

# *The Silver Lining*

A scenic autumn landscape featuring a large tree with vibrant orange and red leaves in the foreground. The background shows a calm lake reflecting the sky, surrounded by more trees with yellow and orange foliage. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

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

*November 2010*

Sermon by Bro. Greg Rassi, Chicago, IL

## I Samuel Chapter 1:1-18, Romans Chapter 3

We are hard pressed to understand the trouble that existed back in that time. The trouble between people who thought they were entitled to salvation and people who, for as long as they could remember, had been excluded from any hope. Then Jesus came. And we, our whole life, have heard it preached that Jesus is for everyone! It doesn't matter whether you are a Jew or a Gentile. Most of us are Gentiles. God's Word establishes that Jesus came for us, too.

We have a tough time understanding the earthquake, we might say, that took place for the Jews. They read God's Word, and maybe they do today also. They read God's Word in a different way. They read a story about a people that God chose. He took care of them. He provided for them. We can go through all of the accounts. They are precious accounts about believers. Account of those who trusted in God, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Joseph. And, we can keep going. And so, they considered themselves a chosen people. They were very careful to keep their lineage very very straight. Who their ancestors were, how they were related and who married who. In their mind that's how you received part of the promise of God.

When we look at this chapter today we say, what is this chapter for? Why is it here? That was settled a long time ago by Jesus. The answer is, to some extent, in our human nature. God looked at His people, and now I'm talking about His creation, the ones that He had created. The ones He had given the power to choose. The power to follow and be obedient to Him, or the power to choose and be disobedient. And that was far beyond those who were of the chosen people of the Jews.

He looked at us and said, what's is going to take? What is it going to take for this people, this creation, to become My people? What is it going to take to put My Word into their hearts? What is it going to take for

this people to be Mine, that I can be their God? When I think back to the whole story of the Bible, I think that is what God has wanted from the very beginning. He has wanted a people that would focus on Him and remain His.

One of the precious things about Mother's Day is families come back together. Some people who are here today have come a long way to be together as a family. That is a precious thing. It is a very Biblical thing, actually. But the point is that they have come together as a family.

Sometimes people get themselves into a position that they think the thing they need to do is to separate themselves. They think they need go their own way as far as they can. They think they can escape certain, I guess in government we would call it inalienable truths, but in Scripture, dear ones, we would simply call it the Truth. You can't escape the Truth, dear ones, those of you who have heard the Word and those of you who have read the Bible. This morning brother Bob said people who try to be an atheist or maybe they are an atheist, I think are the words he used. To me that is a really difficult thing isn't it? That people decide there is no God, that they were not created? I don't think there is one person in this entire assembly that thinks that in their hearts. Instead, we are convinced that, yes, we do have a wonderful God, a Creator, a Father. He wants us to be a part of His family and He never wants to lose sight of us. He never wants us to go our own way. Isn't it a precious thing as He finds ways to draw us to Him. We have examples through the Scriptures. We have the example of Hannah being pressed by the adversary praying/pouring out her heart, making vows. Did you notice that she made some vows?

What is a vow? It is a promise. The Bible says that if you make a vow you should keep your vow. God says that is right. God does that be-

Sermon continued on page 41

### Cover Verses

Front: Psalms 1:1,3

Back: II Corinthians 9:11

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*"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" (Jam. 1:27)*

## Light From The Word



Writings based  
on God's Word

November 2010

Unspotted From The World

The Scriptures clearly teach that we are to walk in purity of heart, keeping ourselves unspotted from the world (Jam. 1:27; 1 Pet. 1:22). Unspotted can be defined as clean, pure, undefiled, holy, and free from guile or worldliness.

We often make a great deal of effort to keep our material possessions unspotted. We can purchase "spot remover" for carpet, clothing, glass, and numerous other items. Although there is nothing wrong with reasonable efforts at sanitation, we must be careful that it does not become a preoccupation or an attempt to impress others. Material spots are temporary and often not very important.

If our eye glasses or our car windshield have spots on them, it might impair our vision and put us in physical danger. That could be serious enough, but it is still only temporary. In our spiritual life, keeping ourselves unspotted from the world has eternal consequences and requires a total surrender of self to God. Even a small spot of "self" can grow into pride and have serious ramifications; for we know that "...God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble" (Jam. 4:6). If we think that we are able of our own strength to do everything necessary to keep ourselves pure, no doubt we will fail. "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1 Cor. 10:12).

Many Scripture passages encourage us to be unspotted from the world. David wrote of the importance of purity when he asked "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? ...He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart..." (Psa. 24:3-4). He also recognized that man could not be pure by his own power: "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting" (Psa. 139:23-24).

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said: "Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God" (Matt. 5:8). Paul wrote to Timothy, "Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned" (1 Tim. 1:5).

How can we keep ourselves pure and

unspotted from the world? In His intercessory prayer, Jesus pleaded on our behalf: "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17). Being unspotted from the world really must start with reliance upon the Word of God, which we must approach with a humble heart of sincere self-examination. It is largely a matter of attitude. Are we willing to humbly obey what God asks of us? Are we truly desirous to be free from the contaminations of the world and make the necessary sacrifices to keep ourselves pure? Do we recognize how desperately we need God's grace to work toward these goals?

Although we can never be spotless by our own efforts, we are promised that God will provide. Jesus told the rich young ruler: "If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me" (Matt. 19:21). Further, we are promised that whatever we sacrifice for the Kingdom we shall "...receive manifold more in this present time, and in the world to come life everlasting" (Luke 18:30). Few, if any, of us have been asked to give everything as the rich young man was, but if we are of a humble, submissive attitude, God will provide grace so that we can be a "living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is (our) reasonable service" (Rom. 12:1).

We must remember the condition of the Laodicean Church: "Because thou sayest I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:..." (Rev. 3:17). We cannot hide our condition. Jesus said to all seven of the churches in Asia, "I know thy works..." (Rev. 2 and 3). God also knows us better than we know ourselves, and we can be thankful that He gave those churches the opportunity to repent. "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent" (Rev. 3:19). Without God's love, grace, mercy and forgiveness, we would never be kept unspotted from the world.

The help (grace) we receive is a gift God freely gives to His children. We must be willing to do our little part, but we all recognize that we receive more from the Lord than we deserve. David, while in great dis-

ress and feeling forsaken of God, said: "But I am a worm and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people" (Psa. 22:6).

Good intentions are vital, but to say and not do is of little value. Jesus told of the man who had two sons. He asked them to go to work in his vineyard. The first said he would not go but later changed his mind and went. The second son said "...I go sir: and went not" (Matt. 21:30). The second son appeared to be of a ready mind, but he did not do his father's will. Are we "Ready to go, ready to stay, ready my place to fill; Ready for service, lowly or great, Ready to do His will" ("Ready", Hymns of Zion, #124)?

To be unspotted from the world, we must have the mind of Christ and exemplify His character (1 Cor. 2:16). Additional Scripture passages that remind us of the importance of focusing our minds on Christ include: "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21); "...be of one mind ..." (2 Cor. 13:11); "...in singleness of heart, as unto Christ...doing the will of God..." (Eph. 6:5-6).

Through a life-long process of sanctification, and only by God's grace and mercy, will we ultimately be found blameless before Him. We must acknowledge and correct our errors along life's way, and through His advocacy and cleansing we are made worthy (Eph. 5:26-27; 1 John 1:7-10; 2:1-2). "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thes. 5:23).

God knows our hearts. May we be able to say like David: "Judge me, O Lord; for I have walked in mine integrity...examine me, O Lord, and prove me..." (Psa. 26:1-2).

Pure motives are well reflected in the Zion's Harp hymn, "Pure and Holy Love", #72, v.9.

"Love of Jesus, love of brethren,  
Heal our souls from every smart!  
Grant to us Thy purest motives  
And a pure, unspotted heart."

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@mto.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

### New Church in Caransebes, Romania

Although not among the very first churches in Romania, the congregation at Caransebes dates from the late 19th century. This congregation was always made up of people of little means, yet they were able to build a church before 1900, and when Communism overtook the country following WWI, they had a building of their own to worship in. As were all Romanian churches except one, it was taken from them. Many churches were destroyed or otherwise rendered useless during those difficult days, but the building at Caransebes did survive. Some others did also.

During the 70 years of Communism believers endured suffering beyond the comprehension of our American minds. They gathered in small groups and isolated places, most of the time without children in fear that these young people might inadvertently tell someone else, and the believers would be arrested. At one time the authorities did allow the Nazareans to ordain five new elders. However, police stood by and when the services were complete, they arrested all the elders except one old brother who was left alone to shepherd the entire nation.

Funerals allowed them a time to preach the word, but baptisms and weddings were held in deep secrecy. A faithful brother who still lives and serves the Caransebes congregation held many secret services in places where it would draw no attention, often at the risk of his own freedom.

When Communism fell in 1989, by God's grace this small group was able to buy back their church which

was in poor condition. Several years ago they asked the American brethren to help them build a new church, which has been completed on the original site. The old building was not salvageable, and was demolished to allow for the new structure. It took a couple of years for design, permits, and construction, but today the small group rejoices to have a simple yet to them very beautiful place to worship.



The building was dedicated on October 10, with services being attended by representatives of the Mission and European Committees. The brethren are grateful beyond any expression of words, thanking God first of all, and then all of our loyal and faithful donors who make this possible in Eastern Europe.

### Church building ongoing

In Hungary nearly all congregations worship in new or remodeled facilities. At this time construction is underway for a new building in Dimka, Ukraine, with plans to help purchase or upgrade facilities for other congregations in that land.

There are only a couple of churches in Slovakia and three in Croatia, all of which have received substantial support from American brethren.

Perhaps the greatest number of Nazareans found themselves in the

land once called Yugoslavia, and now is termed Serbia. At one time there were 30,000 members in that land, with over 300 elders. Wars and Communism took a dismal toll of these members, many of whom were imprisoned or even killed for their faith. Today one can still meet brethren from each of these lands and hear stories of misery and suffering that we cannot imagine.

Many fled their homelands, but there is still an active remnant throughout Eastern Europe, and the purpose of our two committees is to provide, not only places for them to worship, but also to attempt to give them a chance to make their living and remain in their own countries and culture.

Over 20 years many churches have been repaired or rebuilt, with ongoing work as funding permits. Through your generosity we have been able to purchase dozens of good vehicles to transport brethren to worship services. Few are capable of owning a car, so some years ago we had a successful project that furnished hundreds of bicycles being used today by many families.

Opportunities exist for young families and we continue to try to assist them with our many programs. Much work is carried on through Antioch Association, based in Romania but serving all nations. Your vital support is needed and appreciated. You may contribute through your local church Mission Committee representative, marking the donation for Eastern Europe.

European Committee Chairman is:  
Bro. Peter Petrovic  
25510 Pappas Road  
Ramona, CA 92065  
ppetrovic@cox.net



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

## Given in the Name of Jesus Christ

### Meat canning history

During WWII, the Mennonites developed the idea of a portable canner. They learned of those who were suffering from the war and sent them home canned produce in glass jars. Not surprisingly, many jars were broken in shipping. In 1945, a business in Virginia, built a portable canner for tin cans. Shortly after this, another portable canner was built in Hesston, Kansas by Mennonites there. After several years, the Mennonites in Hesston turned their canner over to MCC (Mennonite Central Committee), who own and operate the mobile canner in use today.



### The Mobile Canner and Canner Men

MCC's portable canner is mounted on a custom designed semi-trailer. Their annual canning schedule runs from October to April of the following year, travelling to 36 different communities to can the meat. The men (typically 4) who travel with the canner usually fill a position for two years. In October the canning crew arrives with two new men, who train "on the job." The "Canner men" operate the equipment and stay two to ten days at one location, depending on the amount of meat at that stop. The canner has a 25HP steam boiler, six cookers, two cooling tanks, two cooking kettles and a sealer for putting lids on the cans.

### Canning meat at the Ohio Distribution Center

The brethren in the Rittman area have been involved with the canning stop in Kidron, Ohio since 1946. When considering our own distribution center, one of our brothers asked MCC if they would be willing to bring the canning trailer to our building, and they agreed. The portable canner usually comes to our stop twice in a year, once in the fall and again the following spring. In the past we have canned beef, pork and turkey; most recently we've canned turkey. In four days, 34,000 to 40,000 pounds of meat is processed. National World Relief, along with local donations and many volunteers have supported this project.

### A typical canning day 6:00 AM – 10:00 PM

After a prayer at 6:00 AM, volunteers get turkey thighs out of a refrigerated truck. The turkey is run through a meat grinder and put in a large cooking kettle (500# capacity). Salt is added to the meat, and two volunteers stir the meat until it reaches 50 degrees F. Once the meat is heated, it is ready to put in 28-ounce cans.

Ten volunteers fill and weigh the cans on the canning line. The lid is put on the can and stacked in a basket that holds 140 cans. The basket of filled cans is placed in one of the six cookers on the canning trailer. The meat is cooked approximately two hours with steam produced by the boiler. After cooking is complete, the basket of cans is placed in a cooling tank with a flowing water bath for twenty minutes or until the temperature of the can is 90 degrees F.

Anyone in the meat area or handling meat must be wearing a white coat. The USDA inspector comes one or two times a day. Their job is to assure the meat is processed in a sterile way (bacteria free).

After the cans have cooled, they are taken into the building. Volunteers wash, dry and put labels on the cans. Thirty to forty volunteers help with the canning project at a time. It is an opportunity for fellowship with one another.

Once the cans have been labeled, they are inspected and ran through the printer with the following put on each can: date canned, expiration date, establishment number and batch number. Then the cans are placed in boxes and put on pallets for shipment.

A can of meat is taken out of every batch and put in an incubator heated to 95 degrees F for ten days. This test is to ensure there are no bacteria in the canned meat.

Usually between batches, there is a lull in the meat canning process. This time is optimized by packing soup in another part of the building. There are manual lines set up for the people to walk through and fill soup bags at all times during meat canning. If there are enough people on the soup lines, we use an automated conveyor system. This takes fifteen to twenty people.

*"For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat..."* Matt 25:35  
Meat has been sent to Honduras, Nicaragua, Haiti, Colombia, Bulgaria, Swaziland, Sri Lanka, along with work teams and for disasters within the USA. While it warms the heart to do good for others, part of the reward is the rich fellowship that takes place when the work is being done.

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

Written by a staff member from the community who has worked on and off at ACHH over her career...

“Rooted and built up in him, and established in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.”

*Colossians 2:7*

Thankfulness is on everyone's mind this time of year. Some are thankful for equipment that allows them to do more or be more efficient. Some are thankful for a paycheck. Some are thankful for family and friends that come to visit. Some are thankful for the grace extended when they did not feel deserving. These thoughts could come from one of you reading this article or from the mind of a resident living at Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped.

Through the prayer, acts and donations of many, the residents and staff are able to routinely witness Christ's love within these homes. What often is not as easily seen is that this love spills into the lives of others around them as well. Imagine a single drop of rain into a still lake. From such a tiny drop the ripples magnify and stretch far into the lake—much wider than the original drop.

From the beginning, this place has been “rooted and built up in Him.” Its presence has worked in the hearts of many to provide for more than a place for adults with disabilities to live. Its reach has become far-entering into the lives of staff, families, and community

members. This year there are 148 residents but there have been many that have been in and out over the years. Along with them, their family and friends were also impacted. We have roughly 300 staff members but countless have come and gone over the years and from time to time each of them have taken bits of The Word and love of God home to their family and friends. We work with about 80 outside providers at this time but there have been many others and that number does not include the physicians, government workers, community business members and others encountered in a professional and Godly way.

God has been present and known in this place from the day its doors were opened. People have come and gone. The agency has experienced its share of problems, hard times, and trials. However, everyone genuinely notices that life and work in this place is different and for that we are “abounding therein with thanksgiving.” We thank our Lord for His presence in this place.

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**GATEWAY WOODS  
APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
CHILDREN'S HOME  
Tim Sauder**

I have been reading a book to my kids recently. However, I have found that it is just as relevant to me as it is to my teens. In the book, *Do Hard Things*, the young authors lay out challenges of high expectations to their peers that can apply to all of us in the body of Christ. We are talking about good, hard things, not foolish recklessness.

In order to accomplish great

things or simply just survive, we may need to step out of our comfort zone. Often for great rewards one must take great risks. We may courageously choose to do that OR we may be forced to walk to the end of the diving board and jump because we have no other choice. We are called to “walk by faith, not by sight.” (II Corinthians 5:7)

This reminds me of a poster I saw years ago with a big ship anchored near shore that said, “Ships are safe in the harbor, but that's not what great ships are built for.” Perhaps another parallel is that it is better to have tried and failed than to have never tried at all. Effort, even failed effort builds muscle. “For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up....” (Proverbs 24:16)

How does he do it? He is strong only in the Lord. Ephesians 6:10 says, “be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might.” The Bible is full of common, ordinary people who trusted God to do extraordinary things when they walked in faithful obedience even in the face of failure, persecution and death. These are heroes like Abraham, Moses, Peter and Paul who in II Timothy 1:7 said, “For God hath not given us a spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”

Do we believe that? What really holds us back? Let's be honest, it is often fear. And “fears are usually just well-concealed lies.” So what are we afraid of? Is it not pride that makes us fear inadequacy, discomfort, failure or humiliation? Is our fear revealing, not only our humanness, but also that we don't fully trust God to come through?

Our Board of Directors and the

Management Team at Gateway Woods are facing some confusing, challenging, and occasionally fearful times. The above scriptures serve as reminders and encouragement as we sort through new regulatory pressures from the State of Indiana. There are some very real threats to our ministry, especially as we continue to be committed to God's design of the Christian family model in our campus group homes that has been so effective over the years.

A recent special Board Meeting and an upcoming November retreat are pivotal as our leaders take action to appeal to the government and, at the same time, make plans for how we will go forward so that we can continue to do good things for lost and wounded children and families. We need your prayers for courage, clarity, wisdom, and faith to trust the unknown future to our known God.

*News:*

We welcomed new Alternate House Parents, Bro. Keith and Sis. Alisa Beyer (Washington, IL), along with their five children to Gateway Woods. We are thankful they listened and obeyed the Lord's call and look forward to serving with them. Please pray for them as they continue to learn the responsibilities of being House Parents.

Gateway Woods welcomed three new residents to campus this past month. Please pray with us as these three children become accustomed to their new homes in the Maple, Pine and Oak Houses. It can be difficult for new residents as they experience a very different living situation than that which they have experienced at home.

- The Gateway Woods Adoption program has added Honduras and the Democratic Republic of Congo to the list of countries from which our adoptive parents have received children. Adoptions from Ukraine and Ethiopia are currently in process.

- Remarkably, 19 of the Foster Children placed by Gateway Woods have been adopted by their Foster Parents in the past year! It is such a wonderful thing when lost children find their "forever home." Praise God who "setteth the solitary in families." (Psalm 68:6)

- We currently have over 40 children in Gateway Woods foster homes. A sibling group of children was recently placed in one of our Christian foster homes. One worker said that it was the worst case of neglect and abuse she had seen in her two decades in the field. One child sits in the corner and rocks back and forth. All had multiple cuts, burns and bruises and suffer from malnutrition. Satan is alive in these last days. Please pray for these children and their Foster Parents.

- We celebrated Tim Sauder's 25th year as an employee of Gateway Woods this past week! We are so thankful for his years of service and commitment to this ministry.

- Our staff has had the opportunity to share about our various services with a number of congregations in recent months including Rockville, Champaign, Bloomington, Junction, Elgin and Columbus. We thank our Lord for the fellowship, interest and support of our loyal churches that are so critical to our staffing, funding and operation as we minister to these needy families.

- 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](https://www.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**

This month has been filled with exciting events. First was the Pumpkin Patch. This is a field trip filled with a hay maze, corn pool, wagon ride, petting zoo, and picking a pumpkin right out of the field! It's a lot of fun, and it is a good opportunity to get the parents involved and interacting with each other. We'll also have a fall party filled with tasty treats and fun games.

Because we teach a new Bible story every day, sometimes it's hard for 2-4 year olds to keep everything straight. This month, we were learning about Joseph. Mrs. Louise was telling the story of when he was thrown into the well by his brothers.

She asked: "Does anyone know where Joseph is?"

Child: "TIME OUT!"

Mrs. Louise: "No. He's been in a well. Who knows what happens after the well?"

Different child: "The whale spits him out!"

Mrs. Louise: "No! W-E-L-L, not

whale! And this is Joseph, NOT Jonah. So, who remembers who Joseph's father was?"

Kids respond unanimously, "Jesus!"

Mrs. Louise (sighs): "Not Jesus! There are just too many 'J' names."

There is also much word confusion. When asked what she wanted to be when she grew up, one little girl responded enthusiastically, "A petinarian!"...I guess it does make sense! On another occasion, I asked, "What is baptism?" One child exclaimed, "Your boss!" Now, THAT is interesting! There is ONE thing that the children know very well: Jesus loves the little children!

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.

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### **ALABAMA, ATHENS** **Louise Hall**

Visitors always make us feel loved and blessed here in Athens! This month we were privileged to meet many new brothers and sisters in Christ and be reacquainted with old ones too. A big group from Forrest, IL, traveled down to the good ol' south including Bro. Dan Zimmerman who helped with the adult Sunday school and Bro. Arlen Leman preached for the service. We also had visitors from Goodfield, IL, and Mansfield, OH. Bro. Jedd Rocke (Goodfield, IL) gave of himself for the sermon and we were blessed by young group that made the efforts to travel

south. For the preschool board meeting, we were also blessed by many visiting brothers to assist on the pulpit and in adult Sunday school: Bro. Daron Price (Milford, IN), Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL), Bro. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT), and our Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH). Words can never say enough to express our thankfulness as we are often in need of encouragement and leadership from other churches.

Our prayers go out to Bro. Zach Bertsch (Bluffton, IN) who is a brother to our Sis. Cassie Bertsch. Zach is battling cancer and has recently undergone a difficult surgery. Also, we want to extend our deepest sympathy to Sis. Joyce Gasser (Akron, OH) who is faced with the loss of her husband, Bro. Paul Gasser. We sincerely enjoyed this beloved couple as they made frequent trips to Athens and will miss Bro. Paul dearly. Sis. Joyce Ray's sister, Francis Edwards, faces some uncertainty concerning her health and would also appreciate your prayers. Sis. Naomi Hall's daughter, Renee Hoover, is in the hospital and prayers would be appreciated.

Bro. David and Sis. Barbara Coulter's son would covet your prayers and encouragement. His address is:

Eric Coulter  
3103 Bermuda Drive  
Killeen, TX 76549

Bro. Matthew and Sis. Kristy Moore (Denver, CO) have a new address: 17378 E Adriatic Place, Apt HH 102, Aurora, CO 80013.

Recently in Athens, we heard

much concerning trusting in the Lord. In times of change, storms, uncertainty, and fear, we relish in the comfort that our God loves us and will protect us.

"Trust in the Lord with all thy heart and lean not unto thine own understanding."

*Proverbs 3:5,6*

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### **ARIZONA, PHOENIX** **Heather Hinrichsen**

Worshipping with and sharing God's Word with us this month were Bro. Don Manz (Junction), Bro. Jay Knapp (Tucson) and Elder Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North). We thank these brothers for their service to the Lord.

We are thankful that Kristin Knochel (Bro. Herb and Sis. Laurie) has chosen to follow the way of repentance and seek a life of service to Christ.

We continue to keep Sis. LouAnn Klopfenstein (Bro. Dave) and family in our prayers as she had to spend some time in the hospital. Praise God for His healing touch.

Bro. Mike, Sis. Valerie, Brett and Sophia Howell have followed the Lord's leading and have moved to Morris, MN. We will deeply miss their family, but we know they will be welcomed and embraced by their new church family.

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### **ARIZONA, PRESCOTT** **Denise Steidinger**

Fall is a wonderful time of year! We've enjoyed beautiful fall weather followed by a lot of rain for this time of year. It was another reminder of Who is in control. "For my thoughts are not your



thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.” (Isaiah 55:8-9) This has always been a favorite verse of mine, and a friend reminded me of it last week. God is sovereign and trustworthy and that means that we can trust Him even when we don’t understand.

We have been visited this past month by Bro. Bill Schick (Sis. Joan, Magdalena), Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Phoenix) and Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Sis. Lillian, San Diego). Thank you for coming and preaching God’s Word.

Please continue to pray for Bro. Ed and Sis. Jenny Schambach and their health challenges.

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### **ARIZONA, TUCSON**

**Lisa Knapp**

Another October, another wonderful Sunday School Picnic! Our church was again blessed with a beautiful, although a little windy, day of fun, food and fellowship at our annual Sunday School Picnic. Thanks are extended in every direction – many thanks to Bro. Chris and Sis. Sara Hattan for organizing this special event, and many thanks to all who come and support it and so generously purchase the auction items to benefit our Sunday School and it’s activities and community work. This is always a special day in our little church.

We welcome Sis. Brittany Gerber to our congregation. Sis. Brittany lives about four hours away in New Mexico but has fellowshiped with us twice and

hopes to be here as often as possible. We hope to be a home away from home to her whenever she makes the trip.

Our dear friend, Bee Schmidt, fell recently, broke her hip and required surgery. Bee will be recovering for awhile and will miss worshipping with us, and we will miss her. We gathered at the nursing home last Sunday and sang for her and she requested that I offer her heartfelt thanks for our “beautiful singing”! There you have it, Bee. We enjoyed doing it as much as you enjoyed listening to it. Get well soon and come back to us!

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### **CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA**

“Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;”

*Deut. 7:9*

The Lord has been faithful to our little congregation here in Altadena. Sunday School is underway, with a new configuration of classes, custom made for our changing group of kids. College, high-school, elementary school and home school students and teachers are once again in full swing with the school year! We see the faithfulness of God in all seasons of life. Fall has brought travel for many in our church, including vacations, family visits, work travel, a missions trip to Magdalena and even a trip to India with the RGMMI board. Blessings and safety to all, and may the purposes of God be accomplished in ev-

ery footstep. God is faithful! We have also witnessed restoration of health, and grace to endure trials and tests of life...this too is evidence of God’s faithfulness. So we put our trust in the True and Living God, we keep His commandments, and rest in the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy from generation to generation!

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

Our prayers, love and thoughts go with Bro. Brent Wagenbach as he embarks on a trip to Haiti to assist the brethren there for six months. We miss his presence with us, but our prayers are that the Lord’s loving hand will rest upon him, keeping him in His tender care and protection until we are reunited again.

Elder Bro. Peter and Sis. Marian Petrovic have joyously embraced a new granddaughter into their family circle. Reese Leanne was lovingly welcomed by her immediate family, Bro. Phillip and Sis. Tasha Petrovic, along with older siblings, Ashlyn and Brandon, of Silverton, OR. We rejoice with thanksgiving for the delivery of such a special package from above.

We find such comfort that the Lord provides for our every need and that we can turn to Him in all things. As brethren, we find encouragement and solace in our heavenly Father that He will be with His people always, no matter how hard Satan may try to pull us away from the truth. By God’s grace, if we stay close to the Word and thus our Lord and Savior, victory in Christ will prevail! What a

glorious reunion it will be to be able to stand before the Lord in His presence in the heavens above pure and spotless with our names written in the book of life. How blessed we are for the promises God has given us, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son". Rev. 21:7. "Behold I come quickly: blessed is he that keepeth the sayings of the prophecy of this book (the Word of life)." Rev. 22:7.

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**REGINA, SK  
CANADA  
Myrna Shipley**

God has given our friends, Bernhard and Angelika Kaiser, a beautiful baby girl, Teresa. She has an older brother, Kevin.

We had a minister last month — Bro. Brian and Sis. Jacki Huber from Francesville. They extended their minister rotation turn and made a road trip out to the west and saw the Rockie mountains. They enjoyed visiting here and they shared with us how God is so faithful. We're also thankful for another minister this month, Bro. Todd and Sis. Michele Zollinger from Silverton. Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich also came with the Zollingers. Thank you for taking the time and sharing the Gospel message to us here.

Kurt and Lydia Waidlich from Germany were staying with Herman and Hilda Kaiser for several weeks. The four of them did some traveling in the States.

"O love the Lord, all ye his saints: for the Lord preserveth the faithful, and plentifully rewardeth the proud doer."

*Psalms 31:24*

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**COLORADO, DENVER  
Lily Zarkovacki**

Revive us again; fill each heart with  
Thy love;  
May each soul be rekindled with fire  
from above.  
Hallelujah! Thine the glory, Hallelu-  
jah! Amen;  
Hallelujah! Thine the glory, revive us  
again.  
*Hymns of Zion #290, vs. 4*

We are thankful to have had Elder Bro. Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN) assist our Elder Bro. Mike Leman in reading of the Memorandum.

Also, this past month we thank Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara, Bloomfield, IA); Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL); and Bro. Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Austin, TX) for their willingness to share God's Word with us. We invite them back any time!

It was such a blessing to host the "Working Singles" group. We had many churches represented and an amazing turnout!

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**CONNECTICUT  
ROCKVILLE  
Laura Virkler  
Bonnie Bahler**

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessing in heavenly places in Christ."

*Ephesians 1:3*

What a spiritual blessing it has been, to listen to our Conference tapes and be strengthened by the messages that were brought forth. We are so thankful for our shepherds who give so much of their

time and strive so diligently to guide us and encourage us in this walk of faith. May each of us continue to pray for them and encourage them.

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Sis. Joyce Schneider (Bro. Roy) and Bro. Dale Wagenbach (Sis. Mary) in the passing of their sister, Sis. Shirley Funk from Congerville, IL. May the Lord comfort them and their families with their loss.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn Lanz, who, after many years worshipping in Philadelphia, have relocated back to our congregation.

On October 16, Erin Dombek and Michael Benedict were united in marriage. We rejoice with them and their parents, Bob and Sis. Lorraine Dombek, Andrea Benedict and Peter Robustelli.

We would like to thank Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL) for being a willing servant and bringing God's Word to us. We also want to thank Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary Ann, Fairbury, IL) for sharing in the reading of the Memorandum. May the Lord bless these Brothers for their willingness to serve us.

Our prayers go out to Sis. Lois Schulz (Bro. Ken) who has been hospitalized and is now recuperating. We pray that she can feel the nearness of the Lord in her time of need.

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**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
WASHINGTON  
Henrietta Meyer**

Our caretakers for October were Bro. Norb and Sis. Mary Jane Schneider Schrock from Peoria,

IL. 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 just received word that the December caretaker had to cancel; please contact Sis. Doreen Steffen at [dkgsteffen@gmail.com](mailto:dkgsteffen@gmail.com) or 301-681-1502 if you would be interested in coming for even part of the month. We also encourage past caretakers to come again!

Now that summer is over, we are having fewer vacationers. This gives us the opportunity to get better acquainted with the visitors we have each Sunday. Our ministers this month were Bro. Calvin Schneider (Sis. Jeannie, LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Sid Kaufmann (Sis. Sandra, Cissna Park, IL) and Bro. Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka, IL). Other visitors were from Peoria and Forrest, IL; and Bluffton North, IN.

The day after I submitted my last article, we learned Ken Belsley had surgery. Our thoughts and prayers have been with him and his dear wife, Roberta.

This month we also welcomed Stephanie Barth from Morton to our congregation. She will be in the area for a couple of years as she attends graduate school in Washington, DC.

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.

### **FLORIDA FT. LAUDERDALE Renee Mangold**

We were thankful to have visiting ministers, Bro. Joe Braker (Sis. Shirley, Morton, IL), Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington, IL). We pray for God's blessing on them for their service.

Our prayers continue to be with Sis. Shirley Braker. It was a joy to be able to see her here and pray that our Lord will continue to keep His healing hands around her.

Congratulations to David Mangold (Bro. Mike and Sis. Renee) upon his graduation at Fort Jackson. David is continuing his training at Fort Lee and our prayers are with him.

### **FLORIDA NORTH FORT MYERS Victor Beer**

What a wonderful time fall is, when more of our wintertime brethren and friends return to spend some weeks with us, from the colder north weather. Renewing friendships makes for great fellowship each fall.

Last month the annual fellowship of those interested in the jail ministry of the Berean Prison Ministry held a dinner in LaBelle. We were grateful for the presence of a founder, Bro. Ed Meister, and his wife, Sis. Bernie, to be with us. God has used many of our church brethren to minister in the jails around Peoria, in southwest Florida, and in many ways to those that have made mistakes in life and find they need a Saviour. A major effort of this ministry is the written test of 50 lessons developed by Bro. John

Wagler. This is now being developed by Bro. Willis Ehnle, retired Elder of our church in Japan, now living in Peoria, IL. Grading those tests is a blessing some of us have, which helps us to be concerned for the inmates, who need our Lord's guidance.

It has been good to hear of the blessings to those that attended the church outing at the Lakewood Camp this fall. We hope this tradition can be continued each year.

Our mid-week church services are planned to start on November 3, as usual, this fall. We appreciate the privilege of being a church home to all visitors away from their home churches.

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

“Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know.”

*John 14:1-4*

We want to extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers during this time of sorrow to Sis. Aldine Martin and her family at the passing away of their dear husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Bro. Rich Martin. We will dearly miss Bro. Rich and his strong, enduring love for the Lord, but we are thankful for the hope that we have that one day we will be

able to see him once again in heaven.

Many from our congregation enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship as we once again gathered together for our annual weekend spent at Lakewood Retreat. We were very thankful to have Bro. Ron Kipfer (Sis. Linda, Bluffton, IN) present an insightful Bible study on "Creation vs. Evolution". Bro. Ron so vividly illustrated how only a loving God could have created with such detail the awesome world in which we live.

We were thankful to have visiting ministers, Bro. Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington, IL) share God's Word with us this month. We pray that God would bless them for their labors of love.

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### GEORGIA, ATLANTA

It has been a wonderful last few weeks, full of exciting events and changes for our church family!

We are rejoicing with the angels — Hannah Lindberg (Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie) has turned to the Lord in repentance! May God be very near to her as she seeks Him each day.

On 10/10/10, Calista Faith Lindberg entered the world! She was welcomed home by Bro. Joshua and Sis. Bethany Lindberg (Roanoke, IL) and her big sister Cara. Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg are so excited to be grandparents again! Uncles and aunts include Bro. Matthew and Sis. Renae and cousin Emmet (Chicago, IL), Bro. Mark and Sis. Laura and cousin Zoie (Chicago, IL), Ja-

cob, Caleb, Bro. Ben, Sis. Lydia, Hannah, Joel and Rachel.

Bro. Rich Aberle was given full support from our congregation to return to the pulpit and join Elder Bro. Tom Waldbeser and Bro. Ken Lawson in the ministry.

We were blessed by Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI), who joined Elder Bro. Tom Waldbeser in sharing the Memorandum.

Drew Waldbeser and Elise Waldbeser (Elder Bro. Tom and Sis. Sue) shared their testimonies and were baptized on October 30-31. It was a glorious weekend! They were overwhelmed by the love and support of so many friends and family. Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein assisted in the work. Also present were ministering Bros. Kerwin Edelman (Athens, AL) and Les Kaeb (Francesville, IL).

Bro. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO) ministered recently to our congregation. It was a challenging sermon on Revelation chapter 3! May God bless him and his dear family.

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### ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Doreen Moser  
Shayla Steffen**

Greetings be to you, our brethren, to our sisters in the Lord, Here from far and near assembled, Gathered here in one accord.

We had brethren from near and far assemble with us this past month. There is a comfort, peace and blessing our little church feels when we can welcome visiting brethren to our Belvidere church. We extend a Christian welcome to anyone in the area to visit our church.

Greetings to our faithful brethren, Heart and voice we do employ; Wishing them the Father's nearness, Tho' their lot be woe or joy.

We want to thank Bro. Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN) for employing his voice to bring forth the Word of God. We pray for the nearness of God to those who minister the Word Sunday after Sunday so that they can continue to preach the true Word of God.

Farewell in the name of our Lord!

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

"And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; that ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God."

*Philippians 1: 9-11*

What a blessing our church congregation is experiencing growing in love and knowledge as we share in the Philippians Bible study together through small group and congregational study.

We want to extend our love and sympathy to our Sis. Ann Nussbaum (Bro. Jay) and grandchildren: Bro. William Nussbaum (Sis. Lexi) and Sis. Casey Zimmerman (Bro. Tyler) with the loss of their father and grandfather, William Orth (Fairbury, IL.)

Bro. Jarod and Sis. Heidi Rinkenberger are excited to welcome home Oliver Zenichi, born September 27. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Kenny and Sis. Devon Rinkenberger (Morton, IL) and Hisato and Rika Inoue and the late Sis. Kathie Inoue.

Thank you to visiting ministering Bro. Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy, Roanoke, IL) for sharing the Gospel message with us this past month.

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

“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”

*II Timothy 4:2*

We are reminded by Apostle Paul that some plant, others water, but it is God that giveth the increase. This past month we were blessed with visiting ministers who reminded us of who we are in the sight of God. One minister spoke on the blessing of guilt, that if the unconverted can feel the guilt for their sins, they are blessed, as we live in a world that seems to be “guilt free” in serving themselves. Those who visited this week were Bros. Jerry Wagenbach (Sis. Bonnie, Oakville), Brandon Emch (Sis. Maria, Kansas City), Paul Zimmerman (Sis. Loretta, Forrest), Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend), Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury), and Glen Steiner (Sis. Rachel, Winthrop). May the Lord bless these brothers for their willingness to work on our behalf that we can have our spiritual lives

refreshed and reinforced by the Word.

We extend our sympathies to Sis. Sharon Elsasser in the passing of her sister, Sis. Shirley Funk of Congerville.

God be with you ‘til we meet again.

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

Greetings from Champaign-Urbana! Once again, another month has come and gone, and with its passing there is much wonderful news to report! October 2 was the birthday of Reuben Mark Sauder, son of Bro. Mark and Sis. Ashley Sauder. We rejoice at his birth and ask God to bless this family as they raise Reuben up in the fear of the Lord.

Our Sis. Natalie Martin was wed to Bro. Alan Zimmerman of Morton, IL, on Sunday, October 10. We rejoice with them as they become united in the Lord! Their parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Jean Martin (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Doug and Sis. Jane Zimmerman (Morton, IL). We will miss Sis. Natalie as she makes her home in Morton. May God bless this couple. Elder Bro. Ted Witzig Sr. and Bro. Ted Witzig Jr. (both from Morton, IL) were with us the day of the wedding, and we are thankful they were willing to preach God’s Word to us. May God richly bless them.

Our Bro. Calvin Teubel was engaged to Sis. Bethany Leman from Roanoke, IL. Their parents are Bro. John and Sis. Lavonne Teubel (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Clark and Sis. Lisa Leman (Roanoke, IL). We rejoice with Calvin and Bethany and ask God to bless them during

their engagement.

The annual Hayrack Ride and Wiener Roast was once again hosted by our Bro. Dennie and Sis. Cheryl Mangers on Saturday, October 9. This is a longstanding Champaign tradition and we thank Dennie and Cheryl for hosting the event! It is always such a blessing for the church to come together.

“Living by the Spirit – Lessons learned from the Life of Joseph” was the theme for this fall’s college weekend hosted by our college group in Champaign-Urbana. It was a weekend of blessings for those who attended. We want to thank the Brothers who came and spoke to the group that weekend. May God bless them all for their willingness!

Among the many blessings of this past month we had several visiting ministers. We want to thank each one of them for their willingness to come and share God’s truth with us. Bro. Trent Meiss (Eureka, IL), Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Tim Lehman (Taylor, MO) blessed us on several Sundays. Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA), Elder Bro. John Wiegand (Silverton, OR), and Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL) were with us on several Wednesday evenings. May God bless each one of these Brothers and their families for their service.

We are thankful our Bro. David Wiegand is back to church after undergoing a surgery this past month. May God be with Bro. David in his recovery.

*Note of Thanks:*

I would like to thank all of our

family, church family, and friends for your prayers, cards, and gifts during my recent surgery and recovery. May God bless you all for your Christian love.

*Bro. David Wiegand*

## **ILLINOIS, CHICAGO**

**Rachel Meyer**

Greetings from Chicago. I wish to thank Sis. Julie Eisenmann for writing the Silver Lining article last month. It is a blessing to lean on each other.

Each Wednesday evening in September the Conference recordings were played. We thank God for the work of the Holy Spirit as well as our dear Elder Brothers for their willingness to serve.

September 18 was a World Relief Activity day. These days are always a blessing as we work and fellowship together as a family.

Several have taken on new roles in church. Bro. Blake Knapp will serve as an usher and Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy Schlatter will serve on the Vacation Bible School committee. It is good to share responsibilities. Thank you.

On October 13, Bro. Lenny Meyer led our Learning Together Topical Bible Study entitled, "Abiding in the Vine." Thank you, Bro. Lenny, for your time and service. We look forward to learning more about Christ as the vine and we as the branches.

I spent the month of September in Asia and wish to share an experience that impacted me. While there, I took a small airplane to a less-traveled destination. The plane seated 30 passengers and the flight was 55 minutes. I spent several days and returned to the air-

port to find the return flight had been overbooked. Thirty seats...thirty-one tickets purchased. I only knew about this problem because I was asked if I would mind flying in the jump seat of the airplane. Seat 31 would be in the cockpit! The pilot wanted someone who could speak and understand English and apparently I looked the part.

I readily agreed and fifteen minutes later I was sitting on a fold-down seat in a tiny cockpit scrunched between the experienced pilot and his young first officer. As we started down the runway, I noticed the pilot turned over the controls to the first officer. Then something interesting happened. As we began take-off, the pilot put his hand just behind the first officer's. He held it steady and moved it forward as the first officer pushed the controls forward. It was then I realized the first officer was in training...the pilot was keeping his experienced hand at the ready—just in case the first officer made a mistake.

It was a moving experience for me. My thoughts went to God, my experienced pilot, and myself, an inexperienced first officer. The power of His steady hand...to catch me if I stumble or fall. Priceless protection...available to all. May God bless each one.

## **ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**

**Vickie Maul  
Marilyn Maul**

We rejoice with Bro. Melvin and Sis. Marilyn Young as they welcome their first grandchild, Audrey Hope, daughter of son Matthew and wife Jennifer.

Lawrence "Pete" Bauer re-

cently had surgery and is recuperating at Heartland Healthcare in Paxton. Also Sis. LouElla Hari is still at Heartland Healthcare in Paxton recovering from a broken hip. We miss them at church and pray that they will recover and be able to assemble with us once again.

Our oldest church member, Sis. Edna Hoffman Feller, has reached her reward for her labors on earth. Edna had spent many of her single years in the service of the Lord in working for others. In her later years she married our Elder Bro. Ezra Feller. Surviving Sis. Edna is one sister, Sis. Lucille Herman of Peoria, five step-daughters, Sis. Loretta Bauer and Sis. Joan Waldbeser of Cissna Park, Sis. Elna Grimm of Goodfield, Sis. Geraldine Neukomm of Morton, and Sis. Dona Grimm of Taylor, and two step-sons, Don Feller of Morton and Bro. Todd Feller of LaCrosse. Also surviving are forty step-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

As we live in a farming area, we do thank the Lord for the safe harvest. We thank the Lord for whatever increase He provides with the grains harvested. Let us also turn to the Lord in seeking a spiritual harvest and that there be an increase in His wisdom within our hearts. May we use this Godly wisdom to be good role models.

This past week I was told that I was a good role model. I then wondered just what a good role model is. Who am I to be using as this role model. The Master role model of all is Jesus Christ. We all need to use Him for the pattern as we live our lives showing others how to live on this earth during our pilgrim jour-

ney.

Let us ever be thankful for the many blessings God has given us during this Thanksgiving season.

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

We appreciate the visiting ministers we had this past month. They include Bro. Marvin Zollinger (Sis. Pamela, Smithville), Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Sis. Erica, Wolcott), Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke), and Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City).

We rejoice with Bro. James and Sis. Lisa Knapp as their son, Jared, has made the decision to turn his back on the world and live for the Lord. Our prayers are with him as he begins his repentance.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie Zobrist, along with their sons, Zach and Nathan, have moved back to our congregation from Magdalena, Mexico. We are thankful to have them back.

We were saddened to hear that Sis. Shirley Funk passed away this month. Our hearts go out to her children, Sis. Susan, Ruth, Bro. Roger (Bonnie), Connie Hasty, Bro. Mark (Becky), Sis. Miriam Kath (Doug), Sis. Sarah Gerber (Larry), Bro. James, and Bro. Ben.

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

Between September 8 and October 7, we listened to recordings from the General Brotherhood Conference in Rittman, OH. The scriptural meditations stirred up our minds, fanning the flames of faith and love. We were encour-

aged to be a bright and shining witness for Christ.

After going through a repentance, Brienne Martin (Ben) has found peace and hopes to give her testimony and be baptized the weekend of October 23-24.

When Adriana Rose Herzig entered the world on September 21, she became the focus of her family—beginning with her parents, Matt and Giovanna. Bro. Ron and Sis. Eleanor (Croghan-Naumburg, NY) are excited to have a granddaughter and came to Elgin for an extended visit.

We appreciate the friendship of Nick and Niki Pilotte, who have settled into a home in St. Charles and attend services with us. May they feel a warm welcome!

On October 3 at the Fellowship Center, Bro. Tim Sauder gave a presentation on Gateway Woods. Our local representative, Bro. Roger Weiss, helped to arrange this informative evening.

Sis. Gert Sauder is at home recovering from a hip replacement, while Sis. Kathy Stefan is recovering from a broken ankle. They have our get well wishes for strength and divine healing.

The past month included several partings, as family members laid loved ones to rest. Bro. Sam Bachtold's mother, Sis. Dorothy, passed away September 27 in Fairbury, following a short illness. On October 9, Sis. Norma Utt lost her mother, Sis. Nina Willaert. She was also the sister of Sis. Julia Graf. Bro. Don Stettner's brother, John ("Chuck"), passed away on October 10 at Resthaven; and Bro. Paul Gasser, Walt's brother, lost his brief battle with cancer on October 12 near Akron, OH. There

were many relatives and friends affected by these losses, and we pray that God will comfort each in a special way.

*Note of Thanks:*

The family of Nina Willaert would like to thank everyone for your prayers, support, cards and memorials during her journey here on earth and recent passing. She loved her church family with all her heart. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. May God richly bless you.

*Sis. Norma Utt*

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**ILLINOIS, EUREKA**  
**Dee Baer**  
**Jodi Blunier**

Bro. Adam, Sis. Bethany, Cyrus and Rena Garber welcomed Lydia Rose into their family circle. Grandparents are Ray Garber and Sue Garber and Bro. Craig and Sis. Marilyn Martin.

Bro. Eli Fisher (Sis. Helen) and Bro. Nelson Martin (Sis. Mary Ellen) have our prayers as they experience bodily afflictions.

Sis. Becky Bauman (Glen) grieves the loss of her sister, Sis. Shirley Funk (Congerville).

Sis. Shirley Metzger (Bro. Harlan) was also saddened by the death of her father, Bro. Glen Stoller (Sis. Edie, Latty, OH). Bro. Glen was also a brother-in-law to Bro. Eli Fisher (Sis. Helen).

We thank visiting ministers, Bro. Craig Stickling (Peoria), Bro. Chris Wuethrich (St. Louis, MO) and Bro. Glen Braker (Princeville).

Bro. Ed and Sis. Judy Knecht have relocated to Eureka and we are thankful to have them assembling with us.

**ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY**

**Angela Herr  
Kay Steffen**

“For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come.”

*Mark 4:28-29*

As we have enjoyed the beautiful warm days of autumn and another harvest has come and gone, we are reminded of our Saviour's words and His desire that all would be gathered into that heavenly home.

We are thankful for visiting ministers who have been willing to share God's Word with us this past month. May God bless Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Dennis Rassi (Austin, TX) for their labors.

We extend our sympathy to our Sis. Anna Lou VanAntwerp and Sis. Thelma Slagel in the loss of their brother-in-law, Bro. Paul Koch (Sis. Florence) from Tremont, IL. May God comfort them in their time of sorrow.

Those in our congregation spending time in the hospital this past month are Bro. Marion Meiss (late Sis. Barb), Bro. Rich Walter (Sis. Colleen), and Troy Hale (Sis. Annette). Also Sis. Mary Mae Traub spent several days at the Mayo Clinic. We are thankful she is back home again and able to assemble with us. May we lift each one up to the Lord in prayer and may He provide for each one their every need.

**ILLINOIS, FORREST**

**Lynn Dotterer  
Lisa Aberle**

Clayton Teubel (Bro. John and Sis. Lavonne) has begun his repentance. What a blessing it is to see precious ones turn to God in their youth.

Bro. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), and Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL) ministered to us this month. We appreciate their willingness to serve us again.

Bro. Larry Bachman (Sis. Donna) and Sis. Kathryn Steidinger (Bro. Ivan) were hospitalized this month.

We sorrowed to hear of the death of Bro. David Schmidgall of our Morris, MN, congregation. He and his family came back often to visit. We extend sympathy to his family who attend our congregation here: his father, Dave, and his brothers, Bro. John Schmidgall (Sis. Janet) and Bro. Dan Schmidgall (Sis. Mary).

**ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD**

**Donna Wyss  
Kayla Wiegand**

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
That sav'd a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.

*Hymns of Zion #97, vs.1*

We are so thankful for Rhoda Roberts (Bro. Roger and Sis. Becky) as she has turned her life over to the Lord in repentance. We pray that she will feel His nearness.

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Earl

Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Bro. Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy, Roanoke, IL), and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Sis. Dixie, Bloomington-Normal, IL). We pray that God will bless them and their family for their services to our congregation.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Elna Grimm in the passing away of her stepmother, Sis. Edna Feller (Cissna Park, IL).

*Note of Thanks:*

We would like to extend a very special “thank-you” for all of the love, prayers, and acts of kindness that was shown to us by our dear church family when our loved one passed away in July. May the Lord richly bless each and every one of you.

*The Willis Wiegand Family*

**ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY**

**Perry A. Klopfenstein**

We are taught in the Word that God gives grace to the humble, and resists the proud. Because even in our best state we are weak, it is heartening to know we can obtain divine strength if we humble ourselves. The grace of God empowers us to follow the Lord Jesus and keep His commandments, and those of the Apostles. It should then be an utmost quest to obtain grace each day. Thus, a major goal should be for the believer to humble himself, always. From this will come God's strength and grace to be obedient, and to stay true and faithful.

We are happy that the baptism of Todd Schneider of our Gridley congregation took place on Saturday evening, October 23. His parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Sandy Schneider.



Bro. Brian and Sis. Haley Stoller became the parents of Trig Elliott on Thursday, October 21. He is their third child. Siblings are Keaton, 11, and Nash, 8. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Vicki Schlipf, and Bro. Larry and Sis. Ardean Stoller, and the late Sis. Carol Stoller. We rejoice with this family, and may God grant them much strength in training up their children.

Our sympathies are with the offspring of Bro. Virgil and Sis. Shirley Funk who are now both deceased. Their mother, Sis. Shirley, 74, passed away recently. She was of the Congerville church. We extend our heartfelt concern to her children of our congregation: Bros. Roger, Mark, and James Funk, and Sis. Mirian Kath. Their father, Bro. Virgil, grew up in Gridley.

Bro. Brock Wiegand had a surgical procedure, and is recovering. May God grant healing.

We pray for our members with ongoing health concerns including Bros. Dave Steffen and Al Ringger, and Sisters Mary Stoller and Betty Klopfenstein.

The Christmas season is fast approaching, and may God's Spirit direct us into the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of our Lord and Saviour.

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### ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Annette Tanner**  
**Julie Bahr**

Our Morton congregation is doing a study on the New Testament Book of Philippians. Paul wrote this Book as he sat in a Roman prison, yet the word JOY and THANKSGIVING frequently were used in this letter. What an awesome inspiration this should

be to us as Believers as we enter this next Thanksgiving Holiday. Our overflowing thankfulness should be found in every circumstance with our unmistakable focus on the Lord Jesus Christ!

We appreciate the willingness of Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke) to give us our Family Worship Topic "Not My Will." Godly instruction is for us to Let Go and Let God!

We rejoice and praise God for three precious new births. Our congratulations go to grandparents, Roger and Connie Kahler, who welcomed a new granddaughter, Reece Avery. Parents and big sister of baby Reece are Aaron and Stacy and Blair Litersky.

On September 20, thankful grandparents, Bro. Matt and Sis. Wendy Kupferschmid, welcomed another granddaughter, Kaylee Elise. Baby Kaylee's parents are Scott and Jessica Smith and big sister is Kuper.

On October 20, baby girl Simone Bay blessed the family of Bro. Drew, Sis. Amanda, Will and Miles Leman. Grateful grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Sue Zimmerman and Bro. Bill and Sis. Jeanne Leman (Roanoke).

We celebrate with Bro. Alan Zimmerman and Sis. Natalie Martin as they were joined together in Holy Matrimony on October 10. Parents are Bro. Doug and Sis. Jane Zimmerman and Bro. Dave and Sis. Jean Martin (Elgin, IL).

Our sympathy is extended to our Sis. Kathy (Bro. Gordon) Gerber in the loss of her father, Paul Dotterer of Bluffton.

We offer our love and sympathy also to our Sis. Beulah Funk in the loss of her brother, Bro. Richard

Martin of Sarasota.

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### ILLINOIS, PEORIA

**Pam Fritzenmeier**

Our thanks to the group, Hallelujah, from Bluffton and Bluffton North, who participated in the jail ministry and then sang for us after morning church on September 26. Bro. Nile Bucher (Sis. Phyllis, Bluffton North) and Bro. Ron Kipfer (Sis. Linda, Bluffton) ministered to us on that day also. The following weekend, we were privileged to host the USA Board of World Relief and Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan, Taylor) and Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL) shared from our pulpit. The board toured the Southside Mission, Peoria Rescue Mission, Berean Prison Ministry and Midwest Food Bank and saw firsthand where and how the donations allotted these groups to serve the needy. Wednesday, October 6, Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont) inspired us to "Live the Word by the Number". God bless each one for their willingness to serve.

Several families in our congregation have experienced the death of a loved one this month. Sis. Karen (Bro. Ralph) Hofstetter's mother, Sis. Clara Perdelwitz, passed away September 26. Bro. Bob (Sis. Lorene) Joos passed away September 29. Philipp Fehr passed away October 9. His mother is Sis. Marjorie Fehr and his siblings are Randy Fehr, Michael (Tina) Fehr, Sis. Kathleen Brewer, and Sis. Nanette David. John (Evie Traub) Saal passed away suddenly October 12. We extend our sympathy and prayers to each one.

Many loved ones are suffering

from health issues. Please lift up in prayer Sis. Kathy (Bro. Dave) Obergfel, Sis. Ella Plattner, Bro. Mel (Sis. Margaret) Getz, Bro. Jim (Sis. Jean) Huber, Bro. Verle (Sis. Vonnie) Kieser, Bro. David (Sis. Rita) Sauder, Bro. Bill (Sis. Joyce) Waibel, and Sis. Barb Schafer.

Sunday, October 10, we said good-bye to Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family as they left for Haiti to continue their mission work. Bro. Isaac Funk (Elder Bro. Tim and Sis. Debi) traveled with them, planning to participate in the work in Haiti until December. Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Bere Aupperle serve in Magdalena. Please keep these dear ones in your prayers.

*Note of Thanks:*

Thank you for the cards and heartfelt words of kindness given to us after Marilyn's mom's passing. God bless you all.

*Harold and Marilyn Stickling*

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**ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**

**Connie Christ  
Linda Joos**

We are thankful for many visiting ministers in the past month: Elder Bro. Ted Steffen (Alto, MI), Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Nathan Steffen (Alto, MI), Bro. Gary Endress (Bradford, IL), Bro. John Bradle (Roanoke, IL), Elder Bro. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL), Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bro. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL), and Bro. Paul Schmidgall (Morris, MN). We sincerely appreciate their willingness to serve us.

Zachary Rumbold (Bro. Rick and Sis. Joyce) and Lillie Cler were united in marriage on September

25. May God be near them as they establish their home.

Bro. Ben Martin (Bro. Sam and Sis. Mary) and Sis. Hannah Herrmann (Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann) were married on October 17. May God bless their marriage. "Where two join hand and heart, we find a threefold cord, not lightly rent apart." (Zion's Harp #79)

Bro. Grant Herrmann (Bro. Dean and Sis. Dawn) and Sis. Hannah Waibel (Bro. Brian and Sis. Wendy) from Champaign, IL, are engaged to be married. How blessed we are when God directs us!

Along with joy in life, also comes sorrow. We extend our prayers to Sis. Caroline Banwart. Her brother, Bro. Alvin Banwart (West Bend, IA), recently passed away. Bro. Walter Christ (Sis. Doris) had a brother, Fritz, living in Germany who recently passed away. May God comfort our dear loved ones.

Beholding the miracle of a new baby is Sis. Joyce Blunier (late Bro. Dale) as her son and his wife, Dustin and Julie Blunier, welcomed their little son, Landon Dale, on September 23.

Life can bring unexpected challenges, yet God can bring good from ill. Our dear ministering Bro. Erik Givens (Sis. Deb) recently submitted to major surgery and is now on the road to recovery. We keep him in our prayers and are thankful for God's mercy and healing. We also remember Sis. Julie (Bro. Jared) Hanson and Sis. Cheryl Herrmann as they have encountered health concerns. What a comfort to know that God is the Great Physician!

**ILLINOIS, ROANOKE**

**Jamie Hodel  
Judy Sauder**

Psalms 127:3: "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord:" Our congregation has been blessed with several new arrivals this month! We are so thankful and ask that God would continue to be near each family. Bro. Ken and Sis. Judy Knepp became grandparents again on September 11 when Carly Joy was born to Matt and Lorna Zobrist of Eureka. Her older brothers are Malik and Zeke and her paternal grandparents are Shirley Brenkman of Morton and the late Alpha Zobrist.

On September 20, Hudson Pierce was born to Bro. Benji and Sis. Kyle Leman. His older brother is Parks and his thankful grandparents are Keith & Tina McKimney of Morton and Bro. Ben and Sis. Janet Leman.

Then on September 24, Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Melinda Knepp welcomed Jacob Ryan into their home. His big sister, Makenzie, and grandparents, Bro. Gene and Sis. Carol Metz and Bro. Bob and Sis. Ann Knepp, are also thrilled with this new addition to their family.

Big brother Theo and his parents, Bro. Stephen and Sis. Susan Bertschi, were blessed with the arrival of Charles Stephen on September 28. His excited grandparents are Bro. Clark and Sis. Lisa Leman and Bro. Rich and Sis. Bev Bertschi.

River Carson Martin arrived on September 27 to bless the home of David and Bonnie Martin of Newman, GA. Older brothers, Skylar and Cole, and grandpar-

ents, Ralph and Margaret Henson of Greenfield, IL, and Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Martin, are also thankful for his arrival.

And Bro. Josh, Sis. Bethany and Cara Lindberg are rejoicing over the birth of Calista Faith on October 10. Her thankful grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Leann Fischer (Leo) and Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg (Atlanta).

Matt. 12:34: "...for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." On September 22, Bro. Dave Zehr (Gridley) presented a topical Bible Study on "The Tongue". We thank Bro. Dave for his convicting message and ask that God would continue to bless his ministry.

On October 3, our Family Sing was held. The men's quartet "Testify", composed of brothers from Gridley and Roanoke, sang for us. It was a wonderful evening of worship.

St. Mark 10:7: "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife;" Brian Hoffman (Sis. Jeanni) of Metamora was united in marriage to Diana Thrasher (David and Priscilla Payne) of East Peoria on October 10. Then on October 17, the marriage engagement of Sis. Bethany Leman (Bro. Clark and Sis. Lisa) to Bro. Calvin Teubel (Champaign), son of Bro. John and Sis. Lavonne (Forrest) was announced. We pray for God's blessings on these dear couples as they, in faith, make lifelong commitments to each other.

We heartily welcome Daniel Stoller to the Roanoke congregation. May God's peace and nearness be with Daniel as he continues in his walk with the Lord.

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**ILLINOIS, TREMONT**  
**Teresa Rowell**  
**Janice Sauder**

We would like to congratulate Aaron Zuercher and Jennifer McCarty on their marriage. Aaron is the son of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Zuercher and Jennifer is the daughter of Paul and the late Sandy McCarty. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin this new life together.

Also celebrating new life are Bro. Howard and Sis. Janice Sauder. A grandson, Reuben Mark, was born to Bro. Mark and Sis. Ashley Sauder (Champaign, IL). They are very excited about this new addition to their family.

And, of course, as we celebrate life, we must also contend with death. Bro. Paul Koch went Home to be with the Lord after an illness. Our thoughts and prayers are with his dear family, Sis. Florence, Bro. Earl and Sis. Marsha Koch, Bro. Scott and Sis. Diane Koch, Sis. Margaret Koch, and Sis. Linda Koch and grandchildren from our congregation. Also, the Wagenbach family has experienced sorrow in their family. Sis. Shirley Funk (the late Bro. Virgil, Congerville) has passed on to her eternal reward. May these families be comforted by the Great Comforter during these difficult times.

*Note of Thanks:*

Our hearts are deeply touched and we thank you all for your prayers, messages of caring and sympathy, gifts of kindness shown to us at the passing of our beloved husband, father, and grandfather, Bro. Paul Koch. We continue to feel comfort through those prayers.

God bless each one of you.

*Sis. Florence Koch*  
*Bro. Scott and Sis. Diane Koch*  
*Bro. Earl and Sis. Marsha Koch*  
*Sis. Margaret Koch*  
*Sis. Linda Koch*  
*Ed and Nancy King*

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**ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**  
**Nancy Leman**  
**Linda Folkerts**

We extend our sincere sympathies to Sis. Sue Ruppert who lost her father, Milton Ruppert, on September 23. Also, Sis. Lucille Herman has bid an earthy farewell to her sister, Sis. Edna Feller (Cissna Park).

As we mourn with our Christian family members that sorrow, we also rejoice as another family welcomes home a healthy baby girl. Bro. Luke and Sis. Heidi Knapp welcomed precious Bridget Ann on October 7. Bridget's grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Max and Sis. Mary Pfaffmann. The name of the Lord is to be praised!

We are excited to welcome Bro. Fred and Sis. Nancy Witzig and their family as they are making Washington their home church.

We were blessed to have Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH) share his presentation from the Elder Conference during our monthly Bible Study.

On October 10, we gladly welcomed many visitors as part of a multi-church potluck hosted in Washington. We enjoyed the fellowship and we are thankful to each who attended. The visiting ministers included: Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke), Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis.

Kathy, Tremont), Bro. James Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Congerville), Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl, Eureka), Bro. Matt Steffen (Sis. Deanna, Princeville) and Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL).

*Note of Thanks:*

We wish to thank all who visited Ed at the hospital and at Restmor. Those who drove Louise to the hospital every day, those who sent food, and wrote cards. You know who you are. May God bless all.

*Ed & Louise Teubel*

*Thomas & Marie*

*Mark & Marti*

*Keith & Jill*

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**INDIANA, BLUFFTON**  
**Suzie Fiechter**  
**Kim Meyer**

“Earth is crammed with heaven, and every common bush afire with God; but only he who sees, takes off his shoes. The rest sit around it and pluck blackberries.”

*—Elizabeth Barrett Browning*

I would honestly say that we often find ourselves eating the blackberries of life and thanking God for the blessings He has given us. We know the ‘fire’ is there, but how often are we compelled to take off our shoes and not even touch the fruit? This month God has shown his fire to the Bluffton congregation.

The month started off with an engagement, wedding and anniversary celebration. Bro. Gary and Sis. Barb Schwartz announced the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Crystal, to Bro. Taylor Aschliman

(Bro. Derryl and Sis. Peggy). We rejoice with Bro. Adam Neuenschwander (Bro. Dee and Sis. Laura) and Sis. Ashley Troxel (Bro. Kim and Sis. Lisa) as they begin their walk together in the Lord. I don’t know what could be better for these two couples than to share a month with a couple who has been married for 70 years! Bro. Earl and Sis. Marjorie Stucky celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. Wow! What a testimony of God’s faithfulness and their willingness to follow.

Any beginning is always memorable and life changing. Feeling called to worship with the Bluffton congregation, we welcome Tara Schwalbach into our fellowship. She is the daughter of Jim and Dawn Schwalbach from Wisconsin and has been staying with Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie Fiechter.

Some beginnings in life are precious and painful all in the same package. How thankful we are when the package comes wrapped in God’s grace and topped with His peace. Bro. Brent and Sis. Rachele Tonner experienced this with the birth and death of their little boy, Berke Jensen. He was born October 9 and passed away on October 15. The amazing thing is he wasn’t supposed to live through delivery! But he did! A miracle to show us nothing is too big for God. We know God could have easily healed little Berke’s kidneys and made another healthy little boy to run around the Tonner farm. However, that wasn’t the purpose for baby Berke. His purpose was for six days and now he is sitting on the knee of Jesus, perfect and whole. We are thankful for the grace and peace that accompany God’s gifts espe-

cially when they don’t always make sense. The peace that this family feels is Berke’s footprint on their hearts. He came into this world wrapped in God’s grace and peace and left them with God’s peace that passes all understanding.

Bro. Kent and Sis. Heather Merritt welcome little Kaylee on September 25. Her grandparents would be Bro. Gary and Sis. Sharon Merritt and Sis. Sheri Cress. Atlas Armstrong was born to Ben and Amber Merchant and is the grandson of Bro. Rick and Sis. Joyce Yergler. Bro. Kurt and Sis. Staci Fiechter are proud to announce the birth of their little boy Colton. His grandparents would be Bro. Rick and Sis. Beth Fiechter and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Robin Beer from Mansfield.

Bro. Rich and Sis. Amber are thankful for the prayers and interventions that have taken place over the last week as their daughter Katelyn was flown from Haiti to Florida due to illness. We are thankful Katelyn is getting better and stronger each day. However, the doctors would prefer Katelyn not return to Haiti for four or five months. We continue to lift this family up in prayer as they seek God’s direction and for Katelyn’s continued recovery. Speaking of recovering, we had a few other recoveries this month. Sis. Joan Gerber is recovering well from her back surgery. Bro. Zach Berstch had a little rougher time recovering from his surgery to remove the tumor in his colon. He is home now, but will have to have another surgery in three or four months because of these complications. Sometimes all we can do for some-

one is pray, but we were able to help out Bro. Zach's young family by re-roofing their house.

The Bluffton congregation was blessed to be able to put in another minister, Bro. Chad Gerber. We pray for not only him, but also his wife, Sis. Jami, and three children, Drew, Hannah, and Spencer. The ministry does not just use him but his entire family, and so we pray for all five of them as they begin this part of their life. We were also blessed to have two visiting ministers, Bro. Jeff Niehouser (Sis. Sue, Morton) and Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jacki, Francesville), share God's Word with us.

As we wrap up the month, we are left standing in awe at the power of our God. We didn't know a month ago what we would face in October, nor do we know what we will face in November. How thankful we are to know that God is with us and when the storms of life have passed, we are left with God's peace that passes all understanding. May you find yourself in the month to come, taking off your shoes to worship our Heavenly Father and not just thanking Him for the fruit He has freely given to us.

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**INDIANA  
BLUFFTON NORTH**  
Jessie Longenberger  
Amy Moser

"...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*

Greetings from Bluffton-North. We give thanks to God for a bounti-

ful harvest this year. As the harvest here in Indiana draws to a close, it reminds us of the great harvest that will come someday. May we all be found ready and waiting for the return of our Lord and Saviour!

We wish to thank Bro. Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo, Leo) for coming to Bluffton North and ministering God's Word to us this past month. May God bless them and their family for traveling and assembling with us.

Our Bro. Brad Leman was married to Sis. Charla Zollinger (Sardis, OH) in Leo on September 12. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their lives together.

A nice evening took place on September 26. Our Bluffton North congregation had our first annual church picnic. It was a blessed Sunday with fellowship, singing, and food. What a blessing it is to spend time together as a church body.

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,  
"The Golden Harvest"*

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**INDIANA  
FRANCESVILLE**  
Jacki Huber  
Mildred Clauss

This Fall has been beautiful! We have enjoyed day after day of sunny, mild weather. The leaves are changing colors, and harvest is over sooner than most years. Beauty outdoors can affect how we feel, and may also affect our outlook on life, but much more important than this, is the beauty within

our hearts, which can only come from allowing the Holy Spirit to fill us with the fruit(s) of the Spirit, which are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance.

If I struggle to keep these good things in my heart, many times there is a little bit of bitterness or pride that wants to take root, and the devil tries hard to succeed, but with God it is possible to overcome and to think about the "true, honest, just, lovely, and pure" things!

"But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble."

*James 4:6*

We were blessed to have Bro. Rustin Meister (Sis. Amanda, West Lafayette, IN) with us to share the Word on a recent Sunday. We appreciate and enjoy it when they come to visit family here.

There have been quite a few hospital patients, or those who have been not feeling well for various reasons, and we will continue to pray for Bros. Chris Huber, Bruce Wuethrich, Ellsworth Pelsy, Sis. Lois Niehouser and Phyllis Knapp, as they are recovering.

Babies are a blessing, and Chance and Ashley Wuethrich welcomed Jagger Michael into their family on September 13. Grandparents are Bro. Rick and Sis. Judy Wuethrich and Randy and Suzanne Sizemore.

Several of our church family have lost loved ones, and we extend sympathy and love to each one. Bro. Earl and Sis. Stephanie Johns said goodbye on earth to Earl's mother, Roberta (Donald) Johns.

We also extend our sympathy to Rosa Wuethrich in the loss of her mother, Kathy (Jose) Mojica, and to Bro. Ben and Sis. Miriam Metz as Miriam's mother, Sis. Dorothy Bachtold (Forrest, IL), passed away. May the Lord comfort each one as only He can.

We pray for God's continued blessings and nearness upon Bro. John and Sis. Bev Huber as they have moved from the Francesville area to Paris, Illinois, due to employment. We miss them assembling with us, but know that God is not limited by distance, and we are thankful for this!

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**INDIANA  
INDIANAPOLIS  
Gail Bradford  
Penny Schroder**

\* *Special Note:* During our remodeling process, Sunday worship services are being held at Heritage Christian School, 6401 E. 75th St., Indianapolis 46250. Sunday services begin at 9:10 a.m. 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.

Indy Outreach this year was held on the weekend of October 2. We are thankful for all the young people and families who gathered to share their time helping various families in our area. We pray a blessing on those who worked and those who were helped.

We are rejoicing with Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie Bollier as their granddaughter, Brielle Elise Schambach, was born on October 6. Brielle's parents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Emily Schambach of Magdalena, MX. She is also wel-

comed home by big sister Kaleigh.

Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) shared encouragement at a Wednesday evening service this month. We appreciate all his efforts in keeping in touch with our congregation. God's blessing on him.

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**INDIANA, LACROSSE  
Bethany Johnson  
Julie Roche**

"It only takes a little bit of truth to make a good rumor." This tidbit for thought was shared recently by one of our ministers. We had a good example of this since then when a man in our area attempted to take the lives of several people succeeding once. The rumors flew right and left with reported sightings of the criminal and reports of how many had been killed, where and how he managed it. When the facts came out, only a small part of the stories were actually true. How many times do we pass along information that may or may not be entirely true? It behooves each of us to make sure what we share with others is true as well as beneficial to all involved.

Our convert, Lindsey Schneider (Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jeannie), has received peace from God, and is awaiting baptism next month. We are so thankful for this and wish her God's blessings as she takes this precious step of Faith.

Babies are a wonderful blessing and Bro. Brad and Sis. Julie Roche have been blessed with their little bundle, Janessa Lynn. She is welcomed home by her siblings, Virginia, Jonathan, and Alivia. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Frank and Bro. Curt and Sis. Beth Roche (Eureka, IL). Janessa

was born a little early and had to stay an extra day in the hospital, but is now home and doing well. We are glad to welcome her as part of our little church!

Our thoughts are with Bro. Richard and Sis. Sis Zimmerman in the passing of her brother, Jim Yergler of Kouts, IN. Bro. David Peasley (Sis. Margene) also lost his brother, Clarence Peasley Jr. We are praying for these loved ones as they mourn the loss of their family members.

Bro. Ed Frank was ill this month and missed several weeks of worship. We are thankful that he is feeling better and can join us again. Sis. Connie Knobloch has spent some time in the hospital this month. May she feel the touch of the Master Physician and heal quickly.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit, MI) and Bro. Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA). We appreciate them coming "home" to share the Word with us!

We have had the privilege of having two all church suppers in the past month. Bro. Tom and Sis. LuAnn Troxel hosted a Stone Soup Supper and Bro. Owen and Sis. Nicole Gudeman hosted an Apple Cider Making with a supper. These are wonderful times of fellowship and singing. The evenings are a blessing for all who attend.

God provided a bountiful harvest for our farmers and we are thankful that there were no accidents within our congregation. We continue to pray for those who experienced accident or injury in this season. May God continue to bless each one of us as we prepare for the busy holiday season.

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**INDIANA, LEO  
Kirby Reutter**

With Columbus Day past and Thanksgiving around the corner, it is a natural time of year to reflect upon the legacy of our pilgrim forefathers, who left all behind to seek a better land. "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul" (I Peter 2:11). In most countries, the concept of a pilgrim is very different than ours. For other cultures, a pilgrim is generally one who makes a well-traveled trip to a historically significant destination, and then returns to his homeland. In contrast, the image we have of a pilgrim here in the United States is one who completely abandons a life of despair, voyages through uncharted waters to a foreign land, and never returns to his former nation. What a beautiful portrait of the Christian life!

Speaking of international travel, this month we were blest to have our fourth visitor in one year from Ixtlan, Mexico. Sis. Lourdes will be spending one month in the Leo area to visit her daughter. Sis. Elsa, Sis. Issa, and Sis. Lupita, all from the same congregation in Mexico, have also worshipped with us in previous months. As a denomination, we are so incredibly blest to have ties of fellowship which not only extend from community to community, but also from state to state, from country to country, and even from continent to continent. "As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country" (Proverbs 25:25).

On October 3, a special program

was held in our Fellowship Center to recognize the labors of our local ministering brothers. We sincerely appreciate their efforts among us in rightly dividing the Word of truth. "And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves" (I Thessalonians 5:12-14).

It is our privilege to welcome two new families to the Leo congregation. First, we would like to embrace Bro. Jeff and Sis. Sarah Stoller and their two daughters, Shiloh and Selah. Jeff and Sarah are presently employed in the Fort Wayne area and plan to worship with us on a regular basis as part of the Leo church family. We would also like to embrace Bro. Keith and Sis. Alisa Beyer and their five children, Auburn, Braden, Brecken, Addison, and Brynne. Keith and Alisa have relocated from the Washington congregation and have accepted employment as Alternate Houseparents at Gateway Woods. We are deeply thankful that both of these families have joined our church community.

We would also like to welcome two new babies to the Leo congregation! First, Bro. Kent and Sis. Heather Merrit had a precious girl, Kaylee Jo, on September 25. In addition, precious little Zamarion Rashod was born on September 28 to one of our Oak House residents. "Lo, children are an heritage of the LORD" (Psalm, 127:3).

On a final note, if you or someone you know is interested in purchasing head coverings hand-crafted by our dear Sisters from

Ixtlan, Mexico, please contact Sis. Areli Reutter at 260-220-3267 or areutter@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  
Paula Haab  
Pam Beer**

We want to thank Bro. Gary Sinn (Latty, OH) for visiting us in Milford and bringing forth the Gospel message. As our congregation is small in number, we always appreciate visitors and visiting ministers. May God bless Bro. Gary and his family for taking time to travel and worship with us.

Two couples in our congregation have been blessed with new grandchildren. Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat Beer welcomed Tait Caleb as their new grandson. Tait's parents are Bro. Micah and Sis. Holly Zeltwanger from Morris, MN. Bro. Nelson and Sis. Minnie Beer welcomed Bradley Christopher when he joined the family of Bro. Brett and Sis. Renee Lanz from Rittman, OH.

Our middle school Sunday School Class traveled to Remington, IN, for Jr. High ACYF in September. The children talked about what an enjoyable time they had and we wish to thank the Remington church for hosting and making this Sunday a blessed experience for our children.

We have those in our congregation who are getting older in years and are experiencing health concerns. We continue to pray that God will hear their prayers and His peace will surround them.

**INDIANA, REMINGTON**

**Jenni Honegger  
Marcella Tyler**

We are thankful to report that little Emma Marie arrived safely on October 13 to bless the home of Bro. Jason and Sis. Sara Getz. Emma will enjoy lots of love from her older siblings, Sophie, Samuel, Chloe, and Will, as well as from her grandparents, Bro. Eldon and Sis. Charlene Getz and Bro. Bill and Sis. Barb Stoller (Latty, OH). "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward." (Psalm 127:3)

Our congregation has been prayerful for Bro. Bruce Wuethrich (Sis. Kathy) of Francesville, IN, after his fall from a grain bin and subsequent surgery. Bro. Bruce is the father of our Sis. Miranda Virkler (Bro. Paul) and of our Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus' daughter-in-law, Kayla Kilgus (Aaron). We praise God for the miracle of his survival and ask for the Lord's continued comfort and healing to be upon Bro. Bruce and his family during this difficult time.

Our Sunday school recently hosted a Junior High Weekend for several other Indiana Sunday school classes. It was a blessed event to worship, sing, eat, and play together with our young people. We pray that they will begin to form friendships that will last a lifetime and eventually bloom into ties of Christian fellowship and brotherhood. The students were encouraged to stay close to God and to talk to Him in prayer so they can hear when He calls them to Himself at just the right time. What a beautiful message for our youth!

**INDIANA, SOUTH BEND**

**Rachel Langhofer**

We were blessed this month to have our Elder Bro. Curt Frank and his wife, Sis. Lyla (LaCrosse), worship with us one Sunday. We appreciate his leadership and love that he has for our little congregation. After church we enjoyed their fellowship at a cookout held at Bro. Bob Beebe's home. The next day Bro. Bob left for Haiti and we are thankful he has now returned home safely.

**INDIANA, VALPARAISO**

**Marguerite Hoerr**

We lost a valued member of our congregation on September 25. Bro. Roland Meiss left this life for one in Heaven with his Lord and God. Rollie was born on January 1, 1925. He had been married to his wife, Sis. Josephine (Marti), for 57 years. She survives, as does his son, Dale (Sherry), and two grandchildren, Anthony and Stacia. Bro. Rollie was always so appreciative of his relationship with his Lord and was a giving and loving person. He was an avid gardener and shared his surplus with others on a continuing basis. He used to say, "The Lord provides, and we share." Rollie struggled with lung cancer the final days of his life and was lovingly cared for by all the members of his family. It was a lesson in love to all of us, one he personified as he lived among us. The story of his and Jo's lives together and what they did for others would make a most interesting book that we all should read. May his entire family be blessed with good memories and comfort.

We had the joy of attending a grandson's wedding recently. John Hoerr and Allison Rodgers were married on his Uncle Doug's farm, near Baroda, MI, on September 25. They will make their home in Bloomington, IN. John is the second son of Fred and Marty, who live in Auburn, AL. This wedding brought all of our family together, children and grandchildren alike, which gave us pleasure and blessings galore. May God bless them in this marriage, as He blessed the coming together of all our family.

Fall has come to Michigan and with it the glowing splendor of the hardwoods. As I look out the window by my computer, I see a maple that has put on its fall dress and is brilliant against the pines that surround it. God uses His paintbrush to give us joy in the fall. He also gives joy as He permits the harvest of bountiful crops. I remember years ago, a farm wife saying that she is always so grateful when the harvest can be done without accidents.

We are thinking of Bro. Bruce Wuethrich (Sis. Kathy, Francesville) as he had a bad fall during harvest. Bro. Garry Bucher asked for prayers for him and his family following our worship service Sunday. Bruce has been loved by many of us for years and we gladly intercede with God for his benefit and for the benefit of his family. His beautiful singing voice has blessed us for many years and we hope it will continue to bless others for years to come.

I was blessed to receive the following poem this week, which tells of the author's love for creation. Truly this is inspiration at its best. Rachel Feller (Bro. Joe and Sis.



Jackie) is a freshman at Ivy Tech this year.

### *His Creation*

When I look at God's creation I see so many greater things than me.  
All around great mountains rise and giant trees outstretch for the skies.  
Huge waves roll on the beach and bright stars shine so far from reach.

The sight of great massive stone makes me feel so alone.  
All these great things round about just seem to drown me out.

How can the Lord care about me, when there's so many greater things to see?

As I was thinking that I was so small, down in my heart I heard a call.  
A voice so gentle and kind with an answer that changed my mind.

"Though the things around you seem greater, you mean so much to your Creator.

For you and all people I came to save, to die on the cross and rise from the grave.

You are more special to me than anything you will ever see.

You and the people I've made, above all, even the things that are so massive and tall.

I gave you a soul that you may achieve, the gift of Heaven if you will believe.

Through me you are fearfully and wonderfully made and through you may my love be displayed.

—Rachel Feller

We're anticipating our Harvest program and dinner on November 7. Ever since we moved to this area we have been moved by this program. It has made us more aware of God's bountiful goodness to man when harvest time comes each year. We are anticipating guests from Indianapolis this year to bless our program.

Please remember we are just 2 3/4 miles South of U. S. 30 on State Rd. 49. We would welcome you and

would be grateful for your presence.

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### INDIANA WEST LAFAYETTE Katie Widmer Beth Tonner

We have enjoyed many activities as a church along with our Purdue Young Group: picnics, Family Praise Night, and the start of our "Ruth" Bible Study. We welcome any parents who desire to worship along with their child to join us on the nights that remain: November 4, November 18, and December 2. We begin with a simple supper at 6:00 pm, singing until 7:00, and the Bible Study until 8:00 pm. Our regular Thursday evening church service begins at 7:00 pm. We thank the following brothers and their wives for coming to our mid-week service and bringing the Word to us: Bro. Ken Schneider (Sis. Bernice); Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lyn); Bro. John Reinhard (Sis. Pam). We also appreciate the labors of love as the following brothers and their wives have supported us on Sundays: Bro. Les Kaeb (Sis. Christine); Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth). We are thankful for the beautiful Fall weather and all that God has blessed us with in our everyday lives.

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### INDIANA, WOLCOTT Donita Edelman Lynell Blume

Many from our congregation spent a Sunday evening enjoying God's handiwork and the crisp, cool autumn air at our annual wiener roast and singing hosted by Bro. John and Sis. Ruth Ann

Lehman on October 3. As we warmed ourselves around the fire, our hearts were warmed by the fellowship and the singing that followed. We were truly blessed by the blending of voices of the quartet, Psalm 100, from Bluffton, IN. We thank God first of all for an uplifting evening spent together! We also wish to thank the four Brothers for visiting us and sharing their talents. We want to thank Bro. John and Sis. Ruth Ann, too, for their love shown to us and their efforts in making this evening possible.

A precious baby boy, Owen Thomas, joined the family of Chris and Brook Cleefman on October 7. Lauren, Emily, Landon, Sawyer, and Madelynn are eager and willing helpers in the care of their little brother. May God's blessings be upon this dear family.

We rejoice, as the angels in heaven, over a sinner that repenteth. Kaleb Wagenbach (Bro. Michael and Sis. Erica) has realized his need for a Savior and has turned His back on sin,

Satan, and the world. We wish Kaleb God's grace and nearness as he strives to be a follower of Jesus.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Clinton Schieler (Bro. Dave and Sis. Merri) as he relocates to New Jersey due to his occupation. He had resided in northern Indiana, but will be separated from home by even more miles. We certainly will miss him, but will look forward to his coming home for visits.

This time of year we remember how the pilgrims realized the importance of giving God praise and thanks for all blessings. Surely in our everyday walk of life we should

exercise “thanksgiving” to God for all our blessings. We are instructed in the Word to “Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (I Thessalonians 5:17,18)

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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. Dale Moore (Sis. Cheryl, Elgin, IA), Bro. Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth, Lester, IA), and Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Oakville, IA). May God richly bless them for their labors.

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

“The Lord is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.”  
*Nahum 1:7*

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Ron and Sis. Christy Joos and their family. Bro. Ron’s father, Bro. Bob Joos (Peoria, IL), passed on to his eternal reward. May the Lord grant comfort and peace to each one.

We enjoyed our annual picnic with the Garden Grove congregation at the Corydon Park. What a lovely evening we had of blessed fellowship, delicious food, and beautiful singing.

This past weekend our singles group hosted the annual Iowa Churches weekend. A large number of young sisters and brothers filled our church. We are thankful for the blessings of fellowship.

A special thank you to ministering Bro. Phillip Schultz (Sis. Kelli, Burlington) for preaching the Word of God to us on Sunday, October 17.

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**IOWA, ELGIN**  
**Maria Rocke**  
**Brianna Strahm**

Kathryn, Carolyn, Isaac, Naomi and Daniel Strahm were pleased to welcome their new sister, Olivia Jean, to their family on September 28. We rejoice with her parents, Bro. Brent and Sis. Brianna, and grandparents, Carol Wilson (Gresham, OR) and Bro. Richard and Sis. Edie Strahm (Bern, KS).

“Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.”

*Romans 12:15*

Sis. Kathy Butikofer (Bro. Tim), Sis. Marcy Knobloch (Bro. Jim) and their families are in our thoughts and prayers as they recently said their final “farewell” to their father, Bro. Alvin Banwart (Sis. Phyllis, West Bend, IA). May they be comforted as they look forward to meeting again in Heaven.

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

A hearty thank you goes to all who have visited us in the last few weeks! We were thankful one Sunday to enjoy the fellowship of a group of young brothers. Also, we appreciate those who served on the pulpit from Elgin, IA, this month.

I apologize for erroneously reporting the Bloomfield-Garden Grove picnic in the July issue. Our annual joint potluck actually hap-

pened on October 10, and this event was enjoyed by all who were able to attend.

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

We welcome Bro. Andrew Klumpp to our congregation since he has moved from Bradford, IL, to work and live in Waterloo, IA.

We were glad to have Bro. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA) visit us and we thank him for his service to us on the pulpit.

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

Strive aright when God in mercy  
His compassion turns to you,  
That your soul so long overburdened,  
Freed from sin might live anew.

*Zion’s Harp #47*

It is with grateful hearts, that we share the news of four dear souls who are seeking their salvation: Tad Meyer (Bro. Denis and Sis. Jill), Wyatt Knobloch (Bro. Denis and Sis. Jackie), Josie Knobloch (Bro. Dan and Sis. RaJean) and Lanna Meyer (Bro. Dean and Sis. Linda). May God bless each one with grace and courage to “strive aright” every step of the way.

May we remember, in prayer, all those suffering in affliction, of one kind or another. We’ve had a few hospital patients this past month. They were Kendon Knobloch (Bro. Marti and Sis. Martha), Korin Knobloch (Bro. Vern and Sis. Chalea) and Bro. Gene Nester (Sis. Shirley). We pray for God’s healing mercy for each one.

Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park,

IL) was here to share God's Word with us. May God bless and continue to be with each of our ministering brethren.

It is always with heavy hearts that we bid farewell to dear souls. We extend our sympathy to Dale and Sis. Mary Ellen Knobloch and their family in the loss of their dear brother-in-law, Bro. Alvin Banwart (West Bend). He passed away October 1 at the age of 84. On October 17, Sis. Shirley Funk (Congerville, IL) passed away at the age of 74, only a short time since the passing of her husband, Bro. Virgil. Our sympathy to Bro. Bill and Sis. Charlotte Metzger and Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois Metzger and their families in the loss of their dear sister and brother-in-law. On October 18, our Sis. Betty Popkes passed away at the age of 54. We extend our sympathy to her husband, Bro. Jeff; her children, Kristy and her husband, Andy Loosbrock, Ryan Ross and Kayla Ross; her mother-in-law, Sis. Eleanor Popkes; brothers and sisters-in-law, Bro. Greg and Sis. Lori Popkes, John and Sis. Karmin Popkes, Gary and Laura Popkes, Wade and Shelly Popkes, and their families, all from the Lester area. Sis. Betty was a very kind and loving person all her life, and we were privileged to have known and had her as a sister in faith. May God be near all of these dear families and comfort and provide for them in their time of need.

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

We are thankful for visiting ministers this month. On September 19, Bro. James Knapp

(Congerville, IL) and Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA) shared the Word with us.

A new bundle of joy entered the home of Bro. Ryan and Sis. Heidi Frank. On October 14, Gavin Ryan was welcomed by Brendan, Morgan and Logan. Gavin's grandparents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Frank and Elder Bro. Rod and Sis. Twyla Bajema (Lester, IA).

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### **IOWA, WEST BEND**

#### **Janet Fehr** **Leona Fehr**

Lena Rose Fehr entered this world into the lives of her parents, Bro. Kent and Sis. Joleen, on September 22. Siblings, Monika, Carter, Micah and Ottis, welcomed her home. Blessed grandparents are Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Rose Grimm and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Fehr.

On September 25, another precious bundle of love, Adelyn Suzanne Banwart, joined the family of Bro. Josh and Sis. Lainey and Thad. Grandparents, Brad and Julie Banwart and Bro. Scott and Sis. Elaine Frank (Eureka, IL), are getting to know their new granddaughter.

Bro. Wes Moser (Sis. Esther, Lester, IA) shared the Word with us on September 26, for which we are thankful. Also, Bro. Darin Banwart and Sis. Amanda Knobloch's engagement was announced. We pray the Lord's presence in their lives as they prepare to be united as one in Him. Parents of the couple are Bro. Kent and Sis. Beth Banwart and Bro. Cameron and Sis. Tammy Knobloch.

We were pleased to have Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR) with us October 3 and 10 to

break the Bread of Life with us in West Bend. Also on October 10 we enjoyed a visit from Bro. Nathan Walder (Sis. Denise, Cissna Park, IL). We appreciated his bringing forth the truths of our dear Lord. May each minister of the gospel be blessed all across the land.

Several loved ones have experienced hospital stays this month. Sis. Madeline Banwart, who was in for surgery, Sis. Francis Zaugg, Ernest (Sis. Edith) Kellenberger, and Ashton Fehr (Bro. Darren and Sis. Nora). Ashton remains hospitalized in Rochester, MN, from an injury to his pancreas and we continue to lift them up in prayer. We can never be thankful enough for the blessing of good health.

Our farmers have been busy harvesting crops from the fields, and we were so fittingly reminded that the Lord has a harvest day for each of us and we must be ready when the Lord puts in the sickle. October 1 was the Lord's harvest day for one of our retired farmers, Bro. Alvin Banwart. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Phyllis, and children, Sis. Karol Meyer (Bro. James, Bern, KS), Sis. Kathy Butikofer (Bro. Tim, Elgin, IA), Sis. Kaye Meyer (Bro. Steve, Bern, KS), Bro. Kevin (Sis. Sandy) and Bro. Kent (Sis. Beth), both of West Bend, and Sis. Mary Knobloch (Bro. Jim, Elgin, IA). The family has felt the love of the brethren and overwhelming support from across the land during Bro. Alvin's illness and death.

As Thanksgiving approaches, the hymn "All Come and Thank the Lord" comes to mind. Zion's Harp #236, vs. 2-3:

Oh, may this bounteous God thro' all

our life be near us,  
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed  
 peace to cheer us;  
 and keep us in His grace, His full re-  
 demption send,  
 and free us from all ills, sustain us to  
 the end.  
 All praise and thanks to God the Fa-  
 ther now be given,  
 The Son and Holy Ghost, who dwell in  
 highest heaven.  
 The one eternal God, whom earth and  
 heav'n adore,  
 Who is and shall survive, now and for-  
 evermore.

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

Our annual church cleaning was held as usual on the fall equinox, September 23, a national holiday in Japan. There was a good turnout of workers from every age group. After a hard morning of work, we all enjoyed a tasty pizza lunch.

In October, Elder Bro. Akito Inoue read the Memorandum. We are thankful for his efforts as he spent many hours translating it into Japanese so he could smoothly read it.

Since there isn't a whole lot of news to report this month, I thought I would also add about a custom we have in our Tokyo church. On the second Sunday of each month, in place of afternoon Bible Study, we have a singing and short Bible reading. We all love it, and even the children join in on the choosing of hymns. Praise the Lord!

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

We rejoice with our convert, Peter Strahm (Bro. Kyle and Sis. Peggy), as he has found that

blessed peace and awaits baptism the weekend of November 6-7, Lord willing.

Blessing her family with her arrival is little Larae Joy Rokey, who was born to Bro. Dwight and Sis. Anita and Leigha, Amanda, Benton, Dillon, Brandon and Jenna. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Allen and Sis. Glenda Rokey and Eugene and Judy Edelman.

Two couples have announced their engagement: Billy Berg (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary) and Jill Buescher look forward to a November 6 wedding and Joyce Meyer (Keith and Deb) and Carlin Richert plan to marry on December 11. Our best wishes go to both of these couples!

Elder Bro. Ron Messner gave an insightful presentation on our AC Handicapped Home for both the Sabetha and Bern churches. We thank him for his efforts, as well as Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. Lavonne; Sabetha), who ministered the Word of God to us this month.

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Sis. Karol Meyer (Bro. James) and Sis. Kaye Meyer (Bro. Steve) in the loss of their father, Bro. Alvin Banwart (Sis. Phyllis) of West Bend, IA. May the Lord comfort them as they wait for that great reunion.

The Bible class enjoyed a trip to Buena Vista, CO, as the Denver church hosted our Youth Fellowship Weekend there. Then in October, Sunday School grades 6-8 traveled to Winthrop, MN. We thank both of these churches for their efforts and hospitality in providing fellowship for our youth.

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

The weekend of October 2-3 brought us untold blessings as on Saturday night we heard the testimonies of Melanie Banwart and Jared Bahr. Melanie is the daughter of Bro. Gene and Sis. Linda Banwart, and Jared is the son of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Maria Bahr. These young people seem to have an excellent understanding of God's Word and what is expected of them as children of God.

Our Elder Bro. John Lehman had invited Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Lamont-Gridley) to be here. It had only been a short time that Elder Bro. Randy Kellenberger of Kansas City had been ordained so Bro. John asked him to sit in on the events of the evening. His comments were short but timely. Visiting ministers were Bro. Jeff Bahr (Kiowa) and Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville).

The two ministers had services on Sunday. I believe that is the only time in my memory that I witnessed Bro. John Lehman sitting in the pews during regular services. Bros. John and Jay conducted the baptismal service and the laying on of hands. It was a blessed and happy event for our small church. We left Sunday evening with our spiritual cups running over.

On Wednesday evening we were blessed with another surprise. Danielle Fischer has been attending services for some time. She came to church that evening as we were scheduled to listen to the Conference tapes. I was curious why she would be there and then I saw her put on a prayer veil. Danielle is the granddaughter of

Bro. Lyle and Sis. Lillian Fischer. This event plus hearing the final Conference tape certainly raised my spirits for the evening. We appreciate and thank our Elders for all they do for us. Thanks be to God from whom all blessings flow.

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

“Blessed is every one that feareth the Lord; that walketh in his ways. For thou shalt eat the labour of thine hands; happy shalt thou be, and it shall be well with thee.”

*Psalm 128:1-2*

How very thankful we are for the provisions of our God! May we never forget what a truly blessed people we are, and may we keep our eyes upon Jesus (not man) for our walk, our choices, our desires. Just because the world does it does not make it right! “God forbid, yea, let God be true but every man a liar; as it is written; that thou mightest be justified in your sayings, and might overcome when you are judged.” (Romans 3:4)

What a blessed weekend we enjoyed when four couples traveled from Iowa to fellowship with us: Bro. Duane and Sis. Ruth Metzger (West Bend), Bro. Joe and Sis. Rose Dotterer (Bloomfield), Bro. Roger and Sis. DeAnn Wuthrich (Bloomfield) and Bro. Dave and Sis. Yvonne Bruellman (West Bend). The weekend became even more special for us when Bro. Duane and Bro. Joe lent themselves for both services to bring us the truths of God’s Word. God bless them for their labor of love, and

thanks to all of them for sharing a very special weekend with us.

Thanks to all who help with Manor Services, especially our youth, who bring many smiles to the faces of those precious elderly residents.

With Thanksgiving just around the corner, may we all remember Who we need to thank for all we are given by His precious hands.

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**KANSAS, SABETHA**  
**Sally Strahm**  
**Carrie Grimm**

“The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.”

*Luke 10:2*

We are grateful for the labourers that came and shared God’s Word with us this past month. Visiting ministers were Bro. Ron Isch (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS) and Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL). Elder Bro. Ron Messner gave an update on the Home for the Handicapped in Morton. May the Lord bless them as they labor on our behalf.

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you...”

*John 14:27*

We rejoice with our convert, Will Eisenbise (Bro. Dave and Sis. Shari), as he was announced for peace with the Lord and man. May he always keep the Lord close to him as he travels life’s journey.

“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

*II Corinthians 5:17*

Bro. Timothy and Sis. Charleen Hartter and Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda Anliker (Forrest, IL) welcome a dear grandbaby into their family fold. Alea Kay was born to Bro. Corbin and Sis. Heidi Anliker (Forrest, IL). Little Ashlyn also welcomes her little sister. Bro. Jay and Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger welcome a baby grandson into their hearts as Zachary Jay was born to Scott and Trisha Gibson. Siblings are Whitney, Joshua, and Preston. Bro. Clinton and Sis. Kristi Strahm welcome their baby boy, Collin Ray, on October 14 into their hearts and home. Siblings Katrina, Kelsey and Carson also welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. Curtis and Sis. Ellen Strahm and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Bachtold of Forrest, IL. Curtis and Valerie Keim welcome a new baby grandson, Connor Scott (Scott and Crystal Wedel, Shawnee, KS), into their hearts. Big brother Gavin also welcomes him home. Great-grandparents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta Wenger. May the Lord guide and direct these families as they raise these dear children in the way of the Lord.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Phyllis Strahm (Bro. Elmer), Sis. Barbara Edelman (Clifford), Sis. Cherie Metzger, and Kari Hertzell (Mark), as they mourn the loss of their dear brother, brother-in-law, and grandfather, Bro. Alvin Banwart of West Bend, IA. May they each feel God’s comfort at this

time of loss.

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Samantha Beyer (Bro. Korbin and Sis. Marla), Bro. Darin Grimm (Sis. Marci), Opal Steiner, and Bro. Frank Hertzell (Sis. Ruth). We pray the Lord will touch His healing hand on each of them.

“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.”

*Isaiah 26:3-4*

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### **KANSAS, WICHITA**

**Emma Miller**

Five October 3 birthdays were celebrated by the Bowers families in honor of the youngest, 2 year old Philip, son of Mike and Fanja, and the two sets of twins born over 50 years ago and includes Bro. Phil Bowers and Sis. Ruth Long. Included in the celebration were Priscilla Frank and Paul Bowers.

Bro. Dan Moser, his wife, Sis. Anne, and a son from Elgin, IL, spent the weekend of October 9-10 fulfilling the visiting minister rotation schedule with us in Wichita.

Bro. Jeff Bahr ministered to us October 17. He and Sis. Janice, their three daughters, and his sister shared in celebrating their mother's 80th birthday with their two elderly aunts in Wichita.

We hear of so many earthquakes and the destruction which results from the quake. The part I am going to write about took place early (for me) one morning this week. I had arisen before six when I was startled by a loud jangling sound which seemed to be coming from

the bathroom. After possibly ten seconds all was quiet. Later, I found that the ceiling light in the bathroom was hanging from one side of its fixture. Nothing was damaged beyond repair for which I give thanks to God.

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### **KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON**

**Barb Huber**

“Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

*Ephesians 5:20*

We appreciated the efforts and labors of the visiting ministers who brought the Word of God to us in truth and clarity this month. They were Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Sis. Cheryl, Rockville, CT) and Bro. Matt Kaufman (Sis. Rebekah, Bloomington-Normal, IL). We feel indebted to you dear brothers who traveled many miles, especially Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan and his wife from far away Rockville, CT. It is our prayer that you'll be richly blessed for your love and service to the Lord.

As we think of the pilgrims this Thanksgiving, let us remember we also are on a pilgrim journey. This world is not our home. The pilgrims traveled light and had “hope” of a promise, freedom of worship, in a new land, America. May we learn to let go of this world's oppression (cares, concerns, possessions, etc.), travel light, look unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith, and press on in “hope” of the promise of our eternal home in heaven.

It's always a joy to have visitors.

This month other visitors came from Cissna Park, IL, Morton, IL, and Bluffton, IN. Again, we extend a warm welcome to visit us 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 in the 2010 minister's book.

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### **MEXICO, IXTLAN**

**Matt Gerber**

“And great multitudes came unto him, having with them those that were lame, blind, dumb, maimed, and many others, and cast them down at Jesus' feet; and he healed them...”

*Matt. 15:30*

Several Mexican sisters had the opportunity to serve on a medical work team in Leon, Guanajuato, along with a number of American brothers and sisters. They visited a different poor community each day. Hundreds of people lined up for medical exams, hoping to receive some relief from their suffering. One of the sisters said it made her think of when Jesus was on the earth, and crowds would flock to Him to be healed of their infirmities. Even when He must have been physically exhausted, He wouldn't turn them away. And though today He is not physically present on the earth, He is still reaching out in compassion and healing through His Body, as His people show His love and mercy to the suffering.

Bro. Rogelio and Sis. Fernanda (Morelia) recently adopted a baby boy. It's wonderful to know that

this child will now have the opportunity to grow up in a loving Christian home.

Please pray for the country of Mexico, as drug-related violence and kidnapping continues to rise. While we expect to see increasing amounts of evil as we draw closer to the return of Christ, we still need to pray. We ask for prayer for God to protect the government officials and workers, police, etc.; that they could purge corruption from their own ranks; that they would have courage to punish evildoers and protect the innocent, and that evil could be restrained (I Peter 2:14). Now, more than ever, is the time for the Gospel to be proclaimed, along with the frightening warning of God's wrath and judgment on unrepentant sinners (II Thess. 1:6-9). Pray that we would not count our lives dear unto ourselves, nor be moved from preaching the Gospel, which is the power of God to save those who repent and believe (Acts 20:24; Rom. 1:16).

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**MEXICO, MAGDALENA**  
**Jarrin Rabe**

Salmos 51:12 "Vuélveme el gozo de tu salvación, Y espíritu noble me sustente."

*Psalm 51:12* "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit."

With the fall weather slowly approaching, we are quickly turning praises to God for the break in heat! The weather has been cooling off and we are so thankful!

On October 6, Bro. Keith and

Sis. Emily Schambach gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Brielle Elsie. The family is adjusting well, and big sister Kaleigh is loving her little sister!

On October 17, Benjamin Schick (Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan) and Jaqueline Martinez (who is being cared for by Bro. Keith and Sis. Emily) were announced for baptisms. We are very thankful and excited to see what God will do in their lives. If the Lord is willing, we plan to have baptisms on November 21.

There have been many hearts coming forth to seek the Lord in the last couple weeks in Magdalena. Please continue to pray that God's voice would be heard amongst His people and that they would answer with their hearts.

None but God can satisfy the longing of the immortal soul; as the heart was made for Him. He only can fill it.

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

"To open their eyes, and turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me."

*Acts 26:18*

A night of spiritual growth took place in our hearts as Bro. Bill Schmidgall brought forth this topic of "How clearly do you see God?" Sincere gratitude was felt for his time and service.

We rejoice with Tom and Annie

Oesch as they were blessed with the birth of their second child on October 9, Suzanna Grace. Henry is a proud big brother of this beautiful baby girl, and she is the seventh grandchild of Bro. Tom and Sis. Michelle Oesch.

Our prayers are with Bro. Joe Oesch (Sis. Melva) and Judah Oesch (Bro. Matt and Sis. Shelli) as they spent time in the hospital this month, and are now recovering in the peace of their own homes.

We are grateful for the time Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Debra, Peoria, IL) spent with us at the reading of the Memorandum. Also visiting this month was Bro. Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN). We were blessed by the working of the Holy Spirit through their services.

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

We are thankful that Bro. Clinton Ruegsegger (Sherry) was able to share his testimony with our congregation and then we were able to witness his baptism on October 9-10.

Our prayers are with Bro. Norman Knochel (Sis. Leanore), Sis. Sandi Knochel, and Bro. Fred Munsel (Sis. Dolores) as they all spent time in the hospital recently. We trust that God will provide healing all according to His will.

We were richly blessed to have several visiting ministers in our congregation recently. Bro. Howard Plattner (Sis. Kristin, Alto, MI) spent a Wednesday evening with us as he was working in our area. Bro. Jesse Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie, Detroit, MI) and Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane,

Bluffton North, IN) both worshiped with us on October 17.

“O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness.”

*Psalms 107:1,8,9*

The harvest season is quickly drawing to a close and we are approaching the time of Thanksgiving. May we ever be thankful to our Heavenly Father for all the blessings He has given us.

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

We tearfully say goodbye to Bro. Brice Gasser as he is moving to Toledo, OH, in order to cut his daily commute to his job in a nuclear plant in Monroe, MI. We will miss him so much, but we're looking forward to having him back often to worship with us. As you go from here to there, may God keep you in His care.

“Sing praises to God, sing praises: sing praises unto our King, sing praises.”

*Psalms 47:6*

The weekend of November 6-7, our choir will be traveling to Gridley, IL, to worship, to fellowship, and to praise the Lord with song. In anticipation of this up-coming event, they have been practicing and are looking forward

to having a wonderful time with our loved ones there.

“Make thy face to shine upon thy servant:”

*Psalms 31:16*

Some of our ladies in church gathered together recently and assembled sandwiches for those in need — what a special way to share the love of Jesus within our community.

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

*1 John 4:12*

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**MINNESOTA**  
**MINNEAPOLIS**

“Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. The LORD God is my strength, and he will make my feet like hinds' feet, and he will make me to walk upon mine high places. To the chief singer on my stringed instruments.”

*Habakkuk 3:17-19*

Is there times in life when you feel God is silent or He doesn't understand? Habakkuk reminds us to be patient and praise God even in the silence. He will hear our cry, and in His timing He will reveal himself.

Visiting minister this month was Bro. Paul (Sis. Jan) Messner

from Winthrop. Thank you for sharing God's word with us in Rochester.

On October 2, we heard the testimonies of Bro. Tim and Sis. Nada McMillan and Bro. Don Katanic. We welcome them into our church family, and thank Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL) for his help and service.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Krissa Klotzle welcomed their first child, Karlina Jean, on October 20. Joyful grandparents are Elder Bro. Tom and Sis. Jody Klotzle (Altadena) and Mark and Lori Skoglund (West Bend).

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**  
**Susie Wulf**  
**Kim Feuchtenberger**

“But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.”

*Acts 6:4*

We each have a responsibility to pray for our ministers that they will sound forth the trumpet and warn the congregations as the Spirit reveals unto them. This month Bro. Jim Koehl (San Diego, CA), Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) and Elder Bro. Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN) visited our church. May God allow each of us to pray that His



Word will penetrate our hearts and bring forth fruits of righteousness.

Ryland Kurtis Domnick joined Bro. Kurt, Sis. Rachel, Morgan, Reece and Macy on September 22. His grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma Domnick and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Sherry Stoller (Eureka, IL). Bro. Caleb and Sis. Heidi Pfaffman had their first child, Logan Caleb, on October 12. Bro. Robert and Sis. Lily Pfaffman (Washington, IL) and Bro. Stan and Sis. Pam Wulf are thankful for the safe arrival of their first grandchild.

Bernice Luthi and Mildred Sauder have spent time in the hospital. We are thankful they are out of the hospital and doing better.

Todd (Sis. Bonnie) and Jamie (Joel and Rosie Dahlen) Nohl were announced as having peace with God and man. May God grant them grace and strength to stay close to Him and continue to grow in their spiritual understanding.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

It has been a while since our precious baby boy, Trayton, went to sleep safe in my arms and just hours later he was safe in the arms of Jesus. We want you to know our hearts have been touched by all the love shown to us and we want to thank you all for your support, prayers, visits, food, cards, gifts and words of encouragement during this sorrowful time. Our hearts are full of gratitude as your continued prayers and support bring us comfort. We cherish and thank you. May God bless you.

*Don, Tonia and Nevaeh Judkins*

*Bro. David and Sis. June Schmidgall*

*Amy Schmidgall and Jamie  
Bro. Joshua and Sis. Heidi  
Schmidgall and family*

O, keep me watchful then, and humble,  
And suffer me no more to stray;  
Uphold me when my feet would stumble,  
Nor let me loiter by the way.  
Fill soul and body with Thy light  
O, heav'nly radiance strong and bright!  
*Zion's Harp #227, vs. 6*

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

Greetings of love to all from the Morris North congregation.

"In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

*I Thessalonians 5:18*

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;"

*Ephesians 5:20*

As the fall colors appear and harvest is underway, we are reminded how thankful we are for a Creator who is perfect in all His ways. May we remind ourselves, as the Thanksgiving Holiday approaches, how blessed we are in all aspects of our lives here on earth.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork."

*Psalms 19:1*

We were blessed to have brethren worship with us from the fol-

lowing congregations: Roanoke, Gridley, Morris, Smithville, Chicago, Fairbury, West Bend, Sabetha. The faithful brethren who have ministered to us in the past month were Bro. Steve Baner (Sis. DonnaLou, Gridley, IL), Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH), Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago, IL), and Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS). Your willingness to share of yourself is a powerful example of Christ's love in our brotherhood and is very much appreciated.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Lori Mattson, along with their family, hosted the entire church for a potluck and hymn sing in their new home. A blessed evening was enjoyed by all.

On a beautiful Saturday evening, our congregation coordinated a "Harvest Supper" event held on the north end of Pomme de Terre Lake. Elder Bro. Andy Stoller gave an informational presentation on World Relief opportunities. A World Relief fund raising auction then highlighted the evening.

Bro. Matthew Rassi shared with us teachings on the subject of "Accountability" at a Potluck Dinner held at the Runestone Park Barn. Thanks, Bro. Matt, for your deliverance on this important topic.

Dear ones that were hospitalized recently include: Sis. Kim Moser (Bro. Todd) and Dani Schmidgall (Alan). We pray for God's healing powers and for a blessed recovery.

We rejoice with Bro. Micah and Sis. Holly Zeltwanger along with their children, Sierra, Sage and Kale, on the birth of Tait Caleb.

May God richly bless this heavenly blessing.

“Praise ye the Lord. O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.”

*Psalms 106*

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

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

*Hymns of Zion #46, vs. 2*

It is harvest time in our community and we can look around and see the farmers working in their fields. This is the season that the farmers are able to see the fruits of their labors. Many times we associate harvest with death or when Christ comes again. Since we never know when either of these will happen, let us continually be laboring so that our fields are full of fruits and our harvest is plentiful.

There are friendships that we cherish  
 In our daily walk of life  
 Friends with whom we meet and labor  
 In our earthly toil and strife,  
 Friends among the aged and youthful,  
 Friends that live from us apart  
 Friends of higher rank and station  
 Find a place within my heart.

*Hymns of Zion # 91, vs. 1*

As a small church, every visitor is a special blessing. This month we've been privileged to host several events, including our annual Pork Chop Supper, single groups from various congregations, as well as 5-8 grade students and their teachers from the Bern, KS, con-

gregation. We pray that Christian friendships were made or strengthened and that all feel welcome to visit us again.

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.

*Hymns of Zion # 46, vs. 1*

We appreciate it when visitors can be used in the Lord's field on the pulpit. Our hope is that the seeds are planted in each of our hearts as we listen to God's Word. This month our visiting ministers were Bro. Ken Schneider (Sis. Bernice, Remington, IN), Bro. Kevin Fehr (Sis. Lonnie, West Bend, IA) and Bro. Don Miller (Sis. Bernadine, Minneapolis, MN).

Have Thine own way, Lord!  
 Have Thine own way!  
 Wounded and weary, Help me, I pray!  
 Power—all power—surely is Thine!  
 Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!

*Hymns of Zion #113, vs. 3*

Ann Lind (Dan) has been in our thoughts and prayers since her recent hospitalization. May God grant her strength and healing.

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

Our thoughts and prayers have been with Karla Rutledge as she underwent surgery and spent some time in the hospital. May the Lord heal as He sees best.

We are thankful for many visitors that have been with us this past month. The fellowship of like mind and faith is so precious.

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

What a month of activity in our Taylor Church! We hosted the annual Taylor invite. We completed twelve work projects with all the good help from young groups representing about 30 of our congregations from Atlanta, GA, to Silverton, OR. May God bless all your efforts and help over the special weekend. We loved having all your energy and work and love of God shown in your deeds. We had nearly 175 young group members present over the weekend.

We would like to thank Bro. Jeff Fischer (Sis. Gloria, Fort Scott, KS) for the information he shared with us about the seven churches in Revelations through the Ultimate Coaching Model. The theme of the whole evening was ended by singing “To Him That Overcometh” in the Hymns of Zion. Thanks for traveling the miles from Ft. Scott to Taylor for a Wednesday Evening Bible Study.

Other visiting ministers this month were Bro. Ken Dietz (Sis. Mardell, Bradford, IL) and Bro. Garry Bucher (Sis. Lois, Valparaiso, IN).

We rejoice again with the angels in Heaven, with three new converts. Hannah Foster (Roger and Tammy Foster), Rachel Reinbeck (Bro. Adam and Sis. Katie) and Annalynn Knochel (Bro. Eric and Sis. Penny) all have given their hearts to the Lord in repentance. We wish all God's grace and blessings.

We had two hospital patients this month, Sis. Carrie Rocke (Bro. Jeff), and Sis. Dianne Sutter (Bro. Roger). May God grant them His healing hand.

On October 3, Bro. Mark and Sis. Ashley Sauder were blessed with the birth of little Rueben Mark. First-time grandparents are Bro. Scott and Sis. Anna Hoerr. Other grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Janice Sauder (Tremont, IL).

Another first-time grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Sally Gottman, with the birth of Wesley James to Jay and Zandy Gottman, born on October 19. Zandy's parents are Jeff and Carrie Sorrells of Lee's Summit, MO.

Thanks to Bro. Joe and Sis. Heidi Gerber (Champaign, IL) for the informative night explaining the Loving Shepherd Ministries. It was started in 2002 by Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz of Bluffton, IN. We were told that there are more than 143 million orphans in the world. When people work, people work, but when people pray, God works. Please pray for the orphans of the world, the work of Loving Shepherd ministries and the glory of God to be revealed.

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**NEW YORK  
CROGHAN-NAUMBURG  
Hope Graves**

We enjoyed a potluck and singing the weekend of September 26. Bro. Todd Graf (Sis. Lydia) ministered to us and we appreciate his willingness to be used in the Lord's service.

The fall foliage was so beautiful again this year and as always we appreciate and welcome any visitors.

When I behold Thy strength and  
mighty power,  
Thou God and Ruler of the hosts of

light,  
The moon and stars and all Thy works  
so wondrous  
proclaim Thy glory and Thy sovereign  
might!  
How wonderful, O Lord, is Thy cre-  
ation!  
We worship Thee in holy admiration.  
*Zion's Harp #118*

Our prayers go out for Danielle Graves and Loren Virkler who have had surgery and are recovering at home.

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**OHIO, AKRON  
Erika Gal**

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."

*John 14:27*

This month we laid to rest our dear ministering Bro. Paul Gasser. We extend our love and heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Sis. Joyce, as well as his brothers, Bro. Don (Sis. Carol) from Akron, Walter (Roberta) from Bluffton, SC, David (Gail) from Wallingford, PA, John (Rita) from Medina, Bro. Roger (Sis. Sue) from Junction, and sisters, Sis. Grace, Sis. Ruth, Sis. Edith (Bro. Larry) Miller, all from Smithville. Bro. Paul was a faithful minister for 40 years, and we will sincerely miss him in our congregation.

We also share our love and sympathy with our Bro. Jacob (Sis. Beth) Rufener as he lost his grandmother, Sis. Roma Rufener from Rittman.

We are thankful to share in the joy of Bro. Greg Gasser and Sis. Kristina Steidl as they were mar-

ried in the Lord on October 17. Their parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Nan Steidl from Akron and Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser from Junction. We will miss Sis. Christina in Akron, but we surely wish them the Lord's blessings and guidance in their marriage.

Visiting ministers included Elder Bro. Bill (Sis. Emy) Schlatter, Bro. Don (Sis. Connie) Manz, Bro. Tony (Sis. Denise) Manz (all from Junction), Bro. John Grimm (Sis. Julie, Columbus), and Bro. Jerry Bauman (Rittman). We are also very thankful for the love and service of our Elder Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY) who was here for the reading of the Memorandum. May God bless each one for their labors for our precious faith.

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**OHIO, COLUMBUS  
Esther Saurer**

This month we were blessed to have three visiting ministers. Bro. Bob and Sis. Laura Dotterer (Sardis, OH) and Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) joined us one Sunday. Then, Bro. Walt and Sis. Sharon Rager (Toledo, OH) joined us for a weekend of worship. May God continue to bless their efforts.

We had the opportunity to welcome our college students and families at our Annual College picnic.

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**OHIO, JUNCTION  
Vicki Boroff**

Bro. Neil and Sis. Sandy Stoller had a little boy, Corbin Craig, on September 17. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth Stoller (Latty), and Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee Sinn (Latty).

Our prayers go out to our hospital patients.

Thus united, and in concord,  
let us walk the path of life;  
Hand in hand, o may love bind us,  
for each other's welfare strive.

*Zion's Harp #237, vs. 1*

On October 17, Bro. Greg Gasser married Sis. Christina Steidl of Akron. Parents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser, and Bro. Don and Sis. Nan Steidl.

Our prayers also go out to Bro. Roger Gasser's family in the loss of his brother, Bro. Paul (Akron), in the days before the wedding.

On October 24, Sis. Beverly Schlatter married Bro. Regg Beer of Ixtlan. Parents are Elder Bro. Bill and Sis. Emily Schlatter, and Bro. Fred and Sis. Pat Beer (Milford). We wish both couples God's richest blessings as they join their lives.

We enjoyed several visiting ministers during Sis. Beverly's wedding weekend: Bros. Tom Troxel (Sis. LuAnn, LaCrosse), Dan Beer (Sis. Deb, Milford), Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park), Randy Beer (Sis. Debra, Milford), and John Reinhard (Sis. Pam, Bluffton). We appreciated their efforts on our behalf.

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**OHIO, LATTY  
Mindy Stoller  
Carmen Eisenmann**

We were blessed this month to be able to partake of Holy Communion. Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL) was with us during this special weekend. Also visiting us this month was ministering Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL). We thank

these brothers for their willing service to us.

We are so happy to be able announce that our convert, Hannah Stoller (Bro. Todd and Sis. Pam), has professed peace with God and man. We will continue to pray for Hannah as she prepares to give her testimony and be baptized.

We grieve the loss of our dear Bro. Glenn Stoller as he has moved from this life into eternity. Our thoughts and prayers are with his dear wife, Sis. Ede, and their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. May the Holy Spirit be their Comforter during this time.

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**OHIO, MANSFIELD  
Tami Griffey**

We rejoice with Bro. Tim and Sis. Traci Beer as a precious baby boy, Tanner Reed, was born on September 19. Excited and helpful siblings, Trent, Thomas, and Katrina, welcomed him home. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Joel and Sis. Sue Beer, and Bro. Pete and Sis. Karen Baltic.

Joyful news continues with the birth of Landon Lucas Tucker on September 21 to parents, Bro. Archie and Sis. Amber. Anna and Thomas, his brother and sister, are delighted to welcome him into their family. Happy grandparents are Dan and Sis. Barb Tucker, and Robert and Trisha Tschantz.

Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville) and Bro. Kenneth Eisenmann (Sis. Sharon, Cissna Park, IL) have our special thanks for visiting and sharing God's Word with our congregation.

Many recovering from illness and injury continue to need our

prayers and love including: Sis. Becky Vent, Angela and Destiny Foss, and Sis. Lucy Baumann. May God comfort and heal according to His will.

Invite a friend weekend was held on October 9 and 10. We enjoyed the blessing of fellowship and thank each one who made the effort to be with us for the weekend.

Rosina Lotterer, a sister to Bro. John Pfiesser (Sis. Zuzanna), passed away. Our prayers are with his family.

Bro. Luke Tucker has relocated to Toledo, OH. Prayers and love go with Luke as he establishes his home in a new community.

As we remember Thanksgiving, may we have grateful hearts and give thanks to God for all we have been blessed with, both spiritually and physically. "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;" (Ephesians 5:20).

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**OHIO, RITTMAN  
Heidi Rufener  
Marge Stoller**

"But from everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children."

*Psalm 103:17*

We have had many new babies born recently—each one is a special blessing of love from God. Aliya Mae joined the family of Bro. Dave and Sis. Anne Gasser on September 16. Older siblings are Jude and Aysha; grandparents are Bro. Virgil and Sis. Lois Gasser and Bro. Darrell and Sis. Alice Widmer. Bradley Christopher was born on

September 19 to Bro. Brett and Sis. Renee Lanz. Bradley joins Brendan, Breanne, and Brooklyn at home. His grandparents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Diane Lanz and Bro. Nelson and Sis. Minnie Beer. Bro. Shawn and Sis. Judy Acker welcomed Naomi Grace into their family on September 27, who joins siblings, Noah, Anna, Aaron, Ella, and Henry. Grandparents are Boyd and Barb Acker and Elder Bro. Merle and Sis. Bonnie Hartzler. George Andrew was born on October 4 to Jeremy and Danelle Vanni. George has an older brother, Elliot. His grandparents are Dan and Sis. Anita Pope. October 14 is the birthday of Della Naomi, born to Bro. Tony and Sis. Cherie Stoller. Older siblings are Bailey, Alayna, Jack, Grace, and Hope. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Jeannette Stoller and Jeff and Elsie Maibach.

Bro. Troy Stoller (Bro. Rob and Sis. Joanne) and Sis. Tennille Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda, Silverton, OR) were united in holy matrimony on October 3. Rachel Rupp (Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon) and Jeffrey Snider (Jody and Jami Snider) were married on October 15. We wish God's rich blessings on these couples.

The engagement of Bro. Matthew Dotterer (Bro. Rick and Sis. Dawn) and Sis. Calla Steiner (Bro. Dave and Sis. Lynn) was announced to us recently. We pray for God's direction and nearness as they make plans to establish a new Christian home.

Hospitalized in the past month was Bro. Andy Maibach. May God be near him as he recovers.

Our thoughts and prayers go to the family of Sis. Roma Rufener

who passed away October 6. Sis. Roma's children are Bro. Larry (Sis. Susan) Rufener (Smithville), Ellen (Richard) Johnson, Bro. John (Sis. Janice) Rufener (Smithville), Bro. Darrell (Sis. Shirley) Rufener, Joan Rufener, and Bro. Kevin (Sis. Marsha) Rufener.

Sharing God's Word with us this month were Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield) and Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Smithville). May God bless these Brothers for willingly giving on our behalf.

*Note of Thanks:*

The family of Lillian Maibach wishes to extend their sincere thanks for the outpouring of support they received during the decline and passing of their wife, mother, sister and grandmother. The flowers, cards, gifts, meals and shared thoughts of sympathy were wonderfully supportive. We truly cannot describe the blessing that we felt through the presence of so many that traveled to Ohio for the services. May God richly bless you for all your kindness and generosity.

**OHIO, SMITHVILLE**

**Gina Brake  
Lydia Dotterer**

How thankful we can be that God is the God of all comfort. There have been several families who we extend our thoughts and prayers to at this time. Bro. Paul Gasser (Sis. Joyce) passed from this time into eternity. We think of his sisters, Sis. Grace and Sis. Ruth Gasser and Sis. Edie Miller, during this time. We also think of Bro. Larry Rufener (Sis. Susan) and Bro. John Rufener (Sis. Janice) who lost their

mother, Sis. Roma Rufener. Although parting is hard, how blessed the hope of Heaven is!

We've had several hospital patients recently as well. Sis. Luella Stoller, Sis. Luanna Dotterer and Bro. Dick Beery have all had to spend some time in the hospital. Thankfully, God's healing hand has been present.

Bro. Lucas Frank was here to share the Word. We are thankful for those who willingly give of themselves Sunday after Sunday.

**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.

We were blessed with the Communion Exhortation brought forth by Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty). It is always beneficial to reflect on our spiritual walk.

Our prayers surround those in our congregation with health issues this month. Sis. Kathy Fehr (Bro. Wayne) and Sis. Pearl Miller (Bro. Bob) were hospitalized for a short time.

Our congregation is very blessed to have Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Betty Metz joining our congregation for worship. We welcome them to our family.

**OREGON, SILVERTON**

**Kris Luthi  
Deb Roth**

"In every change, He faithful will remain..."

*Hymns of Zion #191*

We witnessed the wedding vows of Sis. Tennille Kuenzi (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda) and Bro. Troy Stoller (Bro. Rob and Sis. Joanne, Rittman, OH) on October 3. We were privileged to have many visiting ministers with us that day and we thank them for preaching the Word: Bros. Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH), Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), Todd Stoller (Latty, OH), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), and Jim Koehl (San Diego, CA). We will miss Sis. Tennille as she and Bro. Troy make their home in Rittman, but look forward to their visits! Our best wishes for the Lord's blessings to follow them to Ohio.

Bro. Josh and Sis. Tresa Hansen welcome Trevor Loren into their hearts and home. Ethan is Trevor's big brother and future playmate. Grandparents are Bro. Tim and Carol Hansen and Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene Dettwyler. Bro. Ryan and Sis. Regina Hari rejoice with the birth of Jason Harold. Jason's siblings are Carissa, David and Grace. Grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Linda Hari and Bro. Don and Sis. Linda Sinn. We wish these couples many blessings as they raise their families.

We bid a fond farewell to Bro. Ed and Sis. Judie Knecht as they have moved to Eureka, IL. Many precious memories were stirred in our minds at their farewell singing. They lived in Oregon for nearly 40 years and we wish them the Lord's grace as they adjust to their new home.

Bro. John Wiegand was ordained as our new Elder on September 19. Here to assist Bro. Art Metz with the ordination were El-

der Bros. Gerry Hertz (Sabetha, KS), Mark Masters (Mansfield, OH) and Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA). Also here for the weekend were Elder Bros. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA) and Duane Rocke (Minneapolis, MN). Our prayers and support are with Bro. John and Sis. Jane and their girls, Tiera, Jenna, Kendra and Kyla, as he takes up this responsibility in shepherding the Lord's flock. We sincerely thank Elder Bro. Art and Sis. Betty Metz for their many years of service to our congregation. Bro. Art was the first resident Elder in Oregon, and will continue to be the Elder for the Portland congregation where they will now be assembling. May the Lord's blessings go with them always, and we look forward to their visits to Silverton.

Bro. Terry Young (Sis. Peggy) had surgery on his shoulder and Katrianne Sinn (Bro. Tom and Sis. Edith) had an appendectomy. May the Lord grant them both a speedy recovery.

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### PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

"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 13:29*

Our Philadelphia congregation has been blessed over the years with visitors from all of the United States. Many come to learn about the history of the birth of the United States, to see the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall and Benjamin Franklin's home.

We are always thankful that an important part of many who come to Philadelphia is time to worship with our congregation, where we can be reminded of the new creation in Christ, being set at liberty, and free from the captivity of sin and Satan. This month we were privileged to have visitors from all over, including ministering Bro. Don Sinn (Silverton, OR) and his wife. We were blessed by his service to us and trust that each one of us can continue to meditate on His Word day and night.

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### TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE Mike and Monica Fritz

We are looking forward to this winter (January - March), when World Relief will have a work project in the Nashville area to help with the rebuilding of homes for families who suffered loss during the major flooding here this spring. We appreciate the love of Christ shown through this effort to the hurting in our community.

We welcome Samuel Frank, who recently moved here from Detroit, MI, to continue his education.

We are thankful for the encouragement we have received from God's Word, brought to us by our recent visiting ministering brothers: Bros. Tom Bolliger (Sis. Jane; Tremont, IL), Brad Bauer (Sis. Sandy; Tucson, AZ), Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn; Taylor, MO), Ron Steiner (Sis. Ruth; Rittman, OH), Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda; Smithville, OH), Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann; Smithville, OH), and Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol; Gridley, IL). We have also appreciated the fellowship of brethren and

friends visiting from Tucson, AZ; Gridley and Tremont, IL; Francesville, LaCrosse, Milford, and Remington, IN; Lamar and Taylor, MO; and Junction, Mansfield, Rittman, and Smithville, OH.

If you are traveling in or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Bay City, MI (11/21); Rockville, CT (11/28); Leo, IN (12/5); LaCrosse, IN (12/12); and Latty, OH (12/19). 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 sometimes meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. for singing or call-in services and would welcome any midweek visitors. Contacts are Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz, (615) 866-5543 (fritzmb.family@gmail.com); and Sis. Gwen Leuthold, (615) 356-5755.

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### TEXAS, AUSTIN

#### **Serenity and Jasmine Ringger**

It is nice to have Lane Hartzler from Rittman gathering with us. We hope he feels welcome to stay a long time.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers: Bros. Keith Hinrichsen (Sis. Tami, Phoenix), Steve Pamer (Sis. Arliss, Akron) Galen Rokey (Bern), Elder Bros. Gerry Hertzler (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha), and Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington). We also had visitors from Chicago.

The following is the visiting minister schedule for December: (12) Rittman, (19) Smithville. We

do plan to have services December 26 as well. (If a ministering brother would be willing to come; it would be much appreciated since this date was unscheduled.)

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 week-end 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.

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### TEXAS, McALLEN

#### **Joyce Nohl**

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

*1 Cor. 11:26*

On September 26, we shared the Lord’s Supper together in Holy Communion. Assisting our Elder Bro. Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CA) was Deacon Bro. Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX). Also sharing the Word with us this day was Bro. Allen Stoller (Sis. Susan, Bluffton, IN). We thank each one for their labors of love on our behalf. We were also blessed with vis-

itors from Austin, TX, and Bluffton, IN. It surely was a day of blessings showering down upon us from above. His presence was felt throughout the day.

On October 10, Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford, IL) came to share the Word with us. Thank you, Bro. Brad, for your willingness to give of your time.

The following churches are scheduled for services: (Dec. 5, Forrest, IL) and (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.

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### VERMONT

#### **NORTH CLARENDON/NORWICH**

#### **Nathan and Miriam Reutter**

Our God-given blessings this month have been two-pronged. Visiting ministers have preached the truth to us by the unction of the Holy Spirit. A healthy child has also been born to a family that used to reside here.

The visiting ministers and their wives who have visited this past month have been many. In the order of their visits they are as follows: Bro. Dan and Sis. Mary-Lou Goric (Rockville, CT), Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter (Rockville, CT), Bro. Tom and Sis. LaNae Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bro. John and Sis. Heather Rassi (Tremont, IL), and Bro. Jaye and Sis. Peggy Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL). We entreat the Lord’s blessing on all of you according to the following promise:

“For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have showed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints and do minister.”

*Hebrews 6:10*

Bro. Kirby and Sis. Areli Reutter (Leo, IN) were blessed this past month, too, with a baby boy: Caleb Hunter. He joins his older brother Isaac. While absent in body from our congregation, they are not in spirit. We pray that Bro. Kirby and Sis. Areli will be endowed with grace, courage, and

wisdom in training their two boys in the service of the Lord.

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

*Psalm 127: 3*

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.

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more as ye see the day approaching.”

*Hebrews 10:25*

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.



## **Assistant Administrator Needed**

The Board of Directors of the Apostolic Christian Home in Rittman is announcing a search for an Assistant Administrator for the nursing home.

Applicants are required to have a Bachelor's degree and can expect an interim period of time to fulfill the State of Ohio's Administrator's license requirements.

Anyone interested in further details can contact David Maletich for a complete job description and to submit a resume for the vacancy.

*The Nursing Home phone number is 330-927-1010  
or email: administrator@apostolichome.com*

*The deadline for this search is 12/31/2010.*



*Sermon continued from page 2*

cause He wants us to get into the habit of keeping our word. Why does He want us to do that? Because, the time will come for each one of us, from the youngest child here to the older person here, when He will come to us and He will want us to vow and promise to be faithful and true to Him forever. He wants us to know what that means. It is not an idle promise like I'll meet you at 11:00 at K-Mart. That is not the same type of a vow or promise. But, we need to keep those too. We need to keep our word. It becomes a tremendous promise.

Think about Abraham. Abraham was so confident in his God that when God told him to do something that made no sense whatsoever, to go and sacrifice his only son, he took him up to the mountain. He took the wood and the fire. And Isaac asked, is there something missing here? Abraham even raised the knife. The important thing about that is to recognize that God wants us to make promises to Him. He wants us to trust Him with our life, with our greatest hopes. It is so far beyond what the Jews were really expecting.

The Jews were expecting their God to erase the Romans and to give them a nation. They were expecting Him to give them political authority, to bless them. That is all they wanted. That is all they wanted in their lives. That's a tragedy! Some people have the thought of that is what it is being a believer, that God is going to draw a hedge around them. That He is going to help and to protect. If we stop there we have shut ourselves off from such a wonderful salvation. Instead, God wants us to know the fullness of His promises, the fullness of His expectations of us. How can we appreciate His Grace if we haven't tried to follow the law and realized how fruitless we are?

Let's be honest. Drive to Chicago sometime and ask yourself if you are going to obey every law on the way to Chicago. The answer is probably not very many people will. You are going to speed. You are going to do some-

thing. We are like that, dear ones. For me, it seems like I can't follow the law for fifteen minutes with my will, with my power. That is why God gave the children of Israel the law. To help them understand that they couldn't do it by their own strength. It wasn't a matter of how many sheep they killed. It wasn't a matter of making the sacrifices every day. It is not a matter today of going to church every Sunday or every Wednesday night and clicking them off and putting a check mark there and that is going to do it. That is not why we come is it? No, it isn't! We come because we want God via His Holy Spirit to come and speak to us and help us to know Him, to think about His plan for this world.

You see the beautiful vistas that open in this world whether it is a picture of the sea or a picture of the mountains or of the skies, a sunset. Last night He had everyone wondering if they should cover their flowers. Sorry, they are not really your flowers. They are His. He decides their lifespan. He designs the beauty and color that they have. Think of a God that creates every child individually with special attributes. We know these things are the Truth because we have seen them. We have experienced them. Everyone is special in the eyes of God.

We go much farther as the family of the Gentiles. Maybe we shouldn't say the family of the Gentiles, that is kind of saying the Gentiles are in and the Jews are out. That is not true at all. We all long to be part of the family of God, don't we? We want our God to help us to understand what it means to call Him Father and to call Jesus our Savior. Do we think we emphasize it too much? They answer is no, we don't! We can't emphasize it too much because that is where life is lived! That is where forgiveness, peace, satisfaction, contentment and understanding happens. If we don't have that we don't have a purpose in this life! We don't know where we are going to go tomorrow, today or this afternoon.

Our God is not going to let any one

of us without a purpose. He is going to have something special for us to do. We may not know what it is. I have a feeling that Moses was wandering around in the desert when he was eighty years old and tending sheep and he didn't have any idea that he was going to be sent back to Egypt. All of a sudden God called his attention. He watched a bush burn and not be consumed. There is a good physics question for you. But then, God spoke to Him and said, take off your shoes, you are on holy ground. I have things for you to do, is what He said to Moses.

Let's start this chapter now, with that background. "What advantage then hath the Jew? Or what profit is there of circumcision?" (v1) What did they say? They said, "Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them are committed the oracles of God." (v2) Chiefly because at least the Jews had been exposed to God. They had the writings and the prophets. They had the account of what God did. What an advantage! What an advantage for a child today! What an advantage for a family today! That they have the Word of God in their house, that they have Bible story books in their house. What an advantage that they teach their children the stories, that the children know the stories of David. They know the stories of Sampson and all those that go along with learning what God does to lead and help His people.

"For what if some did not believe? Shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect?" (v3) Now we run into a problem. We don't want to exclude anyone from the blessings of God. And dear ones, neither does our Savior! And neither does our God! If there is one thing that is abundantly clear in God's Word it is that there is a place for all. He is not going to turn one away! But, we have to believe that He is our God. We have to want to come unto Him. He won't force us.

Think of the stories you have heard across the years. Think of the prodigal sons and the prodigal

*Sermon continued on page 42*

*Sermon continued from page 41*

daughters. Think of those who have gone on their own way. Think of those who have returned. Millions and millions of family stories of fathers and mothers and children. God is there for each one. I know that people would say there are some places that God just isn't. But you know, somehow I don't believe that in my heart. I don't believe that God gives up on people and I don't believe you do either. There are places where there are tremendous advantages. I would tend to say that everyone that is here has had that tremendous advantage.

Brother Bob said this morning the grandmothers, the mothers and the great-grandmothers with faith and trust in their families handing down to their families a legacy of faith that some things are more important in this life than others. One of them is faith. Another is going to church, learning who the Father is. Knowing what is right and what is wrong. Those are legacies that are handed down. But, they ultimately came from God.

Do we grow discouraged because somebody doesn't believe? It's easy to grow discouraged. What mother is there that hasn't told her children to pick up the toys and it seems like day after day goes by and the toys are just always there. It is easy to spill the box. It just goes on and on. I know that is a poor example, dear ones. But it is also the example of what happens as we souls live upon this earth and try to draw closer to our God. We have toys all over the place and we are not doing a very good job of picking them up and putting them aside. We don't always do a good job of putting away childish things and taking hold of those things that are true and right. But dear ones, our God is our God. He loves us. He wants to comfort us. He wants to draw us.

The time comes when we grow up. We grow up spiritually too. There comes a time when there is an age of accountability when a soul know the difference between right and wrong and when God says it is time to fol-

low Me. Let's not forget those truths. Let's not be discouraged when sometimes we see souls that run the other way. Almost all of us, at one time or other, have run the other way because we were afraid. We were afraid of our God. But He says don't be afraid! Jesus said, suffer the little children to come unto me. What a beautiful vision, the Savior of the world calling those little children to come unto Him. Rebuking His disciples who said there wasn't time for this. Jesus said, I have time! He still has time today!

"For what if some did not believe? Shall their unbelief make the faith of God without effect? God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou are judged." (v. 3,4) The thoughts that come to mind are how much we like to decide things on our own. How much we want to have control. Yet one of the prerequisites of a close relationship with God is surrendering and knowing that He knows better what we need than we know ourselves. It is true, isn't it? We can make a terrible mess of things. God can fix those things. God can help us. We need that in our heart. We need that in our mind. We need to believe it every day when we begin. We need to pray unto our God for wisdom. We need to pray that His Word would go forth. That He would be glorified. That the most important thing that would show today on me is that I have faith. Not whether I can accomplish my earthly job. Not whether I can look like I have things in control, which by the way I usually don't.

But what is most important? That I have faith. My God wants me to have faith. He wants it to show to those who are around about me. It is such an obvious answer when we talk about mothers. Mothers, when you run around and try to make everything perfect for your children, it is probably an endless circle. You probably can't get there. But what can you do? You can show your chil-

dren that you have faith! You can show your children that there is nothing more important than God. You can show your children that there is a difference between the stories that talk about Jesus and the stories that talk about Bob the Builder.

Sometimes we laugh. But, I think people today are losing track of what is most important, what is true, what is real. I believe that was a little bit of the message this morning. Some things are real. The love of a mother is real! Let's treasure it and let's be thankful for it!

We didn't do justice at all to this chapter. But, more important than doing justice to a chapter, dear ones, is recognizing that God has a place for each soul, for each one. He wants the closeness of our communion. He wants our minds. He wants us to think about the wonderful things He has done. Brother Bob said this morning he was talking about the magnificent creation that takes place inside a womb where in nine months a few cells become a living creature, a soul. I had to think man does many things with technology and maybe we get a little discouraged sometimes because of all the technology that is around. But the truth is that all of that technology doesn't really compare to the kinds of things that God does. If you don't think so, remind yourself what happened when the earth shook in Haiti, or when the tsunami came ashore. The technology of this world, as good as it is and as much energy as man puts into it, can't do it.

Let's take the oil well that is spilling into the Gulf. God made the oil. God put the pressure in the reservoir. Does man via his technology know how to deal with it? Let's not be discouraged by the technology that is around about us. Let's make sure that our attention and our faith and our confidence is in the principles of the Word that our God has given us. May He encourage us to be a part of His family which is open to Jews and to Gentiles because Jesus Christ died on the cross for all of us.



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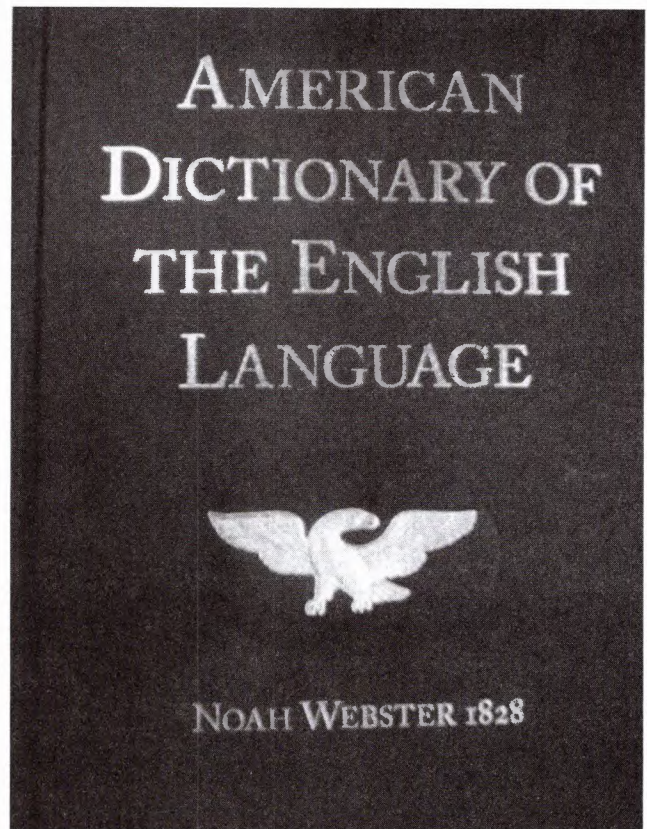
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## Child Placement Manager Opening

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

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- Willing to relocate to the Detroit area?

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  
 email randyg@woodhavenrc.org



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

This article will explain some of the elements and components of foster care. This article will not dig deeply into specific areas or needs of foster children. Instead, it will provide an overview of how the church body can exercise true religion (James 1:27) in supporting and loving those involved in the foster care process.

The word "foster" is certainly a beautiful word filled with many biblical applications. It means: to promote the growth or development of (a child), to bring up (a child), to cherish (a plan, hope, etc.) in one's mind. We are indeed thankful that many families have felt the call to minister to the needs of children in a very unique way by opening up their homes to fostering opportunities.

In America, there are 463,000 children in foster care; 24% were placed in a relative's home. 46% of those children were in foster care for less than a year. 52% of the children left the foster care system to be reunited with their families. (2008 information per [childwelfare.gov](http://childwelfare.gov))

The church family can be helpful to those involved in this service of care in a number of ways, three of which will be expressed in this article: 1) Display a proper blend of sensitivity and empathy, 2) Display the love of Christ, and 3) Display the power of prayer.

*Display a proper blend of sensitivity and empathy.*

We might recall a time in our life when our family needed to move, change schools, or find another home to live in. Whether the event was positive in nature or rooted in sadness, the act of changing homes can be very impactful. As created beings, we tend to gravitate towards routine, normalcy, consistent habits, and expectations. The Bible is filled with examples of the struggles that the Children of Israel encountered during their times of being exiled and carried away to other lands. Jeremiah records the picture of a mother weeping for her children

because they were not home, but in exile (Jer. 31:15).

Children enter the foster care system because something is wrong in their home and the level of adequate care for them is missing. No matter how we see a "foster child" act, we always need to extend the mental grace of empathy and remember that this child has had some very tough experiences in their young life. Just because they have moved into a Christian home doesn't automatically bring healing from these experiences. We know that just because someone goes to church on Sunday, it doesn't automatically bring sanctified behavior on Monday. Healing will take time and purposeful action from "foster parents" that is rooted in love. There are many additional elements of attachment (trust, security, safety, etc.) that are woven into the behaviors of foster children. Those elements, while common in all children and families, are especially magnified in the heart and mind of those in foster care.

God's brilliant design of the connection between infant and mom/dad is hard to describe. Most parents are very thankful for that connection, because biological parents have their struggles also. Even in the worst possible dysfunctional and abusive situation possible, most kids WANT to be home with their family. It is wise to remember that and display the appropriate sensitivity to children in these situations. A common, well-intentioned mistake of someone trying to be encouraging usually includes phrases and words said to the child about "how thankful they should be for being in a better place/home right now". Yes, that is true, but that comment is not sensitive to the child's desire and longing to be in their own home. We can encourage foster children by letting them know how thankful we are for the chance to get to know them.

*Display the love of Christ.*

Jesus was very generous in helping us understand the "why" and "who" of love:

By this shall all men know that ye are

my disciples if ye have LOVE one to another (Jn 13:35). When ye have done it unto one of the LEAST of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me (Matt. 25:40).

A beautiful part of our church family heritage is the expression of love and care that is displayed among the brethren. James 2 is a powerful example of showing the fruit of caring for all, regardless of one's position or current situation. Parents can make an effort to remind their children who share the same Sunday School class with a foster child to go the extra step in reaching out to the new church friend. Saying "good to see you today" and "so glad you are here" go a long way in breaking down walls of uneasiness for someone who is new. When the new child can be invited to sit at their lunch table, or for afternoon service, or maybe over to ride bikes on a Sunday afternoon; these can be some of the purest displays of Christ's love to one in need. The church family in general can be blessed and strengthened when we go out of our way to greet the foster children. How kind it is to also provide a word of encouragement to the foster parents, who may (or may not) have had a pretty trying week. What a testimony of Christ's love when those children return to their original homes and talk about how they loved church because everyone was so nice to them.

*Display the power of prayer.*

The church family can have the joy (Phil. 1:4) and fervency (James 5:16) in prayer for the child and the family. Foster care responsibilities encompass the additional needs of scheduling with: case workers, court hearings, meetings with biological family, etc. At any moment- any of those scenarios can be very anxious for all involved and the need for them to be blanketed in prayer is immense. What a blessing when members of the congregation take the time to ask foster parents of specific things to pray for.

For those with this type of need, the church family can be a great strength and resource through its display of sensitivity, empathy, love and prayer. May God continue to bless all those involved with this ministry.

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

*All adults will need just one of the following documents:*

1. Regular U.S. Passport
2. U.S. Passport Card
3. **Enhanced** Driver's License
4. any Trusted Traveler Program (*ex Nexus card*)

U.S. citizens under the age of 16, or under the age of 19 if travelling with a school, religious, or other youth group, may present a birth certificate, Consular Report of Birth Abroad, or a naturalization certificate. Birth certificates can be original, photocopy, or certified copy.

Anyone interested in receiving a printed sermon, please send info to:

**Printed Sermons**  
**102 Lake View Drive**  
**Fairbury, IL 61739**  
*(815) 692-3616*  
 jschneider54@verizon.net

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

We currently have outlets for Bibles, Bible Story Books, Hymns of Zion, Gospel Hymns, and Tabernacles.

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

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

### **Light From The Word**

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

After entering the web site, click on the item located in the left hand frame entitled, "Light from the Word Reprints". The entire set of editorials are available in a complete download (*June 1987 through November 2010*).

## **BIBLE DISTRIBUTION**

*Sharing The Word In Love*

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

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

The book inventory is computerized, and the personnel at Bluffton can drop ship to nearly any address.

*To order, contact,*

**Apostolic Christian Church**  
**Bible Distribution**  
 PO Box 30  
 1254 S. Main Street  
 Bluffton, IN 46714  
 Phone and Fax 260/824-5587  
 E-mail: [bibledist@adamswells.com](mailto:bibledist@adamswells.com)

### **Rochester, MN Services**

Times:  
 7:30 - 3rd Wednesday of the month

Location:  
 310 16th Ave SW,  
 Rochester MN, 55902  
*(within a few blocks  
 of the Mayo campus)*

Contacts:  
 Sis. Anne Wagenbach  
 (507)993- 6916  
 Bro. Jim and Sis Deb Tilbury  
 (507)281-2875.

Any that are in the area are welcome and encouraged to worship with us.

## Give a Child Hope

### Child Sponsorships

Those in the child sponsorship program have several things in common. They are very poor, desire to learn and they have an undying soul.



The goal of this program is to provide an education to help these children

learn life skills to improve their standard of living, and also to provide spiritual training to address the true need...the need for a knowledge of and a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

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

### To sponsor a child

To sponsor a student fill out this form and send to the office. A student will be assigned to you and you will be sent further information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mr.  Mrs.  Miss

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Ph \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Ph \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please check preference:

Haiti  Guatemala

Mexico  Jamaica

Wherever needed

If possible I would prefer:

Boy - Age \_\_\_\_\_

Girl - Age \_\_\_\_\_

No Preference

Cost: \$25.00/month

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

### Send to:

ACWR Child Sponsorship

PO Box 36

Morton, IL 61550

Phone: 309-266-6080

Fax: 309-266-5281

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



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

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

### 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](mailto:ALM38@aol.com) or (256)729-0260 or (256)777-3390.

### 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 November 15<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@citznet.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 November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 -[www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/](http://www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/)

Project	Year 2011	Coordinator	Capacity				
Kingston School CCCD	Jan 8 - 15	Roger Stoller 309-747-3228 rstoller@gridcom.net	Full	Jamaica Deaf Villg CCCD	Jun 10 - 18	Ted Hirstein 309-266-8769 hirstein@mtco.com	40
Jamaica Deaf Villg CCCD	Mar 5 - 12	Tom Waldbeser 770-463-4788 tswald@bellsouth.net	40	Jamaica Deaf Village CCCD	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  
Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of November 15<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 fredpatbeer@gmail.com	Magdalena Construction	Mar 5-12	Jason Edelman Illinois State University 309-848-7987 isuyounggroup@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Nov 20-27	Rod Schmidt Denver/Morris North Bible Class 303-774-7913 rschmidt@acosta.com	Agua Prieta Construction	Mar 19-26	Sam Kaehr 260-565-3200 sckaehr@adamswells.com
Location	Year 2011	Coordinator	Location	Year 2011	Coordinator
Magdalena Construction	Jan 1-8	Bryan Steffen 815-867-7556 bcsteffen@gmail.com	Magdalena Construction	Mar 19-26	Jeff Leman Bluffton Senior Class 260-565-3815 jvleman@adamswells.com
Reynosa Construction	Jan 1-8	Matthew Gerber Purdue 260-273-0292 matthewgerber@adamswells.com	Reynosa Construction	Mar 19-26	Tristan Herrmann University of Illinois 309-712-6902 tristanherrmann@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Jan 8-15	John Teubel 815-657-8721 jteubel@maxwire.net	Agua Prieta Construction	Mar 26-Apr 2	Aaron Beery 330-927-6926 beeryaaron@embarqmail.com
Reynosa Construction	Jan 8-15	Tim Schwind ICC/BU 309-645-2331 0971sjt@gmail.com	Magdalena Construction	Mar 26 - Apr 2	Doug Frank Tremont Bible Class 309-925-5000 frankfamilyfarms@yahoo.com
Magdalena Construction	Jan 15-22	Steve Kaeb 217-379-4707 kaebsb@illicom.net	Magdalena Construction	Apr 16-23	Mike Zobrist Congerville/Eureka 309-660-7004 zobfam@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Feb 12-19	Jon Baner 309-747-4085 jbaner@grid.com.net	Magdalena Construction	May 28 - Jun 4	Todd Baum Phoenix Bible Class 480-563-8286 toddbaum@svmasonry.com
Agua Prieta Construction	Mar 5-12	Kevin Gerber 260-565-3313 kevgerber@yahoo.com	Magdalena Construction	Jun 11-18	Jason Schambach Elgin Bible Class 847-468-1194 jkschambach@att.net

### 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



*The congregation at Elgin, Iowa, is one of our older American congregations (in the Apostolic Christian church). Located in rural northeastern Iowa, it has 44 members and 24 Sunday School students. The 2010 minister's book lists 109 as an average attendance. Yet, it is significant in our early history due to congregants gathering there, having traveled from Sardis, Ohio, down the Ohio River, and up the Mississippi, and settling in the Elgin area.*

*Fairly detailed information about the early immigrants from Switzerland exists. This is due to the work of a Mr. Gary Butikofer of central Wisconsin, who has a family linkage to the Elgin, Iowa, area, and has provided the Remembering column with many helpful details. Several families are listed, and in subsequent issues the data will be continued.*

*This is the first in a series of articles based on the Butikofer research.*

### **Elgin, Iowa**

**1849** Michael Gerber, Sr. (1787-1858) and his wife, Mary (Bertchi) Gerber, and their children — Jacob, Barbara, Elizabeth, Michael, Jr., Peter, Magdalena, and Annie — came from Switzerland in about 1840 and to the Elgin vicinity probably in 1849. At least, it is known for certain that Michael Gerber bought a farm in Clayton County, Iowa, on September 23, 1850. In 1855, Michael, Sr. became a minister in the Apostolic Christian Church. Michael and Mary Gerber, Sr., are buried in the Apostolic Christian Cemetery near Elgin, and so are their children — Elizabeth Baumgartner, Peter Gerber, Magdalena Frieden, and Annie Bohanan.

**1851** Jacob Lehman, Sr. (1804-1883) and his first wife, Elizabeth

Baumann, came from Sardis, Ohio, to Elgin, Iowa, probably in 1852 with their five children — Anna Elizabeth, John, Joseph, Mary, and Jacob. The entire family had come from Switzerland to Sardis, Ohio, in 1848. After his first wife died, Jacob married Katharine Braker (1839-1909). He was a deacon in the Elgin Apostolic Christian Church and is buried in that cemetery. His second wife remarried to Jacob Ruegg (1816-1904). Jacob Lehman, Sr. was a brother to John Lehman, Sr. (1806-1893).

Jacob Ruegg (1816-1904) and his first wife, Mary (Guldinger) Ruegg, came from Sardis, Ohio, to Elgin in 1851 with their daughter, Mary. Jacob had come from Switzerland to Sardis, Ohio, in 1848. Jacob became a minister before 1866. After his first wife died, he married Mrs. Jacob Lehman in 1890. He and his wives are buried in the church cemetery near Elgin.

Benedict Frieden (1827-1893) and his first wife, Anna (Baumgartner) Frieden (1829-1870), and their son Fred came to Elgin from Sardis, Ohio, in 1851. Benedict and his wife had originated in Switzerland and arrived in Sardis in 1848. They were married there in 1849. After his first wife died, Benedict Frieden married Mrs. Ben Baumgartner (1835-1886), his sister-in-law. When she died, he married Anna Braker (1835-1923). Benedict and all three of his wives and a number of his children are all buried in the church cemetery.

Benedict Baumgartner (1825-1870) came to Elgin from Sardis, Ohio, in 1851. He also had come from Switzerland in 1848. His first wife was Elizabeth Gerber and his second wife was her sister, Magdalena Gerber (1835-1886). Benedict Baumgartner and his two wives are probably buried in the church

cemetery.

Nicholas Baumgartner (1814-1886) came to Elgin, Iowa, around 1853. He had come from Switzerland. In 1854, he married Elizabeth Yunker (1821-1897), and they are also buried in the Elgin church cemetery.

**Note:** It was Bro. Nicholas Baumgartner who once walked with Elder Benedict Weyeneth from Elgin, Iowa, to near Roanoke, Illinois, in the dead of winter. On arrival in central Illinois, their boots were nearly frozen to their feet. They had to be cut off, and this was accomplished without injury.

Benedict Rhinehardt (born about 1815) and his wife, Magdalena Feitz, came from Switzerland, too. They moved to Elgin, Iowa, around 1852. The Benedict Rhinehardts were early members of the church at Elgin. Later, they moved to West Bend, Iowa, where they were among the first members.

**1852** Benedict Weyeneth (1819-1887) and his wife, Elizabeth (Blunier) Weyeneth, came from Ohio to Elgin in either late 1851 or in 1852. They had just come from Switzerland in 1851. In 1853, this family moved to Peoria, Illinois.

**Note:** Benedict Weyeneth was the first American Elder of our faith, and was made an Elder in Europe in order to come to America in 1847 to speak to a group of Mennonites in Lewis County, New York, who were experiencing difficulties. After hearing his message of repentance and baptism by immersion, about half of the those Mennonites came into our church.

*Compiled by Perry A. Klopfenstein*

### **Next Issue:**

This article will be continued.

# The Light Of Hope

## “Something for Nothing”

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

We all like bargains. However, if we can get something for nothing, that's better yet! In Ephesians 2:8 and 9 we read, “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.” We are all interested in gifts, something we can get for nothing.

Isaiah 55:1 reads, “Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money.” This sounds very favorable. You don't need to spend any money to quench your thirst.

In Romans 6:23 we read, “The gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” It sounds like even eternal life in heaven is something for nothing. But is it?

Luke 14:27 reads, “And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.” Verse 28 continues, “For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?”

Didn't the Lord Jesus know that salvation is free, something for nothing? He knew all right, He knew that it doesn't cost any money, that we can't do anything to earn it, and that not anything we do adds to the atonement that He would make for us. On the other side of the coin, He knew that it would cost Him His blood and the suffering of being separated from His Father and forsaken by Him. That's no small price to pay.

It is true that we are saved by grace. It doesn't cost any money and we can't barter for it, that is, we can't exchange any of our possessions for it. Nor are we saved by our obedience. Obedience is the outcome or result of true faith.

James writes in 2:22, “Seeth thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect.” In verse 24 James writes, “By works a man is justified.” By this last statement, he probably means that by our works or obedience to the Word, our faith is made evident. Faith that doesn't produce works may be similar to the faith that the devils have. “The devils also believe, and tremble.”

We conclude that our salvation cost Jesus Christ, the Son of God, a great deal, the bearing of the curse of sin, and the shedding of His own blood.

What does our salvation cost us, His followers? If you are going to die the next minute like the thief on the cross, there is nothing to indicate that it costs you anything. But if you are going to continue to live, the Bible says, “Know ye not....Ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price.” I Corinthians 6:19,20. It sounds to me like salvation, indirectly, costs us ourselves.

Romans 12:1 reads, “That ye present your bodies a living sacrifice.” That sounds to me like there isn't anything we can do to warrant salvation, and that there isn't anything we can do to add to Christ's atonement for us, but that if we have true faith unto salvation, we lose ourselves and that we no longer are our own.

Luke 9:24 reads, “Whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.” Something for nothing? We are advised by the Lord Jesus to lose our lives in order to save our lives, which I believe means, for salvation.

There is another topic which I believe is related to the topic, “Something for Nothing?” That topic is “Desiring More Self-Denial.” Human nature is to

desire self-denial as little as possible. Frankly, inherently, we want to do our own thing. But as children of God, we have been recreated or born again. II Corinthians 5:17 reads, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

Now if we are new creatures in Christ, we are the opposite of human nature. We have Christ's nature and that, in my opinion, is to desire more self-denial, at least all the self-denial that makes us more in accordance with the teachings of the New Testament. This idea that we are saved by grace so I can and should live like my human nature desires, doesn't quite match the scriptures, in my opinion. Something for nothing is very appealing to human nature and helps to get new converts but I believe that the problem is, it is not according to the New Testament.

Ephesians 2:10 reminds us, “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works.” In my opinion, the good works mentioned above does not mean that we don't smoke, get drunk, steal or lie, which is what we like to think. I believe it is that we do something and that that something is to obey the teachings of the New Testament. I also believe that we should be anxious to do anything which might help us to be more dead to self and more spiritual, even if it is not mentioned in the New Testament.

If you believe I am wrong in my thinking, please inform me and give me the Bible verses which show that I am wrong. Something for Nothing? Not in every sense of the word.

# 希望の光

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FAIRBURY IL 61739-1233



*Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness,  
which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.*