

The Silver Lining

*For the word of the Lord is right; and all his works are done in truth.
He loveth righteousness and judgment: the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.*

Psalm 33:4-5

October 2011

Sermon by Bro. Craig Stickling, Peoria, IL

Isaiah 49:8-26, I Corinthians 2:14-16, & 3

Good morning and we greet you all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Indeed it is always a privilege and an opportunity to be able to gather. There are places in this world where this, the opportunity to gather, with this, the Word of God, is at risk; persecution, death even possible. Yet we look at America. We have our own persecution, don't we; our own persecution of casualness, our own persecution of many things to do. Boy, it would be like, wow, this church, I see some empty spaces - it is good to see a lot - but there are still some empty spaces. The Word of God is being opened today and where are the people? Why do they not want to come into God's house and to hear? Not hear a person; God doesn't need people. He can use rocks to speak His Word. Why do we not hunger for the Word of God? To say, "I want to be in church on Sunday. I am going to change my schedule and make sure that I'm in God's house. Why? Because I want to be."

I spoke with a brother this morning. We had a tough conversation because we talked about how much time do we spend in the Word, how much time do we spend in reading? Wouldn't it be interesting if, as you filed into church, you got a big poster board and marker and at the end of church you had to write on there the number of minutes you spent this week in the Word, and the other side the number of minutes you spent in prayer? That would be an interesting experiment, wouldn't it? I am glad that it isn't done. My number would be way lower than what it should be, what it could be. Our God is not one who wants to force. He wants us to love and be willing to come. What a joy that we have to be able to have the Word in front of us.

Where I work during the summer, we do a memory verse so we are held accountable. Every week at our staff meeting, we do Scripture memory. If we turn back a couple chapters, we are doing Isaiah chapter 43, a couple of the verses. So if you allow me a

moment to practice my memory verse, I want to share that because it is just an amazing verse. "But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the LORD thy God, the Holy One of Israel . . ." v.1-3. What a joy to be able to come and gather and to know that God who created everything knows us! By what? He doesn't know us by, okay you're United States people. He doesn't even know us saying, okay you're Goodfield people. He knows us by our name! I wonder if He ever uses our middle name with us. Moms, you know how that is sometimes, don't you, when one of your children have been a little exasperating and you call them and use that middle name, that lets them know, you know what, I have a little more of a conversation with you here. Maybe God needs to talk to a few of us as He knows us by our name and speak to us with clarity.

Isaiah gave a great call there: "Sing, O heavens; and be joyful . . . break forth into singing..." v.13. Part of a heritage in the Apostolic Christian Church is that everyone gets to be a part of the worship service, don't they? This part here in front of the microphone is a little formal, but all of us get the opportunity to be a part of the worship service in song. The song is not just an addition too, the song is part of, and Isaiah gives us a great plea to sing and be joyful. As we have opportunity to sing and be joyful in the worship service, may it reflect our heart.

Think of the power that the Corinthians had even as a New Testament church. Back in that time, the influence was so heavy into the culture. It is interesting, as we look a little bit into the Corinthians, how much that

reminds us of the Americans. They lived in a community, in an opportunity where they had lots of material things, they were blessed materially, the nation, the culture was very well materially.

Sermon continued on page 40

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"In thy presence is fullness of joy"
(Psalm 16:11)

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

October 2011

Walking With God

"Just a closer walk with thee; Grant it Jesus is my plea. Daily walking close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let be." (Gospel Hymns #805)

These beautiful words describe the heart's desire of every true believer. The purpose of this article is to share some thoughts on how we might experience this closer walk with God more consistently—enabling us to live fruitful, overcoming lives.

After the fall of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3, the first person described as walking in close relationship with God was Enoch. We are told simply that "Enoch walked with God" (Gen. 5:22, 24). Some additional evidence of Enoch's special relationship with God is given in the New Testament. Hebrews 11:5 tells us that it was "by faith" that Enoch was translated and that "he pleased God," which was no doubt because of his faith, since "...without faith it is impossible to please him..." (Heb. 11:6). It is also very instructive that the Hebrew name "Enoch" means "disciplined" and "dedicated," which appears to be prophetic in this case.

How closely we walk with God is dependent upon the outcome of a battle which is waged in our minds. This is where the concept of being disciplined takes on critical importance. For our thought patterns to be ordered properly, we must discipline ourselves to learn to direct our thoughts aright. This kind of self-discipline applies to countless situations in life. For example, if we can discipline our minds to such an extent as to learn a second language or to play a musical instrument, we should be able to make sincere efforts to think about and apply scriptural truths every day.

The Apostle Paul wrote very openly about his need for self-discipline. By stating "I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content..." (Phil. 4:11), he acknowledged it was not always that way for him; he needed to learn to be content. And learning requires study. Paul wrote, "Study to show thyself approved unto God..." (2 Tim. 2:15). Study means to put forth a mental effort. Paul also wrote that he had to keep his body under subjection lest he would become a castaway (1 Cor.

9:27). These examples reflect the dedication required to win the battle of the mind as well as the struggle against the flesh. These endeavors can only be accomplished by God's grace, because by our own strength we can do nothing that pleases Him (John 15:5). We believe that Enoch's walk of faith, dedication and discipline was directed toward pleasing God.

There must be a driving force (motivation) which helps us be dedicated to a cause and willing, by His grace, to discipline ourselves to succeed. There are many different types of motivation which influence our lives, but none compare to love for Jesus Christ our Saviour. "We love him because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19). We love Him because He saved us from our sins through His great sacrifice on the Cross (Matt. 1:21). We love Him because He intercedes on our behalf for our every need (John 17: Heb. 4:15-16) and because He is the source of strength which we need to succeed. "I will love thee, O Lord, my strength" (Ps. 18:1). This all important motivating love for the Lord may also be referred to as "our first love."

Thus, one of the key steps in walking closer to God is to stir up or refresh this motivating love in our hearts for Him. There are a number of ways this can be accomplished. Renewed appreciation for our first love may occur during times of worship, edifying fellowship with other believers, observation of God's beautiful creation, service to our fellow men and other inspiring experiences. We can enhance this motivating love by starting our day with quiet time with the Lord, during which we pray, read, and meditate upon His Word and then resolve to apply these teachings as we live out the day. Each moment of remembrance of spiritual truths should help draw us into closer communion with God. "My meditation of him shall be sweet: I will be glad in the Lord" (Ps. 104:34).

We can be assured that our Heavenly Father will promptly meet us in communion when our thoughts and prayers turn to Him. "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you" (Jam. 4:8). "The Lord is nigh unto all that call upon him..." (Ps. 143:18). Likewise, if our daily tasks are done with love for the Lord as our motivation, we will find ourselves walking and re-

joining in His presence. "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as unto the Lord..." (Col. 3:23). "In thy presence is fullness of joy" (Ps. 16:11).

Satan's battle for our minds often consists of distraction, by using his weapon of the power of suggestion. When Enoch walked with God he was no doubt focused on that which has eternal value. Our focus on spiritual things is easily distracted when we become involved in unedifying activities or allow ourselves to be caught up with "vain thoughts" (Ps. 119:113). We make conscious choices as to how we will spend our time and where our thoughts will dwell. These choices reveal our priorities. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matt. 6:21). We seriously handicap our chances of winning the battle of the mind if we become occupied with things which war against and/or corrupt our souls. (Tit. 2:12; 1 Pet. 3:10) "Be not deceived, evil communications corrupt good manners" (1 Cor. 15:33). We are to have a transformed, renewed mind in Christ which focuses on righteousness and holiness. (Rom. 12:2; Eph. 4:23-24) "To be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Rom. 8:6).

When we walk in close relationship with God, we more fully experience the abundant life Jesus came to give His own. (John 10:10) We can then testify like David of old: "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul" (Ps. 23:1-3). Jesus described His picture of an intimate relationship with us in the beautiful account of the Good Shepherd. He said, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (John 10:27). The greatest joy in life is to walk with God in peace and with an abiding hope in His promised salvation. (Heb. 6:19)

May God help us to grow in faith, to rely upon His grace to increase our dedication and discipline and to be responsive to the powerful motivation of love for our beloved Lord and Saviour. This will bring us into a closer walk with God, and multiplied blessings will follow.

An editorial committee of elder brothers is preparing articles for this section of the Silver Lining to address some of the special needs of our times.

Suggestions for subjects are welcome and can be sent to:

Silver Lining Editorials, 1377 County Rd 1600 N, Roanoke, IL 61561 or by e-mail to cleman@mtco.com



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN Mission Committee

...The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest. Matthew 9:37-38

Endowment Fund

In 1989 the Elder Body established the Apostolic Christian Endowment Fund to provide alternative gifting opportunities within the framework of the Church and its affiliated charities. The mission of the Endowment Fund is:

1. Receive and manage assets given for the long-term benefit of Apostolic Christian charities and organizations
2. Encourage larger lifetime gifts and bequests under a will by providing an organization to manage such gifts
3. Provide an alternative for those who wish to make a gift while continuing to receive income for their lifetime
4. Receive gifts when the donor has no specific Church charity in mind, or has designated multiple Church charities
5. Provide professional assistance involving charitable gifting techniques for cash and non-cash donations

Administration

The Fund is administered by a seven member committee appointed by the Elder Body. Their fiduciary responsibility is to oversee the management of the Fund's assets and its charitable activities in accordance with donor wishes and Church policy. Annually they submit a financial report to the Elder Body for their review and approval. Current and past beneficiaries of the Endowment Fund include Apostolic Christian World Relief (Eastern Europe, Haiti, India, MAP, Servant Fund), Mission Fund, Counseling and Family Services, Home for the Handicapped, and Gateway Woods.

Opportunities

The Endowment Fund provides opportunities for brethren and friends to make outright transfers of property, including cash, stock (including S-corp), bonds, partnership/LLC interests, and real estate. Also, transfers thru a will, charitable remainder trust, charitable gift annuity, and assignment of life insurance.

The Committee is able to work with you or your tax advisor to select and structure non-cash gifts in the most tax-effective way. Gifting techniques are typically of a long-term nature, but the Fund will make gifts of principal in accordance with the giver's request, and may make gifts of principal as needed if there are no specific donor designations or restrictions.

The U.S. government encourages gifts to charity by offering substantial tax benefits. The greatest of these benefits often involves gifts of appreciated property; from real estate to an interest in your private company.

Benefits

Contributions to the Endowment Fund may benefit you and the Church where:

1. It can provide better stewardship of assets given to the Church for the Lord's work now and for many years to come
2. You can retain lifetime income from donated assets, while saving income and estate taxes for the present and the future
3. It can provide simplified

administration of funds going to multiple Church charities and life-time beneficiaries

4. Income from the growth of the Endowment Fund can be used to assist existing Church charities, provide a long-term source of funding for new and/or ongoing projects, or provide resources for unexpected Church needs as deemed appropriate by the Elder-supervised committee

The Endowment Fund is intended to assist, not supersede, the fund-raising efforts of the other charities and organizations of the Apostolic Christian Church of America. When a non-cash gift (or gifting plan) merits advanced tax planning, the Endowment Fund may be able to accept the non-cash gift and transfer the income/proceeds to the designated endowment fund.

Stewardship Assistance

The Endowment committee has sponsored two biennial Financial Fellowship meetings for brethren whose advisory vocations involve Biblical concepts of financial stewardship. Members of the Endowment Fund committee are also available to assist you and your present advisors on a confidential basis if you have questions or need help with your planning. The contact information is 309-263-9300, FAX 309-263-8722, gerald.banwart@raymondjames.com.

Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate. 1 TIM 6:17,18



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

Hospital Lumiere A Beacon of Hope

In Haiti, people die daily for lack of health care. Hospital Lumiere (translated "Hospital of Light") is a 120 bed primary care medical/surgical hospital and clinic located in the village of Bonne Fin, Haiti. Hospital Lumiere has declined over the years to the point of closure, unable to serve the Haitian people so desperately in need.

To return Hospital Lumiere to a level of excellent healthcare in a Christian environment, World Relief has assumed the management of the hospital. A governing board has been established and an interim Executive Director has been named. The guiding principles are reflected in the vision and mission statements of the hospital.

Vision

Hospital Lumiere will transform the lives of the people living in the Bonne Fin service area to the highest degree possible by delivering excellent medical care and sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

Mission

Hospital Lumiere will provide excellent and effective medical care with compassion and Christian love.

Many challenges

Hospital Lumiere has many pressing needs. Staff wages are low, much equipment is old or broken, vital medications are in short supply, employee morale is suffering, and the hospital and surrounding buildings need repairs and restoration. Thankfully, there are many bright and encouraging signs of progress. The electricity and water supplies now function

most of the time and patients are receiving surgeries and care that sustain life and relieve suffering.

Immediate full-time opportunities

The Hospital Lumiere governing board is searching to fill two full-time positions in Haiti.

Director of Operations

The Director of Operations is responsible for the successful operation of the hospital to provide efficient 24/7 medical services, guided by Biblical principles, focusing on the physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual well-being of all patients, staff and the community.

Facilities Director

The Facilities Director is responsible for maintaining the hospital, clinic and campus support facilities including medical equipment, vehicles, grounds, electricity generation and water system.

Other opportunities for involvement

Pray for your leadership teams on the Mission Committee, World Relief Board, Caribbean Committee, Hospital Lumiere governing board and the Haitian people, that this Hospital of Light can be a glory to God and that the name of Jesus as Lord is professed daily.

Short Term Medical Teams

Hospital Lumiere offers many opportunities for 7–10 day medical team trips. Groups of doctors, surgeons, nurses, anesthesiologists, physical therapists and technicians are scheduled to Hospital Lumiere monthly, except December and during the summer. If you are a health professional, or have a heart

to serve, contact Sis. Alice Widmer at alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com.

Long Term Missionaries in Haiti

We anticipate sending brethren long term for financial management and medical staff positions.

Ministers for Work Teams

Teams are accompanied by our ministers who conduct services and daily devotions. Ministers that have an interest are urged to contact us.

November Benefit Auction

A benefit auction for Hospital Lumiere is planned on November 11, 2011 at Five Points in Washington, IL. Auction items and volunteers for the event are needed. Contact Bro. Rich Bertschi at 309/467-2351.

Financial Support

Financial support is needed. Donations can be made out to "Apostolic Christian World Relief" and mailed to:

AC World Relief
Hospital Lumiere Project
16448 S US Hwy 231
Remington, IN 47977

How to stay connected

To receive email updates specific to Hospital Lumiere, go to the home page of the World Relief website (www.acworldrelief.org) and click, "**Join Our Email List.**" Enter your email address and indicate Hospital Lumiere as your area of interest.

If you wish to receive the Hospital Lumiere quarterly newsletter, follow the process above, select Hospital Lumiere as your area of interest and update your profile with your complete mailing address.

For more information, contact the Hospital Lumiere governing board at hospitallumiere@mtco.com or 309-467-2351.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Each September, in celebration of the pumpkin canning season, Morton hosts the Morton Pumpkin Festival. Many residents had a chance to attend some part of the festival. This year's event was the 45th year. The Pumpkin Festival offers food tents, a merchant tent and carnival rides in which to participate and on Saturday, September 17, there was a parade to enjoy. Many of our residents watched from the front lawn of the old Apostolic Christian Restmor facility. We had a float this year. This is the third time in our history. The staff and residents did a great job. The theme of the parade was "Pumpkins Across America" in remembrance of 9/11. Our float was crafted and decorated by the residents and staff at Timber Ridge. Four residents were able to ride on the float while four others were pushed in wheelchairs beside it. They enjoyed waving and tossing candy to the children watching the parade. The Lord blessed us with a beautiful fall day.

Also, on September 10, we had our annual Ice Cream Social. We kept saying "Lord and weather willing" because it continued to look doubtful but it turned out great. One of my favorite parts of the social is seeing the parents. There is a group of parents who come to the social every year and these parents were the early "warriors" who sought services for children with disabilities. They were also the parents who started the early services in Peoria. They found a site, got the funding and provided the staffing. Those were the early days. In the past 50 years services have grown. They have been established in law and in state and federal budgets.

Now we face uncertain times again. Both state and federal bud-

gets are being threatened and one of the areas being looked at is services to the poor, the elderly and the disabled. It is unsettling to see these services and the funding for them being challenged.

We all need to do what we can to protect the services. We will probably also need to continue to maximize private funding. We are grateful for a very generous donor base but we are depending on them more each year. We will all probably need to do more to continue the quality services we have become used to.

We were paid in a fairly timely manner last year because of the federal requirements, but those have expired and we expect to go 5-6 months without payment this year. We have secured a \$4million loan to meet our expenses while we wait on payments. We have been fortunate to be spared from rate cuts again this year but it is several years since we have received an increase. This lack of rate adjustments while our costs go up results in a de facto cut.

We recently read the account of Jesus' disciples trying to cast out demons and being frustrated. They eventually needed to learn to trust God. I do believe God expects us to be diligent and good servants, but I also believe he wants us to trust Him. Sometimes we get the balance of acting and trusting wrong but we ask for all of you to pray that we will do all that we can to fund and protect the services we are responsible for, and at the same time, that we continue to trust God and not ourselves. We will pray that you do the same.

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Ryan Donoghy

As descendants of Adam, we often fall victim to the same thinking error

that brought us to our current condition of sin and death. We consider ourselves better decision makers than the One who created us with the capability to make decisions in the first place. Often we are persuaded by the lures of this world to make choices contrary to the heart of God. Thankfully, we have loved ones that lift our names in prayer to the Father, guide us with brotherly love, and keep us accountable to the commitment we have made in Christ. We are so blessed to be part of such a wonderful church body.

Unfortunately, many of the residents at Gateway Woods are brought up in homes where the only time they hear the name of the Lord is when it is used in vain. Often they have not heard the wonderful redemptive message of Jesus Christ. By the time we begin to work with these kids, they are in their teens. They hear the Word and commonly accept it with enthusiasm. However as time goes on, the joy and peace fade due to the oppression of the world that we live in. Sadly, when they leave Gateway, it is often solely up to these young teenagers whether or not they choose to continue to attend church and invest in things that are eternal. They often have little to no support from their families to continue in these things.

It is my prayer that we remember the former residents of Gateway Woods as we lift our prayers to the Father. God loves them just as much as anyone on earth, and has a plan for each one. It is our task, as the hands and feet of Christ, to continue to extend His love to those in need and lift our former residents up in prayer. We may not know their names, but God does. We may not know their current situation, but God does. We may not know how important a single prayer may be, but

God does.

Do we seek the lost as if they are our own family? Let us each remember how important it is to daily lift the lost to the Father and continue to pray for those who are need of a Savior. Especially for those who do not have even their own family praying for them.

News:

- We are thrilled to welcome Sis. Katie Kaufman (Morton, IL) to Gateway Woods as a new Math Teacher. We are excited to see how God will use Katie in her new role at Gateway Woods School.

- The final total for our 35th annual Auction has been tallied. We were blessed with an unprecedented \$432,013! We thank each of our supporters, volunteers and our great God for providing for us through the Auction once again. Next year's Auction will take place on Saturday, August 4.

- Gateway Woods welcomed one new resident to campus this past month. Please pray with us as she becomes accustomed to her new home in the Oak House. She is also joined by her ten-month-old son. It can be a difficult adjustment for new residents as they discover a very different living situation than they have experienced before.

- We currently have one Alternate Houseparent position open at Gateway Woods. For more information please see the notice in this month's edition of The Silver Lining or visit the Career Opportunities page on our website at:

www.gatewaywoods.org/

[supporters/career-opportunities](http://www.gatewaywoods.org/supporters/career-opportunities).

We trust that God will continue to provide qualified, mature brothers and sisters who will serve Him in a ministry that is 'Turning Lives Around'. Perhaps this includes you!

- You are an important advocate to help us spread the word about God's work at Gateway Woods. Please continue to lift us up in prayer, check our website www.gatewaywoods.org and our Facebook page at 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.

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
PRESCHOOL
Athens, AL
Susan Koch**

We started our ABC Bible memory verses the beginning of September. The first verse we memorized was from Romans 3:23 "...All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God," but the next week we learned that if you "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ...thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31). This month we are learning about different jobs people can have and all about the universe our great God created. Students have been busy making projects corresponding with each week's letter. They have made acorns from various snack foods, tasted different types of apples (to see which type is their favorite), blown up balloons, and made bread and biscuits. Our themes for September are jobs and space. The students had fun learning about some jobs that begin with the letter B, like bakers and ballerinas. We are also learning about planets and rockets.

My God is so big!
So strong and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do.
The mountains are His,
The rivers are His,

The stars are His handiwork too.
My God is so big!
So strong and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do...
For you!

**ALABAMA, ATHENS
Pam Moore**

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

John 4:35

As I drive by cotton fields in rural Alabama that are "white already to harvest", I always have to wonder what crop Jesus was referring to as He spoke of these words?

We enjoyed a Saturday evening at Joe Wheeler State Park with Elder Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Margo Waibel (Leo, IN). We thank them for coming and sharing God's Word with us on Sunday. Elder Bro. Jim Plattner and Sis. Marlene (Princeville, IL) spent a Sunday with us also, and we would like to thank them for being faithful servants of God's Word. Elder Bro. Andy Stoller and Elder Bro. Phil Stettner were with us on a Wednesday evening; we appreciate the time they spend with us in Athens.

Sis. Doris Moore's twin brother, Horace Barnett, has undergone a very serious heart surgery, and we ask for prayers of healing for him. Please continue to pray for our church in Athens, that God can be ever present and near us, and please come visit us if you are heading South!

ARIZONA, PHOENIX**Heather Hinrichsen**

Gratefulness and thankfulness are extended to Bro. Art Ingold (Rittman, OH) for ministering, and extending the Gospel message to the lost and encouraging the saved.

So many in our congregation are in need of prayers for various reasons and we lift them all up to the throne of God. The following people have had an extra physical burden: Bro. Alan and Sis. Edith Freed, Bro. Kenny and Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall, Ruth Finley, Sis. Connie Frautschi (Bro. Ed), and Larry Barna (Sis. Ruby). We also extend our sympathies and prayers to Sis. Lois Niemeyer (Bro. Ellsworth) and Lavonne Doorneweerd in the passing of their brother-in-law, Bro. Verlyn Kellenberger (Lester).

“And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”

Matthew 10:28

We pray for Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold and those brothers, sisters and friends worshipping in Ixtlan, Mexico.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Sharon Lawson and Bro. Nathan, Sis. Natalie, Portia and Cosette Virkler are now calling Phoenix their home. We welcome them and hope they feel at home quickly.

Our Bible class students traveled to Altadena for the Labor Day weekend. A blessed time with brothers, sisters and friends was concluded with safe travels for all involved. We thank the Lord for His blessings and protection for the weekend.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT**Denise Steidinger**

“Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.”

Philippians 2:2-3

Our congregation studied Philippians 2 together this past month. This chapter is filled with so much wisdom and encouragement as Paul continues with the call for unity, providing reasons why we should desire unity, the nature of our unity, and attitudes necessary to maintain unity. We are called to pursue unity as a grateful response to our union with Christ. Jesus prayed in John 17:11 “...that they may be one, as we are” describing His oneness with His Father.

We appreciate the willingness of our Elder Brothers who visited us this past month: Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sarah, Bloomington, IL), Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Phoenix) and Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN). We also had visitors from CVE in Magdalena and those from the Phoenix Young Group as well as from other places. We are always thankful for our visitors!

We bid farewell to Bro. Glenn Furrer as he relocates to Bluffton. May God bless him as he will be missed here in Prescott.

ARIZONA, TUCSON**Lisa Knapp**

Not much to report; it's been a quiet month as we endured the heat and patiently waited for cooler weather. Our patience was rewarded this past week as we were hit with numerous monsoon storms that

brought much cooler temperatures than we are used to in August and early September. It's been a very good monsoon season with a lot of rain, very dramatic thunderstorms and lots of lightning. Tucson and the surrounding areas actually had a brief tornado watch last week and our temperatures were down around 65 for small periods of time. That is something quite unusual for Tucson – and at least as far as the 65 degrees part is concerned – it's cause for celebration!

Our Sunday School Bible Class traveled to Altadena, CA, over Labor Day weekend traveling on the chartered bus with the Phoenix Bible class. As always, we are so thankful and appreciative of the graciousness and love extended by the Phoenix Sunday School in providing us with transportation and for all the labors of love by the Altadena Church in hosting us for the weekend. Our students and teachers were blessed by you all!

Sunday School has started again and we are prayerful that God will be present with our teachers and students as they grow and learn together.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO**Yasmin Koehl**

We were thankful for visiting ministering brothers amongst us: Bro. Tim Ramsier (Sis. Jonell, Rittman, OH) and Bro. Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria IL). May the Lord bless and encourage these brothers in their labors for Him.

What joy springs from our hearts as we hear the voices of our youth singing once more in their Sunday school classes. Our prayers flow fervently for our children that one day they will not only answer God's calling to repentance, but also find our precious brotherhood remaining

true and faithful to the doctrine of our Lord and Savior. What a treasured gift we can pass on to the next generation, if we remain true and faithful!

Faithful unto death remain,
Faithful unto death remain!
Hope and trust in God confessing,
Daily on my heart impressing,
Thy Word, Lord, so clear and plain,
Faithful unto death remain!

Hymns of Zion #225

**KITCHENER, ONTARIO
CANADA
Kim Leman**

“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD.”

Psalms 122:1

Our congregation has just finished listening to the recordings of the Brotherhood Conference. What a blessed heritage we have!

Visiting Brothers who came to serve us this past month were Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL). May God bless them for their efforts on our behalf.

We rejoice with Bro. Doug and Sis. Eva Bradle, as Sis. Eva has been approved for a visa in the U.S. after many months of waiting. We wish them God’s blessings as they establish their home in Eureka, IL.

**REGINA, SK
CANADA
Myrna Shipley**

Ministering Bro. Leonard and Sis. Charlotte Meyer (Chicago, IL) came this month to share the Living Word. We’re thankful that God let them come here and also thankful that our visitors had a desire to

do His work. God bless this Meyer family!

“Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.”

Luke 11:2

Bro. Hermann and Sis. Hilda Kaiser were blessed once again with another grandchild. Naomi Martha was born to their daughter, Edna and Jonathan Friesen of Saskatoon, SK. How can anyone doubt God’s creation after seeing the miracle of a new child born into this world?

**CONNECTICUT
ROCKVILLE
Bonnie Bahler
Laura Virkler**

Heavenward, e’er heavenward
let us wend our way!

What the righteous seek is there
found without delay.

Zion’s Harp #91

We rejoice with Taylor Welti (Bro. Pete and Sis. Jill) and wish her God’s nearness as she begins her repentance and conversion. It is such a blessing to continue to see souls coming to the Lord and we pray many more will answer His call.

Ministering Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edith, Elgin, IL) visited this month and we thank Bro. Gary for his labors in bringing us the Word. It was a blessing to all.

On August 25, Taxton Richard was born to Rob and Amy Tarantino. He joins his sister Kami and his brother Boden. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Harriet Zahner and Richard and Eriko Tarantino. It is wonderful to see so many little children among us. May each family circle feel God’s grace as they strive to raise their children to love and

serve Him one day.

September 24 was the wedding day of Nathan Carlson and Ashley Burns. We wish them well and hope that God will bless them and their family circles as they go forward in this life united in marriage. Parents are Bro. Wally and Sis. Judy Carlson, Thomas and Monique Burns, and Wendy Deprey and Ted Vonasek.

But a pure and loving heart,
conscience free from condemnation
can repose and peace impart,
and in death give consolation.
All who are renewed in heart
can with joyfulness depart.

Zion’s Harp #253, v.3

Our dear Sis. Martha Mangold passed out of this life and into eternity on September 28. She leaves her children, Sis. Nancy Zahner (Bro. Scott), Mary Evans (John), Bro. Ed Mangold (Sis. Terri), Luann Hoffman (Bro. Mike), Sis. Dorothy Viens (Bro. Steve), and Pam Trinke (Gary), as well as her sisters, Hilda Kayan, Flora Batz, and Sis. Millie Gerber (Bro. Melvin), and many beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

We also want to offer our sympathy and support to the family of Wilbur Hany, who passed away this month. He leaves his wife, Madlene; his son, Michael; his daughter, Tina Topor (Brian); and two grandsons, Zachary and Nicholas Topor; along with three brothers, Rudy (June), Norman (Joyce), David (Jan); and four sisters, Sis. Ruth Kostuk (John), Eleanor Toth, Judy Greene (Ed) and Marjorie Cook.

For those who have been ill or hospitalized recently, we hold them up in prayer and continue to think of each one and their individual needs. Karen Lanz (Bro. Barry), Bro. Wayne Virkler (Sis. Michelle), Sis. Barb Schneider and Sis. Helen

Kloter have our prayerful support in their recent illness or surgery. May God be their strength and comfort in the days ahead.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

Our caretakers for September were Bro. Glenn and Sis. Christa Moser from Roanoke, IL. We were glad to have them come back and also have the opportunity to meet some of their family. We have December left this year (we will take those offering a few weeks for that month), and only a few months in 2012. If you have a desire to support our small church in this way, please contact Sis. Doreen Steffen for more information at dksteffen@gmail.com or 302-540-6574. We have been richly blessed by our caretakers over the past four years, and we look forward to getting to know and fellowshiping with more in the coming year. We also encourage past caretakers to come again!

Our ministers this month were Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Daren Metz (Sis. Rita, Gridley, IL) and Bro. Ed Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern, KS). Other visitors were from Rockville, CT and Leo, IN.

Church was canceled when Hurricane Irene came to town. This month we also experienced God's power when this area shook with an earthquake and flash floods with Tropical Storm Lee.

Barbara Rapp reports her husband, Jim Cardwell, is home after five weeks of rehab. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family as their son Owen is now on crutches after breaking a bone in his foot.

Please note that the contact information in the Ministers' Book has changed. Bro. Barry Steffen's phone

number is now 443-504-3757. The person having Bro. Barry's old number is getting upset with all the calls he has been receiving.

If you are planning to visit Washington, D.C. area for vacation or business, please contact Bro. Joe and Sis. Holly Bohart at jbohart@gmail.com or Sis. Henrietta Meyer at (703) 904-8301 for assistance and to let us know how many to expect for Sunday services.

**FLORIDA
FT. LAUDERDALE
Renee Mangold**

We were blessed to have several visiting ministers this month. Visiting were Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Lisa, Eureka, IL), Bro. Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy, Champaign, IL), and Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH). We pray that God will bless them for their service.

As we reflected on the anniversary of September 11, this scripture was shared with our congregation:

“To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified. And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the wasted cities, the desolations of many generations.”

Isaiah 61:3-4

It's wonderful and miraculous how the Word of the Lord is truly the Living Word and provides for every need and every eventuality no matter the time frame.

We were happy to hear that Bro. Ed Gerber (Sis. Vi) was able to return to his home after breaking his

hip. We continue to pray that God will strengthen him.

**FLORIDA
NORTH FORT MYERS
Victor Beer**

Our hearts were saddened this week to hear of the going home of Bro. Ben Maibach. He was our first Elder to our North Fort Myers church, and everyone remembers him for his compassion, love, charity and much more. His final sights were looking forward to being with his beloved wife, Lorene, who passed on before him, some months ago. We think of him as one that truly gave of himself to our world wide church as well as ours. His unselfish efforts to the Japan church was one example of how he cared for churches everywhere. His encouragement will long be remembered by our church fellowship.

This last month our church was blessed as Bro. Darin Price (Milford, IN) assisted in the ministry of our church. His passenger flying occupation in many flights to Fort Myers is always appreciated by our congregation.

We are pleased to introduce to you our newest young mother at the New Beginnings. Her name is Christina and she has a three month old son named Desmond. We are also excited to announce the arrival of Jayleen Faith who was born to Evelyn on Sunday, September 18. She weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces and was 21 inches long. Two year old Joel is happy to have a new baby sister. Both of our mothers are busy with their studies in school. We are looking forward to our northern visitors coming down and perhaps getting some help with rocking babies. We are purchasing additional property behind the New Beginnings with the hopes of adding a playground area for the children.

Our North Fort Myers church is realizing new excitement with these lovely young mothers and their babies.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Kim Ott

“For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.”

II Timothy 4:6-8

We bid a sad farewell to our retired Elder Bro. Ben Maibach Jr. as he has passed from this life into eternity. Although we will miss Bro. Ben dearly, we rejoice for him that now he has gone on to receive his reward with God in heaven and to be reunited with all of his loved ones who have gone on before, including his wife, Sis. Lorene. We appreciate so much the beautiful legacy he has left us of walking his many years as a faithful servant of Jesus Christ and also the instrumental part he played in establishing our Sarasota church. Our sympathy extends to his children, Kay Irwin (Detroit, MI), Ben and Barb Maibach (Detroit, MI), Alan and Terese Maibach, Roger and Connie Kahler (Morton, IL), Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Bev Bahr (Detroit, MI), Bro. Tom and Sis. Cindy Hitz (Detroit, MI), Sis. Sheryl Maibach (Detroit, MI), and Bro. Doug and Carole Maibach (Detroit, MI), and also to his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

“Be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that

hope in the Lord.”

Psalms 31:24

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Marie Keller (Bro. Art) as she has recently experienced a heart attack followed by open heart surgery. We commit unto prayer the continual strengthening of Sis. Marie’s heart and physical body.

We are so thankful to have Leo and Judy Krstec assembling with us. This past summer Leo was found to have a brain aneurysm which was treated with a successful surgery. We have witnessed a miraculous recovery and believe God has special plans for the lives of Leo and Judy.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA

Over the past few weeks, we have been blessed by the ministering hearts of three brothers and their supporting families. We were so thankful to have Elder Bro. Jeff Streitmatter (Sarasota, FL) as well as his dear wife, Sis. Lynne, and their four sons visit and minister to us Labor Day weekend. In addition, Bro. Jerry Bauman, his wonderful wife, Sis. Martha, and their daughter, Sis. Sarah, traveled from Rittman, OH, and ministered to us. Thirdly, Bro. Greg Lehman and his son, Danny, traveled from Wolcott, IN, and blessed our congregation through the ministry! It is difficult to express our thankfulness for the constant willing hearts of those who travel the many miles to bless our church family.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

Doreen Moser
Shayla Steffen

We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land

But it is fed and watered by God’s almighty hand.

He sends us snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain
The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

We thank Thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good
The seedtime and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.
No gifts have we to offer for all Thy love imparts
But that which Thou desirest, our humble thankful hearts.

The bounty of the harvest is all about us here in the Midwest. It certainly gives us thankful hearts to be able to gather in the bounty the Lord has blessed us with. It always leaves me in AWE of all the Lord blesses us with when we plant the seeds and wait to see it grow.

Although it has been a quiet month here in Belvidere, we do have a few highlights:

~ Listening to Conference tapes

There is much to be gleaned from listening and much work to be done in the Lord’s vineyards. With humble and thankful hearts we send our love and appreciation to our Elders for watching over the flock.

~Bible study

We gathered together once again this month to learn more about the Bible. There is always much more knowledge we can attain and apply to our daily lives.

~ACYF

Our Bible class spent an early morning with the Elgin Bible class serving a pancake breakfast to raise money for ACYF activities. ACYF was also held in Fairbury this month.

~ Back to school

Our children have headed back to school and our prayers follow them each day. We pray they will keep the work of the Lord hidden in their

hearts and will also be able to be a light to those around them.

All good gifts around us
Are sent from Heaven above
So thank the Lord, oh thank the
Lord,
for all His love.

**ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Heidi Rinkenberger
Shelley Steffen**

Our annual church camp out was held this past month. As always, it was a wonderful time of singing and sharing around the campfire. Those of us who enjoy sleeping in our own beds in the air conditioning were still able to participate in the evening's fellowship and breakfast the following morning.

The new school year has begun and we welcome back our college students at Illinois State University, Illinois Wesleyan University and Heartland Community College. We have many familiar faces assembling with us again, as well as some new ones. We pray they will all feel welcome as they settle into their studies.

The air has turned cooler and it appears that we are well on our way into fall. As we travel out of town and see the many farm implements, we pray for a safe harvest for the farmers in our congregation and those surrounding us.

Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago) was a visiting minister this past month. We thank him for his willingness to serve on the pulpit.

**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Sandi Joos
Roseann Stahl**

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

and doctrine.”

II Timothy 4:2

The Word of the Lord was preached this past month by both our home ministers and several visiting ministers. We were thankful to have Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL), Bro. Philip Schulz (Sis. Kelli, Burlington, IA), Bro. Dale Banwart (Sis. Missy, Congerville, IL), and Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Sis. Karol, Cissna Park, IL) with us this past month. They implanted God's Word in our ear and mind. May we let God continue to work and implant it in our heart.

“He that planted the ear, shall he not hear? he that formed the eye, shall he not see?”

Psalm 94:9

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Sis. Elizabeth Conzo, in the passing of her brother, Jacob Repasky. We are thankful that the Lord hears our prayers, sees our sorrow, and comforts us with his presence. Our prayers and support are also with Sis. Linda Stahl (Bro. Wendell) with the loss of her father, Bro. Nate Martin (Sis. Esther, Princeville, IL).

Bro. Clarence Bruell (Sis. Sharon) has been unable to assemble with us for several weeks due to a fall. We hope that he will soon be able to assemble with us again. Steve Hausmann (Bro. Fred and Sis. Sue) was hospitalized this past month for an appendectomy. We are grateful for God's care of both Bro. Clarence and Steve.

Sis. Lucille Kieser moved to Apostolic Christian Skylines in Peoria this month. We pray that her transition may go smoothly.

Bro. Nathan Plattner has moved to our area from Bern, KS, for em-

ployment. We are pleased that he plans to assemble with our congregation and welcome him.

**ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN
Sarah Drake**

September was a busy month in Champaign-Urbana. We rejoice with Bro. Travis and Sis. Jaclyn Blunier over the birth of their precious little girl, Brynlee Rae, on September 7. Congratulations!

On September 11, we were blessed with many visitors for our annual Invite-a-Friend day. Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke) was among the visitors and shared God's Word with us during the morning service. After church, we enjoyed a picnic at the Lake of the Woods in Mahomet. Thank you to all who took the time to come!

Thanks are also extended to visiting ministering Bro. Dan Koch (Sis. Julie, Tremont) for his service in preaching the Word.

Our sympathies go out to Bro. Loren Mogler and his family over the loss of Bro. Loren's stepfather, John Aeschleman. We pray they can feel God's comfort during this difficult time.

September 23-24 was the annual Sunday School and Young Group camp-out. The weekend is an excellent opportunity for lasting, Christ-centered relationships to be formed and fostered between Sunday School students and our young Brothers and Sisters. We pray that these relationships may continue to grow for years to come.

We are thankful that Jerry Vogel has expressed his desire to experience true peace with God through repentance and conversion. We offer him and his wife, Lois, our love, prayers, and support.

We rejoice with Eric and Marissa Bahler, as they have repented of

their sins and expressed peace with God and man. Lord willing, we look forward to their testimonies and baptisms on October 22-23. We serve a mighty and merciful God!

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO
Rachel Meyer

Greetings from Chicago. We wish to thank visiting ministers, Bro. Jedd Rocke (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Brad Metz (Bloomington, IL), for sharing God's Word on our behalf.

Our retired Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy) had open heart surgery on September 6 and is recovering well, thankfully. We keep this dear family in our prayers for further healing.

August 23 our Bro. William Art lost his beloved wife, Natalie. We praise God she had recently found her Savior and could pass into eternity with peace. She was laid to rest on August 27. May God continue to comfort her family.

On August 24, Bro. Brad Metz presented a Topical Bible Study entitled, "Saving and Investing". We appreciate his coming to be with us.

Ministering Bro. Lenny Meyer and Sis. Charlotte Meyer have announced their plans to retire from the ministry at the end of September. They have served faithfully since October 11, 1970. May God bless them for their many loving deeds of service throughout the years.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank each of you who remembered us for our 50th anniversary. The cards, e-mails, gifts and your thoughts of love meant so much to us, and we appreciate it. May the Lord bless you.

Dale and Judy Eisenmann

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Marilyn Maul
Tina Walder

We appreciate those who labored in the Word this past month. Visiting ministers include Bro. Dana Nieman (Sis. Lea, Remington) and Bro. Art Mueller (Sis. Marlene, Belvidere).

On September 11, young and old enjoyed a time of fellowship, reminiscing, and good food at our annual Senior Citizen supper. All who were there truly enjoyed an evening of togetherness.

We bid farewell to some of the dear older brothers and sisters in our congregation. Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Lou Kaeb and Bro. Ben Rudin will be missed as they have recently moved to Fairview Haven. Sis. Loretta Bauer has moved to Gridley, IL, to be closer to family there. We will miss their friendly smiles here, but wish them God's continued blessing at this time in their lives.

"I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you."

John 14:18

Our love and prayers have been with Bro. Bruce and Sis. Bonita Frank as they mourn the loss of their mother, Sis. Mildred Frank; and Bro. Les and Sis. Marilyn Maul as they mourn the loss of their aunt, Phyllis Winslow (Glendale, AZ). We also extend our sympathy to the family of our dear Sis. Mabel Farney, who has gone to her rest also. Our thoughts and prayers are with her two sisters, Katherine Nease of Madison, WI, and Marguerite Shoufler Swan (Bill), and one brother, Charlie "Charlo" Kuntz (Gladys), both of Hoopeston, IL.

We pray for God's healing hand on Bro. Stan Maul and Sis. Grace Bauer who have both undergone sur-

gery this past month.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Rachel Currier

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Romans 10:12

This past month we've been blessed to hear the Word brought to us by several visiting ministers. They include Bro. Glen Braker (Sis. Audrey, Princeville), Bro. Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka), Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Lisa, Eureka), Bro. Nathan Walder (Sis. Denise, Cissna Park), Bro. Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, LaCrosse), and Bro. Jacob Kuntz (Sis. Brooke, Croghan-Naumburg). May the Lord bless them for their willingness, and grant us all sufficient grace to walk in His ways.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Amy Gasser
Miriam Gasser

Special thanks to ministering Bros. Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO), Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), and Matt Steffen (Princeville, IL) for helping to sound the watchman's call, as they labored with our local brothers during worship services.

Our high school students appreciated those who attended and donated to their annual Pancake Breakfast, which was served at the Fellowship Center on September 10.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Jeanne Schambach are pleased to have a new grandson, Devon Kenneth. He was born August 29 to Clint and Lori Schambach of Valley Park, MO. Devon's big brother is Andon.

Jesse Schambach, Bro. Eric and Sis. Erika's 9-year-old son, was recently diagnosed with diabetes. Our

prayers will be with him and his family, as they adjust for some special needs.

We have been concerned about Sis. Lenora Steffen, who underwent a total hip replacement following a fall. It is encouraging to hear that she is recovering well so far, and we pray this will continue.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Dee Baer
Jodi Blunier**

“Ring the bells of heaven, there is joy today...” Esther Bradle (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Tammy) was called to repentance and we are thankful she has heeded. New life is found only in Jesus.

Two new babies are welcomed. Bro. Jonathon, Sis. Marla and Logan Wiegand rejoice to bring home Landon Jon. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Jane Wiegand and Bro. Mikel and Sis. Dianne Schmidgall. Ariel Rose has come to brighten the home of Bro. Brian, Sis. Wendy, Lily and Dane Cottrell. Grandparents are Sis. Judy Cottrell, Bill Cottrell and Bro. Mike and Sis. Pat Rinkenberger (Congerville).

Quentin Wuethrich (Bro. Rick and Sis. Brenda) married Stephanie Kennell (Jim and Sharon, Roanoke). Rachel Fischer (Bro. Keith and Sis. Dori) married Justin Milton (Glen and Peggy Ann, Lexington). May love bind them as they walk the path of life.

Many in our congregation have experienced health concerns. Those recently hospitalized have been Bro. Harold Schmidtgall (Sis. Ethel), Bro. Sam Schmidgall (Sis. Gladys), Sis. Judy Knecht (Bro. Ed) and Sis. Janet Knecht (Bro. Richard).

Those visiting us on the pulpit this month have been Bro. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO), Bro. Bill

Dotterer (Lamar, MO), Bro. Craig Stickling (Peoria) and Bro. Kent Getz (Elgin, IA). We appreciate God’s Spirit speaking through man.

Note of Thanks:

Thanks to all for their prayers, cards, food and gifts of love sent to us during Harold’s hospitalization and recovery at home. Also, for the 90th birthday cards. It was all appreciated very much. God’s blessings.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Mick Hodel

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Angela Herr
Kay Steffen**

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

Genesis 2:24

We rejoice with Bro. Joel Hartman and Sis. Lanae Frank as they were united in marriage in Oakville, IA, on August 28. A reception was held in Fairbury on September 10. Parents are Bro. John and Sis. Rosemary Hartman and Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Frank (Oakville, IA). May God’s blessings be with this dear couple and we welcome Sis. Lanae to our church in Fairbury.

Our prayers are with Bro. Vernon Hartman (Sis. Pat) as he had another surgery. May God heal and provide according to His will.

Our Bible Class hosted the ACYF singing in Fairbury on September 18 and 25. We pray that our youth can remember the meaningful words to these songs as they journey through life and the Lord may bless these evenings of singing and fellowship.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Laura Knapp as her sister-in-law, Sis. Mirian Knochel (Bro. Floyd) of Bay City, MI, passed away on Sep-

tember 18.

We thank Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) for bringing God’s Holy Word to us this month. May God bless him for his willingness to be used in the Lord’s service.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Lisa Aberle
Lynn Dotterer**

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

Romans 6:4

We were thankful to witness the baptisms of Sis. Elizabeth Kaeb (Morris Kaeb and Brenda Mueller), Sis. Jamie Ricketts (Bro. Allen and Sis. Alisa), Bro. Matthew Gutwein (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Wendy), Bro. Rollin Wenger (Bro. Rich and Sis. Jill), and Bro. Philip Zimmerman (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Steph). We thank Elder Bros. Ben Walder (Congerville, IL) and Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL) for their labors during the weekend.

We are also thankful for willing teachers of God’s Word. Bros. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Timothy Gerber (Mansfield, OH), Jacob Kuntz (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL), and Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL) ministered to us this month.

Jason Leman (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Carol) and Brooke Young (Michael and Mary, Cissna Park, IL) exchanged wedding vows. We wish them God’s blessings!

Brenna Kay joined Bro. Matthew, Sis. Katie, Lauren, Brett, and Luke Schneider’s family. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Sandra Schneider and Bro. Bob and

Sis. Sally Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL). Bro. Andy, Sis. Jenise, and Lydia Rudin welcomed Rosanna Kay into their family. Her grandparents are Bro. Craig and Sis. Trudy Rudin, and Morris Kaeb and Brenda Mueller.

Our prayers are with Sis. Velma Koehl, Bro. Terry Nussbaum (Sis. Debbie), and Bro. Larry Bachman (Sis. Donna) as they have had surgery.

Note of Thanks:

We would like to express a sincere thank you to all our loved ones who remembered us with phone calls, visits, cards, food and gifts during my hip replacement surgery and recuperation. It was very much appreciated. We wish God's blessings to each and every one.

Bro. Al and Sis. Melba Zimmerman

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

**Melissa Rokey
Kayla Wiegand**

Sailor Rose blessed the home of Bro. Brent and Sis. Abby Schmidgall on August 21. Sailor was welcomed home by big sister Piper. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Cindy Schmidgall and Bro. Carle and Sis. Debbie Hoerr (Peoria, IL).

Bro. Ed and Joanne Wiegand and Bro. Rich and Sis. Janet Knepp (Roanoke, IL) are thankful for the safe arrival of their granddaughter, Ava Jean, on September 8. Ava's parents are Luke and Sarah Wiegand.

Ellie Wagner (Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill) is engaged to Brett Gramm (Ron and Angelia, Washington, IL). We wish them God's guidance and direction during this time of planning and preparation for their wedding.

Kathy Wagner (Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill) and Adam Herrmann (Bro. Mark and Sis. Tammy, Washington,

IL) committed their life together in an evening outdoor wedding on Friday, August 26. We trust that the Lord will bless their marriage.

“And he said unto them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.”

Luke 9:23-24

We are so thankful that God is continuing to call souls unto Him in repentance. We rejoice with Kent Hinrichsen (Bro. Rod and Sis. Lynda) and trust that God will continue to work in his heart.

Sunday school resumed on September 4; we trust that God will work in the hearts of the students and the brothers and sisters that are teaching our youth.

“For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord;”

Jeremiah 30:17

We want to remember those who have suffered bodily afflictions this past month and have spent some time in the hospital. They include: Sis. Mildred Knapp (Bro. Wes), Sis. Shirley DeBolt, Barbara Jean Hinrichsen (Bro. Charlie and Sis. Brenda), Chad Gerber (Bro. Roger and Sis. Trish), Sis. Laura Wiegand (Bro. Nathan), and Kate Hinrichsen (Bro. Rod and Sis. Lynda).

We are so thankful that Sis. Laura Wiegand (Bro. Nathan) was able to fellowship with us once again. We trust that God will continue to lend His healing hand to her as she continues to recover.

We have been blessed with many visiting ministers this month. We

are so thankful that God's Word has been brought to us through these visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL), Bro. Clint Beyer (Sis. Kara, Sabetha, KS), Bro. Willis Enhle (Sis. Lois, Peoria, IL), Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara, Bloomfield, IA), Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue, Morton, IL), and Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL).

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY
Perry Klopfenstein

“Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up.”

I Corinthians 13:4

The great virtue of charity includes five components — longsuffering, kindness, not envying, not vaunting oneself, and not being puffed up. Humility and lowliness of mind could be seen as enshrouding true acts of charity. Before any of us can expend even an ounce of true charity (to others), we need the presence of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. God's Spirit truly can empower us to please Him, and do His will.

We are happy to welcome Sis. Loretta Baurer, Cissna Park, who has moved to Gridley to reside in an apartment close to the church. She is the mother of Sis. Marla Ringger of Gridley.

Sis. Faith Steidinger was seriously injured in a traffic accident in early September, and was initially placed in intensive care. She suffered from broken ribs, a collapsed lung, and a broken pelvis, along with other trauma difficulties. She is now at home and recovering. God is to be thanked for sparing her life. God is the great healer. She had been baptized this summer.

Ministers that visited our church were Bro. Duane Reutter (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Troy Leyse (Bluffton, IN).

Our church offers condolences to the John Dohman family over the passing of his mother.

Bro. Joe Stoller was hospitalized for surgery, and is doing well. Bro. John Kilgus had surgery on his shoulder. Bro. John Gramm had knee-replacement. They are recovering, thanks to God. Bro. Stan Ringger continues to receive treatment for his brain cancer condition.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Annette Tanner
Julie Bahr**

A sculptor was asked "How do you make an elephant?" "Oh that's easy, just get a block of marble then chip away everything that doesn't look like an elephant!" That's what God wants to do with us - chip away everything that doesn't look like Jesus!

We are thankful for visiting ministering Bro. Warren Zahner (Sis. Bonnie, Rockville) who visited us this past month. Our appreciation to Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane) who gave our Family Worship topic, "Where He Leads I Will Follow."

We are presently listening to the Elder Conference CD's. Many powerful instructions from the Word of God have been given to us to ponder and prayerfully apply to our lives. We are thankful to all those who have given of themselves for our spiritual benefit.

The wedding engagement of Sis. Jennifer Rassi to Bro. Josh Furrer was made known! Jennifer presently resides in Taylor and is the daughter of Bro. Gary and Sis. Debbie Rassi of Morton. Josh is the son of Bro. Troy and Sis. Lisa Furrer (Wolcott).

Congratulations on September 1 to Bro. Tim, Sis. Jody, Lola and Piper

Wagenbach on the arrival of baby girl, Tatym Kimberly. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Jane Schick and Bro. Si and Sis. Lavonne Wagenbach (Tremont).

On September 23, baby girl Leia Joy entered the home of Bro. Daniel, Sis. Diane and big sis Lana Wuthrich. Grateful and blessed grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Cheryl Wuthrich and Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Annette Tanner.

On September 28, grandparents Bro. Jim and Sis. Valerie Steffen were blessed with a new grandson, Judah Bradley, born to Brad and Susan Steffen. Big sisters, Kaiya and Marlie, welcome him home.

Our love and sympathy is extended to Sis. Doris (Bill) Michel in the loss of her brother, Bro. Nathan Martin, Princeville. Our church also shares in the grief of Connie (Roger) Kahler in the loss of her dear father, retired Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit).

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Pam Fritzenmeier

We are thankful for and rejoice with four new sisters-in-Christ who gave their testimonies and were baptized August 27-28. They are Sis. Danae Hoerr (Bro. Don and Sis. Jackie); Sis. Chelsea Streitmatter (Bro. Doug and Sis. Cindy); Sis. Lexi Thomas (Bro. Dean and Sis. Teresa); and Sis. Brenna Waibel (Bro. Mike and Sis. Rose). Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington) spent this special day with us.

Bro. Jeff Wiegand (Sis. Janelle, Goodfield) ministered to us on Wednesday evening, September 7. Our thanks to both of these ministers for spending time teaching us from God's Word.

Sis. Leila (Bro. Bruce) Witzig's brother, Keith Funk, passed away August 26. Bro. Chris (Sis. Patty)

Kummer's mother, Helena, passed away September 17. We extend our sympathy and prayers to their families.

Please remember in your prayers Sis. Barb Schafer, Sis. Kathy (Bro. Dave) Obergfel, and Bro. Harry (Sis. Loretta) Eisenmann as they continue to suffer ongoing health issues.

Continue to pray for our missionaries on the foreign mission field. These include Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family and Sis. Janelle Grassi, Haiti; and Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Bere Aupperle, and Bro. Zach Knobloch, Magdalena, Mexico. We are also prayerful for Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold and the Ixtlan, Mexico, church, as they experience frightening circumstances.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

**Linda Joos
Gloria White**

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL), Bro. Fred Funk (Morton, IL), Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL), Bro. Garry Bucher (Valparaiso, IN), Bro. John Grimm (Columbus, OH), Bro. John Steiner (Oakville, IA), Bro. John Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN), Bro. Ken Dietz (Bradford, IL), Bro. Barry Dietz (Bradford, IL), and Bro. Greg Stoller (Forrest, IL). We thank them for their labors of love on our behalf.

Sis. Martha Streitmatter and Joselyn (Bro. Jay and Sis. Deanne) Knobloch were our hospital patients. We are grateful for God's healing. We want to think and pray for those that are unable to worship with us.

We are thankful God is still moving the hearts of men. David Braker (Bro. Glen and Sis. Audrey) has found a need to repent. We pray God will continue to work in his heart and

in the hearts of many others.

Three converts were brought into the fold on Sunday, September 18. We welcome Sis. Amber Ehnle (Bro. Phil and Sis. Barb), Sis. Brianna Streitmatter (Bro. David and Sis. Crystal) and Sis. Lynelle Berchtold (Bro. David and Sis. Leann). We are thankful for them and may we continue to pray for the many lost souls.

We were saddened at the sudden departing of our Bro. Nathan Martin (Sis. Esther) on September 6. We pray for God's nearness for his dear wife and children. His children are Bro. Alan (Sis. Janice) Martin, Sis. Carol Martin, Bro. Craig (Sis. Terri) Martin, Sis. Denise (Bro. Tim) Kieser (all of Princeville), and Sis. Linda (Bro. Wendell) Stahl (Bradford). May God comfort those left behind as only He is able.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Jamie Hodel
Judy Sauder**

I Thessalonians 5:12-13: "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..." August 28 was the ordination of Bro. Frank (Sis. Kathy) Sauder as deacon of our congregation. Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Altadena), Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Denver), and Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley) assisted Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman. Other visiting ministers that day were Bro. Willis Ehnle (Peoria), Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Cissna Park), and Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott).

Our Nursing Home benefit was held Saturday, August 27. We are thankful to all who made this day such a blessing for our Home.

Our prayers are with the family of Keith Funk who passed away on August 26. Keith leaves behind his wife,

Lavonne; children: Kelli (Torry) Steffen (Downs), Kourtney (Sarah) Funk (Hudson), Kevin (Kristi) Funk (Eureka), Natalie (Jason) Pittenger (DeKalb), and Katie McLaughlin and McKenzie Funk (Eureka). Also surviving are his mother, Sis. Kathryn Funk (Washington), his sister, Sis. Leila (Bro. Bruce) Witzig (Peoria), his mother-in-law, Sis. Marge Fischer (Roanoke), brother-in-law, Bro. Kevin (Sis. Annette) Fischer, and sister-in-law, Sis. Crystal (Bro. Chad) Getz, both of Roanoke, brother-in-law, Bro. Keith (Sis. Dori) Fischer (Eureka), and sister-in-law, Cheryl (George) Sanford (Peoria).

Psalm 127:3: "Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord." We rejoice with Bro. Rich and Sis. Janet Knepp in the birth of two new grandchildren. George Matthew Knepp was born on September 4 to Adam and Jackie Knepp of Roanoke. George's older brother is Henry, and maternal grandparents are Kirk and Stephanie Anderson (Roanoke). Then, on September 8, Ava Jean was born to Luke and Sarah Wiegand of Goodfield. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Ed and Joanne Wiegand (Goodfield.)

He who comes confessing: "My Lord and my God!"

And with joy expressing, blessed is his lot.

Zion's Harp #149

We rejoice with and welcome new converts, Sam and Emily Wettstein, and their son Will.

Bro. James Fehr (Tremont) visited our congregation and ministered to us on September 11.

Psalm 34:17: "The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles." Our congregation continues to lift up those who are struggling with infir-

mities of the flesh. We are prayerful for Sis. Ann Hodel, Bro. Merlyn (Sis. Jan) Getz, Jonah Sauder (Bro. Matt and Sis. Hope), and Sis. Helen Leman.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell
Janice Sauder**

Our congregation enjoyed many visitors over the weekend of August 27-28, as the Apostolic Christian Men's Sing and the Vietnam Soldiers' Reunion met in Tremont. Visiting ministers who were with us on Sunday were: Bros. DeWayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN), Virgil Kaeb (Sarasota, FL), Al Schambach (Remington, IN) and Gary Anliker (Elgin, IL). Thank you again for coming and sharing God's Word with us. We were also very blessed to listen as the men's group sang Sunday afternoon!

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

Hebrews 4:16

We all find ourselves in need of the prayers of those we love often, but especially when we suffer illness. We prayed especially for Steve (Sis. Sara) Garman and Bro. Jerry (Sis. Marcia) Kaiser recently, as they spent time in the hospital. May they both continue to gain strength and healing from the hand of the Lord.

We are happy to report the birth of three little girls. Kristen Reese was born to first-time parents, David and Jennie Mooney. Proud grandparents are Bob and Judy Mooney. Lynelle Diane Wagenbach joins the family of Bro. Gary and Sis. Kathy Wagenbach, which also includes Anna, Betsy and Todd. Happy grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis.

Liz Wagenbach and Bro. Phil and Sis. Diane Koch. Also glad to be grandparents again are Bro. Si and Sis. Lavonne Wagenbach. Tatym Kimberly has joined the family of Bro. Tim and Sis. Jodi Wagenbach (Morton, IL), and big sisters Lola and Piper. May God bless these happy families!

We all wish Nikita Garman (Steve and Sis. Sara) well, as she has accepted a job in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, and is moving to Minnesota now. May God bless her in this new endeavor!

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Linda Folkerts
Nancy Leman**

“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”

Psalms 27:1

We appreciate the dear brothers who came to share the Word with us this past month. They include Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Ruth Ann, Wolcott) on August 28 and Bro. Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City) for our topical Bible Study on September 21.

We are very thankful for God’s answer to our congregation’s fervent prayers as he protected Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold as they went through a life-threatening situation in Ixtlan. We pray that God will continue to protect them and our other loved ones who lovingly serve in a sometimes hostile environment.

On September 9, the fathers and sons of our congregation enjoyed good weather and many blessings as they gathered for the annual Father/Son Campout.

We extend our deepest sympathy

to Sis. Kathryn Funk in the sudden death of her son, Keith. May Sis. Kathryn along with Keith’s wife, Lavonne, and their six children feel our prayers and the comfort of God’s love.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Kim Meyer
Suzie Fiechter**

Our congregation is blessed with two new families raised up to serve and glorify God. Bro. Kyle Gerber (Bro. Kent and Sis. Kim) and Sis. Deone Maller (Bro. Bob and Sis. Kim) were married on Sunday, September 4. We welcome Sis. Christen Huber (Bro. Brian and Sis. Jacki) of Francesville as she and Bro. Chad Fiechter (Bro. Mike and Sis. Shari) became one in the Lord on August 28. We pray that she can feel our love. On their wedding day, twenty greetings were extended at our Francesville church. What a precious fellowship we enjoy as our hearts are knit together across many miles!

Bro. Jim and Sis. Jan Schwartz are thankful to add grandson, Israel Ri, to their family. He is the new son of Aaron and Jill McCormick. Bro. Denny and Sis. Becky Caffee welcomed little Ainsley Hannah, born to their son and daughter in law, Brian and Katie. On August 31, Jordan Rachele Tonner arrived to bless the home of Bro. Brent and Sis. Rachele. Brittney, Brendon, Sis. Kaitlin, Sis. Madison, Riley, Brody, Brayson, and Ashlyn, along with grandparents, Bro. Gary and Sis. Diann Tonner and Bro. Sam and Sis. Mary Jo Gerber, help care for their precious baby. Karley Rose Hackenjos was born to Andy and Michelle, children of Bro. Carl and Sis. Evie. And, Kendyl Joy Gerber joined the family of Michael and Tammy. Grandparents are Bro. Bill (Sis. Carolyn, dec.) Gerber and

Bro. Mike and Sis. Becky Leyse. May God grant each of these couples the grace and wisdom to train their children in His ways!

As we rejoice together, we also weep together. Bro. Troy and Sis. Brenda Kipfer mourn the loss of her father, Howard Hess. Bro. Allen and Sis. Arlene Steffen said goodbye to her earthly father, Ermil Shifferly. We grieve with our Sis. Laura Ridge in the loss of her step-sister, Marisa Jones.

Our prayers lift those with health concerns to the throne of our loving Heavenly Father. We desire healing, yet we ask for His will to be done, as He often uses difficulties to mold and conform each of us to His image. Bro. Craig Steffen (Sis. Jean), Bro. Gerald Fiechter (Sis. Eunice), Bro. Zach Bertsch (Sis. Jenny), Lonny Frauhiger (son of Sis. Lucille), Bro. Vernon Geisel (Sis. Luella), Bro. Godfrey Bertsch (Sis. Anita), and Bro. Bill Gerber (Sis. Carolyn, dec.) all have ongoing medical issues. May God surround them with His love and His peace in the midst of these times of struggle.

Enjoying a special time of fellowship, our congregation met for an all church picnic on Sunday afternoon, September 11. We filled the yard of the Fellowship Hall with love and laughter, then sang together under a huge tent. What a blessing!

We’re praising God for new converts, Jay Fiechter (Bro. Mike and Sis. Shari) and Andrew Reinhard (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jodi).

Sunday, August 21, held much excitement! Elder Bro. Tom and Sis. Sue Waldbeser (Atlanta) visited us with their family. The electricity went off before the morning service began, but he graciously taught God’s Word with no lack of power! After all was restored at noon, we witnessed the baptisms of our Broth-

ers Garrett Tonner (Bro. Brian and Sis. Joy), Brockton Tonner (Bro. Dean and Sis. Julie), Josiah Steffen (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Jeanne) and our Sisters Madison Tonner (Bro. Brent and Sis. Rachelle), Ericka Eisenmann (Bro. John and Sis. Trudy), and Janae Steffen (Bro. Tom and Sis. Lyn). Praise God for His faithfulness!

**INDIANA
BLUFFTON NORTH
Jessie Longenberger
Amy Moser**

“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.”

Isaiah 6:8

Our Bluffton North congregation was blessed by the visit of Bro. Jedd and Sis. Marsha Rocke (Goodfield, IL) on August 6. We thank them for their time and service.

Sis. Jamie Longenberger would like to thank her church family for their prayers during her recent throat surgery. We wish her a restful recovery. Bro. Charles Gerber also appreciated the prayers, cards and visits during his hip surgery.

Our dear Bro. Bill Gerber has had another back surgery this month. He is recovering at Swiss Village. He would appreciate your prayers for rest and relief from pain.

Our high school students enjoyed a weekend at Christian Endeavor on August 13-14. We are very blessed to have the opportunity to meet and fellowship with those of like mind and faith.

**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE
Mildred Clauss
Jacki Huber**

A wedding ceremony between

two Christians should give us a foretaste of the holiness and joy there will be when Christ returns for His bride, the Church. We recently witnessed the marriage ceremony of Sis. Christen Huber (Bro. Brian and Sis. Jacki) to Bro. Chad Fiechter (Bro. Mike and Sis. Shari, Bluffton, IN). We rejoice with them, and wish to thank the many loved ones who shared the day with us, including Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN), and ministering Bros. John Reinhard (Sis. Pam, Bluffton, IN) and Jaye Rinkenberger (Sis. Peg, Goodfield, IL). There were numerous other visiting ministers in the congregation that day, and we would enjoy having each one visit us again when they can also share God's Word with us!

On another Sunday, Bro. Nick Gutwein (Sis. Suzanne, West Lafayette, IN) came and shared the day with our ministering Bro. Randy Gudeman, who would have been “alone” on the pulpit that day. We appreciate the willingness of brothers to come and share on days such as this!

Sunday evening, September 11, was a memorable day, in that many loved ones from our Francesville congregation enjoyed an all-church potluck at the Fellowship Center. After enjoying food and fellowship, we sang songs of praise and worship to our Lord, including patriotic songs that acknowledge God's love and mercy to America.

Hospital patients this month have been our dear Sisters Peg Gudeman (Bro. Dale), Lynne Wuethrich (Bro. Mark), and Ruth Heinold. They have all returned home and we are praying for God's continued healing for each of them.

“Redeeming the Time” was the title of a topical our Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein shared with us on a recent

Wednesday evening. It was good for us to consider how we spend our time here on earth, which is passing by so quickly. Do our daily lives glorify God or could we make some changes in the things that we do that would help others to come to know God's love and salvation?

We wish to welcome two foreign exchange students who are staying with families from our congregation. A young lady, Luna Gruesgen from Germany, is spending the school year with our Bro. Larry and Sis. Darlene Pfladderer and their family. A young man, Nikita (Nik) Smirnov from Russia, is living with Bro. Les and Sis. Christine Kaeb and their family. We pray that the time these students spend here will be a blessing for them, as well as for the loving families who have opened their hearts and homes.

Bro. Chad and Sis. Pam Huber and their dear family have been on furlough from missionary work at the Deaf Village in Jamaica, and will soon be returning to Jamaica. We treasure the time they have spent with us, including an informative and interesting presentation they shared about the Deaf in Jamaica at the Fellowship Center on a blessed Sunday evening. Our prayer for them is found in Numbers chapter 6, verses 24-26, “The Lord bless thee and keep thee: The Lord make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.” We also pray for their son Paul who has begun his walk with the Lord and is living in West Lafayette, IN, and attending college there. It will be a change for the rest of the Huber family to return to Jamaica without Paul, but thankfully, God's love and nearness spans the miles!

**INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS
Sandy Lichtle
Penny Schroder**

Bro. Neil and Sis. Leann Banwart and their daughter, Letty, recently moved to the Indianapolis area. We are thankful to have them join our church family and pray they will feel loved and become adjusted quickly. Their prior church home was in Taylor, MO.

We rejoice with Bro. Stan and Sis. Andrea Gutwein on the safe arrival of their new son, Luther Ketan. Luther was born on September 14. He is welcomed home by his siblings: Clayton, Ethan, Glorianna, Malachi and Cedric. Luther's grandparents are the late Bro. Eric and Sis. Ginny Zeller and Bro. Art and Sis. Mary Gramm (Leo, IN).

Many were able to gather on Friday, September 16, to fellowship and hear Bro. Chad and Sis. Pam Huber share of their family's experiences as missionaries in Jamaica. We pray for God's continued provision for them as they return to serve Him on the foreign mission field and pray for our hearts to be diligent in His work here at home.

Our church looks forward to a special Ordination Service on the evening of Sunday, October 30, for Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lyn) who was recently approved by the Elder body for the Ordained Deacon position.

We were blessed by the service of the following visiting ministers this past month: Bro. Stephen Baner (Sis. Donnalou, Gridley, IL) and Bro. John Rassi (Sis. Heather, Tremont, IL). May God encourage them and bless them as they continue to serve in the ministry.

**INDIANA, LACROSSE
Meagan Frank
Julie Rocke**

Where God in truth abides,
Where two join hand and heart,
We find a three-fold cord,
Not lightly rent apart.

Zion's Harp #79

We rejoice with two dear couples as they anticipate joining hand and heart in the Lord. The engagements of Bro. Dean Nelson (Larry and Lorrie) to Sis. Lindsey Schneider (Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jeannie); and Bro. David Virkler (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gayle, Congerville, IL) to Sis. Betsy Dettwyler (Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene, Silverton, OR) were recently made known to us. We are thankful to keep Sis. Lindsey in LaCrosse, and welcome Sis. Betsy with open arms, praying that she will soon feel at home.

"But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings..."

Malachi 4:2

Sis. Ruth Heinold has recently been hospitalized, and Sisters Mary Ann Feller and Ruth Elcock have both had surgery this past month. Soon after starting school, Virginia Rocke (Bro. Brad and Sis. Julie) suffered from a broken arm.

We pray for the Lord's healing, but also for His perfect will and comfort when our loved ones leave this life. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Sis. Nicole Gudeman (Bro. Owen) with the loss of her grandmother, Florence Dahlhauser.

We would like to extend our thanks to Bro. Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL) and Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) for ministering to us

this month.

What a blessing it is to enjoy the fellowship of the brethren! We have had many opportunities this month to gather together as a church. Our LaCrosse congregation hosted the Junior High Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship day, and enjoyed the company of nearly sixty middle school Sunday School students and their teachers. The day was very full with singing, meals, church, a Sunday school lesson, World Relief kits, and outdoor activities in rainy weather. How thankful we were that everything went smoothly and safely – we praise the Lord that He is a God of order. Recently, we gathered together for our annual Stone Soup supper and singing at the home of Bro. Tom and Sis. LuAnn Troxel. We have come to anticipate this special time of outdoor fellowship each fall with each guest bringing their own offering for the pot of soup over a fire. World Relief soup packaging and listening to the recordings from our Brotherhood Conference have also reminded us of our need to take time to nurture our relationships with each other, those around us, and with our Heavenly Father.

**INDIANA, LEO
Kirby Reutter**

Here in Leo, we are thankful that some of the busyness of the summer has subsided. However, the Lord has continued to provide plenty of labors for all of His servants. The fields are still white for harvest.

Two bridal showers were further evidence that the Spirit remains the only perfect Match Maker. We rejoice with Bro. Tyler Stieglitz and Sis. Abby Klopfenstein as well as Bro. Ross Feller and Sis. Leah Gerber in their ongoing preparations for their respective weddings.

Lord willing, three precious converts will offer their testimonies of faith on October 8. These individuals include Auburn Beyer, Cameron Stieglitz, and Miranda Maibach. Auburn is the oldest of the five children of Bro. Keith and Sis. Alisa Beyer, who serve as Alternate House Parents at the Maple House. Auburn is also the granddaughter of our dear Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit), who plans to assist in the Lord's work on this weekend. In addition, Cameron is the fifth of six children of Sis. Leonda and Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz, who serves as our local shepherd. Finally, Miranda is the oldest of four children of Sis. Julie and Bro. Mark Maibach, who serves as the Business Manager here at Gateway Woods. We further rejoice that Miranda's younger sister, Rachel, has also recently turned to her Lord in repentance.

Incidentally, Mark and Julie and their family experienced many logistical hurdles as they submitted to the Lord's call to relocate cross-country and serve at Gateway. Many of us "transplants" here in Leo can relate to some of these struggles. However, the evidence of the Lord's blessing upon submission is often overwhelming. Mark and Julie, we are thrilled for your daughters, and are so thankful for these reminders of His perfect and sovereign plan to direct our lives!

On September 24, the sixth through twelfth grade Leo Sunday School students were invited to fellowship and worship with the youth from each of our three beloved congregations in Michigan. This year, the Detroit church was kind enough to host this annual event. On behalf of the Leo Sunday School, we thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and hope to be invited back!

Finally, we rejoice that Sis. Areli

Reutter's mother (Sis. Lourdes Sibaja from Ixtlan, Mexico) has safely arrived in the United States for a two-month visit. Lourdes plans to spend one month in Iowa with one daughter, and another month in Ohio with her other daughter. Incidentally, Sis. Lourdes is in charge of handcrafting specialized head coverings which are then sold and distributed throughout the United States. If you have any interest in purchasing head coverings, please contact Sis. Areli Reutter.

Gateway Prayer Corner:

Let's be prayerful for Jacob, who has recently graduated the program. Jacob has already been back to visit twice! Let's be prayerful for Rose, a current resident who recently asked to seek out her soul salvation within the Apostolic Christian Fellowship. Let's be prayerful for Adam, a former resident who recently re-admitted himself into foster care so that he could avoid negative influences and be closer to the Leo church. Finally, let's be prayerful for two new staff members: Sis. Kaitlyn Isaia (from our dear congregation in Chicago) and Sis. Katie Kaufman (from our dear congregation in Morton).

INDIANA, MILFORD

**Janie Price
Paula Haab**

As I thought about writing for the Silver Lining, it seemed to me it has been a "quiet" month. Then I thought how good God has been. He has allowed us to gather together to hear the Conference CDs, the ladies have resumed World Relief projects, and we had a thought provoking Bible Study on Matthew 5:9. I hadn't realized how many times the Bible tells to be at peace with our fellowmen. Also, we continued to

have many visitors which is such an added blessing.

We extend a warm welcome to Sis. Grace Gerber (Bluffton) as her continued education has brought her to our area.

We are so thankful that our retired Elder, Bro. Jesse Beer (Sis. Shirley), is able to come to church again after having major surgery. More prayers were answered when our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction) and his wife, Sis. Emily, came home safely from Ixtlan, Mexico. While they were there in the home of Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold, death threats were phoned. What power in prayer! We continue to pray that the unrest will be quieted.

Bro. Bill (Sis. Judy) Longcor's brother, Tone Oy, passed away. Bro. Bill and Sis. Judy go the extra mile to help care for Bill's foster family that his parents raised. May they feel the comfort of the Holy Spirit at this time.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Jenni Honegger
Marcella Tyler**

The temperatures are getting cooler and the children have returned to school. The fields are already changing colors from green to gold and brown, and we look forward to the beautiful pageant of color that heralds fall. Truly only a wonderful Creator God could conceive of such a pretty sight!

Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl, Eureka) was our visiting minister last month. We have also been privileged to listen to the Conference tapes on several different Wednesday nights. We are thankful for Bro. Mark's efforts and for the efforts of the Elder Body to guide us and instruct us in the Word.

We have been praying vigilantly

for Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan Heinold and the dangerous situation they have been facing recently in Mexico. They have been granted much grace that has enabled them to be bold in the face of adversity, and we pray that God will continue to grant them grace and strength as they seek to glorify His name in that country. Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan are the parents of our Sis. Lynette Bahler (Bro. Tim).

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Laura Schafer

We are thankful for a new and healthy addition to Bro. Josh and Sis. Keyna Martinez's family. John Centurion Martinez was born this month and is a beautiful blessing! Again we were blessed with another month full of visitors: Bro. Mark and Sis. Karen Wettstein (La-Crosse), Bro. Troy and Sis. Kelly Leyse (Bluffton), Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene Frauhiger (Bluffton North), Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene Hoerr (Peoria), and Bro. Scott and Sis. Dawn Wegman (Taylor). We thank each one of you for supporting our church.

Over Labor Day we had a wonderful time with our "Mighty Men of God" mentor group as they went canoeing and enjoyed a time of fellowship over a campfire dinner. We also have enjoyed meeting new and familiar faces as our church hosted our annual invite-a-couple weekend at Bro. Marty and Sis. Lavilla Langhofer's home. May we continue to be encouraged to be bold and unashamed of the Gospel.

"And the Lord make you to increase and abound in love one toward another, and toward all men, even as we do toward you: To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God,

even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints."

I Thessalonians 3:12-13

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Marguerite Hoerr

Our Counseling Elder, Bro. Dan Kilgus, spent a Wednesday night with us on September 21. Bro. Dan is always so kind and helpful and we're glad when he can spend some time with us. We thank him for his love for the Valpo congregation.

On the last Sunday of September in Valpo church we were blest to have ministering Bro. Nick Gutwein (Sis. Suzanne, West Lafayette, IN) with us for the day. Accompanying him were the young people of his church who attend Purdue University. It was the Sunday for our Harvest Day Dinner. It's one of the meaningful times of the year when we celebrate the harvest which is given to us. Each year we honor God in this way for His blessings on the harvest of our crops. It's always a time when we realize the true love of our God who has blest us throughout the year. Each year as we sing the hymn "The Golden Harvest", our throats constrict when we realize the thanks that is in our hearts.

We thank Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol Bucher; and Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn Zeltwanger who planned our Harvest Day program.

A mixed choir of the Purdue students praised our God by singing many hymns in His honor. They blest us so much. We thank them, our Francesville visitors, plus our home folks for adding to those blessings. Our deep thanks go to Bro. Nick for bringing the morning sermon and for closing with his meaningful thoughts at the closing of our Harvest Day program. Our thanks also go to the brothers and friends of our Valpo church for providing the

tasty meal at the close of the day.

I want to share with you a reading given by Sis. Jackie Feller (Bro. Joe). It's title is:

"SHADOWS"

'Indian summer has yet to roll around, so I'm savoring each bit of warm sunshine crossing my backyard. These are the days Joe and I don light sweaters and sit in the backyard with mugs of coffee. We situate our chairs in the sunlight to watch the shadows shift and change. It's nice to park in a spot of sunshine but I notice I must often reposition my chair to keep away from the advancing cool shadows. Shadows, always moving, never the same, forever changing. They're getting longer these early days of fall and I'm surprised how much they cover our backyard.

There is Someone, though, who casts a shadow which never changes. James 1:17 tells us that "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning."

I know why His shadow never shifts. Thankfully, our Father never changes; our God is not evolving as some theologians would have us to believe. He is not transmutable as other religions profess.

God is constant, changeless – always compassionate, always merciful, always holy and full of love. And there's something else about Him that does not change – His good and perfect gifts.

Aren't you glad that God is constant when it comes to giving us gifts for our good and His glory? He bestows only good things — perfect things. Whatever He gives, we can be assured it is in our and His best interest.

Usually I don't enjoy sitting in the

chilly shadows this time of year. Yet His is one shadow I don't mind falling across me. I feel warm, secure and protected when I read Psalm 91:1 which begins by saying, "He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty." Speaking of feeling secure, read on to verses 11-12. "For He will command His angels concerning you, to guard you in all your ways, they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone," Our Lord is so loving – He's even concerned when we stub our toes.

Outside the trees may be casting long, cold shadows over your patio, making you shiver to think of chillier days ahead. But the shadow that God casts over you today should warm your heart. So let the passing of each day's shadows be to you a sign of His constant love, His good and perfect love.'

May God bless all of you who read this, as the words blest us during our Harvest program.

Remember we'd love to have you visit us and we remind you that our church is just 2 ¾ miles S. of U. S. 30 on State Rd. 49

**INDIANA
WEST LAFAYETTE**

**Beth Tonner
Katie Widmer**

Many thanks to the ministering brothers who have been willing to serve on the West Lafayette pulpit on Sunday and Wednesday nights. It is an encouragement to see the Spirit's faithfulness in the lives of brothers throughout our denomination.

Congratulations to Bro. Duane and Sis. Suzanne Schieler on the marriages of their sons. Curt Schieler married Ariel Schneider, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steven

Schneider, on June 25. Chad Schieler married Bridget Reid, daughter of Connie Reid, on September 3. We rejoice with your family.

Over 40 times in Scripture, God tells us to care for "the fatherless". On September 18, we enjoyed a presentation by Bro. Joe Gerber about Loving Shepherd Ministries, a Christ-centered ministry whose mission is to care for orphaned, abandoned, and at-risk children around the world and to help others to do the same. Loving Shepherd has multiple programs, ranging from adoption services and placing children into Homes of Hope to working in various countries to combat child slavery and human trafficking.

**INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Donita Edelman
Sasha Kyburz**

It is with joy we report the engagement of Bro. Josh Furrer (Bro. Troy and Sis. Lisa) and Sis. Jennifer Rassi (Bro. Gary and Sis. Deb, Morton, IL) from Taylor, MO. We pray for God's guidance and direction on Bro. Josh and Sis. Jenn as they make plans for their future.

Wolcott had our annual invite-a-guest weekend in September. We were blessed with many visitors from various locations. We thank all our guests for being with us! We pray an extra blessing on the visiting ministers we had that day: Bros. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Oakville, IA), Neal Widmer (Sis. Kris, West Lafayette, IN), Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam, Latty, OH), Bro. Nate Lehman (Sis. Yvonne, Denver, CO) and Elder Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy, Alto, MI). May the Lord bless them for sharing of their time and talents with us.

The funeral of Wilma Kyburz McVay was held in our church recently. Wilma attended our congregation in the days of her youth. We

extend our sympathy to her nephews and nieces.

The Junior High Sunday School class and their teachers would like to extend a thank you to the LaCrosse, IN, congregation for hosting us for Jr. High ACYF. We all had a great time making new friends and renewing old friendships.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Shari Schwab have become grandparents again with the birth of Reeve Russell Beer. Reeve is the son of Bro. Shane and Sis. Stephanie (Leo, IN). May the Lord guide Reeve's parents and grandparents in raising their children in the fear and admonition of Him.

**IOWA, AMES
Jacob Schulz**

This past month, we were blessed to have ministering brothers one Sunday and one Wednesday evening service this month. They were Bro. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA) and Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Sis. Bonnie, Oakville, IA). May God bless them for their willingness to labor on our behalf.

**IOWA, BLOOMFIELD
Rachel Stoller**

We've enjoyed several visitors this past month. It's always a blessing to meet new faces and renew old friendships. We always welcome you to come and spend a Sunday with us.

Soon we'll be into harvest time here. Our weather wasn't very nice this summer, so our yields are down, but we are thankful for the Lord's promises of provision. We're even more thankful for His promise to always be with us, encourage us, grant us truth, and keep us in His ways.

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Marilyn Anderson
Karla Gerst

As Jesus died for me,
 And in the grave did lie
 So I the same,
 Immersed and buried there,
 I'm resurrected where
 I no more death shall share.
 Praised be His name!
 Praised be His name!

Zion's Harp #201, vs. 3

We witnessed the baptism of Sis. Heather Wulf (Bro. Leroy and Sis. Carolyn) this month. We're thankful to welcome a new lamb into the fold. May she and her family continue to feel the blessings of drawing closer together through fellowship in the common bond of faith.

We appreciated having many visitors recently, not only for the baptism, but also throughout the past month. Among them were Elder Bros. Bruce Endress (Bradford, IL) and Jon Schmidgall (Oakville) and ministering Bros. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA), John Steiner, Tom Lanz, and Mark Schmidgall (all of Oakville). We pray that they will feel the blessings of God for their willingness to share the Word with us.

Who could find me such a Master?
 Who, what Christ hath done, would
 do,

Saved me from sin and disaster
 With His precious blood so true?
 Should not I be His true servant
 Who His life on Calv'ry gave,
 In devotion also fervent,
 Faithful unto death and grave?

Zion's Harp #205, vs. 3

We have had several brothers and sisters from our congregation with serious health problems this month. We pray that God would grant healing as He sees fit, and the grace and patience to work through these difficult times.

Our sympathy was with Ed and Marge Streeter as his mother, Oneda Anne Streeter, passed away last month. She was 103. Death is always a reminder for the rest of us what our end is. It's good for us to reflect on our hope and goal and to examine ourselves to see if we are truly ready to meet our Lord.

IOWA, ELGIN
Maria Rocke
Brianna Strahm

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts
 in Christian love;
 The fellowship of kindred minds is
 like to that above.

We were blessed with several visitors this month including four visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA), Bro. Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka, IL), Bro. Tim Zimmerman (Sis. Barb, Lamont-Gridley, KS) and Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA). We thank these brothers for bringing forth God's Word and all who made the effort to come and be with us.

When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;

But we shall still be joined in heart,
 and hope to meet again.

Hymns of Zion #156

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Chad Desmet as he has moved back to the Lester, IA, congregation. We are thankful for the time he spent with us and wish him God's blessings.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Laura Funk

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will

not depart from it."

Proverbs 22:6

This verse came to mind when I sat down to write this column. School has started. We hope the children can let their light shine out in the world and they will not depart from the teachings they have garnered in Sunday School and at home.

"Train up a child..." Sis. Willa Clark has a new grandchild to train! Converts, Duane and Sara Lester, welcome Silas Paul to their family. Anna, Matthew, Willa, Raegan and Jacob have a new brother to play with.

Blessing us with their presence and God's Word this month include Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Elder Bro. Duane Rocke (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO), Bro. Kevin Fehr (West Bend, IA) and Bro. John Rowell (Burlington, IA). May God bless you, Brothers, for being used as God's servant.

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord."

We enjoyed the Taylor Choir fulfilling this verse in Colossians 3:16 on August 28. We want to thank you for blessing our congregation.

We have many blessings to be thankful for this month, including the paving of our church parking lot. We humbly thank all who gave of their time and talents for this project. Come visit us!

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Diana Butikofer

Bro. Brad and Sis. Joyce Eland were blessed with another grandson,

Jameson Hayden, who joins siblings, Summer and Kaeding, and parents, Ryan and Beverly Eland in England.

We are grateful Sis. Lana Fehr's August surgery was successful and her recovery has begun. Her family would like to express their thanks as follows:

"The Bob Fehr family would like to thank everyone for the many prayers offered on Lana's behalf and the love shown to her during the time of her surgeries. She is currently recovering well at home and will be beginning speech therapy again soon. We really appreciate the support given to her and to the rest of us during this stressful time. God is faithful!"

Our prayers are with Bro. Brad and Sis. Joyce Eland and their family following the death of Sis. Joyce's mother, Sis. Mildred (Bro. Bob) Frank of Oakville, IA.

IOWA, LESTER
Polly Metzger
Gloria Moser

Jesus Loves the little Children,
All the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white,
They are precious in His sight;
Jesus loves the little children of the
world.

Children's Harp #20

Three families from our congregation have been entrusted with precious children sent from Heaven. A very special daughter, Kiersten Dawn, was born on August 13 and adopted into the home of Jason and Sis. Trela Knueven. Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Knoblock are the delighted grandparents. Aaron and Robyn Metzger, along with big brother Colt, welcomed Zane Gary on August 25. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Beth Metzger and

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda Wulf (Morris, MN). Marissa Lynn Mogler arrived on September 10 to bless the family of Perry and Jessica Mogler. Mallorie, Rier, Elise, Leah and grandparents, Bro. Howard and Sis. Lollie Mogler, are excited for another precious girl to love. May these dear families feel the nearness of God as they experience the challenges and joys of parenting.

Visiting ministers this past month were: Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Ron Jones (Portland, OR), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL). May God bless them as they share the gospel message.

Maggie Metzger (Bro. Mark and Sis. Audrey) and Carlie Landegent were united in marriage on September 3. We wish them God's blessings. Recently we heard the engagement of Ashley Hansen and Michael Leuthold (Bro. Bob and Sis. Cindy). May God be near them as they make plans for their wedding.

"Many are the afflictions of the righteous; but the Lord delivereth them out of them all."

Psalms 34:19

Many of our church family have been dealing with physical afflictions. Those recently hospitalized were: Sis. Estelle Leuthold, Sis. Rosalee Anderson (Bro. Matt), Cheri Leuthold (Collin), Ty Leuthold (Collin and Cheri) and Bro. Howard Mogler (Sis. Lollie).

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Bro. Verlyn Kellenberger. He passed away on September 7 at the age of 62 years. We are thankful Bro. Verlyn could be relieved of his pain and suffering. He leaves behind his dear wife, Sis.

Linda; children: Lonn and Jammie Kellenberger, Emily and Mike Rozeboom, Bro. Arlan and Sis. Katie Miller (Gridley, IL), and Adam and Erika Kellenberger; brothers: Bro. Dennis (Sis. Shirley), LeRoy (Lou), Calvin (Edna), Bro. Brad (Sis. Theresa) of Sabetha, KS, Bro. Curt (Sis. Martha) of Lamar, MO, and Ladell (Shelly) Kellenberger; sisters: Sis. Rosella (Bro. Bob) Metzger, Sis. Connie Bergstrom (Bro. Doug) of Minneapolis, MN, and Sis. Suzette Messner (Bro. Doug) of Minneapolis, MN; brother-in-law, Bro. Lynn Doorneweerd (Sis. Kathy), Sis. Lois Niemeyer (Bro. Ellsworth) and Lavonne Doorneweerd of Phoenix, AZ. Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA), Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) were here to provide words of comfort at the funeral service.

Notes of Thanks:

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all who remembered us during Bro. Eugene's illness and since his passing from this life to those Eternal shores. The prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, gifts, food and words of sympathy and love are appreciated and will long be remembered. It helped to endure the pain of cancer, and strengthens our faith to see the love and concern of so many. We pray that God will bless and reward each one for your efforts and time as only He can.

The family of Bro. Eugene Nester and Sis. Ruth Nester

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to each of you who remembered Sis. Twyla Bajema and family during her illness and her passing. Thank you for the prayers, cards, assistance, gifts and expressions of love and kindness you have

shown our family during this time. May God bless each of you!

The family of Sis. Twyla Bajema

IOWA, OAKVILLE

Sharla Wiegand

“When pure and upright hearts, by flames of love ignited, are by the bonds of faith, more firmly yet united.”

(ZH #79)

Bro. Joel Hartman and Sis. Lanae Frank were united in holy matrimony on August 28. Their parents are Bro. John and Sis. Rosemary Hartman (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Frank. We will certainly miss Sis. Lanae and hope they come home often. We appreciated Bro. John Hartman having a part of the wedding service along with other visiting ministers, Bro. Paul Kilgus (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Phil Schulz (Burlington, IA).

On August 21, Bro. Beirne Messner (Morris, MN) proclaimed the Word to us.

Mark Hay and Christine Kuenzler were joined in marriage on September 3. Mark's parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Connie Hay.

Sis. Mildred Frank passed away September 10. May the Lord comfort her husband, Bro. Bob, and their children, Sis. Joyce and Bro. Brad Eland (Iowa City, IA); Bro. Dale and Sis. Tina; Lynn and Priscilla (Wichita, KS); and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Bonita (Cissna Park, IL).

IOWA, WEST BEND

Janet Fehr

Leona Fehr

This month has been one of joy and sorrow for our congregation. The scriptures instruct us to “Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.”

(Romans 12:15)

Our prayers are with all those who have experienced illness or sorrows as well as joys; and we are thankful for the times we can gather together in support of our brethren.

We rejoice with Bro. Greg and Sis. Denise Fehr as a new addition to their family circle arrived with the birth of Ross Daniel on August 18. Big brother, Cole, and sister, Maddie, as well as grandparents, Bro. Dan and Sis. Eunice Fehr and Bro. Ken and Sis. Janet Lanz (Oakville, IA), are thankful for this gift from above.

Worshipping with us this past month were several visiting ministers from across the land, including Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL), Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Becky, Lamar, MO), Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX), Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR), Bro. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA), Bro. Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Lamar, MO), Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Diane, Rockville, CT), Bro. Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL), Bro. Beirne Messner (Sis. Joyce, Morris, MN), Bro. Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda, Winthrop, MN), and Bro. Kent Getz (Elgin, IA). We thank these brothers for their labors.

Bidding a final farewell to two loved ones were Sis. Marilyn Banwart, Becky Banwart, and Sis. Kathy (Bro. Wayne) Fehr in the loss of their sister, Sis. Mary Koehl, and a short time later, a brother, Bro. Doug Koehl, both of Morris, MN. We extend our sympathies to Bro. Larry (Sis. Marvella) Wickman who lost a brother, Ron Wickman, on August 18. On September 1, we gathered together to support the grieving family of our friend, Eva Banwart. Laying to rest his dear mother, Florence Dahlhauser, who passed away Sep-

tember 8, was Bro. Ken (Sis. Ellen) Dahlhauser.

Several of our loved ones have been hospitalized this month. Sis. Judy (Bro. Dennis) Fehr and Ernie (Sis. Edith) Kellenberger were hospital patients. Ralph (Melanie) Bormann, Sis. Tammy (Bro. Cameron) Knobloch, and Portlind (Bro. Neal and Sis. Angie) Schmidt all had some type of surgery. May each one feel God's nearness in their life as they recover.

Our church was filled on Sunday, September 4, as Bro. Ben Braker (Bro. Roy and Sis. Judy, Lamar, MO) and Sis. Heidi Zaugg (Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie) were united in holy matrimony. We pray God's blessings be abundant as they adjust to this new life together in Him.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Carrie Ito

We have been enjoying the company of Sis. Manuela Denes from Detroit. She has moved to Tokyo and has taken a job with an international school as a librarian. Though Tokyo church will be her “home church”, we have been blessed by a few visits in Shioda as well. Please join us in praying for her smooth adjustment to life in Japan and that the Lord would use her for His glory here in Japan.

Rebecca Drete (Bro. Mike and Sis. Kathy) visited our church this month with the Klaus family. We are thankful for each and every visitor!

We will certainly miss periodic visits from Bro. Andrew, Sis. Jana, and their family. They have relocated to northeastern Japan for a time to assist with relief efforts. Our prayers go with them.

We are thankful for our convert, Kotaro Furuya's, safe return from America for a home stay there. He was very blessed by the fellowship of

many brethren there. Please pray for this young man and his future here in Japan. Though the only “young” person in our church, he is very dedicated to our church and to furthering the gospel.

JAPAN, TOKYO **Marie Inoue**

We had many reasons to thank the Lord this month with a visiting minister, several guests, and God’s protection from evil works.

We were so thankful that Bro. Akihiro Ito (Sis. Carrie) could spend a Sunday with us. Due to typhoons threatening which can bring landslides, the expressway to the Shioda church was closed for them, but opened in the direction of Tokyo where there are no mountains. We appreciated his ministry and the time they could be with us.

The ministry of God’s Word also came to us via the Brotherhood Conference CD’s for those of us who speak English. We appreciate the “whole counsel of God” given to us with Scripture passages and inspired Elder Brethren who taught us through them. May God richly bless them for the time and effort spent on our behalf.

Sis. Hannah Klaus spent the enjoyable summer with relatives and visiting churches in the U.S. Her cousin, Sis. Rebecca Drete, Washington, IL, returned home with her for a stay. It was a joy to have her here. Sis. Manuela Denes (Detroit, MI) has also arrived for a long stay as she has found employment here. We warmly welcome her and wish her the Lord’s guidance every day as she adjusts to a new land and culture. May the Lord also provide for her dear widowed mother, Sis. Sanche, while they are apart.

Our shut-in sisters are often in our prayers. On a Saturday the

young folks from Shioda and here gathered at Sis. Yoshiko’s home to sing for her. I heard it was a joy for all.

It was a privilege to pray for our Ixtlan brethren recently as they suffered from the terrible threat of evil doers. What a comfort it must have been to have the prayers of the entire brotherhood and many others ascend to the throne of God for them, and what a lesson it is for us to be so united in the Lord, that when the storms and trials of life come our way, we can lean on the prayers of the brethren. We pray for ongoing peace for Ixtlan and also for the evil doers that they can realize their evil works.

Last, but surely not least, we mention the relocation of the Klaus family. They have chosen to move to northern Japan to help with relief work/needs stemming from the March earthquake. We will miss them and send our love and many prayers with them. May God guide and keep them all in His tender care.

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

We rejoice with Leigha Rokey (Bro. Dwight and Sis. Anita), as she has found the peace that passeth all understanding and desires baptism in the near future.

“Meet today and part tomorrow, smiles of joy and tears of sorrow; such is human life...”

Hymns of Zion #53

We extend a warm welcome to some new faces who will be assembling with us. Bros. Tyler and Dallas Haerr are living in Manhattan, KS, to work and to attend Kansas State University and are gathering with us on weekends. Bro. Phil Rassi has

been transferred to Omaha, NE, and also joins us for worship. Guillaume de Monclim (France) and Gino Zavalloni (Switzerland) are foreign exchange students living with Bro. Jay and Sis. Heidi Baumgartner.

As we welcome some, we bid farewell to others. Bro. Nathan Plattner (Bro. Carroll and Roberta) has accepted a job in IL, and plans to assemble with the Bradford congregation. Our prayers are with him as he follows the Lord’s leading in his life.

We will miss Sis. Katie Grimm as the Lord took her suddenly on August 24. Prayers and sympathy are extended to her two daughters, Mary (John) Stamm and Martha (Ross) Montgomery and her three grandchildren.

Sis. Maretta Rokey was called from this life on September 16. We are thankful for the opportunity to know her since her move from the AC Handicapped Home in 2005. Our sympathy is extended to her brother, Bro. Allen (Sis. Glenda) Rokey and their family.

Congratulations to Kevin Rokey (Bro. Morris and Sis. Arlinda) and Lisa Cross, who were married in the Kansas City area on September 17.

We are grateful for the labors of visiting ministers, Bro. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi, Wolcott) and Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata). May God bless them for their efforts.

Bro. Lester Hartter and Sis. Pearl Miller were hospital patients this month. We continue to pray for them as the Lord provides healing.

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

We are enjoying the first cool weather of fall and soon the hot days of summer will be a distant memory. While we are still dry, the Lord has blessed us with some scattered

showers which have kept the crops from completely burning up.

Bro. Thayer Banwart has left to attend chiropractic college in the St. Louis area. We wish him God's blessings in his studies and hope he will come back to visit us often.

Visiting minister this month was Bro. Brandon Emch (Sis. Maria, Kansas City, MO). Sis. Maria is the daughter of Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein, who was a long time writer for the Silver Lining.

The same Sunday, the Fort Scott congregation hosted the annual joint picnic with the Kansas City church. It is always interesting to fellowship with the brethren from Kansas City and meet those who have moved in the past year. The new highway makes it a short trip between our two congregations. An enjoyable and blessed time was had by everyone who attended.

We were further blessed with the visit of Sis. Hazel Geyer from Peoria, IL. She was here to visit her relatives.

KANSAS, KIOWA
Janice Bahr
Jenny Stewart

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord, and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of thy youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them.”

Psalm 127:3-5

How thankful we are to God for our children. The Bible speaks so often about the love Jesus had for the children, and how we all must become as a child to enter the kingdom of heaven. If you have ever taught a Sunday School class, their trust, joy, faith and love for the Lord is so uplifting, and to hear them pray to Je-

sus with that fervent simplicity is something to be treasured. Sometimes, I've wished that the entire church could listen to their precious children. So lift them up to God, loved ones. As they go to grade school, junior high, high school, college, out into the world to start a new life, keep them lifted up that as Psalm 34:7 states: “The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.” We need them to remind us of what we need to achieve to please God, and they need us to pray.

We had a back to school camping picnic one Friday evening and Saturday this past month. There were about 46 of us there, and we had an enjoyable time of fellowship.

Our High School Bible Class traveled to Sabetha, KS, for a weekend of Sunday School fellowship in September. We truly appreciate the time and effort the churches show in bringing our youth together for Christian gatherings.

“But whoso hath this world's good and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.”

1 John 3:17-18

Bro. Matt and Sis. Kaitlyn Kaeb (Sabetha, KS) were with us one Saturday evening, and Sunday morning in September. They shared their photos and videos of a trip they took in April to Tanzania to view the MCC work projects. The presentation touched our hearts in various ways: The people have so little, but are a singing happy people, and willingly share what they have with others (are we content with what we have without complaint?). They learn of

Jesus, not by just preaching of the Gospel, but by those who live and work amongst them and walk the walk of Christ and talk the talk of Christ, thus showing by example what it is to live for Jesus. And the people come to know him, too. There is work out there, loved ones, in the States and overseas, anywhere there is need. We only have to be willing to put our hand to the plow and see what God would have us to do until He calls us Home.

KANSAS
LAMONT-GRIDLEY
Sarah Somerhalder

Our congregation was blessed with many visitors this month and we appreciate each one. We were thankful to have visiting ministers, Bro. Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla, St. Louis, MO), Bro. John Baumgartner (Sis. Lori, Bern, KS), Bro. Rex Frieden (Sis. Vera, Lamar, MO), and Bro. Jeff Bahr (Sis. Janice, Kiowa, KS) assemble with us. May the Lord bless them for their willingness in preaching the Word of Life.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Liseten Strahm who spent time in the hospital this month. She would like to thank everyone who remembered her in prayer.

KANSAS, SABETHA
Carrie Grimm
Sally Strahm

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

Psalm 100:4-5

Our hearts rejoice with Bro. Jesse

Hartter (Bro. James and Sis. Sandy) as he gave his testimony and was baptized into the fold the weekend of August 20-21. We were thankful to have Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS) with us to assist our Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell. Other ministers visiting were Bro. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi, Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Ron Isch (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS).

The engagement of Sis. Emily Strahm (Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen) to Bro. Jacob Farney (Bro. John Farney and Matie Zehr) of Croghan-Naumburg, NY, was made known to our congregation. Our prayers will be with them during this time of change in their lives. We wish them God's blessings.

We extend our heartfelt love and sympathy to dear ones in our congregation who have lost loved ones. Sis. Beth Hartter (Bro. Dennis) bid an earthly farewell to her sister, Sis. Twyla Bajema (Elder Bro. Rod) of the Lester, IA, congregation. Bro. Brad Kellenberger (Sis. Teresa) said an earthly farewell to his brother, Bro. Verlyn Kellenberger (Sis. Linda) also of the Lester, IA, congregation. Sis. Lois Grimm and Sis. Irene Lehman likewise bid farewell to their sister-in-law, Sis. Katie Grimm of the Bern, KS, congregation. Bro. Steven Brownlee (Sis. Selena) laid to rest his father, Jim Brownlee. May God comfort the hearts of each one.

Our hospital patients this month were Sis. Erma Wenger (LaVon), Janice Young (Roger) and Bro. Harvey Wenger (Sis. Arleta). May God grant them healing and strength.

We wish God's blessing upon Sis. Lena Hartter (Bro. David and Sis. Beth) as she has graduated from Nursing School and will begin a new job.

As we listen to the Conference tapes, may we take heed to the warnings and spiritual teachings our Elder brethren lay to our hearts.

Our Senior Bible Sunday School class invited guests the weekend of September 10-11. Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose) of the West Bend, IA, congregation spoke to the Sunday School throughout the weekend. We appreciated Bro. Wayne bringing forth the Word of God on Sunday.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Another soul from our small congregation was called to his eternal reward. Dwaine Reeves, age 79, died September 9. His wife, Sis. Rose Ann, was at her brother-in-law's funeral when a call from the nursing facility where her husband was being cared for told her that Dwaine was near death. The brothers were twins. Dwaine and Rose Ann (Freiden) had two daughters, Ann Newby and Sandy Smith, and a son, Ron Reeves. Three grandchildren also survive.

Our September visiting minister was Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL). Also that day, Bro. Ron and Sis. Lois Allenbach from Kiowa and Bro. Ernie and Sis. Mary Wiegler from Michigan met each other in Wichita. They did not come for the purpose of meeting me, but I was thrilled to remember Sis. Mary as one of my former third grade students in Kiowa. That was a good number of years ago.

We are rejoicing because our part of Kansas had a one-fourth inch of rain for two nights in a row.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Barb Huber

"...My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."

II Cor. 12:9

In our weaknesses, He is able to perfect us. We rejoice that we can be partakers of Christ's sufferings and also of His grace. We have been richly blessed and very thankful for the ministry of God's Holy Word brought forth through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and labors of Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH), Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL), Bro. Bob Dotterer (Sis. Laura, Sardis, OH), Bro. Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon, Francesville, IN), and Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL). May the Lord bless you all is our prayer. It is always humbling to us as we experience and witness the love of God shared through the brethren and friends who come to fellowship and support the minister rotation. We feel unworthy.

Other visitors were represented from Bradford, Champaign, Chicago, Eureka, IL; Bluffton, IN; Akron, Junction, Latty, and Rittman, OH.

Christian fellowship is truly a blessing and encouragement. We continue to extend a warm welcome to all who may be in our area or travelling through to worship with us. You may contact Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541. Church services are held at 3938 Becknerville Rd., Winchester, KY. Directions to the church are in the 2010 minister's book.

MEXICO, IXTLAN
Matt Gerber

“Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.”

Ephesians 3:20-21

Many brethren from congregations all over the U.S. have been praying fervently for Mexico and for the situations here in Ixtlan. We appreciate each of your prayers and are confident that they do make a difference as God carries out His will and His mission in answer to His people's prayers. Thank you for standing with us in prayer, that the gospel of Christ can go forth in power and souls can be rescued from sin and darkness, and that the church can grow in grace and shine forth as a light in the darkness.

Elder Bro. Bill and Sis. Emmy Schlatter (Junction, OH) were an encouragement to their family and to the church family during the week they visited.

We share in the sorrow of our Sis. Lidia MagaZa, whose 17-year old grandson, Chuy, died from head injuries suffered in a bicycle accident. Please pray for comfort for her and the family, and that the family members who are not converted could seek the Lord in repentance.

We still have no news on the AviZa family members who have been missing. Please continue to pray for the family and for the captors, as Jesus taught us to pray for our enemies (Mt. 5:44). If anyone would like to send a word of prayer or encouragement to the family, your message can be translated and given

to them. Letters can be sent to the church address, and emails can be sent to ixtlanchurch@gmail.com.

MICHIGAN, ALTO
Listyn Oesch
Melissa Blough

Blessings come in all shapes and sizes and here in Alto this past month we have seen just that. Two families moved to the area. Bro. Aaron and Sis. Rebekah Plattner with their son Titus, and Bro. Matt, Sis. Janell Steidinger and their children. Also Bryce Westfall (Chicago, IL) is joining us as he attends college in the area. Our congregation is thankful God has directed them here and we pray they find themselves at home.

Blessings come in the form of visitors as well. We are thankful for the brethren who stopped during their travels, including ministering Bros. Arlen Leman (Sis. Denise, Forrest IL), Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth, Wolcott, IN), Dennis Kaufmann (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington, IL), Scott Schafer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN), Bill Waibel (Sis. Carol, Bay City, MI), Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo, Leo, IN), and Ken Schneider (Sis. Bernice, Remington, IN).

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

Acts 2:38

Our congregation witnessed the proving and baptism of Loren Kaeb (Bro. Curt and Sis. Luanne). Words cannot describe the joy we feel to welcome another soul into the family of God.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY
Sarah Knochel
Janelle Ramseyer

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;”

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Bro. Robert Knochel as he passed away on September 15. His children are Sis. Barb, Sis. Sandi, Glenn (Joy), Carolyn (Lee Schamback) and Jane (Randy) Wackerle. We also want to remember his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and his sisters, Sis. Nina Wieland and Sis. Lois Wieland.

Our prayers are with the family of Sis. Marian Knochel as she passed away on September 18. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Floyd; and her nine children: Gary (Cindy), Judith, Janice (Garven) Huntley, Sis. Maureen (Robert) Weiss, Sis. Yvonne Arnold, Joyce (Gerard) McNally, Luanne (Ronald) Mannor, Bro. Tom Knochel, and Brenda (James) Wrzesinski. Sis. Marian also was survived by a sister, Sis. Leanore Knochel, and 22 grandchildren and 40 great and great-great grandchildren.

Both Bro. Robert and Sis. Marian were strong pillars in our congregation and will be greatly missed. We are thankful that each of them were relieved of their earthly sickness and struggle.

Jennifer Curtis and Sis. Alice Mehl both spent time in the hospital recently. We trust the blessing of healing will rest with each of these dear ones.

We have had the blessing of two

visiting ministers over the last few weeks. Bro. Jesse Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie, Detroit, MI) and Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) each shared the Gospel message with our congregation. Bro. Jesse also shared his Sunday morning with our Sunday School students. We are thankful that these brothers are willing to be used of the Lord.

We recently finished listening to the recordings from the annual Brotherhood Conference. Each evening was filled with meaningful encouragement and exhortation for our life.

May God's richest blessings be with each one in the coming days.

"In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;"

Titus 1:2

MICHIGAN, DETROIT Kay Rauhe

When through the woods and forest
glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in
the trees;
When I look down from lofty moun-
tain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gen-
tle breeze;
Then sings my soul, my Savior God,
to Thee;
How great Thou art, How great Thou
art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God,
to Thee;
How great Thou art, How great Thou
art!

Hymns of Zion #302

As we are all finishing our summer vacations and getting into a routine with school beginning, this song seemed to sum up best what we all had a pleasure of seeing —whether you were at an exotic location or in

your backyard — our Lord is so awesome and His creation is so great, just like He is! As our children go back to school, we pray that the Lord blesses them with His care and protection. Special prayers and blessings to Sis. Kristi Baran (Craig and Sis. Pat), Kyra Johnson (Sis. Barb), Brooke Knochel (Bro. Dana and Sis. Beth), Katie Lanski (Todd and Sis. Melinda), Katherine Maibach (Bro. Doug and Carole), and Amanda Williams (Paxton and Denise) as they are studying away from home.

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives,"

Luke 4:18

We joyously welcomed Bro. Nathan and Sis. Rachel Mueller and their four children, Kaine, Halle, Layla, and Daisy, to our congregation from Leo, IN. They are living in Jackson, MI, while they study translations to become overseas missionaries to help people accept what Christ had done for them by dying on the cross. We're so happy that they will be worshipping with us and sincerely hope that they feel the love of God's nearness as they worship and fellowship with us.

"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make His face shine upon thee; and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace."

Numbers 6: 24-26

Megan Marie Rauhe was born on August 29 to happy and thankful parents, Bro. Jason and Sis. Carrie Rauhe. She was welcomed home

with kisses and hugs by Tyler, Stephanie, Trevor, Joshua, and Amber. Excited grandparents are Bro. Cloyce and Sis. Carol Gress and Bro. Warren and Sis. Kay Rauhe. All good things come from God, and a baby is His specialty!

The annual Labor Day Father and Child Campout held on Friday, September 2, included dinner, devotions, singing, a flashlight hike, and overnight and then Saturday morning concluded with a yummy breakfast. It's always a fun and wonderful experience filled with blessings and memories.

We were encouraged to keep praying and remembering our congregation in Austin/Bastrop, TX as they are recovering from recent raging fires and for our congregation in Ixtlan, MX where their peace and freedom of worship has been threatened. "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." (Jeremiah 29:11)

We would like to say a warm and heart-felt thank you to ladies of our church who take time out of their busy schedules to meet and make sandwiches for those in need and use their talents to sew blankets and comforters. The Lord will surely bless them for their kind deeds.

Our heart-felt thanks to visiting ministering Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) for preaching September 13 to the residents of Woodhaven. We were blessed to have his wife, Sis. Sharon, and Bro. Brian and Sis. Char Wieland join us. We would also like to convey a special thank you to visiting ministering Bro. Dan Koch (Sis. Julie; Tremont, IL) for sharing the Word with us. It was wonderful having all of you with us and please come back whenever possible. We sincerely appreciate

their willingness to “serve the Lord with gladness.” (Psalm 100:2)

Our deepest sympathy, continued prayers, and love to two nephews, Bro. Dana Knochel (Sis. Beth) and Mark Wieland (Joy), on the death of their uncle, Bro. Robert Knochel (late Sis. Marian) of Bay City, MI. Sis. Nina Wieland, now living at Woodhaven Retirement Community in Livonia, MI, and Sis. Lois Wieland of Bay City are missing their brother and are the only surviving siblings left in a family of nine. May Bro. Tom Knochel feel the Lord’s presence and know the gentle comfort of His healing touch as he mourns the death of his mother, Sis. Marian Knochel (Bro. Floyd) of Bay City. May they find strength in His presence and comfort in His love. “Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.” (Psalm 3:4)

“Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.”

II Timothy 2:22

Visiting ministering Bro. Joe Sprunger (Sis. Tara; Indianapolis, IN) preached on this topic the morning of September 18 which was very relevant to all of us but also to the precious students who were listening and pondering these words while visiting us for Michigan Youth Day. It was such a blessing to have our church filled with so many wonderful young adults from Bay City, Alto, Leo, and our Detroit congregation as their voices blended with ours which made the singing sound so joyous! A warm and heart-felt thank you to everyone who came and who helped with everything on this end! It was a fun weekend and a chance for our future church to be together in a wholesome environment.

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

I John 4:12

**MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS
Tim McMillan**

We began September reading I Chron. 10:13. “So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the Lord, even against the word of the Lord, which he kept not.” Some say that the Word of God is a guidepost in how to live a good life. As is shown in this scripture, it is much more than a guidepost, but the Word is life itself. When we depart from the Word, we depart from life itself and step towards sure death. As Saul died in his departure from the Word, so will everyone else, as God has shown. Pray we all live according to the Word and not our own belief.

We are thankful for those who visited us to share the teaching of God’s Word. Bro. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin IA) and Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL). May the Lord bless them in their work that they may teach only His ways for many years to come.

The children resumed their studies in Sunday school this month. It is a pleasure to see so many children in the church every week. Watching them grow with the hope that what they learn will bring them to the Lord when they choose how to live as adults is a great pleasure in life. May it be the Lord’s will we see them all baptized in Christ’s name.

We mourn with Sisters Sue Messner (Bro. Doug) and Connie Bergstrom (Bro. Doug), in the loss of their brother, Bro. Verlyn Kellenberger. May he be at rest awaiting the day of awakening!

We welcome Anna Furrer

(daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Jill Furrer, Morris, MN) as she joins us in worship here in the Cities. We are also blessed with a visiting exchange student, Doruk Tuncel from Smyrna (Izmir), Turkey, who will be staying with the Dill family (Bro. Dewayne and Sis. LaRae). While we have the opportunity to learn from firsthand experience about the culture of Turkey, may it be that we can all be a good teacher of our homeland in Heaven.

Blessed are those whom the Lord finds watching.

In His glory they shall share.

If He shall come at the dawn or midnight,

will He find us watching there?

Gospel Hymns # 659, vs. 4

**MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Kim Feuchtenberger
Susie Wulf**

We had three funerals this month which brought some visiting ministers. Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL) and Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA) were with us on one Sunday. Also visiting our congregation this month was Bro. John Rassi (Sis. Heather, Tremont, IL) and Bro. Garry Bucher (Sis. Lois, Valparaiso, IN). Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL) was in Morris for the funeral of Sis. Mary Koehl. Sis. Mary passed away on August 19. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Jacob Koehl, and one son, Joe (Angie), and three grandsons, Jacob, Jared and James Koehl, all of Hancock, MN. Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Becky, Lamar, MO) was in Morris for the funeral of Bernice Luthi. Bernice passed away on September 1. Bernice is survived by her children, Carol Richter, Rita Bye, Daniel and Daryl Luthi. We are very thankful

that in her late hour of life Bernice could turn unto the Lord in repentance. Also passing away on September 1 was Bro. Douglas Koehl. Bro. Doug is survived by his wife, Sis. Maxine. We pray God will grant comfort and direction to the remaining family members as they grieve their loss.

We are thankful for Erica Domnick (Bro. Jim and Sis. Penny) as she has begun upon the way of repentance. "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)

Bro. Kenny Feuchtenberger and Sis. Violet Wulf have spent time in the hospital. May we continue to lift up our ailing ones in prayer. God alone is the Great Physician and He knows what is best. May God grant each one of us grace to desire His will and not our own.

Note of Thanks:

We want to extend our heart-felt gratitude to all who shared in our loss. Thank you for your encouragement, care, and gifts of love.

The Family of Doug Koehl

**MINNESOTA, MORRIS
NORTH**

**Wanda Gramm
Lois Schmidgall**

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus!

Fall is here! It is such a beautiful time of the year, when God changes the canvas into colors that are so vibrant and lovely. We sure have much to be thankful for.

Summer with all its beauty and busyness has come to a close. Fall brings a whole new chapter... children starting school, students starting or going back to college, farmers

bringing in the harvest, business people gearing up for the holidays. Let's focus on the cross through all of our busyness, and not forget to pray for each other and our families.

Our congregation was blessed in breaking of the bread and drinking of the wine during our Communion service. Elder Bro. Paul Messner and Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) were with us. We so need to be refreshed and look forward to the time when we will have Communion with our Lord in Heaven. We appreciate the love and efforts that these Brothers have put forth and wish them God's blessings.

Other visiting Brothers for this month include: Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL) and Bro. Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth, Lester, IA). Thank you for giving of yourselves for the furthering of the Word of God. We also appreciate all of our visitors who assembled with us during this past month.

We are so thankful that a large group was able to give their time, along with others from the community, in packaging food for the organization "Feed My Starving Children". Seems such a small thing that we can do, but we pray that those efforts will be blessed and bring help to those who are in need.

Our church has been listening to the Conference tapes on Wednesday evenings. We thank God for the brethren who so diligently watch out for us. "Lord, help us to not be just hearers of the Word, but doers also."

Sunday School has started after the summer break. Its so exciting to see those little faces as they look forward to going to their class. May the teachers feel our prayers that God's truths can be planted in those little hearts. The Sunday School and their families enjoyed a bonfire, hay rides, singing and fun at Bro. Doug and Sis.

Dawn Moser's house the first Sunday of Sunday school.

Another group of Crown Financial has been started. It sure has been a blessing for those of us who went through the study last year.

We are enjoying working together in preparation for our Harvest Supper and once again would extend an invitation to any of you to come and join us.

"But let all those that put their trust in Thee rejoice: Let them ever shout for joy, because Thou defendest them; let them also that love Thy name be joyful in Thee."

Psalms 5:11

**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP
Lindsay Schmidt
Heather Steiner**

"And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward."

Matthew 10:42

We rejoice with Sis. CarolAnn Messner with the addition of a new grandchild. Jamie and Jodi Pelzel and family (Minneapolis, MN) traveled to Korea this summer to bring home their adopted daughter, Hanna. Little Hanna will enjoy her older siblings, Lucy, Jack, Eleanor, and Sam.

We appreciate the efforts of Bro. Joe Dotterer (Sis. Rose, Bloomfield) and Bro. Darrin Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend) as they labored from the pulpit on our behalf. May God bless you eternally for your efforts.

We're thankful that our surgical patients this month, Sis. Verna Bruns and McKenzie Elder (Bro. John and Sis. Joleen), are receiving God's powers of healing. We pray

they continue to recover well.

Our prayers are with Bro. Bill and Sis. Marilyn Messner with the unexpected loss of her daughter, Debra Halvorson. May God grant comfort to this family.

“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

Isaiah 55:9

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY **Brittany Fehr**

May God bless Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Glen Funk (Sis. Sally, Wichita, KS) who were our visiting ministers this month. We appreciate their efforts on our behalf. We would also like to thank the church in Fort Scott, KS, for hosting us for the annual Sunday School picnic.

MISSOURI, LAMAR **Venetta Banwart** **Rebecca Dotterer**

We rejoice with our convert, Audrey Luthi (Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jodi), as she was announced for peace, and is looking forward to baptism.

Several from Lamar traveled to West Bend, IA, to witness the marriage of Bro. Ben Braker (Bro. Roy and Sis. Judy) to Sis. Heidi Zaugg (Bro. Pat and Sis. Julie). We welcome Sis. Heidi to our congregation, and wish them the Lord's blessings on their new life together.

Visiting ministers this month included Bros. Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), Glen Braker (Princeville, IL), and Brad Strahm (Bern, KS).

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Curt and Sis. Martha Kellenberger as they mourn the passing away of his brother, Bro. Verlyn (Sis. Linda) from Lester, IA. May God comfort

them and their families.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS **Kary Mangers**

Our congregation has not quite accepted the end of the summer travel season. It is quite the reunion when most of us are in St. Louis on the same Sunday! We thank Bro. Ted and Sis. Donna Witzig (Morton) and their family for serving us for the August rotation. In addition to serving us from the pulpit, Bro. Ted gave a presentation on The Christian Worldview on Saturday night. We were challenged and reminded to know why we believe what we do based on God's Word since we are in, but not of, the world every day. Thank you also to our counseling Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan Heimer (Taylor) for coming and spending time with us. Bro. Kent gave us an overview of the Brotherhood Conference on a Sunday afternoon.

Our congratulations and prayers go out to Clint and Lori Schambach and big brother Andon on the arrival of Devon Kenneth born August 29. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Jeanne Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Ken and Ruth Hambleton of Woodlawn, IL.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR **Melissa Reinman**

The time of harvest is now upon us! Let us not forget the harvesting of souls for Jesus Christ. Jesus called us all to be followers of Him and to be fishers of men. He gives us the privilege to plant and water, and then He adds the increase.

Remember that there is no “trick or treating” with God, but that He is the TRUTH! God will never lie to you or try to trick you in any way like the devil will try to. God is so faithful and kind! We would like to thank El-

der Bro. John Laukhuf (Sis. Marcia, Latty, OH), Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Debra, Peoria, IL), and Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL). Thank you for your willingness to come to Taylor and preach to this body, Christ's Word. Bro. John reminded everyone about the tragedy of 9/11 and how quickly we can be called home to our Heavenly Father! The question “Are you ready to meet God?” definitely fit in with his message and touched my heart as well. It made me look back on my life as a Christian and see if my life is still leading to Him or if I have strayed a little from the path that He has laid out for me.

It was a time of joyful celebration as we celebrated the baptisms of Sis. Annalynn Knochel (Bro. Eric and Sis. Penny), Bro. Cole Sutter (Bro. Rich and Sis. Kay), Bro. Zach Sutter (Bro. Jim and Chris), and Sis. Tinsley Tuley (Ed and Kathy, Philadelphia, MO). We welcome them as new brothers and sisters in Christ! We know that their wonderful gifts will be used within the church body to magnify Christ! Thank you to Bro. Randy Mogler (Sis. Evie, Washington, IL) and Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN) for helping with the baptisms and the messages on that beautiful Sunday.

We are so excited to announce the engagement of Bro. Josh Furrer (Bro. Troy and Sis. Lisa, Wolcott, IN) to Sis. Jennifer Rassi (Bro. Gary and Sis. Deb, Morton, IL)! We hope that their future marriage will be blest and that their relationship will be filled with God's love.

We had two people in the hospital this month, Jackson Stratton and Sis. Charlene Sutter. We are thankful that they are home now and feeling better.

**NEW YORK
CROGHAN-NAUMBURG
Hope Graves**

We have had the opportunity to listen to the Conference recordings over the past two Sunday and Wednesday evenings. It has been a blessed time to sit quietly together and listen to the inspirations from the Holy Spirit. May the Lord bless the Word in our lives and the many brethren that tirelessly work together to make the Conference a reality each year.

Our prayers extend out to Sis. Rachel Snyder and Sis. Celia Virkler who are both in the hospital at this time. We ask the Lord to heal them so they may return home and again assemble with us.

We are happy to announce the engagement of our Bro. Jacob Farney to Sis. Emily Strahm from Sabetha, KS. Bro. Jacob is the son of Bro. John Farney and Matie Zehr. Sis. Emily is the daughter of Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen Strahm. We wish this couple the Lord's blessings as they prepare for their marriage on October 16.

**OHIO, AKRON
Erika Gal**

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

Romans 12:15

This precious verse is so often repeated, and yet it never grows old. We are rejoicing with the families of three precious newborns. Bro. Mark and Sis. Megan Steidl were blessed with little Maverick Kenneth on September 6. He is welcomed home by his big brother, Conner. His grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Nan Steidl and Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol Rupp (Rittman). On September 16, Kurt and Kerrie Steidl had

their second son, Tanner Macrae. His big brother is Carson, and his grandparents are Bro. Les and Sis. Judi Steidl. Titus Rowen joined the family of Bro. Ted, Sis. Anna, Alaina, and Christian Gherian on September 28. His grandparents are Sis. Sharon Gherian and Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy Schar (Rittman). We also rejoice with Bro. Greg and Sis. Kristina Gasser of Junction on the birth of their little Aubrey Lauren on September 27. Her grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Nan Steidl and Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser (Junction). We pray for God's blessings and protection for each of these dear babies and their families.

Amidst our rejoicing, our hearts are weeping with our dear Bro. Doug and Sis. Maria Demiter in the loss of their precious little Nicholas Andrew. He was stillborn on September 16. His older siblings are Preston, Alexis, and Tessa. His grandparents are Bro. Andrew and Sis. Vera Demrovsky and John and Erika Demiter.

We also wish to extend our love and sympathy to our Sis. Martha Palitto in the loss of her brother, Albert Oberdove.

Our heartfelt thanks are extended to Bro. Greg Braker (Sis. Wendy, Lamar, MO) for his labors of love for us.

**OHIO, COLUMBUS
Esther Saurer**

We would like to welcome all of our college students back to Columbus for the school year! It is such a blessing to have them worship with us and we hope to see them often.

Elder Bro. Mark and Sis. Jeannine Masters (Mansfield, OH) spent a Sunday with us. We were thankful to have them with us for the day. Elder Bro. Dan and Sis. Jenna Kilgus (Remington, IN) and Bro.

Don and Sis. Nan Steidl (Akron, OH) were visiting ministers in September.

**OHIO, JUNCTION
Vicki Boroff**

Our congregation was blessed with a baby this month. Aubrey Lauren was born on September 27, to first time parents, Bro. Greg and Sis. Christina Gasser. Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser, and Bro. Don and Sis. Nan Steidl (Akron).

We were thankful to hear that Kevin Manz (Bro. Les and Sis. Karen) has answered the call to repentance. Our prayers go out on Kevin's behalf that he can feel God's grace as he begins his new path of life.

Hospital patients this month were Katie Hurd (Shawn), Grace Reynolds, Bro. Rex Boroff II (Sis. Vicki), and Bro. Pete Hurd (Sis. Helen). Thankfully, many prayers have been raised on their behalf.

Our prayers go out to the family and friends of Grace Reynolds, who passed away this month. Also, Bro. Rex Boroff's (Sis. Vicki) dad, Rex, passed away while Bro. Rex was in the hospital.

Note of Thanks:

As I was driving this week, I saw a full rainbow. As we know, it takes rain to make a rainbow, and I had to think that while we've had plenty of rain in our family this past month, we've been blessed.

Words cannot express the depth of our gratitude and appreciation for the visits, love shown to us, kind words of encouragement, food, money, care for our son Remington, and especially the prayers lifted on our behalf during the past month while my sister Katie was hospitalized, Bro. Rex was hospitalized, our son was ill, and Bro. Rex's dad passed

away.

We are deeply humbled by the level of love shown to us, and ask for continued prayers as Bro. Rex continues the healing process.

Many thanks, again – more than we can express.

Bro. Rex, Sis. Vicki and Remington Boroff

OHIO, LATTY
Carmen Eisenmann
Mindy Stoller

We are so thankful for those who gave of themselves to us this month in the ministry. We want to sincerely thank Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI) and Bro. Mike Walder (Sis. Susie, Smithville, OH). We continue to lift our ministers and Elders up in prayer as they deal with the issues of today and lend of themselves to the church. May they always feel our love and prayers.

OHIO, MANSFIELD
Tami Griffey

We were blessed with three visiting ministers recently: Bro. Matthew Manz (Sis. Deanna, Toledo, OH); Bro. Tim Ramsier (Sis. Jonell, Rittman, OH); and Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH). May God bless their labors of love on our behalf.

Our prayers are with Sis. Lucy Baumann and her family as she recovers from surgery. May God's love and comfort help them through these health challenges.

We enjoyed the Gateway Woods presentation and visit from Bro. Tim Sauder (Sis. Jenny), Leo, IN, on September 10. May God bless each life being touched and changed through the love of Jesus and the many willing servants who labor in this important ministry.

We rejoice with Dan and Sis. Barb

Tucker whose son, Bro. Luke Tucker (Toledo, OH), was married to Sis. Shari Harmon (Toledo, OH) on September 18. May God bless their marriage in the Lord.

Whatever you are facing during the changing seasons of life, may you find comfort in the verse: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Philippians 4:13

OHIO, RITTMAN
Jenny Rupp
Marge Stoller

"But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him, and His righteousness unto children's children."

Psalm 103:17

On August 16, Allison Mim joined the family of Bro. Ken and Sis. Brenda Gasser. Her sister, Jenna, is happy for a little sister. Grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Marian Stoller and Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ellen Gasser. Bro. Ryan and Sis. Coleen Gasser became first-time parents on August 19 when Lela Jane came into their family. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Gasser and maternal grandparents are Bro. Andy and Sis. Vera Demrovsky (Akron). Bro. Tim and Sis. Crystal Zollinger welcomed a new little son, Stewart Edward, on September 8. Siblings, Ashlie and Sawyer, are happy for a future playmate. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorie Riegenbach and Bro. Ken and Sis. Becky Zollinger (Smithville). Jenna Paige Avery came to bless the family of Jordan, Abby and little Maycie on September 13. Happy grandparents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Karen Beery. Bro. Mark and Sis. Megan and little Conner Steidl welcomed a new little

boy, Maverick Kenneth, in their family on September 6. The blessed grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol Rupp and Bro. Don and Sis. Nan Steidl (Akron). May God bless these precious babies and their dear families.

We are so thankful to report two new converts, Reid Beery (Bro. Earl and Sis. Susie) and Amber Sayre (John and Carol). We wish them much grace as they truly seek their soul's salvation.

At this time, we are hearing Conference CD's from the Brotherhood Conference held in Forrest, IL. May our hearts be open to receive both encouragement and admonishment.

On the weekend of August 20-21, Elder Bro. Duane Farney (Croghan-Naumburg, NY) and Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville) assisted our Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler to add a new sister and two new brothers to the fold. Sis. Jill Dotterer (Bro. Rick and Sis. Dawn), Bro. Jerney Steiner (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Jill), and Bro. Eric Zollinger (Bro. Norman and Sis. Betty) are so welcome in our congregation. We surely wish them God's blessings as they seek to serve Him.

Our hospital patient this month was Sis. Ellen Daw (Thomas). We want to keep her and others who are recovering at home in our prayers.

On August 24, we put two new Brothers into the ministry. They are Bro. Wayne Hartzler (Sis. Camille) and Bro. Bob Riegenbach (Sis. Lorie). The Brothers have already made a beginning and we can feel the Spirit working.

Others visiting on our pulpit this past month were Elder Bros. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Gary Sinn (Latty, OH) and Bro. Todd Graf (Akron, OH). May the Lord bless them for their labor in our behalf.

OHIO, SARDIS
Faith Beard

Ye of my blessed pilgrimage,
Dear and beloved companions,
Who have the precious privilege,
The Holy Ghost's communion,
God's blessings on you I acclaim,
And greet you in the Saviour's name!
This is the wish from all my heart
For you, my loving comrades;
In our alliance may the Lord
Be felt in blessed nearness.
The power of His cross and blood
Unites us in true brotherhood.
Zion's Harp, #173

We have been blessed with the efforts of friends and family who traveled to be with us during our invite-a-guest weekend. Among our guests were ministering Bros. Earl Beery (Sis. Susie, Rittman, OH) and Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH). We thank them for their willingness to serve us on Sunday.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam Brake are thankful for the arrival of their newest grandson, Jonathan Alan, born September 14. Parents are Bro. Cliff and Sis. Gina Brake (Smithville, OH).

Sis. Terry Zollinger (Bro. Gary) and Malachi Blough (Bro. Alan and Sis. Renee) have both had a brief hospitalization, and we're thankful that they are gathering with us again.

Our Sunday School rotation coincides with the beginning of the school year, so the beginning of September marked the switch of our classes. Teachers finishing their terms were Bro. Milan Indermuhle, Bro. Seth Beard and Sis. Val Fisher. New teachers serving our children are Bro. Matt Brake, Bro. Garth Maibach and Sis. Renee Blough. As necessary as it is that a child has a standard education to serve their family and society as an adult, it

seems ironic that a child spends many times more hours with the school system than in the Sunday School where they learn about their eternal salvation. How important it is that the many aspects of their Christian education continue at all times in their family home!

OHIO, SMITHVILLE
Lydia Dotterer
Gina Brake

We appreciate having Sis. Helen Luginbuhl assembling with us since her move to this area earlier this year. We hope that she has felt and continues to feel our welcome.

Our prayers are with Sis. Shirley Klotzle (Bro. Bob) and Sis. Marge Zollinger (Bro. John) as they both had surgery recently. May God continue to be with them and provide healing.

Andrew Saurer announced his engagement to Lisa Gillespie this month. Andrew is the son of Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Saurer. We wish God's blessings on this couple as they prepare to start their lives together.

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

Prov. 22:6

We thank God for the safe arrival of many new babies in the past few weeks. Caleigh Elizabeth was born on August 1 to Steven and Alyson Steiner. Her grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue Steiner. August 18 was the birthdate of Chloe Elizabeth, who joined the home of Bro. Adam and Sis. Jeni and Elsa Henico. Bro. Bob and Sis. Shirley Klotzle and Bro. Greg and Sis. Sara Henico (Akron, OH) are her grandparents. Bro. Tom and Sis. Gretchen Stoller and Esther, Reuben, Amariah, Isaac,

and Tirzah also welcomed a new little girl, Terah Faith, on August 27. Her grandparents are Sis. Luella Stoller, and Bro. Rowen and Sis. Judy Schar (Rittman, OH). Stuart Edward was born September 8 to Bro. Tim and Sis. Crystal Zollinger, and joins siblings, Ashlie and Sawyer. Bro. Ken and Sis. Becky Zollinger and Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorie Rigggenbach (Rittman, OH) are his grandparents. September 13 was the birthdate of Rhett Lee, born to Bro. Jarin and Sis. Julie Tucker (Bluffton, IN). Bro. Jim and Sis. Karen Widmer are his grandparents from Smithville. Bro. Cliff and Sis. Gina Brake, Jayde, Lorelle, Collin, and Miles welcomed Jonathan Alan on September 14. His grandparents are Elder Bro. Andy and Sis. Roberta Stoller and Bro. Bill and Sis. Mim Brake (Sardis, OH).

OHIO, TOLEDO
Deanna Manz
Teresa Rywalski

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood."

Acts 20:28

Serving us on the pulpit this past month were Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit) and Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville). We thank these brothers for standing before us and feeding us from God's Word.

It was a nice Sunday when we hosted our annual college picnic for our students and their families. Among our visitors was Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction).

“Grace be to you and peace from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, Who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil world, according to the will of God and our Father: To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

Galatians 1:3-5

We were happy to hear that our convert, Joe Croy (Sis. Mary), has found this blessed peace. May he continue to feel this peace as he grows in the Lord.

On Sunday, September 18, we witnessed the wedding of our Sis. Shari Harmon (Bro. Doug and Sis. Lanna) to our Bro. Luke Tucker (Dan and Sis. Barb, Mansfield). Our prayers are that they will continue to look to their Heavenly Father as they begin this new walk of life together. Joining us for the wedding were Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction), Elder Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Sis. Ronda, Bluffton Country), Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield), Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis) and Bro. Curt Walter (Sis. Elizabeth, Mansfield).

OREGON, PORTLAND **Rebekah Jones**

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven;

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence and a time to speak;”

Ecclesiastes 3:1&7

Elder Bro. Art Metz (Sis. Betty) read a portion of Ecclesiastes 3 and made it known that it was his time to retire from the Eldership and the ministry. Although we were sad-

dened to learn of this decision, we are glad for him that he could feel a peace about retiring. We are so grateful for his selfless years of labor and service, and may the Lord richly bless him for his work. Elder Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane, Silverton, OR) was there that Sunday, and the Portland brethren confidently support him as our new Elder. We look forward to being led under his guidance as the Lord wills.

As well as Elder Bro. John’s visit to Portland, our other visiting minister was Bro. Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michelle, Silverton, OR).

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

“And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.”

I Corinthians 13:13

We rejoice with Sis. Betsy Dettwyler (Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene) and Bro. David Virkler (LaCrosse, IN), son of Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gayle Virkler, Congerville, IL, as they have announced their engagement recently. When we look to the Lord for guidance, there is peace and contentment resting in His promises. We look forward to their wedding on November 6.

Bro. Marshall Heinold (Sis. Jan, Ixtlan, MX) spent a weekend with us and we thank him for sharing his time and experiences. We were reminded of God’s blessings on those who follow Him and His word, no matter where He may lead us. We wish Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan the Lord’s protection in their home in Mexico, as they are not assured the peace and safety that we take for granted here in the US. “In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust;” (Psalm

31:1)

Our single group enjoyed many visitors from various churches over Labor Day Weekend. We are so blessed in our faith to have the fellowship we enjoy and the freedom to travel across the country. May we never take this for granted.

Sis. Janet Kuenzi (late Bro. Lee) suffered a fall and broke her ankle. We are glad to see her back in church and wish her a complete recovery.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE **Mike and Monica Fritz**

We are so thankful for the strengthening we have received through the ministry of the Word by our recent visitors: Bros. Michael Wagenbach (Sis. Erica; Wolcott, IN), Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol; Gridley, IL), Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal; Detroit, MI), and Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally; Washington, IL). We have also been encouraged by the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Bradford, Cissna Park, Eureka, Fairbury, Gridley, and Washington, IL; LaCrosse and Wolcott, IN; Detroit, MI; and Mansfield, OH.

If you are traveling to or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Bluffton, IN (10/23); Bradford, IL (10/30); Junction, OH (11/6); Remington, IN (11/13); Sabetha, KS (11/20); and Latty, OH (11/27). If you plan to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Often we gather on Saturday evenings for fellowship, and all are heartily welcome. Also, we typically meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. for singing or call-in services and would welcome any midweek visitors. Contacts are Bro. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder, (615) 373-8928; Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz, (615)866-5543 (fritzmb.fam-

ily@gmail.com); and Sis. Gwen Leuthold, (615)356-5755.

TEXAS, AUSTIN
Serenity and Jasmine Ringger

“That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 1:7

With the wildfire raging in our area recently, many homes in our town have burned. Our prayers are with Bethany Lyon and family in the loss of their home. Others that were evacuated were Andy and Charity Atteberry, Bro. Tom Dotterer, Bro. Lynn and Sis. Valerie Kipfer, Bro. Dale and Sis. Amy Ringger, Bro. Scott and Sis. Rachel Hartzler. It makes us think of how little our earthly possessions truly matter in light of eternity.

We trust that God will use this situation for His name's praise, honor, and glory. Many souls have been generous to help those in need and we thank them and our brotherhood for their prayers, donations, and willingness to help as opportunities unfold. Please continue to pray for

spiritual awakening and our church in the coming months.

Ministers who came to preach the Word were: Bros. Kenneth Dietz (Sis. Mardell, Bradford IL), Michael Rieker (Sis. Carol Anne, Peoria, IL), Tom Lanz (Sis. Mary, Oakville, IA), Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH). Visitors came from Rittman, Goodfield, and Forrest.

The following is the minister schedule for November: (6) Bloomington-Normal, IL, (13) Eureka, IL, (27) Cissna Park, IL.

Please refer to the minister's directory for directions and contacts.

VERMONT, CLARENDON

Nathan and Miriam Reutter

We want to express our deep appreciation for the many visiting ministers, brethren, and friends that come and uplift our small flock here in Vermont. Your loving support and Christian fellowship is such a blessing to us! Please pray that our church will continue to grow, and that hearts could be moved to consider relocating to our area. Our communities would greatly benefit by having more God-fearing examples of faith to draw people to Christ!

“...The harvest truly is plente-

ous, 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

Our visiting ministers this past month were: Bro. Duane Reutter (Sis. Kay, Rockville CT - 9/4), Bro. Dan Koch (Sis. Julie, Tremont, IL - 9/11), Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Diane, Rockville CT - 9/18), and Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae, Minneapolis, MN - 9/25). May each one of these dear brethren and their wives feel the blessings of God for their labors of love shown to us.

If you are interested in fellowshiping with us here in Vermont, and would like information about service times and dates, please contact Bro. Chad and Sis. Jenny Virkler (802-293-2724). We treasure the fellowship of brethren and would welcome any visitors. Please contact us if you are planning on traveling in our area and would like to worship together.

Service times are as follows:

Mid-week services

(Please contact local brethren)

Sunday Morning Service

10:10 AM

(Sunday school held concurrently)

Sunday Afternoon Service

12:15 PM

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

Sermon continued from page 2

They had become confused in the sense that, in the openness of their lifestyle, the openness of their casualness toward things that God had said, this is sacred and that they had said, it's all good; we know even in the sense of their openness to sexual immorality, how it became so accepted, so promoted. Wow! Does that not sound like America in a sense? Yet how sad their witness had become; of someone who was involved in the sexual-ness or the immorality of that, they would say, oh, that act is a Corinthian act. In other words, their witness had become so tarnished that even a sexual sin had become labeled, Corinthian. That is not what our witness is to be.

As Paul is writing and giving such instruction to them - we know of I Corinthians and we also know of II Corinthians - he shared some unbelievable New Testament principles to the Corinthians; his love for them and God's love for them was to say, I don't want you to be restricted and confined by your community, by your society. I want you to be able to go above and beyond that. We can think even in that great chapter 13 in Corinthians that God outlined such an amazing way of love, how the Corinthians had an idea of a certain type of love. They were very well versed in the love of eros, or the fleshly desire of lust, of love. But oh, they had come so far short of how God wanted them to love, and he is sharing this with the Corinthians here.

What a plea Paul is having here. He is talking about first of all, given the difference between the natural man and the spiritual man, that the spiritual man can know all things (I Corinthians 2:14). And then he says, I come unto you, we're trying to feed you, we're trying to teach you. We are starting off as little babies, needing the precious milk. But then you've got to grow and you're not growing. I've got meat, there is so much meat to give you, but you are not ready for it. (I Corinthians 3:1,2).

“For while one saith, I am of Paul;

and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal?” v.4. Carnal - to have that mindset that is not of the Spirit but more of just saying, I want to see how things come through my mind. I want to focus on what I think. That is self-focus.

“Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.” I Corinthians 4:1. He is saying, let's not just talk about a principle, let's not just talk about saying, well this is good, we've got to avoid these people who think they are this, or we've got to be careful with these over here. He is saying, I need to do something with it. We can't just talk about stuff and close the book, and go back on our everyday life like it doesn't even matter. He's talking about the significance of, let a man so account as the ministers of God. We have been given something. What are we doing with that?

Oh, you can see the love and the intensity of Paul for the Corinthians as he is talking to this group of people that live in a very tough land. Because what they have to believe, what they have to do, the stand that they have to take is so counter to the culture that they lived in, it is so different than the people walking down the streets. It is so anti; against even the businesses and all that was there. Every day it is like they don't even get to coast downstream. Every day they had to come out and hit that stream and be swimming upstream. They had to put forth the battle to swim against the culture. He knew that that was going to be a hardship; he knew that was going to be tough, he knew that that wasn't going to be easy; he knew that that was going to be a struggle to some.

It would be easy sometimes just to say, well, this is how we live, these are the times that we live in, tough times, some are going to make it and some aren't. Yes, we feel sorry for those that are going to get caught up in things and they are going to maybe falter, maybe flounder, maybe leave, maybe get discouraged, doubted, but that is just the way it is. That was not Paul, was it? Can you imagine Paul as he looked at every-

one and he saw even the struggle there? He talked about the worldly wisdom and even in the best scenarios, the church there in Corinth was also doing that. They were getting caught up on people, they were getting caught up on, well, Paul is this. Oh, yes, but Apollos is this, and they were getting caught up in the messenger. (I Corinthians 3:4) Paul was like, it is not about the messenger, it's about the message. Do you have the right message? He was being tough with some of the babes in Christ, wasn't he?

Sometimes we think of a sweet little baby, and we are like oh, I don't want to be hard or tough to a little baby; a little baby, if you speak loud, they startle, and they cry. It's like, no don't do that, we don't want to do that. Yet, at the mall you don't see too many moms pushing twelve year olds in strollers, do you? Paul was saying, at some point to survive, to be a light, to be the example that you need to be in this culture, you have to get off the milk and get on the meat.

It wasn't that Paul was trying to establish himself as a wise man of what I know of the difference between milk and meat. Paul was not looking at himself. He was looking for the Corinthians to be the example that they needed to be in that community. They had to be able to move off of the milk onto the meat. In other words they had to be - this isn't the best phrase but the only thing that comes to mind - tough Christians. I need some tough Christians. You've got to be tough. You've got to be able to discern. You've got to be able to take the wisdom and separate it out from this worldly wisdom, which was so pleasing, so alluring, so tasteful. He said, I need you to put it over here; I need you to put it in God's wisdom. This is how I want you to think, this is how I need you to view the world, this is how I need you to approach your brother and sister in Christ and this is how I need you to look. And that's only going to come, not from the milk, the milk is going to get you started, but then we've got to grow.

How do you grow? Those of you that are converts, those of us as we

think back, how did you grow? When you first made that connection, even that relationship with Christ, when you first came to Him in repentance, maybe it was in a sense of just, I was so overwhelmed of my sin and I couldn't stand it anymore. I was broken, I was so scared of hell and I wanted to come before my mom and dad, or my spouse or to come before the elder and say, "I want to repent. I'm sorry for my sin. I'm sick of feeling this way." Do you remember that day, do you remember that moment when that heart finally opened and it was like the light of Christ shone in, do you remember that? I hope we never forget that. I hope we never forget that taste of that self-loathing, bitter, selfish, fearful hell; all the combination of stuff that can just be wrapped up inside of our hearts. We come and say enough, I don't want this anymore. Then we come as babes, able to come and share as we confess and then during our repentance process. What was that like for you? How did you go from milk to meat? Do you remember that? Did someone help you along the way? Did you automatically have a great grasp of the Scripture? Could you just sit and read for chapters and chapters and for hours for hours? Oh, I couldn't, that was a struggle for me.

It is the same way as with a babe too. We think of little babes, they need to eat little, but often. Those of you that are babes in Christ, are you doing that? Are you eating often? It is amazing, isn't it - children - their taste? You go to a very nice restaurant and it's like, what would you like to eat, they are like, macaroni and cheese. That's like, there is more to that than macaroni and cheese, or hot dogs, and yet they are so satisfied with simple taste. And yet that builds on something, but just to stay on that is not what was needed, was not to get to the next step.

Our converts are not the responsibility of just themselves. In our body of Christ our converts are not just the responsibility of their parents. We can stop and look; that convert, well they have done this or that. It's like,

their mom or dad should be doing a better job or they should be doing stuff, don't they know? In our body of Christ, the converts are not just the responsibility of themselves or of the parents. If they are a part of the body of Christ, then they need to be all of our responsibility. These are our babes. Do we care about them? Do we want to make sure that they get on the right track? Are we invested in their lives? Sometimes we are so thankful that someone comes and says, I want to serve my God, I want to repent. And we are so thankful for that, and the first couple of Sundays, it's like, we are so happy for you, God bless you and God's grace and all of that. Then what? There is only one person I am speaking to here this morning. God is really getting tough on me on this, because I am this way. Yet, now we have a new babe in Christ. They come on Sundays and Wednesday nights and they want to be part of things. Do we know them?

Do we have a list at home of our converts, with their names and their ages, where they are at in school, where they are at in their job? Do we think of them enough to say, I want to make sure I get to them on Sunday? I want to encourage them. I want to say, "Thank you for being in the fight", because a convert can come, and there can be a lot of great encouragement at first when it is really new and fresh. You are getting a lot of prayers, and Satan has been defeated and God is awesome, and you just love that. The first couple of weeks are just amazing, and then all of a sudden it is like Satan is waiting. He is back there behind the bushes. He takes a step back, because he knows there is a lot of prayer right now on this one and I'm not going to go in when there is a lot of prayer, but I know that there is going to be a time when that prayer kind of diminishes, and then I'm going to be waiting. We know our babes, and all of a sudden Satan comes roaring after them and he makes them think, you stupid people! What did you do? How come you gave up all this? Don't you understand what you could have done? You have gifts in this, and you

can be so good in this, whatever you want to be. Satan comes at them and tears them apart. If he doesn't tear them apart on that, then he tears them apart on where they are going to be a Christian at, in this church. Then he tears them apart on that and says, you really picked the wrong church, you know that, because they get hung up on this, and they don't understand this, they're backwards in this, and they are really not going to let you do this. He hammers them all the time on that! Are we encouraging them? Letting them know, "We are so glad that you are a part of our body! Oh, I love you! I'm so glad you are here! Thank you for being here!" Do we do that with our babes?

Maybe someone was like that for you. Maybe when you were repenting you had a cheerleader, you had someone who was just there for you. I pray that every one of us has an opportunity like that. Ministers have their responsibilities; moms and dads have their responsibilities. But do we, as a body, have a responsibility for our young? They say in the land of the desert or the land of the jungle there are three groups that are most at risk of being captured, attacked, eaten; those that are young, those that are old, and those that are hurting. Satan does no different, does he?

Someone planted and someone had to water (I Corinthians 3:6). Does God need us to be a waterer for someone? We think of water so freely given, it is everywhere; go to our faucet and any type of thing. I know droughts come; this is a different scenario here. For the most part, we have water with just the lift of a hose, or turn on a spigot and we have water. We can plant something, can't we, and it looks good and it grows great. Then you go on vacation or you go away and it gets dry and it doesn't get water. What happens? That precious plant, it can be sitting there, it can be ten feet away from a spigot, but if there is not someone there to turn that on and get the water to the plant, the plant will die in

Sermon continued from page 41

the heat, even though there is water right there. How many of us are surrounded by water? Water: people care about us, water: from the preaching of the Word from the pulpit, water: from our parents and our grandparents, prayers and pleas of our faithfulness. We are surrounded by water. And yet do we drink, do we partake of it? Paul is saying it is important. We need those that plant, we need those that water, we need those that are going to care.

“According to the grace of God which is given unto me. . .” v.10. We are not able to do this on our own. Sometimes we are not even able to be good waterers or planters - if that is even the right phrase - on our own, but when we have the foundation of the Spirit, we have that foundation to build on that he talked about there. “...But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.” v.10. That is an amazing study in just these couple of verses here.

There can be a whole other series of words on what foundation are we building on. Is it on the foundation of this Word of God? There is no other foundation other than Jesus Christ. Christ said in His love for us, I’m going to give you something to help you not be caught up in the carnal-ness. I’m going to give you my Word. It is almost like that is our water every day. I’m going to give you this water.

“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.” v.11. “And ye are Christ’s; and Christ is God’s.” v.23. That is an amazing connection, isn’t it? If ye are Christ’s and Christ is God, it just connects us into that amazing lineage. Not on our own, not what we are able to bring, not what we are able to do. We have all sinned and come short of the glory of God, but it is the gift of salvation unto us. That is our Jesus Christ! He doesn’t want anyone to not taste the opportunity of that redemption. He doesn’t want one to go without that. He doesn’t want one who has made a beginning

in Christ, a convert, a babe, he doesn’t want anyone to be left off and whither up. Some of us can say, “Well you strayed a little bit too far from where the water pattern was.” That is not what He wants. He wants us to pursue and actively go and to be after those who are babes. Do we love them with that intensity and desire that protection? And ye are Christ’s; and Christ is God’s.

“Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God.” Chapter 4:1. That’s our calling, isn’t it? We get to be the stewards of these mysteries; not always understood, can’t always completely connect all the dots. But of the mysteries of being able to say, “I don’t understand how a heart that is so burdened is able to be made righteous in God’s eyes. That is a mystery, I don’t understand that. But wow, we get to be a minister of that message.” May that be our desire in our heart.

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When:

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For more information, please contact Sis. Doreen Steffen for more information at dkgsteffen@gmail.com or 302-540-6574.

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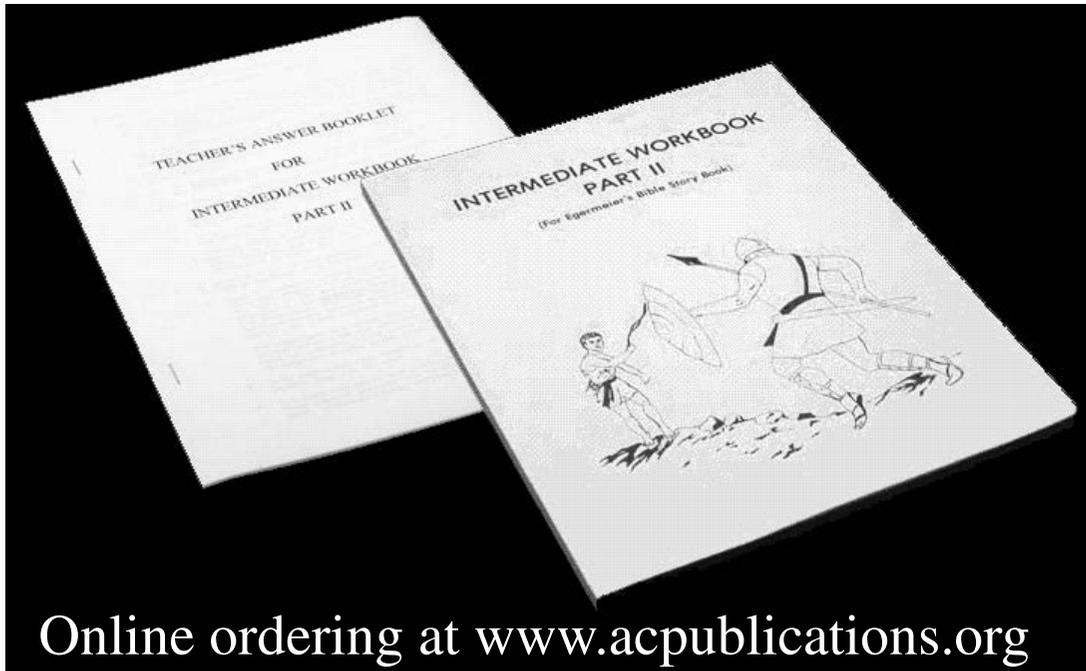
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Healthy Boundaries - Part 1

(referencing "Boundaries" by John Townsend & Henry Cloud)

Types of boundaries.

Having clear boundaries is essential to a healthy, balanced lifestyle. A boundary is a personal property line that marks those things for which we are responsible. In other words, boundaries define who we are and who we are not. They help to differentiate us from one another and show where we begin and end. Boundaries also place limits on the claims other people may make on our property, time, and other resources. Boundaries impact all areas of our lives: *Physical boundaries* help us determine who may touch us and under what circumstances as well as keeping our own touching appropriate; *Mental boundaries* give us the freedom to have our own thoughts and opinions; *Emotional boundaries* help us to deal with our own emotions and disengage from the harmful, manipulative emotions of others; and *Spiritual boundaries* help us to distinguish God's will from our own and give us renewed respect and reverence for our Creator. Proper boundaries need to exist in our relationships with God, self, spouse, children, family, friends, and work associates.

Deuteronomy 32:8 "When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel."

Levels of boundaries.

Establishing healthy boundaries is necessary to a fulfilling Christian life. Healthy boundaries help us to maintain a balance of knowing when to do or say certain things. They also help us to know what is acceptable and what is unacceptable. Unhealthy boundaries can be either too loose or too rigid. When boundaries are too loose, there really aren't any limits placed on our resources and we can soon become overwhelmed trying to satisfy all the claims on ourselves. An example of a having loose boundaries might be found in those of us who have very busy, hectic lives that may often border on being out of control. How many times have we felt that others

have taken advantage of us? We may want to feel needed and have difficulty saying "no" to the demands of others on our time even though we may be approaching burnout. Rigid boundaries, on the other hand, are unhealthy because there is no allowance given to help others, to share of our resources, and to allow good into and out of our lives. An example of having a rigid boundary might be found in those of us who are too busy looking out for ourselves or maintaining our own agendas and therefore cannot see, or choose not to see, the needs of others.

Proverbs 25:17 "Withdraw thy foot from thy neighbour's house; lest he be weary of thee, and so hate thee."

Adjusting focus.

It seems that often we may focus so much on being loved and being loving and unselfish that we forget our own limits and limitations. Some of the questions we may ask are: Can I set limits for myself and still be a loving person? What are legitimate boundaries? What if someone is upset or hurt by my boundaries? How do I kindly answer someone who wants my time, love, energy, or money? Isn't the idea of having boundaries selfish? Why do I feel guilty or afraid when I consider setting boundaries?

Boundaries give freedom.

A physical boundary is easily understood as a fence or something tangible that cannot or should not be crossed without permission. The message is, "Here is where my property begins." Boundaries give us freedom. When we are on our own property, marked by appropriate boundaries, we are free to do what we want to. If we were unsure of the boundaries of our property, we would be confused as to where we should be and what we could do.

Galatians 6:2-5 "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ. ³For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself. ⁴But let every man prove his own work, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. ⁵For every man shall bear his own burden."

Establishing responsibilities.

This concept carries through into our

spiritual and emotional lives as well. Beginning with the sin of our first parents and continuing through Revelation, the Bible clearly demonstrates to us what our limits and responsibilities are, but past experiences, beliefs, family, friends, and other relationships may confuse us about those limits. We need to realize that we have the responsibility for ourselves and to others. In Galatians 6 we find instruction that we should carry one another's burdens but also that we are responsible for our own. So, there needs to be a boundary set in our lives as to how much we carry someone else's load without compromising our ability to carry our own. Also, if we help someone else too much, we can end up taking on responsibilities that are not ours. Healthy boundaries help to allow, and keep, the good in and the bad out.

Boundaries in all areas of life.

Boundaries exist in all areas of our lives: feelings, attitudes and beliefs, behaviors, choices, values, limits, talents, thoughts, desires, and love. The account of the Good Samaritan demonstrates how a number of these boundaries came into play. The Good Samaritan's emotional boundary was affected by feelings and he allowed his compassion to be transformed into help. He made a choice to serve even though his values and/or beliefs could have restrained him, knowing that if the injured man was a Jew, he would not have enjoyed the company of a Samaritan. Or, he could have surmised that since this man was headed to Jericho, known for its sinfulness, he only got what he deserved. He kept those thoughts captive, however, and didn't allow any biases to interfere with biblical principles. On the other hand, he didn't let the situation overflow his own boundaries in a detrimental way. After ensuring he would be cared for properly, he went on his way, without expending excess effort to care for the wounded man. These are examples of healthy boundaries physically, in sharing of personal time, and in emotions and beliefs.

Acts 17:26 "And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;"

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

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

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CARIBBEAN BOARD PROJECTS - 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.

HAITI

Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of October 12th, 2011 -www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/

Project	Year 2011	Coordinator	Capacity				
Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Dec 2-9	Ted Habegger 260-694-6765 tjh@citznet.com	12	Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Mar 2-9	Rodney Menold rminpeoria@hotmail.com	12
Les Cayes MEBSH Haiti Support	Dec 9-12	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	ACWR-CC	Les Cayes MEBSH Maintenance	Mar 9-16	Jon Zeller 309-266-9009 jzeller@mtco.com	12
Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Dec 12-19	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	4	Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Mar 9-16	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	4
Project	Year 2012	Coordinator	Capacity				
Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Jan 2-9	Ron Palitto 330-336-5373 Ronp@palittoconsulting.com	12	Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Mar 16-23	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	12
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Jan 6-13	Maurice Schaefer 309-925-3740 schaefs2@gmail.com	4	Les Cayes SEED Agricultural Aid	Mar 23-30	Larry Kaufmann 815-716-6018 ljkaufmann@juno.com	12
Les Cayes FRW Simone Orphanage	Jan 20-27	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	12	Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Apr 6-13	Maurice Schaefer 309-925-3740 schaefs2@gmail.com	4
Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Jan 27-Feb 3	Rod Wieland 989-671-0404 rhwieland@speednetlic.com	12	Les Cayes MEBSH Haiti Support	Apr 13-16	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	ACWR-CC
Les Cayes SEED Agricultural Aid	Feb 3-10	Dale Frank 319-766-3661 dtfrank@louisacom.net	12	Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Jun 8-15	Rick Wuethrich 219-567-9488 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	4

JAMAICA

Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of October 12th, 2011 -www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-caribbean/

Project	Year 2012	Coordinator	Capacity				
Kingston School CCCD	Jan. 7-14	Roger Stoller 309-747-3228 rstoller@gridcom.net	40	Montego Bay School CCCD	Mar 31-Apr 7	Tim Wiegand 260-627-8019 twiegand@blackhawkchristian.org	Leo SS
Knockpatrick Schl CCCD	Jun 6-9	Keith Herrmann 309-639-4349 krgreetings@winco.net	Princeville SS	Jamaica Deaf Village CCCD	Jun 8-16	Ted Hirstein 309-266-8769 hirstein@mtco.com	40

Haiti and Jamaica Work Team Code Definitions

CCCD=Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf

MEBSH = Missions of Evangelical Baptists of South Haiti

Palm Grove = Mission of Haiti

S.E.E.D. = An Agricultural School & Extension Service

TBA = To Be Announced

Palm Grove = Mission of Haiti

A.W.A. - B. = Apostolic Water Aid/Bluffton

A.W.A. - FRW = Apostolic Water Aid/Francesville, Remington, Wolcott

A.W.A. - T = Apostolic Water Aid/Tremont

(*) = Changes or additions since last issue

()** = Spring Break Timeframe

MEXICO

*If anyone is interested in leading a team to Mexico, contact Bro. Mike Fiechter at 260-597-7330 or mfechter@onlyinternet.net
Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of October 12th, 2011 -www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/*

Location	Year 2011	Coordinator
Magdalena Construction	Nov 19-26	Rod Schmidt 303-774-7913 rschmidt@acosta.com
Location	Year 2012	Coordinator
Magdalena Construction	Jan 7-14	John Teubel 815-657-8721 jteubel@maxwire.net
Magdalena Construction	Jan 14-21	Steve Kaeb 217-379-4707 kaebsb@frontier.com
Magdalena Construction	Feb 18-25	Jon Baner 309-747-4085 jbaner@grid.com.net
Magdalena Construction	Mar 10-17	Lance Martin Illinois State University isuyounggroup@gmail.com

Magdalena Construction	Mar 24-31	Jeff Leman Bluffton Senior Class 260-565-3815 jeffleman62@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Mar 31-Apr 7	Curt Hodel Roanoke Bible Class 309-923-8091 cjhodel@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Apr 14-21	Mike Zobrist Congerville/Eureka 309-660-7004 zobfam@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Jun 16-23	Andy Sauder Morton Bible Class 309-263-9965 andy.sauder@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Jul 21-28	Rick Kaisner Chicago Bible Class 248-924-7547 rick@kaisner.org

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

Director of Operations Job Opening at Hospital Lumiere

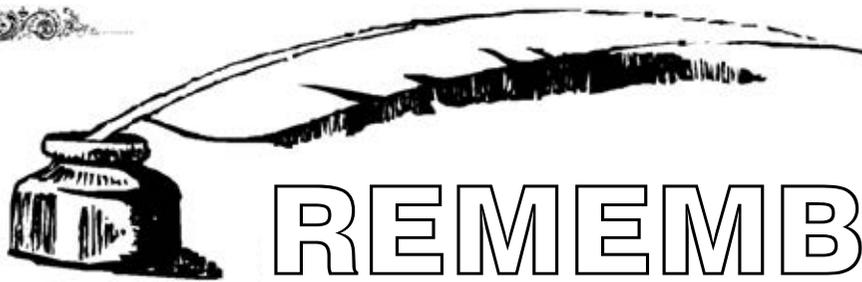
As the Lord opens the hearts, we are searching for a Director of Operations who will be acting as the Chief Operating officer for Hospital Lumiere at Bonne Fin, Haiti. Under the direction of the hospital board, the director is to enable the hospital to provide, in a Godly way, the best care possible within the Haiti environment.

Some responsibilities will include overseeing: staffing, training, recordkeeping, hospital team building, efficient operations and maintenance of facilities, monitor community needs, excellent communication through all facets of the hospital operations and management, and chair various hospital committees.

As the Lord lays this opportunity to serve on your heart, please contact:

Bro. Tom Hitz
tchitz@sbcglobal.net
734-454-9229





REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

This begins a series of articles from the autobiography of Elder Ernest Graf, Sr., of Akron, Ohio. This work consists of about 24 pages of typewritten material, unpublished, from which we can get a good glimpse of the early life of Elder Graf. He served as Elder from 1922 until his death in 1946. He was 48 years old when he was ordained as an Elder. Excerpts from this work follow:

The Beginning

I was born November 9, 1873, in the village of Oberhallan, Canton Schaffhausen, Switzerland, the youngest child of Johannes and Margaretha Graf. My mother's maiden name was Bauman. My eldest brothers' names were Adam, Hermann, and John. My sisters' names were Elizabeth, Salome, Margaret, Rosa, and Louise. At the time of my birth all my grandparents had already died. Of my father's family there was then living a sister, Elizabeth Baumann, and a brother, Adam, who had emigrated to America in 1847, and whose home was in Elmer, New Jersey.

On my mother's side, there was a brother, Michael Bauman, and a sister, Salome, who had also married a Johannes Graf, a cousin of my father's. These lived in the same village as we did, and one of my greatest pleasures was to visit this Aunt Salome, who was always very kind and had many interesting books which she would give me to look at, and later to read when I was able.

My mother was a semi-invalid as long as I can remember, and so most of my bringing-up, and the care of my mother, fell onto my sister Elizabeth.

Our Farm

My father owned about 16 acres of land which consisted of tillable soil

along a creek bottom, and partly of permanent meadow and vineyards on slopes and hillsides. These were acre, half-acre, and quarter-acre plots scattered in all directions around the village. They were not fenced, but the boundaries were marked with stones partially submerged in the ground at each corner. We also had an orchard at the edge of the village which had apple, pear and prune trees. Of the names of the apples, I remember two: namely, "Kappanner" and "Wienicher." the name of the pears was "Wuscatelter."

My father kept four or five head of cattle which were used for the dual purpose of a dairy and to pull the wagon and plow. These were kept in the stable all the year and in summertime each day. Fresh grass was mown and hauled home for their food. Always after a plot was mown over it received a dressing of liquid waste pumped out of a cistern which was connected with the stable and manure heap. Thus, in a few weeks there was a luxuriant growth of grass and clover ready to mow again. I will mention here that the mowing was all done by hand in haying time, as well. Father was very particular about keeping the cattle clean and well fed.

Our Village

At various places throughout the village, which then had a population of about 700, there were troughs provided where water flowed constantly piped from springs up in the hills. Here the cattle from the neighborhood were driven to water, and here also the women and girls came with their buckets and filled them at special flowing pipes with clear water for cooking and drinking. As quite a number often congregated at these places at the same time, it afforded an opportunity for neighborhood news to circulate.

School Days

I was started off to Kindergarten at the early age of 3 or 4 years. We had a teacher whom we called "Sister Verena," a middle-aged spinster, whose wrath it was not best to incur because, when offended, she found ways and means to get even, and then some.

On mature reflection, however, I can see where we sorely tried her patience at times. Each child carried a lunch bag of cloth around the neck by a long cord or ribbon. These we handed to "Sister Verena" on our arrival at school, and she hung them up by the cords on pegs along the wall. Our names, or at least initials, were darned with red wool on the outside, and when lunch time came she would hand each child its lunch bag. To the older ones in the back seats, she would merely toss them after a swing by the cord, and we were expected to catch them. If we failed, there would be a spill and perhaps a cuff on the ear.

In one corner of the room was a huge stack or two of mattresses, or I rather think they were only straw ticks. After lunch, the teacher took these down and laid them in rows. All the younger children had to lie down for a nap, while the older ones occupied themselves in more useful ways.

My trouble was that I could not sleep, but if Sister Verena caught me with my eyes open there would be a sharp reprimand or something worse. So I spent many weary hours lying there with my eyes closed, sometimes premeditating what I would do to Sister Verena should I get the chance.

Edited by Bro. Perry Klopfenstein

Next Issue: To be continued

The Light Of Hope

“What Wilt Thou Have Me To Do”

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

Recently I was reading in Acts 9 where Paul met Christ while on the road to Damascus. I took note that Paul first asked Christ, “What wilt thou have me to do?” He didn’t ask,

“What do you want me to believe?”, even though we are saved by grace through faith, not by works. (Ephesians 2:8-9)

Christ told Paul as follows, “Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.” Acts 9:6. God sent Ananias to visit Paul in the city of Damascus at which time Paul’s sight was restored and he was baptized. “Straightway he preached Christ in the synagogues, that he is the Son of God.”

As we study the life of the Apostle Paul, we see that he was very engrossed in works while preaching salvation by grace through faith. It wasn’t only the work of preaching the Gospel but he also wrote, “Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.” II Thessalonians 2:15. It sounds to me that Paul believed what he wrote in his letters included traditions which he felt should be held or followed by the believers.

In Matthew 15:3, the Lord Jesus Christ says to the Pharisees, “Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?” It becomes apparent that all traditions are not automatically good. However, traditions that are based on the teachings of the New Testament should be pleasing to God, providing we do not begin to become proud by keeping those traditions and begin to think that we are

better than others because we keep them. Whatever we do is a result of being converted and obtaining salvation, not an effort to be good enough to warrant salvation, or to try to add to what Christ has done for us on the cross.

The question which always tugs at our hearts is, “What does Christ want us to do after we have been converted?” The first thing that comes to mind is that we are not to do anything bad or worldly. It is written in I John 2:15, “Love not the world.” This tells us what not to do but it doesn’t tell us what to do. “What should we do?” is the cry of our hearts as it was for the Apostle Paul after his conversion. We should do what the New Testament tells us to do but that takes some investigating.

The Lord Jesus, in Matthew 7:21 says, “Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven: but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.” Here again we find the word “do”, or “doeth”. Christ here refers to someone who calls him “Lord,” which indicates some kind of faith. It appears to me that true, saving faith, produces good works, otherwise there may be something wrong with our faith. Therefore, let us humbly set about doing what the New Testament teaches us to do, not to earn our salvation, nor to try to add to what Christ has done for us on the cross, but because works is the evidence of a true, saving faith in Christ.

It is interesting to note that James writes in 2:24, “Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.” We take this to mean that

unless your faith produces works, it is not the kind of faith that saves. Otherwise, it does not comply with the rest of New Testament Scriptures.

Do you agree that it is a good idea for each of us to ask Christ, “What wilt thou have me to do?”, as did the Apostle Paul? Then what do you think is Christ’s answer to us?

Christ will probably only tell us a little at a time, as He did the Apostle Paul. We should do something that we believe to be God’s will according to the New Testament, and after we have done that, He will probably tell us what to do next. Surely it is important to do whatever is God’s will, the best we can understand it.

What about our attitude when it comes to doing God’s will? Is it important to have a humble attitude? Surely, it is very important. What about loyalty? Is it possible to be loyal to God at the expense of being disloyal to your church? Surely, it is possible if your church is not going according to the New Testament teachings, but otherwise, loyalty to your church and to God should be possible and advisable. Our hearts cry out for stability, loyalty and a united effort to improve in our walk with Christ.

We join the Apostle Paul in asking the Lord Jesus Christ, “What wilt thou have me to do?” We can start by being very loving and respectful toward one another. We can do little things to encourage others. Let us be a humble, praying, and singing church, as we face the future with the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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*Blest is he who overcometh,
And the first true love maintains,
Who in truth builds firm foundation,
And false teaching doth disdain.
Them with fruit I'll ever nourish
From the tree which there doth flourish,
Which above in paradise
Is prepared by God all-wise."*

Zions Harp #30 vs. 3