus loves me! This I know,  
for the Bible tells me so;  
Little ones to Him belong;  
they are weak, but He is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so!

*Hymns of Zion #176*

Our hearts and prayers go out to the family of little Joshua Fehr (Bro. Scott and Sis. Leona, West Bend, IA) who was taken from this earth at such a young and tender age on August 20. Joshua was a nephew to Bro. Verl and Sis. Jamie Schmidt.

I am never weary reading,  
Hearing of His wondrous love;  
How His loving, tender mercy,  
draws us to His home above.

*Hymns of Zion #75, vs. 6*

We're always thankful to have Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam) come "home". May the Lord bless him for his willingness to serve us

with his labors on the pulpit. We also are thankful for all the other visitors that have come "home" to visit or those that are just here to visit us.

Take courage, way-worn pilgrim!  
Tho' mists and shadows hide  
The face of Him thou lovest,  
He's ever at thy side.  
Reach out thy hand and find Him,  
And lo, the clouds have flown;  
He smiles on thee who promised  
Never to leave thee alone.

*Hymns of Zion #127, vs. 3*

We pray that those in our congregation that have been dealing with physical afflictions have felt God's presence during this time. This hymn so elegantly reminds us that God never leaves us alone. Bro. Roy Howk and Sis. Joyce Messner (Bro. Mike) are some of the most recent brethren that have been on our hearts and in our prayers. We trust God will be with and provide for them.

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

This past month was the ordination of our Elder Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen), as our former elder, Bro. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen), has retired. Elder Bros. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Becky, Lamar, MO), Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS), John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), and Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS) were present with us to provide words of godly counsel and exhortation. We pray that God will bless Bro. Don and Sis. Eileen for their years of willing service, and we also lift up Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen in prayer as they begin this work.

The family of our friend, Jane Farney Patton, who recently passed away, is also in our prayers. Jane was the daughter of the late Bro. Joseph



and Sis. Wilma Farney, who were founding members of our Kansas City congregation. May those in a time of mourning feel God's comfort and healing.

Also, our friend, Melinda Trayford (sister of Sis. Michelle Meyer), who was recently critically injured in a car accident, remains in serious condition; however, we are thankful for God's providence and healing hand in her recovery thus far. She and her family remain in our prayers.

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

This month we were blessed to have many visitors, including ministering Bros. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH), Larry Wenninger (Latty, OH), and Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL). We are thankful to hear the Word of God brought forth.

We are thankful for the safe arrival of twin girls, Lana Kate and Lila Kate, born to Bro. David and Sis. Laura Braker on August 31. An older sister and brother, Alyssa and Russell, welcome the girls home. Grandparents of the twins are Bro. Roy and Sis. Judy Braker and Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill Stoller (Forrest, IL). May God continue to guide them as they raise their family.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Teresa Luthi (Bro. Leon) and her family on the passing of her grandfather, Frank Balster Sr., of Jasper, MO.

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**MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS**  
**Kary Mangers**

Our congregation was blessed by the hospitality of the Taylor congregation as we came together for the wedding of Bro. Matthew Schrenk (Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy) to Sis.

Alicia Steffen (Bro. Craig and Sis. Jean of Bluffton) on September 12. We welcome Sis. Alicia with open arms to our church family as they make their home together in St. Louis. We pray God's blessings upon them.

We thank Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan Heimer for coming and sharing a Wednesday evening with us to talk about the Brotherhood Conference. May we all continue to pray for our shepherding brothers and the responsibilities they carry out and also for each brother and sister as we strive to glorify God with our lives.

We also thank Bro. Greg (Sis. Carla) and Bro. Matthew (Sis. Bridget) Rassi (Chicago) for ministering to us from the pulpit. And even though we do not mention each visitor by name, we appreciate you worshipping with us.

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

Time accountability was a timely talk given by Bro. Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH). We cannot renew time. God knows how many ticks of time we have. What are we doing with our time? If we sleep 8 hours per day, that leaves us 960 minutes a day to do something. Are we using our time wisely to reach our heavenly home? Thank you, Bro. Ron, for coming to Taylor during the week.

We are thankful for our friend, Cole Sutter, as he has given his heart to Jesus. His parents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Kay.

Bro. Matthew Schrenk and Sis. Alicia Steffen were married on September 12. We wish them God's blessing on their lives together.

Visiting ministers included Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL), Bro. Virgil Kaeb (Sis. Suellen, Sarasota, FL), Bro.

Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis, MO), and Bro. Les Kaeb (Sis. Christine, Francesville, IN).

Hospital patients this month include Sis. Lois Sutter, Bro. Gerald Sutter, Bro. Jim Sutter, Sis. Dona Grimm and Sis. Rosie Massner.

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

Our congregation was blessed to have Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter and his wife, Sis. Emily (Junction, OH), in our midst for Wednesday evening services on September 1. It was a special evening for us as Bro. Jacob Kuntz (Sis. Brooke) was put into the ministry that evening. We pray for God's grace upon Bro. Jacob as he preaches His Word.

We were thankful for the opportunity to finish listening to the Conference tapes. May the Lord bless the Elder brethren who put so much effort into providing these encouraging words to us so that we may grow closer to Him.

Our prayers extended to Sis. Rachel Snyder who was hospitalized this past month. We are thankful she is again able to get out and attend church.

We pray for comfort upon the family of Anthony Foti who died on September 12. We especially remember his wife, Carol, at this time.

It is special for us to be able to announce the arrival of three new babies. Kelsey May Aucter was born to Joseph and Holly on August 31. Kelsey's grandparents are ministering Bro. Floyd Jr. and Sis. Linda Graves and Gene and Shirley Aucter. Bro. John Farney has a new grandson, Lemuel Everett. Lemuel is the son of Benjamin and Crystal Oles and was born on September 11. Matthew and Joanna Herzig of Elgin, IL, had little Adriana Rose arrive on

September 21. She is the granddaughter of Bro. Ronald and Sis. Eleanor Herzig and Mr. and Mrs. Collela. May the Lord bless each of these families and guide the parents in raising their children to know Him.

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**OHIO, AKRON**  
**Erika Gal**

“The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.”

*Psalm 145:18*

We are praying for the Lord's nearness for many in our congregation who have suffered bodily afflictions. Bro. Carl Graf, Peter Zarkovacki, Sis. Esther Boleratz, Sis. Elsa Yovichin, Bro. Paul Gasser, and little Yulia Hegedus have all received medical attention, and we trust that God will provide for each one.

Our congregation appreciated having Bro. Glen Steiner (Sis. Rachel) visit us from Winthrop, MN. May God richly bless him for his efforts and labors of love.

We are rejoicing with our converts, Brad and Amanda Gasser, in the birth of their precious little Josie Jane. She was born on September 15. McKenzie is excited to welcome her home. Her grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser (Junction) and Gary and Sis. Susan Murray (Rittman).

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**OHIO, COLUMBUS**  
**Esther Saurer**

Our visiting ministers for Sunday services this month were Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. MaryAnn, Smithville, OH), Bro. Curt Walter (Sis. Elizabeth, Mansfield, OH), Bro. Todd Graf (Sis. Lydia, Akron, OH), and

Bro. Tom Schambach (Sis. Connie, Elgin, IL). Also, Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Bill Brake (Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH) joined us for Wednesday evening services.

We are looking forward to our college students moving back to our area for the upcoming school year.

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

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

*Romans 15:13*

Our prayers go out to our hospital patients. We wish a speedy recovery for Sis. Annabel Spangler.

Speaking from the pulpit this month, in addition to our home ministers, were Bros. Steven Pamer (Sis. Arliss, Akron), and Don Steidl (Sis. Nan, Akron). We enjoyed having them visit, along with their families and friends.

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**OHIO, LATTY**  
**Carmen Eisenmann**  
**Mindy Stoller**

This past month we were blessed to witness the testimony and baptism of three souls. The weekend of August 28-29, Angela Klopfenstein (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Cherry), Andrea Nuest (Bro. Lee and Sis. Paula), and Karl Klopfenstein (Bro. Leon and Sis. Deb) were added to the flock. God is so good!

Josiah Stoller (Bro. Dale and Sis. Jodi) and Alison McClure (Terry and Lisa) were united in marriage on September 4, as were Michael Graf (Bro. Bob and Sis. Joan) and Sara

Hooks (Doug and Kathy). We pray God will richly bless and guide both couples!

On September 12, Sis. Minnie Sinn was given in marriage to Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN). Bro. Nelson's children include Sis. Rachel Laukhuf (Bro. Chris). We will all miss Minnie and trust God will continue to bless and guide their lives.

We want to remember those who have been hospitalized or undergone surgery in the past month: Bro. Walt Sinn (Sis. Renee), Sis. Lillian Schlatter, and Bro. Tom Laukhuf. May they feel the prayers of the church!

We enjoyed many visitors this month! We enjoyed Young Group visitors on Labor Day and many visiting ministers have assisted us this month on the pulpit. Bro. Philip Schultz (Sis. Kelli, Burlington, IA), Bro. Calvin Schneider (Sis. Jeannie, LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Matt Kaufmann (Sis. Rebekah, Bloomington-Normal, IL), Elder Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandra, Alto, MI), Bro. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH), Bro. Tony Manz (Sis. Denise, Junction, OH), Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH), Bro. Darren Metz (Sis. Rita, Gridley, IL), Bro. Randy Beer (Sis. Debra, Milford, IN), Bro. Dan Beer (Sis. Deb, Milford, IN), and Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH) gave of themselves this month to our congregation. They are very much appreciated!

He has sounded forth the trumpet  
that shall never call retreat;  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before  
His judgment seat;  
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him!  
Be jubilant, my feet;  
Our God is marching on.  
—Julia W. Howe

Harvest is here already and it

should remind us of the great harvest someday in heaven! Also at this time of year, it is sobering to think of the many lives lost in the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001. May we be prayerful that we would always have oil in our lamp and be ready for the Lord's return!

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## OHIO, MANSFIELD

### Tami Griffey

A Fellowship Hall open house and dedication service was held on August 28. We are thankful to God and grateful to each one who gave of their time, talents and resources to help in the planning and construction of this building. We have enjoyed many special occasions already and pray His blessings upon the future use and events this earthly dwelling provides.

We wish to thank Bro. Timothy Ramsier (Sis. Jonell, Rittman) who shared God's Word with us over the pulpit.

We rejoice with Bro. Nathaniel and Sis. April Ramsey in the birth of twin boys. Quinn David and Jack Avery were born on August 24. Big brothers, Cole and Drew, welcomed their little brothers home. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Mardel Dotterer (Rittman), and Bro. Edward and Sis. Laura Ramsey.

Praise God for the work He has done in the life of Lauren Sauder (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Denise), as she was announced to be at peace with man and God. We look forward to hearing a testimony of her faith in the future, and will keep her in our prayers.

Our hearts are filled with joy as Madelyn Sauder (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Denise) has turned to the Lord in repentance. May God bless and guide her life.

Sympathy and prayers go out to Bro. Wallace Ramsier whose

brother, Bro. Kenneth Ramsier, passed away.

Prayers are extended to Bro. Jacob Chant (Sis. Lydia), who was hospitalized and is recovering from surgery.

The wedding of Kimberly Hill (Bro. Mick and Sis. Delores) to Geoffrey Gilbert (Chris and Ken Dudte, and Geoff and Mary Gilbert) was celebrated on September 11. We pray God's blessings on their marriage and lives together.

Seeds of goodness we are sowing,  
In the hearts of man today.  
Bless it, Lord, that it may prosper,  
And bear fruit for harvest day.  
Now the field is ripe for harvest;  
Let us then all garner in;  
For if we should stand here idle,  
Who would bring the sheaves of grain?

*Hymns of Zion #46, v. 1 and 3*

As harvest time approaches, the familiar words of this hymn give us encouragement to continue in the Lord's work, showing the love of Jesus our Saviour to a dark and troubled world, and praying for a bountiful spiritual harvest.

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## OHIO, RITTMAN

### Heidi Rufener Marge Stoller

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord..."

*Psalms 127:3*

We were blessed with several precious new babies this month. August 17, Bro. Tom and Sis. Elaine Hill were blessed with a baby girl, Zoey Karolina. Brianna, Cody, Tyler and Abigail welcome their new sister as well as grandparents, Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty Baltic (Clarksville, IN) and Bro. Chip and Sis. Sieda Hill (Mansfield, OH). Also on August 17, Elias John came to live with Paul and

Carol Zollinger. Older brother Levi is happy for a playmate. Sis. Lucy Gasser is happy for a new grandson as well as Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Ann Zollinger (Smithville). Being doubly blessed was Bro. Nate and Sis. April Ramsey (Mansfield, OH), having twins, Jack Avery and Quinn David, born August 24. Siblings, Cole and Drew, welcome their new brothers as well as grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Mardel Dotterer and Bro. Ed and Sis. Laura Ramsey (Mansfield, OH). First-time parents were Bro. Keith and Sis. Autumn Stoller when Kendall Sue was born on August 18. Loving grandparents are Bro. Max and Sis. Diane Miller (Smithville) and Bro. Joe and Sis. Marian Stoller. Bro. Ben and Sis. Cymbal Stoller became first-time parents when Cassidy Ann was born September 7. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorie Rigenbach and Bro. Rob and Sis. Joanne Stoller. On September 8, Bro. Jon and Sis. Mary Hartzler welcomed Chase Boaz into their family along with siblings, Claudia and Cruz. Blessed and loving grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Eileen Emch and Bro. Vince and Sis. Jane Hartzler. First-time grandparents, Bro. Greg and Sis. Joy Stoller, welcomed Zalan Botond into their family. He was born August 27 to Bro. Tom and Sis. Laura Bako (Akron, OH). Bro. Tom's parents are Bro. Eugene and Sis. Dianna Bako (Akron, OH). Josie Jane was the name given the little daughter born to Brad and Amanda Gasser (Akron, OH) on September 15. Thankful and happy grandparents are Gary and Sis. Susan Murray and Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser (Junction, OH).

Our hospital patients are both very young. Baby Kendall Sue Stoller (Bro. Keith and Sis. Autumn) was born with a rare heart condition. She has been in the hospital since her

birth August 18. She has had several procedures and will likely have more. Someday she may live a somewhat normal life. For now she needs many prayers. Kendra Bauman (Bro. Matt and Sis. Laura) spent time in the hospital with two bones broken in her leg. She will spend several weeks in a wheelchair. Let us keep them all in our prayers.

We were thankful to welcome new lambs into the fold on August 29. They were Sis. Naomi Rupp (Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon), Sis. Joanna Steiner (Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail), Bro. Jeff Miller (David and Rosie), and Bro. Austin Beery (Bro. Aaron and Sis. Lynne). Elder Bro. Ben Walder (Congerville, IL) and Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) assisted our Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler in this important work. On Sunday, September 5, Sis. Evelyn Hessidence (age 89) gave her testimony and was baptized at our Apostolic Christian Home and was welcomed into the Brotherhood. How thankful we are for these new brothers and sisters.

“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.”

*Psalms 116:15*

Our congregation has also experienced a time of grief. Our sympathy and prayers go out to the family of Bro. Kenneth Ramsier, as he went to his eternal rest. Children are Joan Wilging, Sis. Patricia (Craig) Baran and Keith (Peggy) Ramsier. Our sincere sympathy to Bro. Andy Maibach as he bid farewell to his dear wife, Sis. Lillian, of 63 years. Children are Shirley (Thomas) Simonson, Sis. Peggy (Greg) Tieche, Gerald Maibach and Ivan (Kim) Maibach. May the Lord comfort them in their loss.

Three couples exchanged wed-

ding vows this month. Bro. Jeran Stoller and Sis. Esther Steidel were united in marriage in Akron, OH, on August 22. Parents of the couple are Bro. Don and Sis. Nan Steidel (Akron, OH) and Bro. Eric and Sis. Melanie Stoller.

August 20 was the wedding day of Abby Tieche (Greg and Sis. Peggy) and Brandon Rutt (Gary and Lynette Neuenschwander and Scott and Mary Rutt).

September 11 was the day Justin Rufener (Bro. Leon and Sis. Lori) was united in marriage to Chrissy Tomic (John and Anna). May these dear couples put Christ first in their lives.

Also sharing the Word of God with us this month was Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI) and Bro. Steve Pamer (Sis. Arliss, Akron, OH). We appreciate them as well as our own ministers which labor week after week.

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### OHIO, SARDIS Faith Beard

Prince of peace! O let Thy concord  
Find in us a welcome warm!

Love, O let us ne'er grow weary  
Thy blest service to perform.  
Naught can ease our earthly burden  
And our weariness remove  
In our warfare 'gainst the evil,  
As the power of Thy love.

A couple loved ones from our church family have spent some time in the hospital recently. Sis. Doris Miller (Bro. Denny) was in for a short stay, while Colby Maibach (Bro. Garth and Sis. Hannah) was in for ongoing complications related to his premature birth. We are blessed to have them home and assembling with us again.

Many of us traveled to Leo, IN, for the September 12 wedding of Bro. Brad and Sis. Charla Leman. Sis.

Charla is the daughter of our Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry Zollinger, and she grew up and lived here until she took a job working at the Gateway Children's Home. We offer our most hearty congratulations and wish God's blessings to this couple as they now start a marriage with Jesus Christ as it's firm foundation.

“There are friendships that we cherish in our daily walk of life...” We were richly fulfilled to have those that were willing to travel the distance to be with us for the second half of our bi-annual Invite-A-Guest weekend. We are thankful that God gives us these earthly friendships which can be such a strength and blessing to us and also mirror, in some small way, our friendship with our Lord and Savior.

Love, since thou hast then com-  
manded

That in love we should be rife,  
O revive each drooping spirit,  
Bring the dying back to life!  
Light the flames of love undying  
That each one may plainly see:  
We, as of one tribe and family  
To one Lord devoted be.

*Zion's Harp #33, vs. 8,9*

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### OHIO, SMITHVILLE Lydia Dotterer Gina Brake

“Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up... Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth...”

*I Cor. 13:4, 7-8*

We pray for God's blessing on those who were married this month. September 4 was the wedding day of Rhonda Marty and Patrick Gowin. Their parents are Bro. Ron and Tammy Marty, and Steven and

Kathy Gowin. Sis. Lydia Stoller and Bro. Jon Dotterer were married on September 26. Bro. Dan and Sis. Kim Stoller and Bro. Dave and Sis. Luanna Dotterer are their parents. Visiting ministers that weekend were Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest) and Bro. Joe Dotterer (Bloomfield).

Jim Gasser and Bro. George Schuster (Sis. Carol) both spent time in the hospital recently. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families.

Also in our prayers is the family of Jack Taylor (Sharon) who passed away September 21. He is the brother-in-law of Bro. Mark Steiner (Sis. Sue).

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

“...The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;”

*Romans 10:8*

We are thankful for the many brothers who have joined us on the pulpit this past month. May God bless them and their families. Ministering to us were Bro. Dana Indermuhle (Sis. Joy, Sardis, OH), Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH), Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI), Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH), and Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH).

Katrina and Reid Benware are glad for the safe arrival of their baby sister. Lana Alyse was born on September 25. Happy parents are Mark and Sis. Missy Benware.

Our annual college picnic was on September 26. We extend a hearty welcome to the new and returning college students and their families.

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

Our visiting minister this month from Silverton was Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty). We appreciate the continued support from the Silverton Brethren.

Our prayers surround those in our congregation with health issues this month. Bro. Ray Cooper (Sis. Ginny), Sis. Kathy Fehr (Bro. Wayne) and Sis. Connie Steffen (Bro. Garth) all have been under medical care recently.

Our congregation is very blessed to have Bro. Eldon and Sis. Alice Metz joining our congregation for worship. We welcome them to our family. Bro. Monte and Sis. Kellie Kuenzi are returning to the Silverton congregation for worship. We have enjoyed getting to know them over the past couple years and will miss their family greatly.

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**OREGON, SILVERTON**  
**Deb Roth**  
**Kris Luthi**

We were taught and encouraged recently by visiting ministers, Bro. Mark Gerber (Sis. Barb, Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Tim Zimmerman (Sis. Barb, Lamont-Gridley, KS). In addition, we were supported by our own local ministering brothers and also visiting ministers, Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy), Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Liz) and Bro. Mike Leman (Sis. Lisa) from our Portland congregation.

We have begun listening to the recordings of the Elder Conference. Our heartfelt prayers were offered for the Holy Spirit's guidance and discernment as our dear Elder Brothers met for their annual meeting and we continue to keep them each one in our prayers. May each Elder Brother feel our prayers and our

encouragement as we hold up their arms in support of the Truth that has been handed down from our fathers. We pray that Satan does not discourage them from the narrow way.

Bro. John (Sis. Jane) Wiegand was approved to become our new Elder and we want to support him and his family. We are asking God to provide the extra measure of grace and wisdom that Bro. John will need to sound the trumpet unwavering and in truth. Our Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty) has our continued prayers as he hands over the responsibilities of our Silverton congregation and continues to shepherd the Portland congregation. We ask God to richly bless Bro. Art for the many years of love and labor he put forth for our churches here in Oregon. We anticipate many blessings at the ordination services the weekend of September 19.

In youthful days His blessing seek,  
 With heart that's tender, true and meek,  
 And while the years draw on apace,  
 You'll praise Him for His love and grace.

*Youth — Hymns of Zion #135*

We are thankful to report that Brooke Luthi (Bro. Bill and Sis. Kris) after repenting for her sins and allowing God to convert her heart, has found the peace that she has been seeking. We look forward to her proving and baptism in the future.

Bro. Tim (Carol) Hansen submitted to surgery recently and we want to keep him in our prayers as he recovers. Dalton Kuenzi, 1 ½ year old son of Bruce and Stacy Kuenzi, fell and broke his arm. His cast does not slow him down too much.

We missed reporting the birth of a new granddaughter, Brynn Lexa, for Bro. Ben and Sis. Carolyn Bolliger. Alex and Katie Bolliger are the happy

first-time parents. May God richly bless them as they raise her.

My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame  
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*Hymns of Zion #99*

Sunday School has resumed after our August break. It is a joy to watch the children fill the benches and to see the excitement on their faces. What a blessing to hear their voices raised together in enthusiastic singing of the same Sunday School favorites from our youth. "...On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand."

"Let my mouth be filled with thy praise and with thy honour all the day. Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth."

*Psalm 71:8-9*

Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Sis. Betty) was thankful to celebrate his 90th birthday on September 10 with family and brethren. He has been a pillar in our church for many years and we have appreciated his steadfast faith and clear voice.

A baby girl came to bless the household of Bro. Phillip and Sis. Tasha Petrovic on September 12. Her name is Reese LeAnn and her sister and brother are Ashlyn and Brandon. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Peter and Sis. Marian Petrovic (San Diego, CA) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda Kuenzi.

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**PENNSYLVANIA  
PHILADELPHIA  
Emily Wiegand**

"Behold, children are an heritage from the LORD, and the fruit of the womb is his reward."

*Psalm 127:3*

On Sunday, September 12, our Sunday School picnic was held, giving us all a chance to spend more time together with the beloved children. We are thankful for the faithful brothers and sisters who teach our youth. We trust that these seeds will bring forth fruits of repentance in due season.

We were also able to gather as a church on Saturday, September 11, to listen to the Conference tapes; a wonderful occasion for all who could attend. We were thankful to hear spiritual precepts laid out to us and trust that we can learn line upon line, here a little and there a little.

We would also like to thank Bro. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO) who ministered to us while he was out East for work. We are glad for the fellowship and welcome any who are traveling our way.

Finally, we extend our heartfelt condolences to Sis. Rika Allen on the loss of her father. As she travels to Japan for the funeral, we trust that the prayers of the church and the Holy Spirit's nearness will be a comfort to her.

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**TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE  
Mike and Monica Fritz**

We are thankful for the encouragement we have received from God's Word, brought to us by our recent visiting ministering brothers: Bros. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi; Alto, MI), Greg Stieglitz (Sis. Lisa; Indianapolis, IN), Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue; Detroit, MI), and Dale Frank (Sis. Tina; Oakville, IA). We have also appreciated the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Fairbury, IL; Indianapolis, Milford, and Remington, IN; Oakville, IA; Lamont-Gridley, KS; Alto and Detroit, MI; Junction and Mansfield,

OH; and Kitchener, ON.

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: Washington, IL (10/24); Goodfield, IL (10/31); Akron, OH (11/7); Sabetha, KS (11/14); Bay City, MI (11/21); and Rockville, CT (11/28). 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 at 7:15 p.m. (1st Wednesday of the month) for singing or 7:30 p.m. (other Wednesdays) for call-in services 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 (fritz mb.family@gmail.com); and Sis. Gwen Leuthold, (615) 356-5755.

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**TEXAS, AUSTIN  
Serenity and Jasmine Ringger**

"Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love..."

*HZ #156*

We said farewell this past Sunday to Bro. Caleb and Sis. Laura Schafer and their young daughter, Liliana. We hope that they adjust well to their new home in Indiana near their extended families. We pray that we all can meet again, if not often on earth, then at the end of our pilgrim journey.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers: Bros. Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam, Latty), Jeff Streitmatter (Sis. Lynne, Sarasota), Ben Manz (Junction), Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor), Ron Steiner (Sis. Ruth, Rittman), and Elder Bro. Wayne

Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign). We also had visitors from Forrest and Dallas.

Bro. Stan and Sis. JaNahn Sinn from Latty have been in Houston due to an extended job project. We hope they enjoy their stay.

The following is the minister schedule for November: (7) Indianapolis, (14) Eureka, (21) Leo. 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, so that we can accommodate you more readily in our weekend gatherings. Directions to our church and contacts are now in the 2010 minister book.

In the church, there are two furnished bedrooms for the ministers and others to use when coming for services. When you contact someone about coming for services, please let them know if you would like to use the bedrooms during the time you are here.

### TEXAS, McALLEN Joyce Nohl

Greetings of love from McAllen. The temperatures have started to go down, so we know that it will soon be time for the winter Texans to be arriving back to their winter homes. We invite all who are coming south this season to come and worship with us. We are a small group and enjoy the fellowship with new arrivals.

We want to thank our visiting ministers this month for sharing God's Word with us. They were: Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), and Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX). We appreciate their willingness to be used in His service.

The following churches are scheduled for services:

(Nov. 7, Rockford, CT)  
(Nov. 14, Morris, MN)  
(Nov. 21, Tremont, IL)  
(Dec. 5, Forrest, IL)  
(Dec. 19, Fairbury, IL).

Our address is: Holiday Inn Express, 1921 South 10th St. 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 CLARENDON/NORWICH

#### Nathan and Miriam Reutter

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."

*James 1:27*

It was a blessed and informative evening to spend with the staff from Gateway Woods. We learned of the programs and services that they provide to lost and troubled children and their families. Thank-you to Bro. Tim Sauder and Bro. Kirby Reutter and his family for their dedication and effort. We pray for God's blessings on this outreach and the movement of men's hearts to sustain it.

This past month brought us many visitors, including visiting ministers. They were as follows: Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter (Rockville, CT), Bro. Tom and Sis. Connie Schambach (Elgin, IL), Bro. Phillip and Sis. Maureen Stettner (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), and Bro. Warren and Sis. Bonnie Zahner (Rockville, CT). We thank you for

your sustained and Spirit-led support.

The Sunday of September 19 many from our church went to the wedding of Bro. Louis Lipton and Sis. Deb Hoffman in Rockville, CT. Sis. Deb is a daughter of our Bro. Mark and Sis. Luella Hoffman. It was a blessing to be there and be reminded of our own wedding vows.

"... a three-fold is not quickly broken."

*Ecclesiastes 4:12*

Our friend, Claire (Emery) Fellows, has been ill for the past month and has not been able to attend church services with us. She is improving, and we pray God will give her a full recovery soon.

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.



*Sermon continued from page 2*

minute. David was a very honorable man. I think there is at least twice that he had Saul where he could have taken his life. Those times he said, no, Saul is God's anointed. (I Samuel 24:6, I Samuel 26:9) Even though he knew he was going to become the king, he still would not take Saul's life. So we could look at this and think, why didn't God allow David to build His house, that He could dwell there? It is one of those things that I don't have an answer.

So often when we look at God, we can have a question. God, why have you said this in your Word? Why is it this way? We have to understand, we are weak. We are humans. We cannot fully comprehend what God has in mind as to why things happen and why they don't. I am glad that we don't because if we could understand our heavenly Father that well, maybe He would mean less to us. But I am thankful that our heavenly Father has a reason for everything. I am thankful that when Nathan went back, that God talked to him and told him no. And He told him why. He said, because he has been a man of war (I Chronicles 28:3).

We look at David and we say, why was he a man of war? He was a man of war because God asked him to be. To raise up this great nation, God's chosen people. He had allowed him to do that for His chosen people. That is where, as we go from the Old Testament into the New, there is a controversy in our society - not just in our recent society but it has happened for centuries - how does that happen that we go from a time of the believer, of the followers of God, of God Himself saying, destroy this nation, yet today, Jesus Christ tells us just the opposite, doesn't He? He says, love your enemies (St. Matthew 5:44). Be willing to die. People have a hard time understanding. They want to say, well wait a minute. There has got to be something connecting here. We can't have that much difference. And they will look to connect the Old and the New and say, wait a minute. We can justify this during a time of war. We can justify it if this happens. Can we?

I have heard this discussed before. I have been a part of that discussion before. I come back with this thing, we cannot comprehend what God has in mind and why He chose to do this, to make this difference in the new dispensation of grace. But the one thing that I have gleaned from the Scripture is the fact that Jesus came and told us we should love our enemies. We should be willing to die for His cause. Take up our cross and follow Him.

If He really wanted to, He told them He could call legions of angels to come and fight for Him (St. Matthew 26:53). But He willingly gave Himself to die upon the cross. So sometimes when we are entered into that discussion of how do you justify the two differences - of David, a man of war, doing God's will and Jesus coming and saying we should lay our life down, we should not hurt someone else - that is the example I use. Jesus meant what He said. He brought the Word and did the will of the heavenly Father.

It is not for me to sit and try to rationalize or go through the Scripture and look for a glitch, a loophole as we would look for today in so many things. It is mine to look at the Scripture and say, what did Jesus Christ say? And go with that. Because Jesus was the example. We don't have to look at just what He said. But we have to look at His example. He did what He said. He gave His life on the cross for us.

As we go through this time and time again as an example, it is what we read here with Nathan. Nathan, a great prophet, subject to the same problems that we have today. Made a quick decision, didn't he? He told David, that is fine. Go ahead and do it. God had to work with him to correct him. He does the same thing with us today, doesn't He? Have we not all had that happen in our lives? Maybe we say something, we are going to do something. And God talks to us that night and says, I don't want you to do that. Or He might tell us, I do want you to do this though.

Comes back to what we heard this morning, doesn't it? We have to have the faith to believe in our heavenly Father. To believe in His will for the betterment of our lives. But more importantly, for the betterment of the world. Because each one of us affect other people. I believe that is why, as we look at this and why God instructed Nathan, tell David he is not to be the one to build this house. But his son would. Because you have been a man of war.

I think David understood that. I can't remember anything in the Scripture where David questioned what God told Nathan. Instead, he got everything ready for Solomon to build it, didn't he? He set everything in order. Used all of the alliances that he had to get the gold, the silver, the wood, the stone, to prepare for Solomon to build this great temple for God.

As we walk through life, that is why I say, as we look at our own lives, we know that Jesus Christ is supposed to dwell in our heart, isn't He (I John 4:13)? We read

that in the Scripture. We understand that. We no longer have this magnificent physical edifice that we go to that represents where God lives. But it is here, in the heart.

Stop and think about it. Of all the trouble that David went to and then Solomon would go to, to build this great temple, to worship almighty God. It starts to help me understand why we have to be so protective of that Spirit that dwells within our heart. Because you see, we are a temple that houses the Spirit of God. Therefore, if we are that temple, how should we be? How should we be adorned?

It was quite a sight, as we read in the Scripture, this magnificent temple that Solomon was going to build. Known across the land. You see, as we walk through life, when the Spirit is in us, we need to be that kind of an example to the people we are walking around with today. We are not adorned with gold and all kinds of fancy things. But our heart should be adorned with the grace of God. With the love of God. So that as we walk through life, people can see it. They can feel it! The one thing about love - I said people can see it. They see it through our actions. But love is one of those things that you can feel, can't you?

It is always tough standing up front here. I have everybody looking at me with kind of a solemn face. I always look for those who are nodding in the affirmative. Can't you feel love? Yes, I know you can. I said this before, I know you can because that is why we can't get in here early enough. I am not chastising you for that. Wouldn't begin to. Because that is the love that needs to go forth when we are here. Recharge us so when we walk out this door this afternoon and go wherever we are going to go to and we run into somebody that is not our brother and sister in faith, I want them to be able to feel it too. I want them to be able to see your love through your actions. See my love through my actions. Do I live this Word out?

I told somebody just this afternoon as we were visiting out here. I think it is a wonderful time that we are living in right now. It is a very unsure time, isn't it? This time that we just read about in the Old Testament was starting to become a more comfortable time because David had secured a lot of peace. He had conquered a lot of nations and God's chosen people had this comfort coming.

I look at the day and time we are living and there is a lot of un-surety. But to the believer, it shouldn't bother us. Matter of fact, to the believer, it is a golden opportunity. Because people want some assur-



ance that things are going to work out. People are looking for someone who is not worried. That is why it is great for us to share our faith right now. People are willing to listen.

So often as we read in the Scripture, it was the downtrodden. It was the Israelite people, when they were having a tough time, that would come to God. And I think that is the way it is today. I think there are a lot of people out there looking at Christianity saying, is that the answer?

Just read an article in the paper, maybe you read it. It is about Haiti. There is some discussion between this meeting they were going to have because Christianity is sending food and supplies and every type of help that we can think of into Haiti. They are feeling that love and they are seeing the fruits of it. It is very noticeable to them. They have acknowledged it. They were going to have this get together. Those people who represent Voodoo wanted to be a part of it. Amazing isn't it! Doesn't make any difference if they are a part of it. Because really what is coming forth right now is that the believer is moving into there to help. It is our faith in action, isn't it? That is what really makes a difference. Our faith in action.

We heard a lot about faith this morning. But there is an opportunity where we can put our faith in action. We can put our faith in action every day, actually. We don't have to be in Haiti, Jamaica, Ethiopia, wherever it is. Although if we are there, it is a great opportunity also. You see, we can do it today here in America. Because there are people looking.

This chapter in St. Luke is very appropriate for the day and time in which we are living. A parable to them. "...Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand." St. Luke 21:29,30. He wanted them to start thinking about an earthly example. Because He was going to bring this spiritual example into it. If He could get them thinking in the context of recognizing something, He wanted them to understand, what do you think of when you see the trees starting to bud? Pretty simple isn't it? Simple analogy. We think of summer coming, warm weather. Especially when you live in the north. It causes us to think and that is what He wanted. He wanted to get them in a thought process here. He said, this is what you think. When you see this happen, you know that summer is coming.

He wanted to go on then and He wanted to get into the spiritual side of it. He has them thinking about, okay yes, we

can see this happening. We know this is going to happen. This is why it is so important for us, that we are in God's Word all the time. Do not rely on Bill Masters to speak something over the pulpit and say that is good. That will carry me for the week. It is not. You see, because He is using this parable, this example, to get them to think.

What was He wanting them to think about? He was wanting them to think of the prophetic messages of old. To stir up their mind. To think about it. The same way that every year they would think about it when they would see this happen; the trees would bud, summer was nigh. He wanted them to stop and think about this because the end time was coming.

I always say, as we look at time, the end time has come today, right now, for some. I don't know how many people die every second but I do know that there has probably been, in the last little bit, hundreds of people who passed from this life throughout this world. Sometimes we think on such a small scale, don't we? We think of Fort Myers, FL. We think of Florida. We think of Bloomington, IL. We think of wherever our churches are. But you see, God is not that small. When God looks at the world, He looks at the whole world. He says He came to die for everyone. As Brother Tom said this morning, it is His hope that everyone would make it to heaven. He has given everyone that opportunity. But today, this very second, there are more people dying every minute that we sit here. Some are probably going to make it to heaven. Some are not. That is why I believe, as we look at this, it is important for us, as we look at the things of this world as they happen, is to realize that spiritually they happen also. Time is marching on.

That is why it is so important, as we walk through life, to share the Word. As I have gotten older, you probably notice, I am more passionate about it. I don't know why. I guess because God has given it to me. He has laid it on my heart. Because as I get to know more people, I like people. We all have a soul. We can turn and look to our right or our left. Each one of us has a soul. When we go out tonight or tomorrow, and you look around at everybody that you are going to be around, they have a soul! It is not going to die! It is going to go into eternity. It only has two destinations in eternity: heaven or hell.

Some people might want to say there are some other places. But the reality is, there are only two: heaven or hell. You are either prepared or you are not prepared. You have accepted Jesus Christ or

you haven't. It is that simple. I have listened to a lot of people proclaim the Word. The ones I like to listen to are the ones who say there are only two destinations after death and that is heaven or hell. I like it especially when they say there is only one way that you are going to get into heaven and that is if you accept Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. That focuses in. It is not good works. Oh, they are a result of that love, when we accept Jesus Christ and we become a child of our King, our Heavenly Father. It will be evident in our life. We will want to do it. Not because we have to do it.

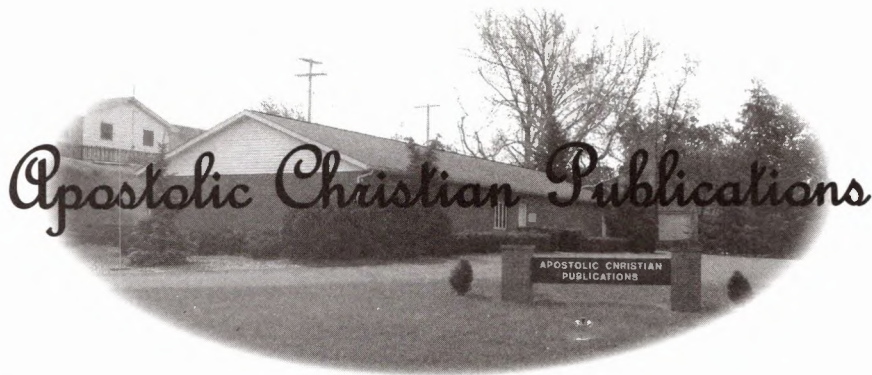
There are so many examples that He gives to us to be about His work. He is wanting us to understand time is marching on in our lives. He wants us to understand we are drawing close to the end of time for us. For our neighbor. For the world. As we get into the Word and we read this story, this little bit out of chapter 21, He is cautioning us to understand that. As we read in other portions of the Scripture, He is going to express to us the importance of how we live.

I go back to that Old Testament reading. Maybe that is why He didn't want David - well it is obvious because He told Nathan the Prophet - because you have been a man of war. You have shed a lot of blood. He was doing God's will. But He said He wanted Solomon to do it. God has a plan. He has a reason for everything. He is telling us in this Scripture, that time is marching on.

He even told the generation here, "...This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled." St. Luke 21:32. In other words, they were going to see these things. He did not tell them that the end of time was going to come during their generation. But they were going to see these prophecies fulfilled. So it can happen anytime. What has it been? Two thousand years? We are still reading the Scripture. But just stop and think of how many souls, how many people have died in that two thousand years. Did they all go to heaven? Did they all go to hell? We don't know, do we.

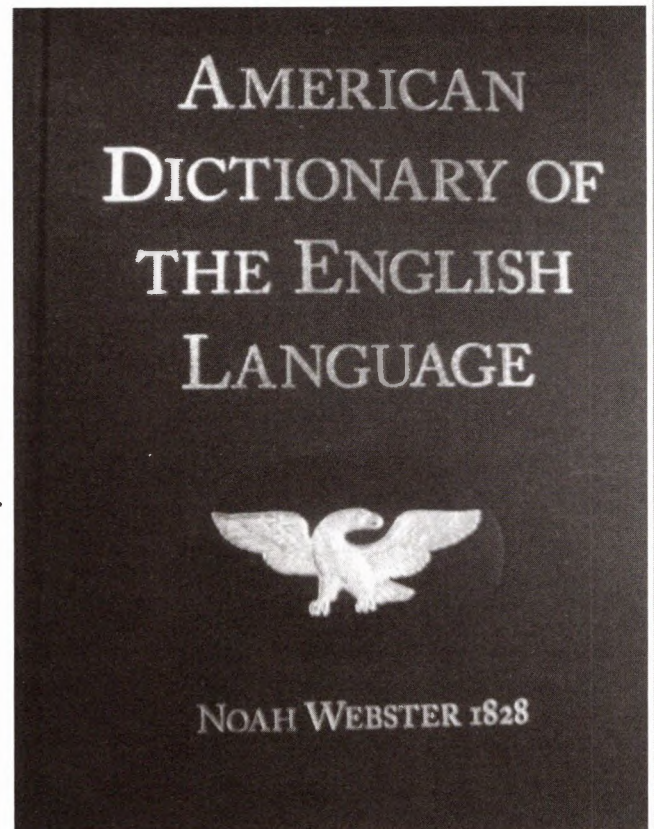
The Bible tells us, many will be called, few will be chosen (St. Matthew 22:14). Strait is the way, narrow is the gate that leadeth unto life everlasting. Broad is the way, broad is the gate going into destruction. (St. Matthew 7:13,14)

Towards the end here it is a reminder. Be careful. Don't get entangled with the cares of life (St. Luke 21:34). Why? Because they are going to get us side tracked. They will get us side tracked! We won't be doing His will.



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## Caretaker Needed at Tennessee Fellowship Center

A caretaker is needed at the Tennessee Fellowship Center located in Pulaski, Tenn. which is approximately 1 hour south of Nashville and 1/2 hour north of Athens, Ala. Living accommodations are available for a couple or a family.

The site, which consists of 12 acres, is used for singings, picnics and other church events including Memorial Day Weekend where ministers give topical presentations, an auction is held and singing and fellowshiping are enjoyed by all. Two acres of the 12 was made into a lake, called Lake Richard, where fishing can also be enjoyed.

Please prayerfully consider answering this call and joining the loving congregation at Athens, Ala.

If you are interested or have additional questions, please contact Bro. Mike Moore at ALM38@aol.com or (256)729-0260 or (256)777-3390.

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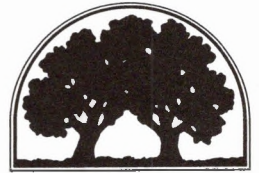
Sallie Hoerr 696-4127

or

Pam Graham 256-5151

## Child Placement Manager Opening

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



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

*This position offers a competitive salary and generous benefits. For further information and a job description, please contact:*

Bro. Jeff Schumacher  
 Administrator  
 PO Box 151  
 Leo, IN 46765  
 1-888-443-4283 (GATE)  
 jeff.schumacher@gatewaywoods.org

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

## Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services

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Contact Bro. Randy Gasser for the job description for the newly created position of Director of Business Office Operations at Livonia Michigan's Woodhaven Retirement Community. Applicant must be a member of the Apostolic Christian Church of America.

Phone 734.261.9000 or  
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APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN

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### Needs of Adopted/Foster Children Article Two of Three: Needs of Adopted Children

This is the second of three articles and will focus on how families can 1) prepare, 2) provide, and 3) persist when it comes to meeting the needs of adoptive children. Preparation is helpful and important when you decide to do anything. Bringing a child into your home is a life-altering decision that needs to begin in prayer. (*Psalm 127:1, "Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: ..."*) Adoption, when it is the Lord's work, is a wonderful opportunity to minister to the fatherless. When the Lord provides direction and opportunity to adopt a child into your family know that there are many adjustments ahead. Two factors that will dramatically affect adjustments that occur are: 1) your family situation and 2) the adopted child. Consider the following about your family: Do you already have children? How old are your children? Are you married or single? What do you expect your role as an adoptive parent to be? And what roles will others play in the child's life? The adopted child's age, cultural background, ethnicity, history, and experiences will also greatly influence adjustments that will need to be made within your family unit.

#### Prepare:

To prepare for these adjustments, many family discussions are needed so that everyone knows the plan as well as the expectations for each family member when adoption occurs. Time and energy spent prior to adoption in prayer, discussion, and learning is time well spent. Children already in your home should be aware of how God has directed you, the parent(s), towards adoption and what adoption means for your family. Make an effort to learn and teach what the bible says about adoption as this understanding will help your children understand your purpose in adding another person to the family. You also need to learn about the culture, ethnicity, and background of your prospective adoptive child. If you already have children, become aware of their feelings regarding the planned adoption as well as

their perception of how their role in the family may change or be diminished. What you learn in these areas will help you provide a loving, supportive, and comfortable environment for the child you adopt. As an adoptive parent, you will also need to educate yourself about the situation your adopted child is coming from.

#### Provide:

One way to look at stepping into the role of adoptive parents is through the lens of stewardship. Psalm 127:3 tells us, "*Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.*" Children are a precious gift from God which He has entrusted to parents. Being a steward of this gift is an important part of parenting. It is vital that you understand, validate, and embrace the person God has created your child to be which includes, but is not limited to, their ethnicity, culture, talents, weaknesses, and experiences. Your adopted child has been "*fearfully and wonderfully made*" by God. Embrace the unique identity and personality of the adopted child while you train him to serve the Lord.

Your relationship with your child is extremely important as it is the foundation of your training, instructing and leading. One of the most important ways to provide for your adoptive child is through building a healthy relationship. Love, trust, and safety are three essential ingredients of establishing a strong connection with your child. It may help to think of your relationship with your child as an attachment. Developing a healthy attachment with your adoptive child is done through experiences where you show love and care for him. Specific ways to do this are hugs, kisses, holding, singing, rocking, and other healthy ways to physically and emotionally nurture a child. For more information on attachment you can read "Understanding Attachment: A Fundamental Parenting Principle" which is posted on ACCFS's website under parenting.

Loss and not having a sense of belonging are two things that can make attachment difficult for adoptive children. Think of a time when someone let you down. When this occurs, you are less trusting of that person the next time you interact with

him. Attachment is built on trust, and an adopted child will need time and positive experiences with you to build that trust. Work to build trust by providing consistency founded on biblical principles, honesty (Matthew 5:37), discipline (Hebrews 12:7), and unconditional love (Romans 5:8). Provide your adoptive child with a clear sense and understanding that he is a member of the family. There should be no division between biological and adopted children in your home. In Galatians 3:26-4:7, Paul paints a beautiful picture of God's adoptive love by indicating that those who have faith in Jesus Christ are adopted into God's family, and there is no distinction between members of the body. This passage speaks to a spiritual adoption but the principle can be a powerful one in helping your adopted child become a family member and not just an addition. This will be an ongoing journey which will take a great deal of perseverance on your part and on the part of any previous children.

#### Persist:

Persevering in such a way that will help the child become known and seen by you and himself as one of your children is an important need to meet. An adopted child's perspective of his situation will change as he moves through the developmental stages of childhood. As children develop, they begin to ask questions about whom they are and where they belong. Parents need to be prepared to answer these questions. As a general rule, children who have been adopted should be informed about their adoption around age 3-4. Keep in mind that all children need to know that they are gifts from God (Ps. 127:3), that He loves them (I Jn. 4:16), has a plan for them (Je. 29:11), and that they need Him (Rom. 6:23).

Understand that as an adopted child grows and matures, he will change his views on "adoption." As his view of adoption changes, his questions about adoption and the meaning he gives adoption will change. Your child needs you to persevere with him through the storms he will experience. The more time and energy spent during the early phases of adoption, building a strong relationship, will help you and your family endure through challenges that will occur. May God bless His work.

### **Important Notice to Americans Crossing the Canadian Border by Land.**

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Contacts:

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 (507)993- 6916

Bro. Jim and Sis Deb Tilbury  
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*And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children.* Isaiah 54:13

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Please check preference:

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E-mail: [childsponsorship@acwr.org](mailto:childsponsorship@acwr.org)



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

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

## Business Manager Position Available

*Parkview Haven is pleased to announce the need for a Business Manager, which in a long term care nursing setting performs a range of management functions, of which accounting is primary.*

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We hope you will give this prayerful consideration. You may contact us at Parkview Haven 101 Constitution Drive, Francesville, IN 47946, 219-567-9149, or [sstoller@parkviewhaven.com](mailto:sstoller@parkviewhaven.com).

## Pre-School Teacher Needed

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

Bro. Mike Moore

(256) 729-0620

(256) 777-3390

Email: [ALM38@aol.com](mailto:ALM38@aol.com)

## CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 2010/2011

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 October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 -[www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/)

Project	Year 2010	Coordinator	Capacity				
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Nov 29-Dec 6	Maurice Schaefer 309-925-3740 schaefs2@gmail.com	4	Les Cayes SEED Agriculture Aid	Feb 18-25	Dale Frank 319-766-3661 dtfrank@louisacomm.net	12
Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Dec 3-10	Ted Habegger 260-694-6765 tjh@citiznet.com	12	Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Feb 25-Mar 4	Randy Kieser 309-695-6340 kieser84@gmail.com	12
Les Cayes MEBSH Haiti Support	Dec 10-13	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	Invitation	Puits Sales Palm Grove Construction	Mar 8-15	John Aberle 785-459-2423 jraberle@hotmail.com	12
Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Dec 13-23	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	4	Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Mar 15-25	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	4
Project	Year 2011	Coordinator	Capacity				
Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Jan 3-10	Ron Palitto 330-336-5373 Ronp@palittoconsulting.com	12	Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Mar 18-25	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	12
Les Cayes FRW Simone Orphanage	Jan 21-28	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	12	Les Cayes MEBSH Haiti Support	Mar 25-28	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	Invitation
La Higuera Lifeline Construction	Jan 25-Feb 1	Jim Koehl 309-377-3201 jmkoehl@yahoo.com	12	Les Cayes SEED Agriculture Aid	Mar 25-Apr 1	Dale Frank 319-766-3661 dtfrank@louisacomm.net	12
Les Cayes MEBSH School Roof	Jan 28-Feb 4	Dean Pashak 989-662-7685 dwpashak@charter.net	12	Les Cayes MEBSH Maintenance	Apr 1-8	Jon Zeller 309-266-9009 jzeller@mtco.com	12
Dumay Lifeline Construction	Feb 1-8	Jim Koehl 309-377-3201 jmkoehl@yahoo.com	12	Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Apr 29-May 6	Maurice Schaefer 309-925-3740 schaefs2@gmail.com	4
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Feb 4-11	Maurice Schaefer 309-925-3740 schaefs2@gmail.com	4	Les Cayes MEBSH Haiti Evaluation	May 13-20	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	Invitation
Dumay Lifeline Construction	Feb 8-15	Jim Koehl 309-377-3201 jmkoehl@yahoo.com	12	Les Cayes MEBSH Medical	May 20-27	Keith Knepp 309-467-3468 kknepp@mchsi.com	8
				Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Jun 8-18	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	4

### JAMAICA

Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 -[www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/)

Project	Year 2011	Coordinator	Capacity				
Kingston School CCCC	Jan 8 - 15	Roger Stoller 309-747-3228 rstoller@gridcom.net	Full	Jamaica Deaf Villg CCCC	Jun 10 - 18	Ted Hirstein 309-266-8769 hirstein@mtco.com	40
Jamaica Deaf Villg CCCC	Mar 5 - 12	Tom Waldbeser 770-463-4788 tswald@bellsouth.net	40	Jamaica Deaf Village CCCC	Jun 25 - Jul 2	Harvey Landis 330-925-8632 landziv@aol.com	Akron/ Rittman BC Trip



**MEXICO**

If anyone is interested in leading a team to Mexico, contact Bro. Mike Fiechter at 260-597-7330 or [mfiechter@onlyinternet.net](mailto:mfiechter@onlyinternet.net)  
Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 -[www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/)

Location	Year 2010	Coordinator	Location	Year 2010	Coordinator
Magdalena Construction	Nov 6-13	Fred Beer 574-658-4578 <a href="mailto:fredpatbeer@gmail.com">fredpatbeer@gmail.com</a>	Magdalena Construction	Mar 5-12	Jason Edelman Illinois State University 309-848-7987 <a href="mailto:isuyounggroup@gmail.com">isuyounggroup@gmail.com</a>
Magdalena Construction	Nov 20-27	Rod Schmidt Denver/Morris North Bible Class 303-774-7913 <a href="mailto:rschmidt@acosta.com">rschmidt@acosta.com</a>	Agua Prieta Construction	Mar 19-26	Sam Kaehr 260-565-3200 <a href="mailto:sckaehr@adamswells.com">sckaehr@adamswells.com</a>
Location	Year 2011	Coordinator	Location	Year 2011	Coordinator
Magdalena Construction	Jan 1-8	Bryan Steffen 815-867-7556 <a href="mailto:bcsteffen@gmail.com">bcsteffen@gmail.com</a>	Magdalena Construction	Mar 19-26	Jeff Leman Bluffton Senior Class 260-565-3815 <a href="mailto:jvleman@adamswells.com">jvleman@adamswells.com</a>
Reynosa Construction	Jan 1-8	Matthew Gerber Purdue 260-273-0292 <a href="mailto:matthewgerber@adamswells.com">matthewgerber@adamswells.com</a>	Reynosa Construction	Mar 19-26	Tristan Herrmann University of Illinois 309-712-6902 <a href="mailto:tristanherrmann@gmail.com">tristanherrmann@gmail.com</a>
Magdalena Construction	Jan 8-15	John Teubel 815-657-8721 <a href="mailto:jteubel@maxwire.net">jteubel@maxwire.net</a>	Agua Prieta Construction	Mar 26-Apr 2	Aaron Beery 330-927-6926 <a href="mailto:beeryaaron@embarqmail.com">beeryaaron@embarqmail.com</a>
Reynosa Construction	Jan 8-15	Tim Schwind ICC/BU 309-645-2331 <a href="mailto:0971sjt@gmail.com">0971sjt@gmail.com</a>	Magdalena Construction	Mar 26 - Apr 2	Doug Frank Tremont Bible Class 309-925-5000 <a href="mailto:frankfamilyfarms@yahoo.com">frankfamilyfarms@yahoo.com</a>
Magdalena Construction	Jan 15-22	Steve Kaeb 217-379-4707 <a href="mailto:kaebbs@illicom.net">kaebbs@illicom.net</a>	Magdalena Construction	Apr 16-23	Mike Zobrist Congerville/Eureka 309-660-7004 <a href="mailto:zobfam@gmail.com">zobfam@gmail.com</a>
Magdalena Construction	Feb 12-19	Jon Baner 309-747-4085 <a href="mailto:jbaner@grid.com.net">jbaner@grid.com.net</a>	Magdalena Construction	May 28 - Jun 4	Todd Baum Phoenix Bible Class 480-563-8286 <a href="mailto:toddbaum@svmasonry.com">toddbaum@svmasonry.com</a>
Agua Prieta Construction	Mar 5-12	Kevin Gerber 260-565-3313 <a href="mailto:kevgerber@yahoo.com">kevgerber@yahoo.com</a>	Magdalena Construction	Jun 11-18	Jason Schambach Elgin Bible Class 847-468-1194 <a href="mailto:jkschambach@att.net">jkschambach@att.net</a>

**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

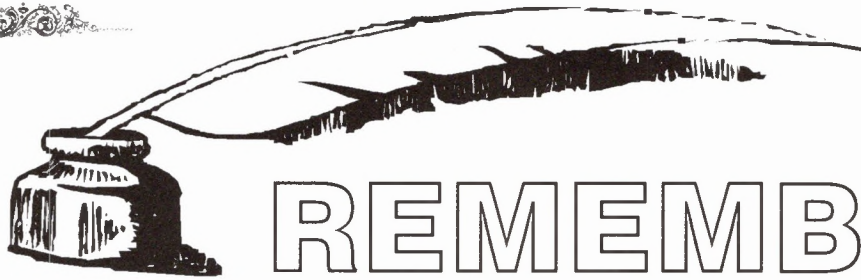
**(\*)** = Changes or additions since last issue

**(\*\*)** = Spring Break Timeframe

**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. Chuck Kellenberger	<i>Chairman</i>	Elgin, IL	Cell# 224-629-6531
* Bro. Bill Leman	<i>Treasurer</i>	Roanoke, IL	Cell# 309-241-0257
* Bro. Les Schambach	<i>Administrator/Sec.</i>	Elgin, IL	Cell# 630-247-5271
* Bro. Tom Neuenschwander		Bluffton, IN	Cell# 260-307-6026
* Bro. Ray Slagel		Fairbury, IL	Cell# 815-848-3714
* Bro. Paul Kaeb		Bern, KS	Cell# 785-547-5269



# REMEMBERING

## *Our Spiritual Heritage*

### **The Elder's Wife**

There is a role –  
a quiet one today,  
in sojourning to heaven  
On God's narrow way.

It's the background presence  
of the Elder's wife,  
supporting her husband  
in his very busy life.

The Elder performs  
for souls to direct.  
Helping all brethren  
to remain circumspect.

The burden grows  
as time does unfold.  
In holding to truth,  
The Elder must be bold.

A help in this duty  
is an ongoing need.  
So his wife's willing ear  
is supportive indeed.

As matters are confidential  
she still lends support,  
and helps her husband  
to "hold the fort".

The Elder labors  
to keep the bar high.  
His wife is ever-present  
and hears his every sigh.

He labors onward –  
true doctrine to maintain;  
the Word to preach  
so others can gain.

Year after year  
as the hours get long,  
his faithful wife  
is a blessed song.

She helps him along  
when he seems to get down.  
He labors faithfully  
against the mortal's frown.

In prayer she kneels  
with him to pray.  
Together they seek  
what God has to say.

The task becomes easier  
as hand in hand,  
she assists the Elder  
toward that happy land.

In quietness ... but  
with a daily zeal,  
her godly example  
has a blessed appeal.

The Elder's wife gives  
godliness a lift,  
so sisters in faith  
won't go adrift.

Each day with her husband  
she does her best,  
helping those in the church  
to meet God's test.

The banner of truth  
is her ongoing goal,  
for the betterment and joy  
of each loving soul.

It is only because of  
God's divine grace,  
she can help her husband  
in this worthy race.

May God support her  
amid earth's frightful leaven;  
keeping at her post,  
helping others to heaven!

*Presented to the Elders' wives  
at the mid-winter meeting in  
West Bend, Iowa, on February 11,  
2010*

# The Light Of Hope

## “Truth Is Exclusive”

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

An American lady was teaching the New Testament to a Japanese lady in Tokyo. The Japanese lady said, “Jesus was very proud.” The American lady asked, “Why do you say that?” The Japanese lady retorted, “Because He said, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man comes to God but by me.’ He was very proud.”

This actually happened and was told to me by the American lady. The question that arises is, “Was Jesus proud?” or was He simply telling the truth. I conclude that He was telling the truth and that the truth is exclusive. (He was humble enough to go to the cross.)

I think like this. If someone says that it is two miles between two clearly designated lines on the surface of the earth and someone else says that it is two and one-tenth miles, both cannot be right. The truth is exclusive.

Buddhism is a tolerant religion, at least in Japan. It is not exclusive. You may be a Christian, a Hindu, a Muslim, a Shintoist, and a Buddhist, and the Buddhist priests won't mind at all as long as you follow the Buddhist customs regarding funerals and the rituals to be performed by the priests, periodically performed following a death.

The story is told of someone calling at the home of a Buddhist priest to sell a book containing the teachings of Christ. The Buddhist priest's wife was pondering as to whether or not she should buy the book when the priest called from inside the house, “Buy it. There are probably many

good teachings in it.”

Christianity is accused of being intolerant. Acts 4:12 reads, “Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” We would like to say that everybody will go to heaven but the problem is, it is not the truth. The truth is that Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God who died for us and arose again. Everyone who goes to heaven will be there on the basis of the atonement He made for us. This is the truth and the truth is exclusive. Two contradictory statements cannot both be true.

Already in the Old Testament God said in the Ten Commandments, “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” Exodus 20:3. This is very exclusive. It means that the living, Creator God is the only God. All others which claim to be gods are fakes. This is the truth and it cannot be compromised and remain the truth. On the contrary, in Buddhism and in Shintoism, the more gods the better. That is why most Japanese would claim to be both Buddhists and Shintoists. They give full cooperation with both the Buddhist temples and the Shinto shrines, and with the Buddhist priests and the Shinto priests. A very religious Japanese man to whom I taught English privately told me that the two are now entwined so that it is difficult to separate the two.

Although the truth is exclusive and Christianity is exclusive, it can be said that Christianity as taught in the New Testament is not at all antago-

nistic toward others outside of Christ. Jesus said, “Love your enemies, bless them that curse you.” Matthew 5:44. However, the history of Christianity shows that Christ's teaching in this regard has not been followed. Professing Christians have martyred other Christians ferociously when different convictions on what the Bible teaches threatened the power of the church. Also, the history of the Apostolic Christian Church shows that it has not always been peaceful within the church. This is my understanding of church history. Please correct me if I am wrong.

Although Christianity is correctly labeled as being intolerant, it is not intolerant in a violent way. On the contrary, Christ did not resist those who nailed Him to the cross and we are called upon to follow in His steps. I John 2:6, “He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.”

We who are followers of Christ believe that homosexuality is wrong based on Romans 1:26 and 27. It evidently is a part of the curse of sin on the earth and on the human race. However, we do not hate or mistreat homosexuals. We love them, feel sorry for them, and pray for them, that by the power of God, they may overcome. This is one of the wonderful aspects of Christianity and the teachings of Christ. Truth is exclusive and is also intolerant as to what deviates from the truth but we still love everybody.

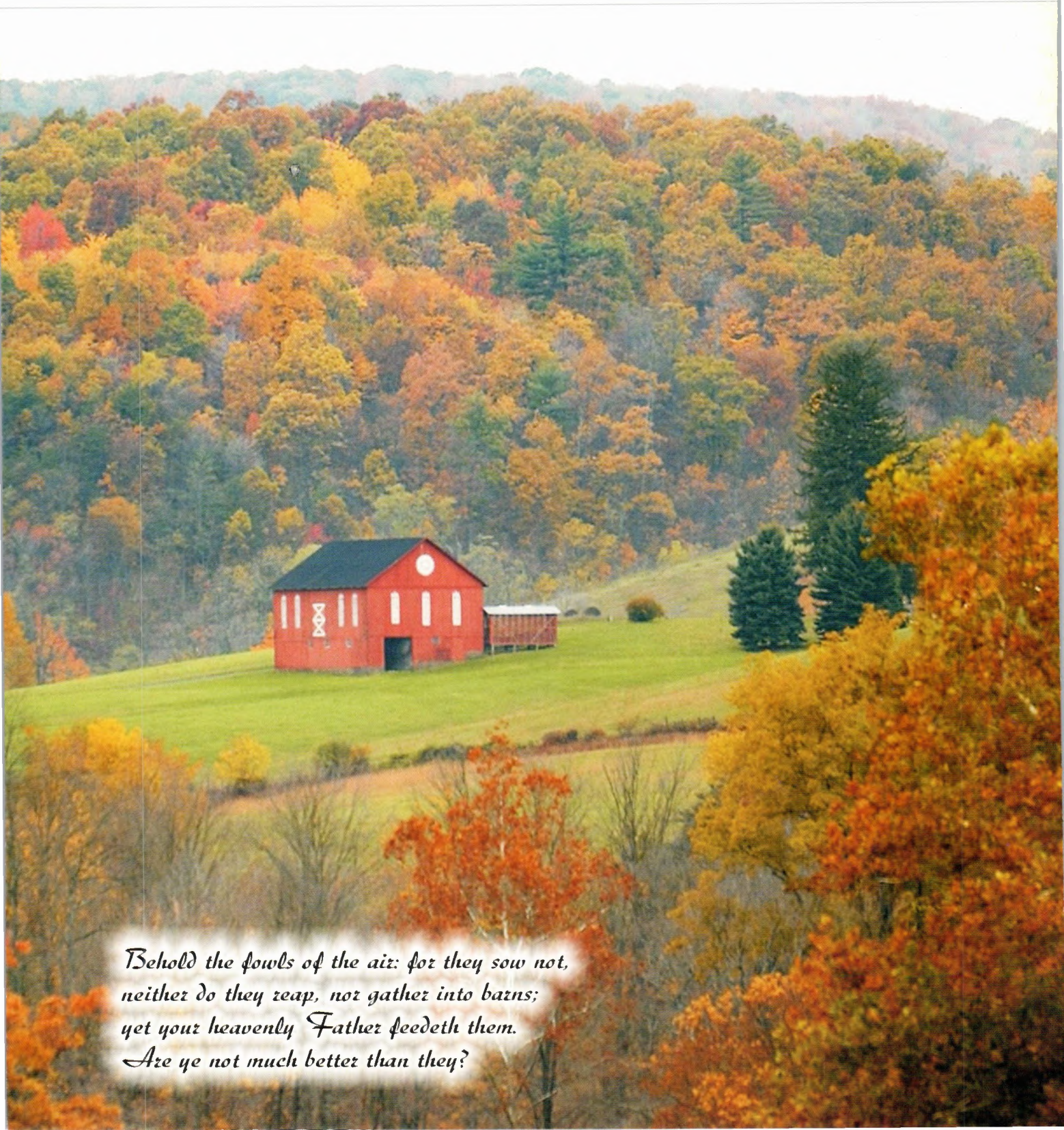
Truth is exclusive. We stand on the truth, unwavering and strong, in the Lord.

# 希望の光

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\*\*\*\*\*CAR-RT LOT\*\*C-003  
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NICK KAEB  
304 E HICKORY ST  
FAIRBURY IL 61739-1233



*Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not,  
neither do they reap, nor gather into barns;  
yet your heavenly Father feedeth them.  
Are ye not much better than they?*