

The Silver Lining

*But who may abide the day of his coming?
and who shall stand when he appeareth?
for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap...
For I am the Lord, I change not...*

Malachi 3:2,6

November 2011

Sermon by Bro. Ted Hirstein, Morton, IL

Psalm 139 & Mark 10:17-27

Greetings to each one of you this morning as we come to worship together. I appreciate your prayers.

What a beautiful day! I was out on the front porch yesterday for a little bit, and as I was standing there, there were two birds in the somewhat barren tree. They were going back and forth with each other, and it was like they were the only two birds that existed. I looked all around the neighborhood, down the street, and I couldn't see any other birds. These two little birds were jumping around from branch to branch. It was just as if they were having so much fun together, and I was thinking how the Scripture even tells us that the Lord looks down upon every sparrow.

As I was observing them, I thought how marvelous it is that God does what He does and how He has created this world. The thought even came to me – a spiritual song that we often sang back in our young group – and one of the verses went, What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding, the birds begin to sing, and the flowers start their blooming. That's how it is with God's love. Once you've experienced it, you want to sing. It's fresh like spring. You want to pass it on. (Pass it On by Kurt Kaiser). Those words went through my mind as I was observing that, and I enjoyed those moments so much. It was just precious.

We want to pass it on, don't we? That's one of the reasons we come here today. We come to worship our God. We come to share the Word together. We want to pass on what Jesus has done for us. We want to pass on His gospel message. We want to share His Word together and share it with others. We experience God's love in our life, His work and power, His creativity, and how He can use each

one in a very special way. He has such a wonderful purpose and plan for everyone. That's what we want to pass on.

There is nothing that God does not see or know about us. As Psalm 139 begins, it says how the Lord has searched me and known me (v.1). Wherever we are, whatever our situation in life is, whatever position we are in, whether we are waking or sleeping, whether we are serving Him, being faithful, trusting in Him, doing things for the honor and glory of God, or whether we are fugitives from God and running away from Him, He knows exactly where we are. He knows everything that's going on, not only in a physical position – it talks a lot about some physical positions here – downsitting, uprising, walking, stopping, whatever the position is – but it goes much deeper and much further than that.

It talks about our spiritual position. It talks about matters of the heart – where we are in our relationship with the Lord, and where we are in our relationship with one another. What kind of sight we have – do we see clearly, or are we walking in blindness? Are we in the light, or are we in the darkness? It doesn't matter to God. We can't hide anything from Him. There isn't anything about me that He doesn't know – whether it is good or whether it is bad – He knows. He knows what I struggle with. He knows the difficulties I have. He knows the sins that would want to draw me away. He knows the things that inspire me, encourage me, and help me to remain faithful and close to Him. God knows all these things. He knows them for me. He knows them for you. Every single one of us; there is nothing that He doesn't know about us.

I think it's so beautiful how the psalmist concluded here with that

prayer. I don't know about you – I'm sure there are many of you out there that probably have said these very words in your own prayers – but I can certainly tell you that there are so many times I really didn't know what I needed to say as

Sermon continued on page 41

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*"Then shall ye...discern between...him that serveth God and him that serveth him not."
(Mal. 3:18)*

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

November 2011

Our Interactions With Other Professing Christians

The purpose of this article is to provide scriptural direction when interacting with others (not of our church) who profess Christianity. We should first of all be thankful that there are other people who are desiring to serve God. We should not treat them as our enemies, nor should we expect to adopt what they believe and do. The prophet Malachi instructs us to "...discern...between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not" (Mal. 3:18).

In our daily discernments, we seek God's grace to "Prove all things, (and) hold fast to that which is good" (1 Thes. 5:21). Yet, we are not to judge other men's hearts or destiny (Matt. 7:1). Only God knows the hearts (Ps. 44:21) and he will try each one in the refiner's fire (Prov. 17:3).

We are accustomed to and appreciate commonality in the application of our Apostolic Christian doctrine. This encourages unity of spirit and peace among the brethren. (Eph. 4:3) When we observe other Christians applying their beliefs in a different manner, we may be tempted to be critical or judgmental. "And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbid him, because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is on our part" (Mark 9:38-40). The disciples' chief reason for forbidding this individual was that he did not follow them (literally, was not in the same way). That Jesus did not criticize the man is noteworthy, and we should likewise abstain from critical statements and pre-judging "another man's servant" (Rom. 14:4). Neither did He suggest that the disciples join with him; He simply said to forbid him not. A similar incident occurred in the Old Testament when Eldad and Medad prophesied in the camp instead of around the tabernacle as the rest of the seventy. (Num. 11:26-29) Another account is given in Joshua 22 in which the tribes on "this side Jordan" made an erroneous conclusion about the motives and sincerity of those on the "other side

Jordan" regarding worship practices. These examples in the Old and New Testaments have similarities in that individuals met with disapproval for doing good things in a different way than was accepted by those observing them. Neither Christ, Moses nor Joshua joined in criticizing those who were different, and in each case, some good came of their efforts. If someone is doing good in the name of God or Christ, they cannot be doing it lightly. No one benefits if the unbelieving world sees conflict and strife among Christians.

On the other hand, we must be wise and discerning when observing or evaluating someone's declaration of faith and their practices. We must try the spirits. "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1). One way we can do this is by observing their fruits (deeds). "Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?" (Matt. 7:16). If someone professes to be a Christian but is living or promoting a sinful lifestyle, his beliefs are certainly open to question. We should use God's Word to test the teachings or beliefs of an individual or group. (Acts 17:11) Some common areas of doctrinal differences are the depth of the conversion experience; the attitude toward sin and the application of church discipline; the role of the church in the believer's life; unconditional eternal security; baptismal practices and simplicity of faith in an inerrant Word coupled with doctrinal unity. Sadly, we may find that not all who claim the name of Christ have sound beliefs. The Apostle Peter warns us of the danger of falling into the same error. "As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest (twist the meaning of), as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own steadfastness" (2 Pet. 3:16-17).

There are times when we might feel obligated to attend other churches for funerals,

weddings, or other special occasions. When doing this, we must use discernment regarding our participation. For example, we should not take an active part in such things as communion or altar calls. We also need to be careful and circumspect in recognizing and avoiding false doctrine. "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive" (Eph. 4:14).

Some positive things we can do with other professing Christians are to be the salt and light of the world (Matt. 5:13-16), and to teach all nations by word as well as by our example (Matt. 28:19, 20). We must maintain a firm commitment to our own spiritual integrity while having a genuine concern for the salvation and spiritual welfare of others. The Holy Spirit will guide us in how we can share our faith in Christ with a friend or coworker in a way that allows us to be a clear witness without blending our doctrine with other beliefs. With the counsel of our church leadership, we may take opportunities to cooperate with other groups in serving our fellow men in a way that allows us to be salt and light and does not create inappropriate spiritual involvement. (Gal. 6:10) Jesus recognized the reality of our living "in the world" along with the necessity of keeping ourselves from evil: "...I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil" (John 17:11, 15).

We of the Apostolic Christian Church gratefully acknowledge our hope of salvation, as do many others. In all cases, it is only by abiding grace and faith based on God's truth. This becomes clear when we read of the innumerable host of saints in heaven that had washed their robes white in the blood of the Lamb. (Rev. 7:9, 14) We will honor God by avoiding offence and always seeking the best for others. "Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved" (1 Cor. 10:32, 33).

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

Meeting Needs in Eastern Europe

Patterns of life in Eastern Europe are changing as electronic media such as cell phone technology, internet access, and Facebook become available and affordable. People are increasingly aware of the world around them, influencing expectations and opportunities for both young and old.

Many of us are aware of the economic problems besetting certain European countries and the resulting ripple effect on the USA financial markets. Hungary, Romania, Serbia, Croatia and Ukraine, which are home to many Nazarean brethren, are affected by high debt, stagnant economies, inflation, and high unemployment.

Their response has been austerity measures, which include cutting pensions for elderly, reducing already meager social services, salary cuts, and tax hikes to generate revenue. As a result, families are squeezed as their disposable income struggles to cover costs of living. Following are examples of how Mission Committee and World Relief are helping families cope with needs beyond their own resources.

House church repairs in Slovakia

In the scenic, mountainous country of Slovakia, several small clusters of Nazarean believers continue to hold the faith and traditions of their fathers despite isolation and dwindling numbers. On a high plateau in the village of Bacurov, a single family forms the nucleus of a small congregation which meets in a renovated horse stable adjoining the family's home. The father serves as

minister, mother as song leader and cook, while several older widow sisters complete the church family.



Two of the family's children were recently baptized into the faith giving tremendous encouragement and life to those shining forth the light of the gospel. This congregation is requesting assistance to repair the glazed tile roof and also to install a wood burning furnace to avoid the high cost of gas heat.

Ukraine family with medical issues

Bro. Archade Dubet and family live in a small bungalow in a rolling, rural setting in SW Ukraine, attending the Ostrita congregation. Their 7 year old daughter suffers



from an extreme nearsighted condition which has limited her learning performance in school. Her condition requires specialized eyeglasses and ongoing optometrist care to prevent permanent damage. Another daughter is mentally impaired, often displaying hysterical seizures causing stress to family life. In addition, the mother suffers from painful leg vein issues which will likely require surgery. Normal cost

of living coupled with these special needs far exceed the limited wage earning ability of this brother as a simple night watchman. WR funds have been allocated to local church leadership to ensure the ongoing needs of this family are provided.

Farm machinery needs filled for Ukraine

Nazarean brethren farming very small parcels of land in Ukraine have long benefited from shared farm machinery provided by financial support from the USA. Recent World Relief communications outlined the need for funding to replace aging combine harvesting machines.



The resulting generous outpouring of support will allow more replacements than originally hoped for. As harvest is now complete in Ukraine, machines will be retired and replaced over the winter months. The Nazarean brethren in Ukraine and the WR European Committee express their gratitude for the ongoing faithful support of our brotherhood.

The European Committee is continually aware of individual, family, and congregational needs such as these described above. If you feel led to support these aid efforts, please contact:

Bro. Peter Petrovic
European Committee Chairman
(760) 789-1504
ppetrovic@cox.net



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
World Relief

As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men,
especially unto them who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:10

Those Things Which Are Needful

Millions in this world go to sleep hungry each night. God gives us the charge and the opportunity to do our part in helping them.

If a brother or sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit?

JAMES 2:15-16

Packaged meals

For some time, World Relief has packaged meals to help those in need. These meals are high quality, good tasting, nutritious, and can be made for about seven cents per serving. We offer two kinds, Barley Vegetable Soup and Rice Pilaf.



These meals are packaged as dry mixes, which keeps weight and volume low with a longer shelf life. They are either heat-sealed or taped shut. The size of the package can be varied to produce a small or large volume easily. Cooking instructions are printed on the label of each individual package in English, Spanish, or Haitian Creole.

This product is well received in foreign countries, where starving

souls wonder where their next meal is coming from. These meals are shipped to Haiti, Mexico, Eastern Europe, Nicaragua, and various places in the United States. They are also appreciated in food pantries in your local communities.



An added benefit to the recipients is the way these meals are packaged. When they are sent out of the country, they are packaged in four or five gallon buckets. In this way, after the meals are consumed, the recipients have the buckets for storage or for whatever purpose they would like to use them.

A special request was made in the spring to the National World Relief Board for additional funds to purchase ingredients to distribute to the various Distribution Centers. These funds were granted and now ingredients are available at each center. The purpose for this is to involve more of the brotherhood who previously did not have access to a packaged meals project.

How you can help

Although these meals represent good stewardship, there is a cost for the ingredients and the packaging materials. Donations to support this work can be made to World Relief,

marked "Packaged Meals," or sent directly to your local Distribution Center. This product has been used both at home and abroad with great results. They are an efficient use of your contributions and are distributed through existing World Relief channels.

We invite you to come to your local distribution center to help. For those who do not have a center nearby, no problem. You do not need a large space or big equipment, so you can help where you are. Just pick up ingredients from a distribution center, take them back to your church community, and assemble the meals with your local brotherhood.

Just about anyone can help with this project; families, single groups, Sunday School classes and the elderly in nursing homes can contribute. Ten to fifteen people make an assembly line complete. It only takes about an hour and a half to make one thousand bags, which is enough to feed the five thousand. It is a great blessing to fellowship while laboring for the Lord.

Please pray these products will meet the needs of those in hunger and that God will use what little we can do to awaken their spiritual hunger for Him. We are thankful for past participation and support. Without God's blessings and the church working together, this type of project would not be feasible.

We thank God for the opportunity to serve and bring glory to His name. For information about how you can give your time and support, please contact one of the Distribution Centers. Contact numbers can be found on the World Relief website, or talk to your local World Relief representative.

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

“Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”
Matthew 25:40

Happy Birthday! October 1 was a milestone for Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped (ACHH); we celebrated 40 years of Serving According to God’s Purpose.

Here is a brief history of how God has been faithful in caring for His own. On October 1, 1971, the first residents were admitted to (ACHH). We started with 52 beds which was the North end. In 1978 the South end was added and we had a total of 104 beds. Over the years we have served a total of 267 residents at some time, we currently serve about 150 people. We had 21 admissions the first year, 7 of those are still with us at one of our many facilities (Timber Ridge, CILA, Oakwood, Linden).

Oakwood Estate (16 bed facility) opened in 1988.

Linden Estate (16 bed facility) opened in 1994.

Our first Community Integrated Living Arrangement (CILA) opened in March 1990 with 3-4 ladies; these are homes in the community that serve 4-6 residents in each house. These residents participate in cooking, cleaning and other daily details of keeping a home but still need 24-hr supervision. We currently have 10 homes (CILA) in the community that serve about 45 of our residents.

Our prayer is that we can deliver

good quality services that are helpful to those that we serve but more than this, our prayer is that God’s name can be lifted up as we continue to serve for as long as He gives us the privilege.

Some activities that the residents participated in this month have included trips to the new Bass Pro Shops in East Peoria; bowling; CIRT; eating out & swimming. With the beautiful weather we’ve been having, some have enjoyed miniature golf, a couple of trips out to an apple orchard and taking walks. There are some residents who enjoyed a night of dancing and hanging out with friends at the Schramm Homecoming and Fall Festival at PARC.

**GATEWAY WOODS
APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
CHILDREN’S HOME**

Alisa Beyer

October 6 marked our one-year anniversary at Gateway Woods. After experiencing many stretching moments as we stepped into the role of Alternate Houseparents, we are rejoicing to know the promises of God’s Word are sure!

One of our residents, Caleb, came to Gateway Woods on the same day we did. He said he was glad to be here, and by his large smile, it was easy to believe. Within a few weeks he realized just how hard it was to change and he began fighting the structure and rules of Gateway. He definitely wasn’t sure about all this “God stuff”. During one of our house devotions, he started asking questions. My husband invited him to write his questions down. Caleb started with, “What if everything in the Bible is false, and there really is no God?”

He filled two pages with his doubts and fears. We answered his questions the best we knew how and prayed for God to give him faith to believe. It was amazing to watch God slowly open Caleb’s heart and mind to the truth of the gospel.

A few months later we had a severe thunderstorm. Since a tornado warning had been issued, we brought the residents and our family to the basement. All the residents were scared. Every time we’d hear a big thunderclap, the girls would cry out and huddle closer together. The boys didn’t say much, but their faces were sober. We’ve noticed when residents begin to believe there really is a God and to understand their sin and rightful judgment before Him, powerful thunderstorms bear witness to their souls that they are not at peace with this Holy God.

We hadn’t realized Caleb had grabbed his Bible before coming down until we saw him stand up and ask if he could read a Psalm out loud to the group! My husband gave him permission and Caleb began reading. You could feel the Spirit began to calm the residents. After he finished reading, we sang several songs, and by the time the tornado warning had passed there were more than a few residents who were disappointed to be heading back upstairs. They did not want this taste of feeling the peace of God to end.

By God’s grace, Caleb did repent for his sin and put his trust in Jesus Christ for his salvation. God and His word changes the hearts of people beyond what any human could ever hope to accomplish. Proverbs 21:1 says, “The king’s heart is in the hand of the LORD: He turneth

it whithersoever He will,” and Psalm 19:7 says, “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul”.

Although not every resident makes such dramatic changes spiritually during their time spent at Gateway, God’s Word also tells us, “So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.” Isaiah 55:10-11. We trust every heart that leaves Gateway has seeds of Truth planted in it that will one day, by God’s grace, take root and flourish. Please pray that we will be diligent to plant seeds of Truth with love and clarity. Then together, we can give God glory as He draws souls to Himself and changes us all to be more like Jesus!

News:

- We are thrilled to welcome Sis. Kaitlyn Isaia (Chicago, IL) to Gateway Woods. Kaitlyn has been an intern in the past, but now has been brought on full-time to serve in both our Adoption and Home-Based Departments.

- Gateway Woods welcomed one new resident to campus this past month. Please pray with us as he becomes accustomed to his new home. It can be a difficult adjustment for new residents as they discover a very different living situation than they have experienced before.

- 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.

- 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. 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](https://www.facebook.com/gatewaywoods) often for updates, and make sure that you are on our mailing list. In an effort to be as efficient as possible we are gathering as many email addresses as we can for our E-Post. Please send a message to mail@gatewaywoods.org.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL Athens, AL Susan Koch

Our themes for October were Transportation and the Circus. One of the memory verses this month came from I John 4:8, “...God is love.” This is such a simple statement, but gives the best definition of love that can be found. It is a concept that is so difficult to grasp yet we have the perfect example of love from Jesus Christ. This past Sunday we learned about the two commandments Jesus talked about. The brother who spoke sim-

plified them like this: Love God, and love others. If we can abide by these two principles, everything will fall into place.

One of the challenges of the curriculum we work with at the preschool is finding activities each week that correspond to the letter we are focusing on. For example when I plan my lessons, I keep in mind the letter of the week, the monthly themes, the art supplies we have on hand, and the ability levels of my students. Sometimes I get bogged down with thoughts like, “Am I reaching these students, and do they understand what I’m trying to teach them?” But then I remember that it’s not always about the activities, but about the example I am leaving them. I should be asking myself, “Am I responding to my students like Christ would, or am I showing them the love of God in my actions?” This is a preschool and educating the students is important, but bringing them the message of Jesus Christ surpasses all else.

ALABAMA, ATHENS Pam Moore

“And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.”

Luke 12:29-31

This verse is such a reminder to me, that if we seek God first, He will add all that we need!

The young group from U of I

made a trip to Athens, completed a work project, and enjoyed an evening together. Thank you U of I young group! We also want to thank those who visited that weekend and shared God's Word with us.

The Preschool Board Meeting brought Elder Bros. Andy Stoller, Ben Wiegand, and Mark Masters. We want to thank Bro. Duane Reutter and Sis. Kay (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Daron Price (Milford, IN) for bringing us God's Word on Sunday.

We had a great weekend with Bro. Jeff and Sis. Ruth Grimm (Goodfield, IL), as they brought a busload of young people and families from Goodfield, to share the weekend with us in Athens. Thank you so much for your efforts and for sharing God's Word on Sunday!

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

I need the prayers of those I love,
to help me in each trying hour.

Hymns of Zion #201

Many of our loved ones have had serious health concerns this month. Sis. Connie (Bro. Ed) Frautschi, Bro. Jim (Sis. Lois) Beres and Bro. John (Sis. Wilma) Pulfer are in need of our prayers along with the following who have had surgical procedures: Sis. Johanna Knochel, Ruth Finley, Sis. Heather (Bro. Todd) Hinrichsen, Sis. Kathy (Bro. Nate) Knochel and Lauren Meiss (Bro. Jim and Sis. Candy). We pray for each one, that the Lord will comfort and heal according to His will.

Sis. Ruth Wuthrich passed away in Roanoke, IL, where a memorial service was held on October

9. Sis. Ruth lived in Phoenix for many years and was loved by all those who knew her. What a blessing for her to gain her heavenly reward!

We welcome Bro. Chad Braker (Morton) to our congregation as he plans to continue his education here in AZ. We are so glad to have him assemble with us!

Now thank we all our God,
with hearts and hands and voices...

Zion's Harp #236

As our children prepare for the annual Sunday School picnic and program, let us pray for them and their teachers as they are our future church! With Thanksgiving fast approaching, our hearts are full of thankfulness in large and small blessings and as our cooler temperatures arrive, we welcome our "snowbirds"! We look forward to this time of year and all the visitors our mild winter brings!

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

Denise Steidinger

I failed to mention previously that we welcome Bro. Craig Huber (Bro. Ryan and Sis. Terri) from Bloomington, IL. He moved here in August to attend Embry Riddle Aeronautical University. He is a joy to have around!

We were blessed this past month with many visitors! Those who came to minister the Word were: Bros. Tom Bahler (Sis. Lanae, Rockville), Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern), Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin), Tom Leman (Sis. Marlene, Denver), and Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan, Taylor).

"Go ye therefore, and teach all

nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you."

Matthew 28:19-20

The USA World Relief Committee and their wives spent a weekend with us after checking up on some projects in New Mexico. We enjoyed a potluck together followed by Elder Bro. Kent Heimer and Bro. Chuck Kellenberger talking about what all the World Relief Committee does and the projects that they visited while here. Bro. Stan Schambach was asked to join the USA World Relief Committee to be involved in the southwest projects, and we all give him our support in this new role.

As believers in Jesus Christ, we are all called to show Christ's love and confess His name wherever we are placed.

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

On Sunday, October 9, we gathered at a local park for our annual Sunday School picnic. This is always a special day for our little church. We enjoyed visits from out of town friends and family as well as loved ones here in town who always make a point to be with us. It's kind of a reunion as well as a picnic! We were blessed with a beautiful day of sunshine and light breezes, wonderful food and such beautiful fellowship. Throw in a pinata and a bake sale/auction and it's one of our favorite days of the year. Many thanks to everyone who helped make the day a complete success – those who organized, baked, brought food, supported our auc-

tion, helped clean up or made a special effort to be there – you were all a blessing! Can't wait til next year, Lord willing.

Making October 9 even more special was a visit from Bro. Keith Hinrichsen and his wife, Sis. Tammy, from Phoenix. Bro. Keith was willing to share the Word with us from the pulpit Sunday morning, for which we are so appreciative. Our love and thanks go to Bro. Keith and Sis. Tammy for their sacrifice of time on our behalf. We thoroughly enjoyed your visit.

I held off faxing this article hoping that a special little girl would make her entrance into the world, and my patience paid off! Victoria Grace Darling was born to Brett and Mindy Darling on Thursday, October 13. Her arrival was highly anticipated by a large number of people including her brand new grandparents, Bro. Brad and Sis. Sandy Bauer, and also her great-grandparents, Bro. Don and Sis. Glo Bauer. "Tori" is a perfectly healthy little girl for which we are all exceedingly thankful. Our God is so very good!

We were excited to have a visit from Bro. Jamin Steffen on a recent Sunday. He was here to defend his dissertation at the University of Arizona. So good to see him again and get the report that Sis. Lauren, Reuben and Eli are doing well.

We are heating up this week to the mid 90's as we approach the halfway point of October. Not too unusual, unfortunately, but we hope to see the last of the 90's any day now. Today was 82 and perfectly sunny, so we can't really complain too much!

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Yasmin Koehl

We were blessed with an abundance of visitors!

Amongst our visitors were ministering Bros. Merlin Meyer (Sis. Marilyn, Lester, IA), Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH), and Joe Klotzle (Sis. Sue, Altadena, CA).

Sis. Breana Wagenbach (Bro. Doug and Sis. Lillian) was announced for marriage to Bro. Vince Fiechter (Elder Bro. Lynn and Sis. Rhonda) of Bluffton, IN. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they enter a new phase in their lives by faith.

KITCHENER, ONTARIO

CANADA

Kim Leman

"It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not."

Lamentations 3:22

We are thankful for the Lord's mercies on Henry and Sis. Astrid Schlauch's son, Dennis. He was charged by a grizzly bear while hunting in western Canada. By the Lord's hands, he was able to bring the bear down at close range before it reached him.

We enjoyed the fellowship and appreciated the ministry of Bros. Dan Pfister (Sis. Sherry, Bluffton North, IN) and Jesse Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie, Detroit, MI). May God bless them for their efforts to travel and be used on our behalf.

REGINA, SK

CANADA

Myrna Shipley

Greetings from Regina!

In September we had Elder Bro. Gerry and Sis. Ellen Hertzell (Sabetha) to share the Word. My husband and I travelled that same weekend to Alberta for my brother Ed Leir's funeral.

Another group of eleven people from Silverton church came to our church on a train trip. They brought along ministering Bro. Todd and Sis. Michele Zollinger. On Saturday we got together at church for a nice supper and a singing and on Sunday we worshipped together.

We realized something that weekend which we never thought would happen! We were crowded in church with many people. This sounds like a problem, but to us it's a wonderful situation. This shows that there are many of us who need the Lord and also the fellowship of other believers.

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

Hebrews 10:25

COLORADO, DENVER

Lily Zarkovacki

"Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable."

Psalms 145:3

Our church was richly blessed by the messages brought to us by our visiting ministers this month: Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS), Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA), and Bro. Jeff Bahr (Sis. Janice, Kiowa, KS).

We were also blessed to have Bro. Troy Leyse (Sis. Kelly, Bluffton, IN) give a presentation for LSM, and also spend the day with us on Sunday.

Our high school Sunday school class had our annual trip to Kansas. This year the Sabetha, KS, church hosted it, and we appreciate the love and hospitality we felt. It was a blessing to both children and teachers alike!

“Now the God of peace be with you all.”

Romans 15:33

**CONNECTICUT
ROCKVILLE
Laura Virkler
Bonnie Bahler**

“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; Though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof.”

Psalms 46: 1-3

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Sis. Matilda Ott, as she has gone on to be with her Lord. Our prayers are with her children, Sis. Lorraine (Robert) Dombek, Wendy (David) Ewen, Nelson, Gary and his wife Laura, and Randy and his wife Katherine, and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great, great-grandchildren, who so willingly took care of their dear mother.

We are so blessed to have Elders and ministers who instruct us in the ways of the Lord. We would like

to thank Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL) for preaching the Word of God to us, and also Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL) for sharing the responsibilities of reading the Memorandum. We thank these brothers for their willingness to serve on our behalf.

Our prayers are with Bro. Jason Kloter (Sis. Sue) as he is recovering from an accident.

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WASHINGTON
Henrietta Meyer**

We are thankful our September caretakers, Bro. Glenn and Sis. Christa Moser from Roanoke, IL, were able to stay a little longer since our October caretakers were unable to come. We're happy and thankful to report that our caretaker schedule is almost entirely booked for 2012. We look forward to meeting new caretakers each month, as well as reconnecting with caretakers who come for a second or third visit. We are beginning to book into 2013, so if this is something you are considering, contact Sis. Doreen Steffen at 302-540-6574 or dkgsteffen@gmail.com.

Our ministers this month were Bro. Dale Moore (Sis. Cheryl, Elgin, IA), Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo, Leo, IN), Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Dave Obergfel (Sis. Kathy, Peoria, IL), Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie) and Bro. Tony Manz (Sis. Denise), both from Junction, OH. Other visitors were from Morton, Bradford, Princeville, Goodfield, Fairbury, Gridley and Congerville, IL; Kan-

sas City, MO; Fort Scott, KS; Nashville, TN; Milford, IN and Philadelphia, PA.

Bro. Tyler Lanz (Philadelphia, PA) has an extended work assignment in the DC area. We are glad to have him worship with us for six weeks.

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**

Our congregation lost a dear brother to eternity this past week, as Bro. Bob Huber passed suddenly from this life. Bob was known by all as a kindly man with a wonderful Christian humor and a gentle nature that made us all love him. He loved the sea and gave many accounts of his appreciation of everything he experienced in his life. Our love and prayers are with Sis. Doris and his children and family. We will miss his presence and know that the place we all strive for will be a place of joyous reunion when we meet again. What a Friend we have in Jesus.

Several in our congregation are looking forward to family weddings and we certainly enjoy seeing our children become couples, especially when faith is in their life. We can see the cycle of life all around us and learn lessons daily about the importance of keeping faith at the forefront of our existence here on earth.

We now move into the fall and

winter season, which will bring our winter residents and visitors to South Florida. We enjoy everyone's visits and wish all safe travels when they are able to come.

Visiting ministers this month included Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Oakville, IA) and Bro. Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington, IL).

**FLORIDA
NORTH FORT MYERS
Victor Beer**

"Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father" is on our mind and heart these days as our winter season folks start to assemble with us. Renewing acquaintances is so special, as many are from many years back.

We are so glad to have our Sis. Carolyn Siegle back with us since her hospitalization, and now enjoying the hospitality and care of her daughter. She has said, "I wish to thank all who remembered me through the time of my illness. God bless you for your kindness and love."

Our church was greatly blessed this last month by our visiting ministers. Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO) blessed us and also Bro. Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington, IL) who served us faithfully for several weeks. We truly appreciated the visits of these ministering brothers and their wives.

**FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Kim Ott**

"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any

wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Psalm 139:23-24

A portion of our congregation once again traveled north for our annual weekend at Lakewood Retreat. We were thankful to have Bro. James Emch and his wife, Sis. Gina, from Phoenix, AZ, share with us the insightful and inspiring topic, having a heart-felt relationship with God. The Biblical teachings were illustrated with the concept of the cross of Jesus Christ. He encouraged us to repent of our sins and bring all of our burdens to the foot of the cross with empty hands open downward. Then once we have made this step, we can raise our arms with hands open and palms up towards the top of the cross, ready to receive all of the goodness that God wants to extend. When we have reached this point, it is then that we can spread our arms outward as the horizontal beam of the cross and help others in this world. Bro. James also spoke to us about improving the quality of relationships with others, but explained that this could only be accomplished once we have understood the importance of our quality relationship with God.

We were all blessed with hearts overflowing, not only by Bro. James' Bible study, but also by the wonderful fellowship of like-minded believers, singing of worship to our God, and Sunday School class for students of all ages. We are grateful to all of the people who helped the weekend to run smoothly and successfully.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA

During the month of October, we were blessed by the ministering hearts of Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna; Remington, IN) and Bro. Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn; Taylor, MO). Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus shared in reading the Memorandum with Elder Bro. Tom Waldbeser. Constantly, we are touched by the joyful spirits of those who travel many miles to encourage and minister to our congregation!

We said good-bye to Bro. Kevin and Sis. Erica Kipfer, as they returned to Ethiopia with their precious daughter, Ellie. They will only be in Africa for a few weeks, so we are eagerly awaiting their return!

In the month of October, we always anticipate our church potluck affectionately known as "The Bonfire"! We gather at Bro. John and Sis. Mary Brewer's home and enjoy food and fellowship. It is always a highlight and blessing!

**ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Shayla Steffen
Doreen Moser**

"Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."

Matthew 5:4

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Lana Schifferer (Bro. Bill) as she mourns the loss of her brother, Kenny DiPirro.

"Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do."

I Thess. 5:11

Our church family enjoyed the beauty of God's creation on two occasions this month. We gathered for a potluck at our local state park the fourth weekend in September. We also strengthened our Christian friendships and endured some colder temperatures the first weekend in October at our annual church camping.

"Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"

Hebrews 1:14

Although we are all ministers in our own way during our daily lives, we thank and pray for the ministers who bring forth the Word on Sunday. We especially thank the many who are willing to travel and minister at our small church. We thank Bro. Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN) for bringing his family to visit our church and relying on the Spirit to bring forth the Word.

**ILLINOIS
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Shelly Steffen
Heidi Rinckenberger**

"Blessed is every one that feareth the LORD; that walketh in his ways."

Psalms 128:1

This month we were so blessed to welcome two new babies. On September 14, Bro. Randy and Sis. Erica Stuerman welcomed their first baby, Allie Grace. Happy first-time grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Teresa Bruellman from Naples, FL.

Bro. Eric and Sis. Martney

Huber also were blessed with their first baby boy, Cohen David, on September 21. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Debbie Huber and Harold and Marilyn Stickling from Peoria, IL. We pray the Lord's blessing on these two new families and thank Him as a Church family for letting us share in the blessings.

We always welcome visiting ministering brothers. This month we had Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) and Bro. Tom Bollinger (Tremont, IL) worship with us. We are grateful to them and their wives for taking time and effort to be with us.

**ILLINOIS, BRADFORD
Roseann Stahl
Sandi Joos**

We want to extend a warm welcome to Sarah Winkelmann, a German exchange student who is living with Bro. Kevin and Sis. Sara Wagenbach.

Sis. Kayla Shernak (Jeff Shernak, Teresa Vandenberg) and Bro. Joe Kummer (Bro. Chris and Sis. Patty) of Peoria were united in marriage on October 9. We appreciated having Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Debbie, Peoria) with us for the day.

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Bro. Clarence and Sis. Sharon Bruell in the loss of their granddaughter, Brooke Bruell. May the comfort of the Lord be with their family at their time of loss.

God paints the clouds in the evening sky,
to show me the way to the palace on high,
and stars mark the pathway lest my feet should roam.

It's sunset and I'm going home.

Gospel Hymns #812

This was a favorite hymn of Sis. Lucille Kieser (Bro. Sam, dec.) who passed from this life on October 23. Surviving children are Bro. Jerry (Sis. Wilma), Sis. Bonnie, Sis. Bertha Jean Herrmann (Bro. Harry, dec, Princeville), Sis. Jane Leman (Bro. Marvin, Princeville), and daughter-in-law, Sis. Shirley (Bro. David, dec, Princeville), along with many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren.

We welcome Bro. Marvin Baer (Ron and Sis. Deann) as our new brother in the Lord. Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke) was here to assist Elder Bro. Bruce. Other brothers serving us from the pulpit were Bro. Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park) and Bro. Glen Braker (Sis. Audrey, Princeville). What a blessing it is to hear of the work of the Lord, converting the heart of man.

Needing medical attention this month are Bro. David (Sis. Barb) Klumpp, Chase Stahl (Bro. Weston and Sis. Jill) and Bro. Paul Nenadov (Sis. Marilyn). We trust that God will extend His healing power upon each one in need.

"Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest."

St. Luke 10:2

May we all be reminded that while we are still here on earth there is yet work to be done in the fields that are white with harvest.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN**Sarah Drake**

We are thankful for several visiting ministers who were willing to share God's Word with us this month. We thank Bro. Les Kaeb (Sis. Christine, Francesville) and Bro. Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis) for their service. We also thank Elder Bro. David Steffen (Sis. Linda, Elgin) for preaching and assisting with our Memorandum reading on October 16.

On Columbus Day weekend we had our church wiener roast and hayrack ride hosted by Bro. Dennie and Sis. Cheryl Mangers. We are always happy to see all the "alumni" of Champaign church (or our local colleges) who return to the area for the annual event.

We rejoice with our newly-baptized Brother and Sister, Bro. Eric and Sis. Marissa Bahler, over the blessed weekend of their testimonies and baptisms on October 23-24. It was a truly wonderful weekend of hearing how our great God has worked in the lives of this young couple. Retired Elder Bro. Phil Stettner (Sis. Maureen, Bluffton North) was here to help with the proceedings.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. Darren and Sis. Sue Plattner in the passing of Sis. Sue's grandmother, Sis. Eunice Martin of Eureka, but we are thankful that her passing was peaceful and that Sis. Eunice can now rest eternally in the arms of her Savior.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO**Rachel Meyer**

Greetings from Chicago. We are thankful that our retired Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy)

continues to recover from open heart surgery. May God bless them.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Amber Virkler (Bro. Brian) upon the passing of her father, Phillip Rocke. Let's continue to pray for this dear family.

We rejoiced to hear the engagement of Bro. Bryce Westfall (Bro. Dave and Sis. Julie) and Sis. Andrea Giltner (Bro. Rocky and Sis. Melinda) from Bluffton North. May God bless them as they plan their life together.

On October 2 a reception was held for Bro. Lenny and Sis. Charlotte Meyer commemorating their retirement from the ministry. Words seem inadequate to thank this beloved couple for the service they have given throughout the years.

We thank Bro. Rick and Sis. Rachel Meyer for accepting a term on the Vacation Bible School Committee.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to thank all of you who remembered us in prayer, cards and gifts during Dale's heart surgery. We truly felt the Lord's help through this experience and were touched by the multitudes of prayers that arose to our Heavenly Father on our behalf.

This year has kept our mailman busy with the many many cards we received beginning with Dale's 70th birthday in January, our 50th anniversary in June and now his surgery in September.

May the Lord bless each of you for your kindness to us.

Dale and Judy Eisenmann

There is an organization near

our house that assists children/adults who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. I pass their building often in my daily life. As I passed by the other day, I noted the road sign that read, "Deaf Child Area". For the first time I was struck by that sign as it applies to my life and my relationship with my Father God and Brother Jesus Christ. All too often I am that child who is deaf - closing my ears to God's will and direction for my life even though I feel the conviction to act. I can close my ears, or heart, and kick against what I am being told through the Spirit, usually because it is not my will. How many of us experience this? I am praying that I may have the grace and strength to listen to the Spirit...and then act regardless of my will. May God bless you all.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK**Marilyn Maul****Tina Walder**

We rejoice with Bro. Rod and Sis. Beth Steffen with the birth of another grandson. Oakly was born to their daughter, Bro. Jeff and Sis. Gretchen Moser. May God bless them as they teach this little one the heavenly way to live.

Looking forward to marriage in June are Heidi Maul and Ryan Musson. Their parents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Wanda Maul and Gary and Vonnie Musson of Sadorus. May God grant them blessings as they make plans for their special day.

Sis. Amanda McClure from Congerville has taken a teaching position in our area and has chosen to assemble with us. We welcome her to our church home.

Our prayers for healing are for

Grace Farney and Steve Miller as both have had surgeries recently.

We so appreciate the labors of our visiting brethren when they come to teach us of God's way. Visiting us this month have been Elder Bros. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington), Curt Frank (Sis. Lila, LaCrosse) and Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary Ann, Fairbury). Also, ministering Bros. Jedd Rocke (Sis. Marsha, Goodfield), Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign), Dan Moser (Sis. Anne, Elgin, IL) and Dennis Kaufmann (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington).

We were saddened to learn of the death of Sis. Martha Feucht of Lester, IA. She is the mother of our Sis. Beth Steffen. Our prayers of sympathy are with Sis. Beth and her family.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE **Rachel Currier**

"Sing unto the Lord with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God:"

Psalm 147:7

As we consider this Thanksgiving season, we certainly have many things to be thankful for, how God has provided for us in the past.

We appreciate the labor of visiting ministers again this month. They include Bro. John Steiner (Oakville), Bro. Willis Ehnle (Peoria), Bro. Bill Dotterer (Lamar), Bro. Joe Dotterer (Bloomfield), Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Eureka), Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Kansas City), Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Wolcott), Bro. Dean Steffen (Belvidere), Bro. Ron Isch (Lamont-Gridley), Bro.

Ken Schneider (Remington), and Bro. Brad Gudeman (Bradford). May they continue to feel God's nearness as they seek to bring forth His Word.

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

We appreciated the ministry of visiting Bros. Ed Fritz, Brad Gudeman, Alan Schambach, and Dean Steffen, whose wives and families also warmed our church gatherings in the past month.

The Brotherhood Conference meditations on the principles of salvation, stewardship, and sanctification gave us much to ponder and apply. One of our Elders quoted Proverbs 4:18: "... the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day." May that be our goal!

Bro. Todd and Sis. Pauli Schambach were delighted to have Jasmine Gabriela join their family on October 1. Jasmine's older brothers are Christian and Nicholas, and her grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Jeanne Schambach.

The next evening at the Fellowship Center, there was a welcome reception for the Iyiola family: Olabisi, Victoria, and Nathaniel. Olabisi has been living with a church couple while studying at a local college. Recently, his wife Victoria and son Nathaniel were able to leave their homeland and be reunited with him in America.

Following the Iyiola reception, Sis. Heidi Krueger (Mary) gave a presentation on her work at the orphanage in Magdalena. She decided to leave her occupation and home in Elgin to help meet the

needs of less fortunate children in Mexico. We miss Sis. Heidi but pray the Lord will keep her in his care and bless her service.

Arvid Miller (Cindy) spent time in the hospital but is now receiving home health care. He and Cindy are thankful for prayers on their behalf.

Sis. Maria Steffen, daughter of Elder Bro. Dave and Sis. Linda, was recently diagnosed with aplastic anemia and is anticipating additional hospitalization for treatment in the very near future. Her family has requested special prayers in this challenging situation.

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

Romans 8:28

Our sympathies are extended to those who have lost loved ones. Sis. Imogene Stieglitz, Bro. Dave Stieglitz's aunt, passed away October 1 in Leo, IN. Bro. Richard Hartman lost his sister on October 13. Sis. Shirley DeBolt had resided at the Apostolic Christian Home of Eureka.

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

Jacie Fehr (Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane) found the yoke is easy and the burden is light as she began in faith her repentance.

Sis. Traci Hoerr (Bro. Mark and the late Sis. Carolyn) and Bro. Ben Frieden (Bro. Floyd and Sis. Jan) were united in holy matrimony. "May they Thy holy laws obey, and live in joy and peace." (Hymns of

Zion #286)

Sis. Wilma Huber, Sis. Pauline Rocke and Sis. Clara Huber were saddened by the death of their brother and brother-in-law, Bro. Robert Huber (Sis. Doris, Fort Lauderdale, FL).

Sis. Eunice Martin departed this life and her funeral was held in Peoria church. She attended Eureka church in her latter years. "Think, man, death comes soon or late, tarry not, it will not wait." (Zion's Harp #253)

Bro. Jeremy, Sis. Kalsey and Rylee Knecht welcomed Summer Rae into their hearts. Grandparents are Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandy Knecht and Bro. Kent and Sis. Chris Leman. Bro. Dan, Sis. Kelly and Brooklyn Knecht were blessed with the addition of Tucker Lee. Grandparents are Bro. Ervin and Sis. Sandy Knecht and Bro. Kurt and Sis. Olivia Blunier.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Edie Stoller are thankful for a new grandson, Jadin Michael, born to Jon and Kathy Guth of Warsaw, IN.

We witnessed the proving and baptisms of Bro. Josh and Sis. Katie Wettstein (Bro. Jim and Sis. Dianne). "How happy is a lamb of Jesus, and how blest." (Zion's Harp #16)

Prayers have been raised for the will of God to be done in the lives of little Summer Knecht (Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Kalsey) and Sis. Nathalia Getz (Bro. Allan) as they have received medical care.

We appreciate the Word spoken through the Spirit of God. Visiting ministers spent in our behalf have been Bro. Floyd Frieden (Elgin, IA), Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury), Bro. Paul Kilgus (Fairbury), Bro. Pat Zaugg (West

Bend, IA), Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA), Bro. Mike Ursu (Kitchener, ON), Bro. Bill Dotterer (Lamar, MO), Bro. Bob Dotterer (Sardis, OH) and Elder Bro. Steve Sauder (Tremont).

Note of Thanks:

I want to thank everyone for their prayers, gifts, food, flowers and phone calls during my illness. Joel also appreciates these many acts of love. May God richly bless each one of you for your kindness.

Sis. Sonia Banwart

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY
Angela Herr
Kay Steffen

Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine;
Lord, I will forever and always be Thine,
for Thou hast created and purchased me too,
baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou makest me new.
Zion's Harp #209, vs. 1

The weekend of October 1 and 2 we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of four dear souls. We rejoice with Bro. Thane Zehr (Bro. Quinn and Sis. Joan), Sis. Lynette Waldbeser (Jim and Sis. Renae), Sis. Mandy Payne (John and late Sharon), and Bro. Tyson Fehr (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Cinda) and wish them God's continued grace as they walk with Him! We thank Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Elder Bro. Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA) for assisting our Elder Bro. Rick Plattner throughout the weekend.

On October 23 our Bible Class hosted Bible Classes from the

Champaign, Princeville, and Washington congregations. We were thankful to have Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), Bro. Daren Metz (Gridley, IL), and Bro. Craig Martin (Princeville, IL) in our midst and then with our Bible Class for this occasion.

Other visiting ministers serving our congregation this month were Bro. James Fehr (Tremont, IL), Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Bro. Al Schambach (Remington, IN), Bro. Dennis Rassi (Austin, TX), Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA), Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Elgin, IL), and Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL). We thank each of these brothers for sharing God's Word with us and pray that He will richly bless them.

Love, of all gifts, is the greatest which the Spirit does bestow...

Zion's Harp #37, vs. 1

We rejoice with Bro. Jason Edelman (Bro. Walt and Sis. Rosetta) as his engagement to Sis. Olivia Wuthrich (Sis. Valerie Wuthrich and Bill and Kathy Wuthrich) of Roanoke was made known on October 2. May God be with them and guide them as they plan for a life together.

October 8 was the wedding day of Hannah Fehr and Troy Schuler. Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marsha Fehr and Troy and Becky Schuler of Pekin and Shane and Sandra Ashba of Fairbury are their parents. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their married life.

"...there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner

that repenteth.”

Luke 15:10

We are thankful for a dear soul who has recently answered God's call and made a beginning in repentance. Our prayers are with Donita Kaisner (Bro. Don and Sis. Leona) as she begins her walk with the Lord.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Bro. Ray and Sis. Gladys Slagel in the loss of their brother-in-law, Phil Crouch (Delores) of Bourbonnais, who passed away on September 24. Our thoughts and prayers have also been with Rick and Cheryl Hoffman in the recent death of his sister, Kay Stevens (Rod), who passed away on October 9. We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Laura Knapp as her sister-in-law, Helen Knochel (Fred) of Bay City, MI, passed away on October 14. May God's comforting Spirit be with each one who has lost a loved one.

We welcome Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Virkler to our congregation as they have recently moved from Minneapolis, MN, to the condos near our church. May God bless and provide for them as they settle into their new home.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Lynn Dotterer

Lisa Aberle

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. David Eisenmann (Champaign, IL), Jacob Kuntz (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Chris Laukhauf (Latty, OH), Bill Masters (North Fort Myers, FL), Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Chris Wuethrich (St. Louis, MO), Mark Schmidgall (Eureka, IL), and Mark Zimmerman (Eureka, IL).

We're thankful to report that Janel Anliker (Bro. Bob and Sis. Linda), Brandon Edelman (Bro. Kent and Sis. Bethany), Tyler Edelman (Bro. Karl and Sis. Bethany), and Matthew Ricketts (Sis. Marie and the late Bro. Brian) have turned to God in repentance.

Cooper Paul is the first child of Isaiah and Brooke Stork. Cooper is welcomed by grandparents, Bro. Paul and Sis. Dawn Stork and Dale and Joni Studebaker (Fairbury, IL). Also first-time parents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Heidi Bachman, with the birth of Amyla Jean. Her thankful grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Donna Bachman and Elder Bro. Marvin and Sis. Nancy Dotterer.

Bro. Caleb Leman (Bro. Fred and Sis. Brenda) and Sis. Shannon Stork (Bro. Reuben and Sis. Devra) were united in marriage on October 9.

Bro. Larry Bachman (Sis. Donna), Sis. Kathryn Steidinger (Bro. Ivan), Bro. Terry Nussbaum (Sis. Deb), Bro. Fred Leman (Sis. Brenda), Rosanna Rudin (Bro. Andy and Sis. Jenise), Brenna Schneider (Bro. Matthew and Sis. Katie), and Bro. Leroy Koehl (Sis. Janita) were our hospital patients this month.

Note of Thanks:

I would like to thank all who remembered me with cards and gifts for my 90th birthday. Our church family is so wonderful. God bless you all.

Sis. Dorothy Zimmerman

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Kayla Wiegand

Melissa Rokey

A loving welcome to all the new-

born babies recently born into our church family! Lily Marie was born September 27 to Jeremy and Sis. Joni Zacha. She is welcomed home by brothers, Wyatt, Dylan, and Logan. Her grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Connie Allen and Elder Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki Martin (Eureka, IL).

Polly Jo was born on October 4 to Bro. Nate and Sis. Brittany Zeltwanger. Her older brother Brett welcomes her home. Her grandparents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Rhonda Zeltwanger and Joe and Sis. Karen Baker (Washington, IL).

Lainey Ann was born October 5 to Bro. Derek and Sis. Joy Roth. Her sisters, Naomi and Valerie, are glad to add her to the family. Her grandparents are Roy and Sis. Corrine Roth and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Rosemary Wiegand.

Clayton Jeffrey McClure was born on October 5 to Austin and Rachel McClure. His grandparents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Marilyn McClure (Congerville, IL) and Bro. Gary and Sis. Linda Folkerts (Washington, IL).

Nicholas Ray was born October 16 to Bro. Randy and Sis. Roxy Blunier. His older sisters, Katie and Nadia, welcome him home. His grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Pam Wiegand and Bro. Roger and Sis. Wendy Blunier (Eureka, IL).

“The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him.”

Exodus 15:2

We give thanks to God as he has worked in the hearts of Joe Brady

(Kevin and the late Gail) and Jon Hohulin (Bro. Ross and Sis. Heather) as each has begun his walk with Christ and turns his back on the world.

We are blessed to share the conversion of three dear souls that have felt the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in their lives, have come by faith, and expressed peace with God and man. Please pray for Kim Zimmerman (Jason), Norm Ricketts (Sis. Barb) and Fritz Hinrichsen (Bro. Mike and Sis. Gerri) and encourage them as they prepare for testimonies and baptisms on November 12 and 13.

It is a joy to hear of the engagement of our Sis. Megan Knapp (Sis. Judy, and the late Stan) to our Bro. Fred Rokey (Bro. Ken and Sis. Phyllis). We wish them God's nearness at this happy time as they make wedding plans and begin their life together.

We are keeping many in our prayers who are suffering health concerns. Wade Wiegand (Bro. Doug and Sis. Lynn) had surgery and is recovering following a kidney issue. Also undergoing back related surgery were Sis. Lydia Hohulin (Bro. Bill) and Sis. Arlene Hinrichsen. Our convert BJ Hinrichsen (Bro. Chuck and Sis. Brenda) has spent time in the hospital recently, as well as our Bro. Wes Knapp (Sis. Millie). Please remember all of them in prayer.

God with us! We need not fear;
Jesus crowns with life eternal!
Zion's Harp # 100

We sorrow with those in our congregation who have experienced the loss of a loved one. Bro. Alfred (Sis. Marie) Kieser lost a sis-

ter-in-law, Barbara Kieser (Longmont, CO), on October 5, and a brother-in-law, Cliff Snodgrass (Jonesboro, AR), on October 9.

Sis. Betty Bauman (Bro. Larry) lost her brother, James Schlipf, on October 10.

We also share the loss of our dear Sis. Shirley DeBolt, who passed away on October 13. Sis. Shirley has resided at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home since 1999. We comfort her family, Brad and Jill, Rod, Kevin, and Gary and Kim DeBolt, as well as her two sisters, Sis. Vi Wagner, Sis. Loretta Hess, and sister-in-law, Sis. Evelyn Hofmann.

We sincerely express thanks to Bros. Tim Dreyer (Sis. Gwen, Bluffton North, IN) and Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue, Champaign, IL) for sharing their time and ministry with us recently.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry A. Klopfenstein

“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he that is dead is freed from sin.”

Romans 6:6-7

God's Word is surely a lamp unto our feet. And it's divine contents serve as a guide on how we are to live, by the grace of God. We, as believers, are called to a high standard. And this standard is not attainable with our feeble human efforts, but can only reach fruition as God empowers us within to live for Him, and be a daily light in the world. In these dark times (in society), where sin abounds — and

men look to the things that are seen for fulfillment — our calling becomes all the more important. So that we can be lights and witnesses in the glorious cause of Christ Jesus. We seek the things that are unseen.

It was our pleasure to host Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Peoria) on Sunday, October 16. He preached both in the morning and afternoon. It was his 86th birthday. God still gives him much strength and power to meditate on the Scriptures, and it was surely a blessing. I am sure Bro. Willis wants all glory to accrue unto the Heavenly Father.

We welcome Melissa Zimmerman and children, Gage, Harmony, and Jaxon, from Fairbury.

Our sympathies are extended to Bro. Arlan and Sis. Katie Miller over the loss of her father, Bro. Verlin “Bur” Kellenberger, 62, of Lester, IA. He died on September 7.

Our sympathies are also given to Bro. Alan and Sis. Teresa Miller over the death of Sis. Teresa's grandmother, Genevieve Boian of Chenoa.

We are glad to report that Sis. Faith Steidinger is recovering well from very serious injuries sustained in a vehicle accident. Thanks to God for her recovery.

Our prayers are offered to God for the protection, both in soul and body, for 22 students from our congregation who are in college. The times are evil, and many precepts foreign to God's teachings have free course in many of our educational institutions.

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

“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a Rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”

Hebrews 11:6

We rejoice with and welcome Bro. Cole and Bro. Cody Zeller into the Body of Christ. They are the sons of Bro. Will and Sis. Dannelle Zeller.

We are grateful for visiting ministering Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago). Our appreciation to Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue) who gave us our Family Worship topic “Obedience to Completion”. What rejoicing we will experience when Completion in Christ brings us Eternal Life!

We will miss our Sis. Kathy Kaufmann who has moved to Leo, IN, to take a teaching position at Gateway Woods School. God be with you till we meet again!

On October 10, the wedding engagement of Sis. Amber Rassi to Bro. Brad Widmer was made known. Amber presently resides in Taylor and is the daughter of Bro. Gary and Sis. Debbie Rassi, Morton. Bro. Brad is the son of Bro. Neil and Sis. Christine Widmer, West Lafayette.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA**Pam Fritzenmeier**

We are thankful to report two converts at peace and look forward to hearing their testimonies and witnessing their baptisms October 22 and 23. These two dear young souls are Tori Stickling (Bro. Craig

and Sis. Jacki) and Josh Ginzel (Bro. Geoff and Sis. Angie).

We were blessed with two visiting ministers during this past month. Elder Bro. John Jackson (Sis. Peggy, Bay City, MI) ministered to all of us, including the Taylor Bible Class students who were also our guests, on September 25. Bro. Matt Kaufman (Sis. Rebekah, Bloomington) spent Wednesday evening, October 5, with us.

Our family hymn sing was held Sunday evening, October 2. What a joy to sing praises to our great God!

Sunday, October 9, was a very eventful, joyful day for our congregation! Bro. Joe Kummer was married in Bradford to Sis. Kayla Shernak. Parents of the bride and groom are Bro. Chris and Sis. Patty Kummer, Jeff and Melissa Shernak, and Mike and Theresa Vandenberg. The dedication of the beautiful Biblical Gardens at the Peoria Apostolic Christian Cemetery was held right after church. A reception celebrating the marriage of Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Bere Aupperle, Magdalena, was then held at the Fellowship Hall. May God richly bless these two special couples.

Sis. Elsie Eilers, and Adam (Margo) Marx are experiencing health issues and Sis. Sandy (Mark and Sis. Pam) Fritzenmeier is healing from a fractured lower back. Bro. Frances Meier passed away October 8. Please pray for healing and comfort for these families. Also remember our church families serving in distant lands, including Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Bere Aupperle and Bro. Zach Knobloch, Magdalena, and Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family and Sis. Janelle Grassi, Haiti.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**Gloria White****Linda Joos**

We are thankful for visiting ministers, willing to share with us the Living Word of God, inspired by the Holy Spirit. We appreciate the visits of Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL), Bro. Mark Wettstein (Lacrosse, IN), Bro. Roger Sauder (Ft. Lauderdale, FL), Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), and Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL).

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Eleanor Asal at the death of her sister, Maxine Chapman, on October 13. Our prayers are with Sis. Eleanor.

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Luann Endress are thankful for two new grandchildren. Clint and Stefanie Endress welcomed a precious baby daughter, Emma Grace, on May 29, 2011. Ty and Erin Endress have been blessed with a dear son, Owen, born August 19. May God's blessings rest upon these families as they raise their little ones.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Bro. Nathan Martin would like to express our sincere thanks for all the prayers, love, and cards. It was very evident to us how much our church family cares when someone is in need. May God bless each of you.

Sis. Esther Martin and family

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

Ephesians 4:11-12: “...and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the

work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.” On September 25, Bro. Wayne (Sis. Julie) Lemman retired from the ministry. We thank Bro. Wayne and Sis. Julie for their fifteen years of loving service to our congregation, in edifying the body of Christ, and pray for God’s continued peace and blessing upon them and their dear family.

On September 28, Bro. John Rassi (Tremont) spoke on “Who is to Blame?” at our monthly topical Bible Study. We thank Bro. John for his timely and thought provoking exhortations to us.

Ecclesiastes 4:12: “...and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.” We rejoice with Sis. Olivia Wuthrich of Leo (Sis. Val of Roanoke and Bill Wuthrich of Peoria) and Bro. Jason Edelman (Bro. Walt and Sis. Rosie) of Fairbury whose marriage engagement was announced on October 2. We are also thankful for Sam Sauder (Bro. Tom and Sis. Mary) of Peoria and Carrie DeWitt (Dennis and Rita Atkins) of Peoria who were united in marriage on October 15. We pray for God’s blessings on these dear couples as they establish their marriages on the Lord.

Psalms 150:6: “Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.” The Prairie Choristers and the Youth Choir sang for us at our Family Sing on October 2. It was a beautiful evening of worship and song.

Titus 3:5: “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us...” We are so thankful for our convert Brook Marcille who has given her heart to the Lord in repentance. We ask that the Lord

would continue to strengthen Brooke in her journey of faith.

Sis. Ruth Wuthrich, formerly of Phoenix, went to be with the Lord on October 7. She was a sister-in-law to Sis. Flo Wuthrich. Also Phil Rocke, formerly of Gridley, passed away October 5. He was a father to Sis. Amber (Bro. Brian) Vercler of Chicago. Bro. Francis Meier (Peoria) went to his heavenly home on October 8. He was a brother-in-law to Sis. Helen Fehr. And, on October 10, James (Lena) Schlipf of Eureka passed away. He was a brother to Mary Jane (Dean) Wettstein. We extend our love and deepest sympathy to these dear families and pray for God’s comfort and nearness upon them.

Acts 5:16: “...and they were healed every one.” We are so thankful for our Lord’s great healing powers particularly in the life of three-year-old Jonah Sauder (Bro. Matt and Sis. Hope). We continue to pray for Jonah as he is healing and also for Sis. Mabel Getz who has been hospitalized and is recovering.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell
Janice Sauder**

Bro. Jeff Grimm (Sis. Ruth, Goodfield) and Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Oakville, IA) were our visiting ministers this month, and we thank them for their service to God and to us.

Bro. Mike Meister (Sis. Dorothy) lost his mother, Jean Lockhart. Chris Allen’s (Sis. Sheri) grandma, Maxine Allen, passed away, and Sis. Sandy Kaiser’s (Bro. Don) stepfather, Donald Dunlap, has died. We extend our sincere

sympathy to these, our loved ones, during their time of grief.

Sis. Phyllis Lang, and Bro. Dick and Cindy Miller have all been in the hospital, and we pray for their continued recovery.

We also have some new babies to announce. Kenna Grace was born to Bro. Galen and Sis. Betty Rocke. Her siblings are Emily, Megan, Caleb, Anika, and grandparents are Sis. Kathy Rocke and Bro. Art and Sis. Eula Mogler (West Bend, IA). Cecily Rose is the firstborn daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Jenny Koch. Her grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Sally Koch and Bro. Ed and Sis. Kathy Wyss (Washington, IL). We wish these parents God’s grace as they raise these dear little ones for Him.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Nancy Lemman
Linda Folkerts**

“For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.”

Romans 12:3-5

God has created and fearfully formed each one in our family of Christ. We are all so uniquely different and bring with us a wide array of talent and spiritual gifts. We again held our annual fall Minister Appreciation Potluck on October 9. It was truly a joy to spend a potluck

evening of praise and fellowship while also formally extending an outward appreciation to the ministering brothers, their wives and families.

We were pleased to welcome many young college students for College Weekend on October 15-16. It was a blessing to host and share in their evening program and song service.

We rejoice as four families welcomed precious babies this month. Bro. Ed and Sis. Kathy Wyss are first-time grandparents as Bro. Bob and Sis. Jenny Koch (Tremont) welcomed Cecily Rose on October 3. Cecily's other happy grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Sally Koch (Tremont). Austin and Rachel McClure welcomed Clayton Jeffrey on October 5. Clayton's grandparents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Marilyn McClure (Congerville) and Bro. Gary and Sis. Linda Folkerts. Bro. Ben and Sis. Lexy Ginzler welcomed Daniel Benjamin on October 8. Daniel's grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Mary Ginzler (Peoria) and Bro. Daryl and Sis. Lucy Blunier (Goodfield). On October 17, Luke and Heidi Knapp welcomed little Carter Lucas into their family. Carter's big sister Bridget and his grandparents, Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda Knapp (Congerville) and Bro. Max and Sis. Mary Pfaffmann welcome him home. We praise God for the wonderful miracle of babies and the safe healthy delivery of these wee babes.

We are glad to report that Sis. Pearlina Streitmatter is recovering well after her knee surgery.

We were thankful that Bro. Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA) joined us for our monthly topi-

cal Bible study.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Suzie Fiechter

Kim Meyer

Our congregation has said goodbye to three dear brothers who have gone home to heaven. Bro. Gerald Fiechter (Sis. Eunice) passed away on September 23. Bro. Vernon Geisel (Sis. Luella) also went home to heaven on October 13. Bro. Earl Stucky (Sis. Marjorie) passed away as well. We lift these families up in prayer as they grieve the loss of their loved ones.

Rich and Joy Conrad are rejoicing in the birth of their son, Michael. His grandparents would be Bro. Terry and Sis. Gloria Steffen. On September 13, Rhett Tucker was born to Bro. Jarin and Sis. Julie Tucker. Bro. James and Sis. Karen Widmer (Smithville) are delighted to be first-time grandparents to Rhett. Bro. Brian and Sis. Jessie Steffen welcome Asher into their family. His thankful grandparents would be Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen Steffen and Bro. Allen and Sis. Arlene Steffen.

Speaking of family additions, Elder Bro. Lynn and Sis. Ronda Fiechter will have a new addition to their family. They are pleased to announce the engagement of their son, Bro. Vince, to Sis. Breana Wagenbach (Bro. Doug and Sis. Lillian, San Diego). Bro. Aaron Rush (Steve and Kelly) and Sis. Katie Gerber (Bro. Jay and Sis. Deb) were married on September 18. Bro. Austin Gerber (Bro. Dean and Sis. Jaci) and Sis. Rachel Powell (Bro. Don and Sis. Carol, Rittman) were united in marriage on October 2 at Toledo, OH. We rejoice with these young couples and

pray they will intentionally seek and serve the Lord as one.

We have two young men, Philip Gerber and Brandon Kaehr, who have decided to seek the Lord and turn their back to the world. Philip would be the oldest son of Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn Gerber and Brandon would be the oldest son of Bro. Brent and Sis. Allison Kaehr.

Sis. Joyce Gehring (Bro. Clarren) is thankful to have blood pressure and a pulse back in her left leg. Melanie Bertsch (Bro. Nick and Sis. Brooke) will be having corrective surgery down in Indianapolis. We pray all goes well with her surgery and recovery. Jason Graf (Deb Snider) underwent back surgery and will be recovering for the next four to five weeks. We uphold Bro. Zach Bertsch (Sis. Jenny) in prayer as he continues his battle with cancer. Bro. Zach was able to share his testimony with the church and how God has been working in their lives and through his illness.

Bro. Doug and Sis. Tonia Isch, along with their children, will be in Haiti until Christmas doing work with Loving Shepherd Ministries. We pray for effectiveness in the work, safety for the family and the ongoing work of LSM in Haiti.

Our Sunday School teachers had their annual nomination supper. We pray the Lord will prepare the hearts of the nominees and give them a willingness to serve and teach our children about the love of God.

We always enjoy visiting ministers and this past month we were blessed with two visitors, Bro. Joe Sprunger (Sis. Tara, Indianapolis) and Bro. Seth Gerber (Magdalena). How blessed we are to be able to

travel from church to church and know that the Word will be preached in truth no matter where we are or who is speaking.

One of our ministering brothers made the following comment while he was closing a sermon and it has made me think what am I doing and why: How we live today is how we will live our lives.

May you rejoice in the goodness of our God in the following month!

“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men.”

Colossians 3:23

INDIANA
BLUFFTON NORTH
Jessie Longenberger
Amy Moser

“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.”

Psalms 91:1

Our thoughts and prayers are with Marcia Brewster (Bro. Brian) and her family as she suffered a stroke this month. We are holding them up in our prayers and asking God to hold them in His almighty arms as they journey through this difficult time.

Two more wedding engagements were made known in September. Sis. Andrea Giltner's engagement was announced to Bro. Bryce Westfall (Chicago, IL). Sis. Andrea is the daughter of Bro. Rocky and Sis. Melinda Giltner. Bro. Bryce is the son of Bro. Dave and Sis. Julie Westfall (Chicago, IL). Sis. Claudia Gonzales (Bro. Javier {dec.} and Sis. Berta) of

Ixtlan, MX was also announced to Bro. Chad Aeschliman. Bro. Chad is the son of Bro. Alan and Sis. Deb. We rejoice with them as they begin their walk together.

We rejoice with Bro. Chris and Sis. Katy Stoller as they celebrate the arrival of their first child. Lincoln Cody was born on September 30. Grandparents are Sis. Irma Stoller (Latty, OH) and Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy Schlipf (Milford, IN).

Hear Thou my prayer, O God,
Unite my heart to Thee;
Beneath Thy love, beneath Thy rod,
from sin deliver me.

Hymns of Zion #148

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE
Mildred Clauss
Jacki Huber

“If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land”

Isaiah 1:19

“Throughout the Bible...when God asked a man to do something, methods, means, materials and specific directions were always provided. The man had only one thing to do: obey.”

- *Elizabeth Elliot*

It was a blessed day for our congregation on October 9 when Bro. Randy Gudeman was ordained to serve as a deacon. Visiting ministers on the pulpit were Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Morton) and Bro. Nick Gutwein (West Lafayette) who brought forth the morning message. Elder Bros. Curt Frank (La-Crosse) and Steve Ringger (Bluffton North) delivered the afternoon message and ordination

service. Retired Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman also assisted with the ordination service. Other visiting ministers were present for the day and we thank each of them and their wives for coming to share with us in this special occasion. May God bless each one as only He can do!

On October 16, Bro. Rustin Meister (Sis. Amanda, West Lafayette) was our visiting minister and we are grateful to him and his family for coming to share the Word and to fellowship.

Recently our young group hosted Jr High & High School Weekend. We trust each of them were blessed and encouraged by their participation.

AJ and Raquel Gutwein have been blessed with a baby boy, Edyson Dean. Sharing in the joy of his arrival is his sister, Liberty, and grandparents, Bro. Jerry and Sis. Janice Gutwein and Phil and Anita Messer.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Arlene Metzger are happy to welcome a new granddaughter, Mia Nicole, born to Trenton and Kelli Metzger of West Lafayette. May God bless these dear young parents with wisdom from above to train their precious children in ways of Truth.

Over the past few weeks several of our church family have experienced challenging health issues; some spending time in the hospital and also undergoing tests. Included in this list is Sis. Angie Neihouser (Bro. Marty); Bro. Ellsworth Pelsy (Sis. Lu); Sis. Sandra Waibel (Bro. Nick); Bro. Andre and Sis. Lois Neihouser; Sis. Maxine Novotny (Bro. Art); and Bro. Chris Lee Wuethrich (Sis. Ruth). Our prayers are for each of

them to have a good recovery.

On October 22, our High School Sunday School Class is sponsoring a biscuits & gravy breakfast to earn funds for next summer's mission trip. It's an excellent learning experience for the young people to work together on projects as they plan for ways they can be helpful to others!

**INDIANA
INDIANAPOLIS
Penny Schroder
Sandy Lichtle**

On Wednesday, October 12, we were blessed to have Bro. Stan and Sis. Andrea Gutwein share with us about the work they are doing in the mission field in India. Our thoughts and prayers are with them as they return to India later this month.

We warmly welcome Dana Blunier (Bro. Kurt and Sis. Livy, Eureka, IL) to our congregation. Dana recently moved to the Indianapolis area, and he is attending Lincoln Technical School.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlen, Champaign, IL) and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Sis. Dixie, Bloomington, IL) for sharing the truths of God's Word with us this month. May the Lord richly bless them for their servant hearts.

**INDIANA, LACROSSE
Meagan Frank
Julie Rocke**

Bro. Glen and Sis. Sandy Heinold are thankful to welcome a new granddaughter into their family this month. Libby Marie arrived safely to bless the home of Mark and Katie Heinold.

We wish to thank Bro. Jim

Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA) for spending a weekend with us and preaching the Word of Life on our behalf. May God richly bless him as well as each of our ministering brothers and Sunday School teachers for the work they do for Him.

**INDIANA, LEO
Kirby Reutter**

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

Romans 12:15

This month in Leo, we had plenty of opportunity to experience a full spectrum of emotions. As a church family, we both rejoiced together and wept together on multiple occasions. Sometimes the rejoicing and weeping took place within the same family circle.

Birth announcements are always a good reason for praise. This month we were blessed with two. First, we rejoice with Bro. Shane and Sis. Stefanie Beer at the birth of precious little Reeve Russell, born on September 23. Reeve joins his two older siblings, Gavin and Olivia. Secondly, we rejoice with Bro. Darren and Sis. Britni Eisenmann at the birth of precious little Kaia Ember, born just one week later on September 30. Kaia joins her sister, Tallie Joy. Both of these dear couples have served as dedicated house parents here at Gateway over the past several years.

The death of a Christian warrior is always occasion for both praise and mourning. We extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Sis. Imogene Stieglitz, who passed

away on September 31. Thus, in the course of just two days, one new soul was brought into this world, while another soul was taken Home to glory. What a display of the life cycle before our very eyes (Ecclesiastes 1:4). Our dear Sis. Lavada Stieglitz made the following expression to her beloved Leo church family: “I want to thank each and every one for the love and kindness at the time of my dear sister Imogene's sickness and her passing away. May God bless each and every one.”

The testimony of spiritual regeneration is always another occasion for praise. On October 8, we were privileged to hear professions of faith from the following three individuals: Miranda Maibach (Bro. Mark and Sis. Julie); Cameron Stieglitz (Elder Bro. Lynn and Sis. Leonda); and Auburn Beyer (Bro. Keith and Sis. Alisa). We were additionally privileged the same weekend to have our dear Elder Bro. Mark Bahr join us from our beloved congregation in Detroit, MI.

Incidentally, not only is Auburn Beyer the granddaughter of Mark Bahr, but she is also the great-granddaughter of retired Elder Bro. Ben Maibach, who likewise passed on to his reward only weeks before Auburn was baptized. Thus, it was another object lesson to observe tears of mourning mingled with tears of joy across four different generations within the same family circle. The Spirit is truly faithful in all stages of life...and death.

The betrothal of two converted souls is yet another occasion for praise. On October 2, the engagement of Sis. Olivia Wuthrich to Bro. Jason Edelman was an-

nounced from the Leo pulpit. Sis. Olivia is originally from Roanoke, but has also served as the receptionist at Gateway Woods for more than the past year and a half. In addition, Bro. Jason attends the beloved Fairbury church. As a small organization which employs many single sisters, one of our greatest staffing problems is losing our best workers to marriage! However, this seems to be a good problem to have.

Finally, we also rejoice when visiting ministers lead us in worship. For example, both Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Klint Beyer (Sabetha, KS) were also present for the blessed weekend of testimonies and baptisms. In addition, the following four brothers were kind enough to serve the Leo flock on various other occasions: Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH); Bro. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN); Bro. Ed Sauder (Roanoke, IL); and Elder Bro. Dave Steffen (Elgin, IL). Incidentally, Bro. Dave is the father of Sis. Maria Steffen, who was hired several months ago to serve as the Assistant House Parent at the Cypress House, which brings us to the final section of this article.

Gateway Prayer Corner

A series of Gateway emails starting on October 4 revealed that Sis. Maria Steffen was suddenly hospitalized for an unexpected blood condition. Excerpts have been selected from several of these emails to summarize this situation.

10/18 - Wanted to let you know that Maria Steffen went to the ER last night. After some tests, it was found that her hemoglobin,

platelet and red blood cell counts were low in addition to some other symptoms. She received 2 units of blood throughout the night and received a bone marrow biopsy earlier this morning. The results of all the testing are pending. Her parents arrived earlier this morning and are staying with her at Parkview Main in Fort Wayne. Maria would appreciate your prayers as they await the results.

10/19 - I just talked with Maria's mom, Linda Steffen. Maria has a condition known as Aplastic Anemia, which essentially means her bone marrow is not producing blood cells. Maria is being transferred to the hospital at the University of Chicago for treatment, where she will undergo Immuno-Suppressant Therapy. The treatment could take several months, so Maria will be off for quite some time.

In short, let's all continue to remain prayerful for Sis. Maria and her family!

INDIANA, MILFORD

**Janie Price
Paula Haab**

As I sit to think about an article for this month, it is a rare 70 degree day in November and when you read this, it will be Christmas time. With all the upcoming shopping, baking and decorating, let us not to forget the real meaning of Christmas. We need to remind our children that God's gift, Jesus, is what Christmas really is, and not all of the gifts under the tree.

On October 30, we were pleasantly surprised to have Bro. John Reinhard (Sis. Pam, Bluffton) worship in Milford. They were in the area, and he willingly lent himself

to meditating upon God's Word for us. We thank him and ask God to bless him.

Many of us spent an evening filling lots of school bags and health kits for numerous children here and abroad. We really get a greater blessing than they, when the young and old work together.

Bro. Nelson (the late Sis. Shelby) and Sis. Minnie Beer welcomed another grandson when Bro. Darin and Sis. Rita (Bro. Nelson's daughter) Metz (Gridley) became parents to Crew Howard. Joe and Paige are old enough to babysit for their new brother. We hope to have them all visit Milford soon.

Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter was faithful again to lead us in a Bible study. He chose Luke 6:13. Do we really treat others like we would like to be treated?

Bro. Stan (Sis. Linda) Wuthrich had outpatient surgery that will require several weeks of therapy. We pray God will make the weeks ahead bearable and grant a full recovery.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Jenni Honegger
Marcella Tyler**

We are thrilled to welcome Sis. Brittany Weerts as a sister in the Lord after her baptism this month! Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Sis. Karol, Cissna Park) came to help our Elder Bro. Dan with this blessed event. Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington) is Brittany's grandfather and he also took his turn on our pulpit that weekend. We are thankful to these ministering brothers for their efforts. We are especially thankful that the Lord is ever faithful in His covenant with those who are willing to submit all

to Him!

We rejoice with Bro. Luke Bahler (Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette) and Sis. Hannah Stoller (Bro. Todd and Sis. Pam) of Latty as they announce their engagement to be married! May the Lord bless them as they grow closer to each other and closer to Him during this special time in their lives. (We regret that we did not report this last month due to an e-mail issue.)

Austin Keith is the firstborn son to Aaron and Kayla Kilgus and we are thankful for his safe and healthy arrival. Austin's thrilled grandparents are Elder Bro. Dan and Sis. Jenna Kilgus and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Kathy Wuethrich (Francesville). In addition, little Connor Alan was born to our Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Amanda Scheitlin. His big sisters, Ellie, Amalee, and Gracie, are excited to have a little brother in their home! Connor's grandparents are Bro. Rolyce and Sis. Lori Scheitlin and Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb Stoller. We pray that both young boys will grow and be nurtured in the Lord and become strong sons of God in due time.

Joe Vaughan (Betty) recently had surgery on his arm as a result of a workplace injury. We pray for his continued recovery and for the Lord's healing for him.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND **Laura Schaefer**

We have had a blessed month here in the Midwest, watching the leaves turn and seeing the business of the harvest around us. The changing seasons remind us of the spiritual truths that we have to die to become reborn and beautiful in and through Jesus our Lord. As we enter the Thanksgiving and

Christmas seasons, let's pray that God opens our eyes to the many needs around us. Many people, including some of our neighbors, have never sat around a table blessed with food, abundance, and true love - that many of us have grown accustomed to. Let God open your eyes during the coming seasons to the blessings we've been given, and look to the Provider of all good things for our daily spiritual and physical sustenance.

We've been blessed with several visitors who were either passing through or enjoying nearby areas and chose to worship with us. Thanks to all who came and fellowshiped!

Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe took another trip to Haiti to help facilitate Hospital Lumiere. A blog following the work there is below:

www.godisinhaiti.com

Many people have been led to help with Hospital Lumiere and we need to continue to pray for those volunteers, directors, and workers involved and that God would continue to provide resources, both physical and spiritual, to meet the many needs.

"I will abundantly bless her provision: I will satisfy her poor with bread. I will also clothe her priests with salvation: and her saints shall shout aloud for joy."

Psalm 132:15-16

INDIANA, VALPARAISO **Marguerite Hoerr**

On October 23, most of our congregation was in Bluffton, attending the wedding of Bro. Ross Feller

and Sis. Leah Gerber. Bro. Ross is the son of Bro. Joe and Sis. Jackie of Valpo. Sis. Leah is the daughter of Bro. Mark and Sis. Barbara Gerber of Bluffton. The couple's home church will be in Leo, IN, where Bro. Ross is employed at Gateway Woods. We wish them a lifetime of happiness with rich blessings from the Lord.

We especially enjoyed the company of Bro. Gene and Sis. Barbara Huber of the Francesville congregation on this particular Sunday. They chose a Sunday to visit us when our numbers were few and their visit was particularly appreciated. It was especially interesting to visit with Bro. Gene about Sis. Sandy Price, his sibling, who I met as a young bride when we were living in Milford, IN. She and her husband, Bro. Glenn Price Jr., added twin girls, the first of their children, to our Milford congregation. I remember what a warm friend Sis. Sandy was to me, and what a loss I felt when they moved to Sarasota, Florida. I have many happy memories of this young family blessing us in our Milford church.

Bob and I were particularly blest one day in this past month. School friends of mine got together to celebrate the 67th anniversary of our graduation from high school. Our class numbered 26. Some of the boys were headed for the military into WWII. We realized that those times made enduring friendships and they are friendships we treasure. We felt optimistic as we made plans to meet next year, knowing it will only happen if it's God's will. There are thirteen of us surviving. Ten of us attended. Later that day we drove to visit

Mim and Lew Speicher, my sister and brother-in-law. Lew is undergoing cancer treatments and we found them both to be trusting in their Lord and feeling blest by the love shown them from their family. At the beautiful Milford Cemetery, we visited my parents' graves, my brother's grave and the grave of a dear sister-in-law. Our thoughts were in Bluffton, also, where a loving sister recently went to join the others of our family members. On the way home we felt as if we'd been immensely blest by all the memories.

This week I received a welcome phone call from Sis. Lois Ehnle, who now lives in Peoria. She and I graduated together; we are cousins, and we are the best of friends, and sisters in faith. Last year, after more than 50 years, she was able to attend our reunion, having spent those years in Japan as a missionary. During this phone call we could reminisce about the years of memories and the blessings we have shared.

If you are traveling in this beautiful fall season and are in our vicinity, please remember that we are just 2¾ miles S. of US 30 on SR 49.

**INDIANA
WEST LAFAYETTE
Katie Widmer
Beth Tonner**

It seems like this fall wind is blowing more than leaves around, as two of our Brothers from West Lafayette got engaged on October 2! Bro. Chad Aeschliman (Bro. Alan and Sis. Deb, Bluffton North) is engaged to Sis. Claudia Gonzalez (Sis. Berta, Ixtlan, Mexico).

Bro. Brad Widmer (Bro. Neal and Sis. Kris, West Lafayette) was

announced to Sis. Amber Rassi from Taylor, MO (Bro. Gary and Sis. Debbie, Morton). Brad and Chad are all smiles, and we are happy for them. We pray for both couples as they prepare for their lives together.

**INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Donita Edelman
Sasha Kyburz**

We have been blessed with some visiting ministers this month. Bro. Nathan Walder (Sis. Denise, Cissna Park, IL) was with us for a Sunday in October. Bro. Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo, Leo, IN) was with us recently for a Bible study. Also November 6, Elder Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy, Alto, MI) was with us. On Saturday evening, November 5, Elder Bro. Ted along with our Elder Bro. Dan shared the Memorandum with the Wolcott and the Remington congregations together at the Remington Church. May the Lord richly bless all the Elder Brothers for the time and effort they give toward the continuance of the gospel. We thank each of these Brothers for spending time with the Wolcott congregation.

We were happy to hear of the engagement of Sis. Katie Furrer (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Pam) to Bro. Trent Bahler (Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette) from Remington. Many prayers for this dear couple as they make plans for their upcoming wedding.

On November 6, many of us travelled to Taylor, MO, to witness the wedding vows of Bro. Josh Furrer (Bro. Troy and Sis. Lisa) and Sis. Jennifer Rassi (Bro. Gary and Sis. Deb, Morton, IL). It was a blessed day with a beautiful wedding service. May God always be the three-fold cord that binds them

together.

Thanksgiving is upon us and I reflect on this time of year and wonder do I get too busy to remember to be thankful. I have heard many people say this is the month to be thankful for something each day. Shouldn't we be thankful for something each day all year and not just during November? May we each one be thankful for our God-given blessings now, but more importantly all year long, not just in November.

**IOWA, AMES
Jacob Schulz**

We were again blessed to have a ministering brother one Sunday and one Wednesday evening this month. We are thankful Bro. Ron Joos (Sis. Christy, Bloomfield, IA) and Bro. John Rowell (Sis. Nelda, Burlington, IA) were willing to be used here. May God be their rich rewarder.

**IOWA, BLOOMFIELD
Rachel Stoller**

Peace and love impel the greeting,
Greetings do our love impart:
Christian greetings are a blessing,
As a pray'r console the heart.
There is comfort peace and blessing,
Of a greeting in the Lord.

Zion's Harp #255, vs. 2

We enjoy each opportunity we have to be together and greet each other in our Lord. We especially enjoy meeting those who travel to be with us.

This month we were blessed to have visiting ministers, Bro. James Knapp (Congerville, IL), Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), and Bro. Brad Funk (Garden

Grove, IA) with us. We appreciated their effort on our behalf. Our bond of fellowship is something to be very thankful for.

Life brings both joys and sorrows. We rejoice with our friend, Meredith Klotzle (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Jane, Akron, OH), who professes peace with God and man. We look forward to her baptism in the near future.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Harold Knapp (Sis. Mary Jane) for the loss of his sister, Sis. Lavina Schmeckpeper (Valparaiso, IN). We are thankful for the privilege to rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep. May God be near each one.

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Marilyn Anderson
Karla Gerst

But I prize the friendship highest
 Of the one whose heart is true.
 Friends who live by truth and goodness
 And who live in Him anew.
 Friends whose hearts are up in heaven
 Though their feet traverse this sod,
 Find a place of highest merit
 In our fellowship with God.
Hymns of Zion #91, vs. 2

We bid a fond farewell to Sis. Mary Knapp. Her employment here has ended, and she has returned to her home in Illinois. We miss her friendship and wish her God's blessings in the days ahead.

We were blessed with many visitors this past month, including ministering Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville). May Bro. Dale be richly blessed for the message we received.

IOWA, ELGIN
Maria Roche
Brianna Strahm

Although we don't have news to share from the past month, we are thankful for God's faithfulness to us as we press toward our Heavenly Home.

How shall it be? Oh, what this mortal vision
 Can neither see, nor hear, nor understand,
 Of happiness and glory shall be given
 To those who pass into that promised land!
 Then onward, brethren! Let us hasten thither,
 'Tis worth the hardship and the pain we bear
 To climb this path, for there shall never wither
 The blest inheritance which we shall share!
Zion's Harp #146

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Laura Funk

Our congregation enjoyed a picnic and singing with the Bloomfield congregation. Many friendships were renewed and new friendships were made. We are thankful our country is allowed the freedom of worship.

Serving our congregation from the pulpit were Bro. Jerry Meeks (Sabetha, KS), Elder Bro. Mike Lemman (Denver, CO), and Bro. Brandon Emch (Kansas City, MO). We are very grateful for those who serve our congregation and bring family and friends with. We truly enjoy the fellowship and support our congregation receives from the visitors who visit us. God bless you.

Harvest is progressing in our area. We are enjoying the beautiful colors and smells of fall. Praying a safe harvest for all.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Diana Butikofer

We were thankful to hear Sam Hopewell has begun his repentance. Our prayers for him continue as he looks to the Lord for help during this life-changing conversion.

We appreciate the recent visit of our Elder Bro. Jon and Sis. Julie Schmidgall (Oakville, IA). We trust the Lord will bless them for their willingness to come visit and Bro. Jon's work from the pulpit.

IOWA, LESTER
Gloria Moser
Polly Metzger

A precious blue bundle was born to Bro. Seth and Sis. Lori Miller on October 5. Aden Eugene is welcomed home by his sister, Rosanna, and his brothers, Owen and Josiah. His grandparents are Sis. Shirley Nester and Bro. Larry and Sis. Edith Miller (Smithville). We ask God's blessings on these dear parents as they raise their young family.

We wish a warm welcome to Sam and Sonya Dietrich and their sons, Trenton and Hunter. They moved here from Texas, and we wish them God's blessings as they establish their home.

We continue to pray for those who suffer afflictions. Sis. Lori Popkes (Bro. Greg) and Lori Feucht (Darrel) have spent time in the hospital. May God's healing strength be with each one.

Bro. Larry Bahr (Sis. Julie, Ft. Scott) was here this past month to share God's Word with us. We appreciate all our ministers, and pray that God will continue to hold them

up, and bless them with the grace needed to carry on their duties.

Tell mother I'll be there, in answer to her pray'r.

This message, blessed Saviour, to her bear!

Tell mother I'll be there, heav'n's joys with her to share;

Yes, tell my darling mother I'll be there.

Gospel Hymns #801

Our dear Sis. Martha Feucht passed away on October 6 at the age of 90. We extend our deepest sympathy to her family, Sis. Sue Schneider (Bro. Gary, West Bend), Sis. Joan Dietrich (Bro. Jim, Silverton), Bro. Roy Feucht (Sis. Melisa, Lester), Sis. Esther Moser (Bro. Wes, Lester), Sis. Julie Bahr (Bro. Larry, Ft. Scott), Tim Feucht (Carla, Lester), 41 grandchildren and 50 great-grandchildren. Sis. Martha is a reminder to us that we are losing a generation of dear old moms and dads, who set such a good example, in leading a steady life. May God be near and comfort this dear family.

IOWA, OAKVILLE **Sharla Wiegand**

“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”

1 Corinthians 1:18

We were privileged to have visiting ministers on October 2. Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA) and Bro. Rex Frieden (Lamar, MO) gave of themselves to feed the flock.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Janet Fehr
Leona Fehr

We have news of three newborn babies to share with you this month! Bro. Dallas and Sis. Christy Massner welcomed Naomi Lynn into their home on September 19. Siblings to baby Naomi are Caleb, Sophie, and Lillian, and grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gail Massner and Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Frank (Oakville, IA). Then Troy Austin was born on September 28 to be loved by his parents, Bro. Dave and Sis. Laura Bahler and big brother Daniel. Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette Bahler (Remington, IN) and Bro. Andy and Sis. Becky Virkler are Troy's grandparents. Finally, on October 4, little Trace Adair made his way into this world and into the loving arms of Bro. Jordan and Sis. Heidi Knapp. Older brothers, Mason and Kaden, and grandparents, Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorna Knapp (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Fehr, welcomed Trace into their family circle.

At age 99, Sis. Hulda Wirtz moved from assisted living to the nursing home after spending a short time in the hospital for a broken arm. May God be near her as she adjusts to this change in her life.

As the farmers harvest their crops, the Lord is also putting in the sickle. Sis. Sue (Bro. Gary) Schneider's mother, Sis. Martha Feucht from Lester, IA, was called home from her labors here on earth. Our prayers are with the grieving.

We are thankful Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR) has continued to assemble with us

through this harvest season and help the brothers that occupy the pulpit here. May God bless these labors that they will bring forth a bountiful harvest of souls.

JAPAN, TOKYO **Marie Inoue**

The changes that the fall season bring are slow in coming, but they linger until December. Most leaves have still retained their green color, and daylight time is getting shorter. We had a good day for cleaning the outside/inside of our church building. Sometimes there is a need to clean our own life so that new growth can come. Eph. 4:31 reminds us, “Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, and evil speaking be put away from you...” A clothing collection was also taken this month for those in need in the northeast area of Japan that was hit by the earthquake. Their winters are a bit colder than ours.

Several ladies study in the gospel of John with our minister each month. Two of them became convicted and felt the message of John is so very different from their own religion. They mentioned that they would have a very difficult time in their family circles if they decided in favor of the teachings of the Bible. Another commented that that is exactly the way she felt before she truly believed in God, and that God has a way of working things out for us when we can truly commit all to Him.

Another experience this month was on a Sunday. During the morning sermon we noticed a lady was weeping quietly. After the service she told the sisters on the bench around her that she was not sad but

just very shocked that the minister mentioned everything on her heart in his message. She had just returned from a trip to Canada and wondered about this. We assured her of our love and prayers for her, and that messages from the pulpit are not prepared ahead of time with certain people's issues in mind. Ahead of time and before they go to the pulpit, we have prayers on our heart that God would speak to all of us through the minister as he reads and meditates from a portion of the Word. We are thankful for her attitude, and all of these experiences that help us to understand the background of the loved ones God brings to us. It reminds us to pray more earnestly for them and many loved ones who "...labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." (Matt. 11:28-29).

KANSAS, BERN
Sheri Edelman
Jill Meyer

We offer a special thank you to our visiting ministers this past month: Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS) and Bro. Jeff Bahr (Sis. Janice, Kiowa, KS). Come visit anytime!

Our congregation enjoyed the annual fall picnic. The weather was beautiful so we were able to be outside and enjoy God's creation while we fellowshiped with each other and sang hymns of praise to our Lord.

Bro. Brandon Edelman (Bro. Earl and Sis. Donna) announced his engagement to Sis. Heidi Rufener (Bro. Leon and Sis. Lori,

Rittman, OH). May God bless them and lead them as they make wedding plans and moving plans for Heidi!

Our friend, Benola Beiri, has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Our thoughts and prayers are with her. We also pray for Bro. Waymer Esslinger as well as Sis. Marilyn Fetter who have been healing from infirmities.

We have begun the Conference tapes of our Elder brothers. May we all open our hearts and minds to what our leaders instruct.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Martin Hohulin Sr.

During the weekend of October 8-9 our cups truly did run over. Visiting minister was Bro. Craig Stickling (Sis. Jacqueline, Peoria, IL). We were blessed by the visit and message. We had visitors from Bern and Sabetha, KS, as well as Taylor, MO. The group from Taylor presented information about His Ranch, a place for handicapped children. On Saturday evening, Bro. Trenton and Sis. Kristy Banwart hosted an all-church singing and supper. An enjoyable and blessed time was had by everyone.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Julie Bahr on the passing of her mother, Sis. Martha Feucht. We look forward to reuniting with our loved ones on the streets of gold.

We will miss Levi and Alicia Arnold as they have moved to the Kansas City area where he is attending medical school. We hope they come back often to visit.

Tyler and Tina Banwart hosted the 3rd Sunday singing at their house this month. Everyone attending was blessed by an evening

of fellowship.

Our daughter, Bonnie Beutel, along with her husband, Keith, came to visit from Indianapolis. While they were here we took them by the old church which is now a residence. The old foundation and steps are still original and visible. Many memories were relived during the drive.

KANSAS, KIOWA
Janice Bahr
Jenny Stewart

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

Hymns of Zion #245

We are thankful for the small church rotating ministers. We appreciate the time and efforts they give to help feed the smaller congregations. Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Bill Dotterer (Sis. Sharon, Lamar, MO).

Count your blessings! The song in the Hymns of Zion reminds us of our many blessings and to always count them in times of discouragement or trial. You will be surprised at what the Lord has done for you!

KANSAS
LAMONT-GRIDLEY
Sarah Somerhalder

Sunday afternoon, October 2, was our annual Sunday school fall picnic at Riverside West by Redmond Dam. It was a beautiful fall evening and was enjoyed by young and old alike.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Jeff Frieden as his brother-in-law,

Dwaine Reeves, passed from this life.

We wish to thank our visiting minister, Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton, IL), for preaching God's Word to us. May God bless him for his willingness to travel the miles and labor in our behalf.

KANSAS, SABETHA

**Sally Strahm
Carrie Grimm**

We are so thankful for our visiting ministering brothers this month. They were Bro. Ron Isch (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley), Elder Bro. Duane Roche (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI), Bro. Edwin Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern, KS), Bro. Bradley Strahm (Sis. Michelle, Bern, KS), Elder Bro. Lawrence Luthi (Sis. Becky, Lamar, MO), Elder Bro. Duane Farney (Sis. Karen, Croghan-Naumburg, NY), and Bro. Floyd Graves (Sis. Linda, Croghan-Naumburg, NY). May the Lord bless each one of these dear Brothers as they minister His Word.

We rejoice with Lafe and Kristen Grimm (Morris, MN) as they welcome a precious daughter, Bria Marie, into their hearts and home on September 26. Grandparents are Bro. Rodney and Sis. Arlene Grimm and Merle and Jean Spohr of Hancock, MN. We also rejoice with Nick and Shana Aberle as they welcome their little son, Clayton Edward, on October 5. Grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Rose Ann Knoblock and Gus and Sandy Aberle of Sabetha.

Kendal Grimm (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Arlene) announced his engagement to Erika Kingsbury (Charles and Rita, Fredonia, KS).

We pray these two dear souls look to the Lord as they plan their life together.

Believing it is the will of God, Sis. Emily Strahm (Bro. Curtis and Sis. Ellen) and Bro. Jacob Farney (Bro. John Farney and Matie Zehr) of Croghan-Naumburg, NY, were united in marriage on October 16. May God bless this dear couple as they begin their new life and establish their home in Croghan-Naumburg.

Our prayers have been with Sis. Lois Grimm as she mourns the passing of her sister, Lillith Yancy of Wrangell, Alaska.

Our prayers are also with Bro. Elmer Strahm (Sis. Phyllis) and Bro. Harvey Wenger (Sis. Arleta) as they have spent time in the hospital this month.

“But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.”

Isaiah 40:31

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

As our church membership decreases, we are thankful for every soul who chooses to worship with us. For example, my daughter takes me to church nearly every week. Her nine year old step-granddaughter has started coming with her so now Clair Metzger is not the only girl in Sunday School. And we can look forward to the time the granddaughter of Jerry and Pauline Carnahan and the great-granddaughter of Bro. Charley and Sis.

Gail Grimm will be ready to go to Sunday School. We also have two boys who will be promoted to Sunday School in due time. It is good to count our blessings.

Bro. Dan Moser (Elgin, IL) filled the visiting minister position the weekend of October 8 and 9. Bro. Dan, Sis. Anne and their son were to leave from the airport in the early evening. Then the heavens opened and we enjoyed measurable rain for the first time all fall.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Barb Huber

“We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers. Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father.”

I Thessalonians 1:2,3

We're grateful to the Lord for the Bread of Life that was shared bringing spiritual nourishment that we may “grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ...” (II Peter 3:18) We thank ministering Bros. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) and Dan Goric (Sis. Mary Lou, Rockville, CT) who travelled so many miles, for their efforts and labors of love. May the Lord bless and reward them for their willingness to serve and further God's kingdom here on earth.

We want to welcome Jesse Sauder to our assembly. He is the son of Bro. Frank and Sis. Kathy Sauder (Roanoke, IL). Jesse is attending the Kentucky Community and Technical College system located at the Thoroughbred Train-

ing Center. We pray the Lord to bless Jesse and direct him in the way he should go.

A warm welcome is always extended to anyone who may be in our area or travelling through to visit us in Lexington. You may contact Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541. Church services are held at 3938 Becknerville Rd., Winchester, KY. Directions are in the 2010 minister's book.

MEXICO, IXTLAN

Matt Gerber

“They that are whole have no need of the physician, but they that are sick: I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.”

Mark 2:17

This month we had a special opportunity to minister to the community of Ixtlan and a small village nearby. A medical team of brothers and sisters from the U.S. came down to give training to the local Red Cross and to conduct two days of medical clinic. One day the clinic was held in Ixtlan, and the next day in the village of Colongo. Each day over a hundred people came to see the nurses and doctor. All who came received a health kit, and the 80 Bibles we took to Colongo were gladly welcomed. It's our desire that through the medical outreach, people's physical and spiritual needs can be ministered to. Please pray for those who came to the clinics to become aware of their spiritual need and seek the Lord. Also pray for wisdom as we evaluate how the medical work teams fit into the mission of the church outreach in Ixtlan, and whether it would be fruitful to continue to do

these on an ongoing basis.

We are thankful to announce the engagement of our Sis. Claudia Gonzalez to Bro. Chad Aeschliman (Bluffton North). We praise God for His workmanship in their lives. God is being glorified in the lives of single sisters and brothers everywhere who continue faithfully serving Jesus and living fruitful lives for His kingdom, even when it's not easy.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

**Listyn Oesch
Melissa Blough**

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

I Thessalonians 4:13-14

Sis. Laurie (Bro. Terry) Steffen's father, Bro. Bob Huber (Sis. Doris, Ft. Lauderdale, FL) has passed on to meet our Lord and Savior. Please continue to pray that God would comfort the family in the loss of their loved one.

We also have a prayer request for Denny Koehl. He was admitted into the hospital and is now recovering from a fall.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Michelle Oesch graciously hosted the Sunday School Picnic this year. We were so thankful for such a wonderful time filled with food, music, fun games and hay rides; it was a fantastic time of fellowship and praise to our Lord Jesus.

Our congregation thanks Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara Schock

(Bloomfield, IA) for visiting during Memorandum and wish them blessings and a safe trip home.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

**Sarah Knochel
Janelle Ramseyer**

This union of our hearts
Shall stand through grace in Jesus;
We walk the path of life,
While cheer and trust increases.
Where God in truth abides,
Where two join hand and heart,
We find a threefold cord,
Not lightly rent apart.

Zion's Harp #79, v. 3

We rejoice with Sis. Ann Jacobs (Girard and Sis. Diana) and Bro. Nate Smith (Kansas City, MO; Ron and Sis. Diane) as they became one in the Lord on October 2.

Our congregation was blessed to have many visitors for Sis. Ann and Bro. Nate's wedding. Amongst those visiting were Elder Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City, MO) and ministering Bros. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane) and Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo) from Leo, IN.

We also were blessed by Bro. Don Gudeman (Sis. Mary, La-Crosse, IN) and Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Maryann, Smithville, OH) sharing the Gospel message with our congregation.

Our prayers are with Sis. Alice Mehl as she spent some time in the hospital recently. We also want to remember those who have been confined to home or nursing home suffering from infirmities of the flesh.

Sis. Nina Wieland passed into eternity on October 14. Our prayers are with her family as they cherish her memory. Her children

are: Rhoda (Emery) Minger, Thomas, Carlton (Mary), Rebecca, John, Daniel, Leon (Jennifer), Bro. Brian (Sis Charlene) and Marvin. Sis. Nina's family also includes a daughter-in-law, Judy (Roger) Parker; eleven grandchildren; ten great - grandchildren; and one sister, Sis. Lois Wieland. Sis. Nina was a strong pillar in our congregation for many years and will be missed.

Also on October 14, our dear Helen Knochel passed away. We pray for her husband, Fred, and her sons, Sid, Greg and Fred III, as they mourn the loss of their mother. Helen always had a warm smile and kind word for each one who came in contact with her.

We express our sympathy to Rick and Sis. Joan Long as Rick's father, Ernest Long, passed away on October 15. Ernie would often visit our congregation for our Christmas programs and other special events when his grandchildren, Sis. Caitlin and Jacob, were in Sunday School.

Sis. Blanche Wieland passed away on October 18. She was a faithful sister for over fifty years and her quiet, gentle spirit will be missed.

Not now, but in the coming years,
It may be in the better land,
We'll read the meaning of our tears,
And there, some time, we'll understand.
Then trust in God through all the
days;
Fear not, for He doth hold thy hand;
Though dark thy way, still sing and
praise,
Some time, some time we'll understand.

Hymns of Zion #165

As we near the day that our na-

tion sets aside for Thanksgiving, may we be thankful to the only One who gives us strength and grace for the trials of life. May we also be thankful for the blessings of peace and happiness that we find through Christ.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Sis. Nina Wieland would like to sincerely thank each one of you for the prayers, cards, letters and visits with our mother these past several months while she was at Woodhaven, and also at her passing. May our Lord richly reward you.

Bro. Brian, Sis. Char and family

MICHIGAN, DETROIT
Kay Rauhe

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

Matthew 5:16

Our entire congregation was deeply saddened when we heard about the death of our dear retired Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (late Sis. Lorene) on September 24. He was a sensitive, faithful, and loving man who will be greatly missed and fondly remembered. “I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you.” (John 14:18) Our heartfelt sympathy, continued prayers, and love to his wonderful children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren and their entire family as they are entrusting the Lord to ease their deepest burdens and hurt during this most difficult time — who better to put our faith and trust in — the only One who can really give comfort and healing. It

was so wonderful and comforting to have two visiting ministers, accompanied by their wives, come and “... serve the Lord with gladness.” (Psalm 100:2) Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN) and Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) delivered meaningful and tender-hearted sermons, and we thank both of them for their special part in easing our deepest grief.

On September 24, we gathered for an early breakfast and then sorted clothing to be distributed to God's Storehouse to restock their much-needed supply. Thanks to all who participated as it's always a great way to serve our community.

We always look forward to the Annual Sunday School picnic which was held this year on September 25. It not only means that Autumn is just around the corner and will probably be the last picnic of the season, but it's also a time to be together and to enjoy the awesome fellowship that we have come to love and appreciate!

We were encouraged to remember Sis. Linda Shaw in our thoughts and prayers. She has been unable to worship with us because of her challenges with cancer, and we miss her very much. Sis. Lois Belsley is in the hospital after a fall and surgery, and she would appreciate our prayers. Let's also remember to keep her family in our prayers, too.

Bro. Tom Hitz has been making periodic trips to Haiti in support of World Relief efforts there, including the Hospital Lumiere and has just returned from a recent trip. aiti Haiti in support of the Woprtd Relief efforts there, including ther HospiSis. Kristie Meyer once again

traveled to Mexico, this time in Reynosa, to work on a mission team. We pray that both Bro. Tom and Sis. Kristie were blessed by their willingness to spread the Gospel through their efforts.

“Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near:”

Isaiah 55:6

On November 12, we are hosting the Apostolic Christian World Relief Informational Meeting—come and explore opportunities to help others! The committee has been busily preparing and looking forward to a very successful meeting.

“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

Psalms 119:105

Our deepest sympathy, continued prayers, and love to two nephews, Bro. Dana Knochel (Sis. Beth) and Mark Wieland (Joy), on the recent death of their aunt, Sis. Nina Wieland of Bay City, MI. She lived at Woodhaven Retirement Community in Livonia, MI, for a while, and we all enjoyed visiting with her. Sis. Lois Wieland of Bay City is missing her sister and is now the only surviving sibling left in a family of nine.

We joyfully welcomed Bro. Dan and Sis. Sarah Harmon to our congregation from Toledo, OH. 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.

“...If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and His love is per-

fectured in us.”

I John 4:12

**MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS
Tim McMillan**

We began this month reading II Timothy. Verse 15 states “suffer to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” In our daily living it is important to keep the Lord in mind in all our works. The Word is the truth as God would have it. It is not something to be used to justify ourselves, but, when rightly divided, used to justify God. Who is it we justify in our daily living?

It is with sadness and joy that we say goodbye to Bro. Perry and Sis. Carol Virkler this month. With sadness in that they will both be greatly missed here. With joy in that we know that they are going to where the Lord leads them to be. Please join us in prayer that they will be of good cheer and health.

We welcome to our small congregation Nikita Garmon from Tremont, IL. She has taken up residence and a job here in Minneapolis. May her stay be pleasant and warm as Minnesota tends to be a little chillier than central Illinois. Welcome, Nikita!

The Sunday school went on a hayride October 21. Fun was had by all as the near perfect fall weather was taken (by our standards, all days are perfect weather from the Lord). The same night a father/son overnight camp was also enjoyed. Special times for family to spend together and strengthen relationships as well as teach life values like these overnight camps will

hopefully lead to teachings for the next generation as well.

A blessing was shared with us by the visit and preaching of Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Sis. Jody, Altadena, CA). We appreciate his teachings. We also had many visitors from various congregations this month and are joyful for the time spent with all of our brethren. Many times our small congregation seems rather large as we are joined by so many visitors. We hope to continue to share such visits!

Thy fearless zeal wilt Thou impart;
with courage do inflame my heart!
Discreetly let me walk with Thee;
let all my motives Holy be.

Zion's Harp #164, vs. 7

**MINNESOTA, MORRIS
Susie Wulf**

Kim Feuchtenberger

Elder Bro. Dave Graf (Sis. Barb, Akron, OH) assisted our home Elder Bro. Roy Koehl in provings and baptisms on September 17-18. Our three new Sisters in faith are Sara Nohl, Jane Durkee and Lucy Wulf. Other visiting ministers recently include Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara, Bloomfield, IA) and Bro. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS). May God bless these Brothers as they allow the Holy Spirit to speak through them.

Lafe (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Arlene, Sabetha, KS) and Kristen (Merle and Jean Spohr) Grimm had their first child, Bria Marie, on September 26. Evan Anthony Konz joined the home of Matt (Tony and Nancy Konz) and Renee (Bro. Aldean and Sis. Charlotte Luthi) on September 27. His two older sisters are Makenzie and Samantha. On October 5, Bro.

Mike (Bro. Guy and Sis. Lynette) and Sis. Myra (Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl Messner) Koehl had Drew Sidney. His older brother, Lance, welcomes him home. May each of these precious children be taught the importance of serving and obeying God.

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

Proverbs 22:6

**MINNESOTA
MORRIS NORTH
Wanda Gramm
Lois Schmidgall**

“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”

John 3:5

We, at Morris North, were truly blessed to have witnessed our first baptism in our congregation. Our dear friend and now our dear sister in the Lord, Risa Fehr (Bro. Randy and Sis. Lori), expressed her love and faithfulness to our God. A remembrance to ourselves was ... for by grace we are saved through our faith....it is truly a gift from God. We pray for God’s continual love and guidance for Sis. Risa and her wonderful family.

So let us.....

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

Matthew 28:19

With thankful hearts, we were blessed with the following visiting ministering brethren: Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN); Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Sis. Jeni, Bluffton, IN); Bro. Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville, IL); Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS); and Elder Bro. Paul Messner (Sis. Jan, Winthrop, MN).

Our gratitude and thankfulness to two ministering brothers for their topical talks. Bro. Doyle Frauhiger for his topical talk on “The Point of No Return” and also to Bro. Erik Givens for his topical talk on “Are You Ready to be Caught?” Appreciation to you both for the inspirational messages.

We had the delightful opportunity to host a busload of visitors from central Illinois, mainly the Princeville area. We express a heartfelt thanks to you all who made our weekend very special.

Prayers to Sis. Josie Esterling who was hospitalized recently and to Sis. Jeanne Esterling who underwent shoulder surgery. We pray for God to richly bless you with His healing powers.

Let us be reminded that as we go on living each day, that we remember to have God in our: living, breathing, waking, sleeping, resting, working, thinking, speaking, hoping, dreaming, watching, waiting, laughing, weeping, hurting, healing. God shall be our everything ... and Christ shall be in us.

**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP
Lindsay Schmidt
Heather Steiner**

There are friendships that we cherish
In our daily walk of life

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

Hymns of Zion #91

We are thankful for many loved ones who made the effort to visit us this past month. Our annual church invite weekend was enjoyable. Bro. Darrin Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA) shared God’s Word from the pulpit that weekend. A few weekends later the Single Group hosted an invite weekend. Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) graciously travelled the many miles to have a topical talk with the single ones. Our Sunday School Junior Bible Class also enjoyed hosting young adults from Lester, IA, this month. We pray that the students made friendships and memories that will carry with them throughout their lives.

Jesus, Rose of Sharon, balm for every ill,
May Thy tender mercy’s healing power distil
For afflicted souls of weary burdened men,
Giving needy mortals health and hope again.

Hymns of Zion #285

We’re thankful that our hospital and surgical patients are recovering well. Our thoughts and prayers have been with Jerry Messner (Margaret) and Bro. Darrel Schmidt (Darlene).

MISSOURI, LAMAR
Rebecca Dotterer
Venetta Banwart

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA). May God richly bless him for his efforts and labor of love in feeding us from God's Holy Word.

Our hospital patient this month was Sis. Evelyn Marti (Bro. Joe). May God continue to grant her strength and healing.

We will miss Sis. Emily Banwart as she has moved to Sabetha, KS, to teach school. May God richly bless and keep her.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS
Kary Mangers

Our congregation had a relatively busy month of activity which included church cleaning, World Relief night, and a wiener roast/baby shower.

We also had some visiting ministers join us. We always appreciate their acts of service to the Lord by serving us. Bro. Tom Troxel (La-Crosse) joined us for a Wednesday evening service and Bro. Scott and Sis. Dawn Wegman (Taylor) came to serve us on a Sunday. Our Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor) also came and spent some time connecting with the brothers of our church. We deeply appreciate the time Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan spend with our congregation and the love they show us.

We welcome Bro. Thayer Banwart from Fort Scott to St. Louis as he attends school in the area.

Bro. Doug and Sis. Kary Mangers and siblings, Alexa and Brayden, would like to announce the birth of their daughter and sis-

ter, Alayna Ann. Alayna was born on October 24. Grandparents are Bro. Dennie and Sis. Cheryl Mangers (Champaign) and Bro. Roger and Sis. Marjorie Ackerman (Morton).

MISSOURI, TAYLOR
Melissa Reiman

Thanksgiving day is nearing! Thanksgiving is a time to rejoice in the fellowship of family and friends. A time to not only gather around the dinner table, but to gather around the Word of God and to be thankful for all the blessings the Lord has given us. I am so thankful for the church family here at Taylor and I know that a lot of people are thankful for their own church families!

We would like to thank Bro. Randy Mogler (Sis. Evie, Washington, IL). Thank you for your willingness to come to Taylor and teach God's Word.

Bro. Randy talked about the last words of Jesus Christ. One of the words of Jesus that he talked about was when Jesus cried out "Father, forgive them!" Jesus was in so much pain but yet He was still worried about us! Think about what you would have said in that situation. We probably would have been more concerned about ourselves than others. Our prayers would have been more like "God, help me...God...God...God!" He also talked about Romans 3:23, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Do we remember that when we are about to judge someone? Do we condemn them for their sin before we even look back at the sin in our own life?

We were blessed to have about 200 young people here during the

Young Group Invite! The young group did projects that were at: Roy/Donna Grimm's (windows); Rick/Kim Steidinger's (landscaping); Sutter TLC Home (painting); Rocke's (cut wood); Ellen Watson (stained deck); Jerry Johnson (paint garage); Park Chapel Church (cleanup); Fellowship Center (lights & worked in World Relief room); scraped & painted a 2-story house in Center, MO; cut wood and delivered to Bradney's; built ramp & deck in home for quadriplegic man in Quincy; worked on a home in Canton, MO; painted a home in Hannibal; projects for Tim Miller. We are so thankful to all the young people that participated that week-end and came in joyful celebration of Jesus Christ!

We rejoice and mourn for the passing of Elder Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI). Elder Bro. Ben is the grandfather of Sis. Heather Snyder. He was proceeded in death by his dear wife, Sis. Lorene. Our hearts go out to his family and pray God will give them the strength to get through this trying time.

We were excited to announce the engagement of Bro. Brad Widmer (Bro. Neil and Sis. Chris, Lafayette, IN) to Sis. Amber Rassi (Bro. Gary and Sis. Deb)! We hope that their future marriage will be a happy one and that their relationship will be God honoring!

We are also excited to welcome a new family to the Taylor Church! Welcome to Bro. Rick and Sis. Kim Steidinger and their family.

NEW YORK
CROGHAN-NAUMBURG
Hope Graves

We have had a very busy and

blessed autumn. October 1 was the wedding of Rebecca Farney and Ian Gilbert. The next day we held a potluck dinner at church followed by a singing at the extended care for Sis. Louise Purvines. We were happy to have visitors here with us for the weekend and the opportunity to meet Sis. Emily Strahm for the first time. Two weeks later, on October 16, our Bro. Jacob Farney was married to Sis. Emily Strahm in Sabetha, KS. Bro. Jacob and Rebecca are the children of Bro. John Farney and Matie Zehr. We were thankful that we had visitors with us from Rockville, CT, as several of our congregation traveled to Sabetha for the wedding. We wish both of these couples the Lord's presence in their marriages.

Our church hosted a work shower for Bro. Jacob and Sis. Emily on October 15. Many labors of love went into working on their apartment and getting ready to welcome them back to New York. A lunch was shared together at church on Saturday.

We welcomed the arrival of two new babies. Little Ella Rose was born to Joseph and Bernice Virkler on September 28 and joins big sister Aaliyah at home. Joseph and Holly Aucter and big sister Kelsey welcomed baby Jonah Edward on October 17. Our prayers go out to these families for God's guidance on their growing families.

We had Elder Bro. Ted Witzig Sr. and his wife, Sis. Cindy, with us from Morton, IL, for the weekend of October 22-23. The Memorandum was read on Saturday evening after a potluck meal together. We would like to extend our thanks to Bro. Ted for bringing forth the Word to us.

NEW YORK CITY (Secaucus, New Jersey)

“For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

Philippians 1:21

It was the first time that we gathered together in Secaucus since our dear Bro. Franz Soni passed away. Bro. Franz was always a faithful attendee at our services, not only in Secaucus, but also in our Union City and Philadelphia Churches.

We were thankful to have a good number of visitors from Rockville, CT; Tremont, IL; Columbus, OH; and Philadelphia, PA; with us this month. In the afternoon, there were enough for Sunday School - it is always encouraging to see the children come back and show their parents what they “made in Sunday School”. It reminds us that the Father desires that each day we would be His workmanship as we live on this earth.

There are no more services planned for 2011 - we will be sharing a 2012 calendar in the upcoming months. If you are planning to visit the New York City area for vacation or business, please call Bro. Ben Wiegand at (215) 295-4526 for assistance and to let us know how many to expect for Sunday services.

OHIO, AKRON Erika Gal

Our congregation has been blessed with the arrival of two precious newborn babies. James Nolan was born on October 10 to Bro. George and Sis. Tina Gal. His

excited siblings include Adam, Heidi, Bethany, Danyel and Yasmin. His grandparents are Eugene and Helen Gal from North Port, FL, and Steve and Maria Zarkovacki from Colorado Springs, CO. A day later, Bro. Brian and Sis. Katrina Demrovsky became first-time parents with the birth of their little daughter, Niko. Her grandparents are Bro. Andy and Sis. Vera Demrovsky from Akron and Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty Baltic from Columbus.

Just as we rejoice at the births of these dear babies, we are also very thankful for the new birth of our Bro. Trent Gasser. We were richly blessed to share in his proving and baptism on the weekend of October 22-23. His parents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser from Junction. We appreciated having Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction) present with us to share in the weekend. Our thoughts and prayers are also with Meredith Klotzle as she looks forward to her proving and baptism in Bloomfield, IA, where she is going to school. Her parents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Jane Klotzle.

We are thankful for all the visiting ministers who take the time to share with us the Word of Life. We especially want to thank Bro. Jon Zeller (Sis. Christie, Morton), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda) and Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie), both from Junction, Bro. Mark Steiner (Sis. Sue) and Bro. Ted Luginbuhl (Sis. Stephanie), both from Smithville.

OHIO, COLUMBUS Esther Saurer

We are thankful that God had brought together Sis. Lauren Sauder and Bro. Todd Rufener as

they plan to get married in November. May God continue to guide them during this time of engagement and throughout their lives together.

Among visiting ministers this month, we were thankful to have Bro. Jesse and Sis. Bonnie Bedolla (Detroit, MI), Elder Bro. Ben and Sis. Michelle Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Laura Dotterer (Sardis, OH). It is always a blessing to hear God's Word preached.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Vicki Boroff

April Manz (Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen) was announced for peace. We look forward to hearing her testimony.

We were thankful to have Elder Bro. John Jackson (Sis. Peggy, Bay City) join us for a Sunday. Bro. John assisted in reading the Memorandum.

Bro. Wendell Spangler (Sis. Kari) was our hospital patient this month. Many prayers have been raised on their behalf.

OHIO, LATTY

Mindy Stoller

Carmen Eisenmann

This month we commemorated the Last Supper. We were privileged to have Elder Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Sis. Ronda, Bluffton, IN) assist our own Elder Bro. John in serving us Holy Communion. We thank these brothers for this act of service. Also visiting us this month was Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL). May this brother feel God's blessing as he ministered on our behalf.

We rejoice as we heard that

Megan Miller (Bro. Roger and Sis. Kaye) has begun seeking the Lord in humble repentance. May she feel God's mercy and grace as she begins this new walk of life.

We were also thankful to hear of two converts professing peace with God and man. They are Joel Dunham (Bro. Byron and Sis. Jody) and Arthur Stoller (Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth). May they continue to feel God's nearness and peace as they wait to give their testimony and be baptized.

Sis. Hannah Stoller (Bro. Todd and Sis. Pam) and Bro. Luke Bahler (Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette, Remington, IN) have announced their engagement for marriage this month. Also being announced for marriage is Sis. Carmen Eisenmann (Bro. Bill and Sis. Carol) to Bro. Rustin Stoller (Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth). May both of these couples feel God's love, joy, and peace as they make plans to become one in the Lord.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Tami Griffey

We extend our thanks to visitors, Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN) and Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH). May God bless their labors of love as ministers of the Gospel.

Our loved one, Bro. Adam Baumann, was hospitalized recently. May our prayers and God's comforting nearness be felt in his time of need.

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh."

Ephesians 5:31

We rejoice with Sis. Lauren Sauder (Bro. Dan and Sis. Pam) and Bro. Todd Rufener (Bro. Jim and Sis. Pat, Rittman) from the Columbus congregation, whose engagement was recently announced.

As the fields are ripe for harvest, a hymn comes to mind from the Gospel Hymns #823:

Come, ye thankful people, come...
All the world is God's own field,
Fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,
Unto joy or sorrow grown;
First the blade, and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear:
Lord of harvest, grant that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Jenny Rupp

Marge Stoller

We were again blessed by the presence of numerous visiting ministers this month and are thankful to each one for giving their time and effort to teach us more about God's Word. They were: Bros. Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), Mark Rufener (Mansfield, OH), Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Lucas Frank (Detroit, MI), and Elder Bros. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), and Ed Schwartz (Bluffton, IN).

Sis. Rachel Powell and Bro. Austin Gerber (Bluffton, IN) began their married life together when they were married at the Toledo congregation on October 2. Sis. Rachel's parents are Bro. Don and Sis. Carol, and Bro. Austin's parents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Jaci (Bluffton, IN).

We were very happy and excited to learn of the engagements of two couples this month. Congratula-

tions to Bro. Todd Rufener (Bro. Jim and Sis. Pat) and Sis. Lauren Sauder (Bro. Dan and Sis. Pam, Mansfield, OH). Bro. Todd and Sis. Lauren currently attend the Columbus, OH, congregation. The second couple is Sis. Heidi Rufener (Bro. Leon and Sis. Lori) and Bro. Brandon Edelman (Bro. Earl and Sis. Donna, Bern, KS). We wish much grace and joy to each couple as they prepare for their weddings and marriages.

It was with great joy to hear about Rittman's newest convert, Rachel (Jeffrey) Snyder, and it's our desire that Rachel will feel much grace and many blessings during this time.

Four more little ones have been welcomed into the world this past month. On September 30, Naylee Jo Schar was born to Bro. Ethan and Sis. Trudie, joining her older sisters, Haylin and Ayla. Naylee's grandparents are Bro. Rowan and Sis. Judy Schar, and Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane Hartzler. Also arriving on September 30 was Keeton Elliot Stoller, son of Klæe and Stacey. Keeton's grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Mary Lynn Stoller. On October 3, Chloe Elizabeth Beery made her appearance to Bro. Caleb and Sis. Charity, and her grandparents, Bro. Earl and Sis. Suzanne Beery, and Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorie Riggenschach. Gregory Alexander Middleton was born on October 9 to Caleb and Rachel. Gregory's grandparents are Greg and Sis. Peggy Tieche.

Sis. Natalie (Bro. Mark) Hartzler, Bro. Dale (Sis. Margaret) Everhard, and Noah Shipe have all spent time in the hospital, and they continue to be in our thoughts and prayers as we wish them comfort,

peace and recovery.

OHIO, SARDIS Faith Beard

“Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, 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;” (I Timothy 6:17-18)

“For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.”

Luke 12:48

These verses seem to imply that we have some serious responsibilities. Are we up to the task? - that is, do we have a willing heart, and not for our own glory, but to be used as His vessel? It is certainly possible, and by God's grace, it has and can continue to happen. Three brothers representing the World Relief Committee visited us to give a presentation and update on some current World Relief activities. Information was presented on programs and existing situations in Mexico and Haiti. It is necessary that we are aware how our living and work conditions compare with theirs. We thank these brothers and their families for their efforts, and above all to God for the gifts He has given us.

We appreciate the guests who made the effort to be with us during our annual Fall Gathering in October. The day spent outdoors with

the crisp breeze and beautiful fall foliage is always refreshing.

We thank our visiting ministers for serving us this month. On our pulpit were Bro. Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS), Bro. Steve Pamer (Sis. Arliss, Akron, OH), and Bro. Tim Ramsier (Sis. Jonell, Rittman, OH). Retired Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Sis. Eleanor, Akron, OH) was also with us, and this was special to us as for a number of years he had served as our Elder. We were also blessed and uplifted to have a song service with these families on Saturday evening.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE Gina Brake Lydia Dotterer

There have been several members of our congregation who have been hospitalized in the past month. We wish to remember Bro. Bob Ramsier (Sis. Inez), Sis. Sue Steiner (Bro. Mark) and Sis. Connie Bauman (Bro. Steve) in our prayers, trusting they can feel the peace of God in times of difficulty and uncertainty.

Aaron Zollinger (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Pam) has begun his repentance. It is such a joy to hear of those who are still heeding the call; may he find much grace to “... deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow...” (Luke 9:23)

On October 5, Bro. Seth and Sis. Lori Miller (Lester, IA) welcomed Aden Eugene into their home, along with big sister, Rosanna, and big brothers, Owen and Josiah. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Edie Miller and Sis. Shirley Nester (late Bro. Eugene, Lester, IA).

OHIO, TOLEDO**Teresa Rywalski****Deanna Manz**

On October 2, we were privileged to witness the wedding vows of our Sis. Rachel Powell (Bro. Don and Sis. Carol, Rittman) to Bro. Austin Gerber (Bro. Dean and Sis. Jaci, Bluffton). We welcomed many visitors for this special day, including ministers: Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emmy, Junction), Bro. Jesse Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie, Detroit) and Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit). We welcome Bro. Austin to Toledo and pray the Lord will bless them as they begin their life together.

We rejoice as we have witnessed the goodness of God, and stand amazed at the miracle of salvation. We welcome Bro. Joe Croy (Sis. Mary) as a Brother in Christ. Bro. Joe suffered a stroke a few months ago, and because of physical limitations was baptized in his home on October 9. We thank our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emmy, Junction) for taking his testimony of faith and carrying out this most important work.

There's a peace in my heart
that the world never gave,
a peace it cannot take away;
Tho' the trials of life may surround
like a cloud,
I've a peace that has come there to
stay!
Gospel Hymns #40, vs. 1

Kent Schlatter (Elder Bro. Bill and Sis. Emmy, Junction) has found this indescribable peace. How thankful we are for the Holy Spirit's work in his life, and look forward to his testimony and baptism in the coming weeks.

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

Strive to enter at the portal,
Walk the narrow path of life...

Zion's Harp #47 "Strive Aright"

In recent weeks we have had opportunity to hear the exhortations brought forth by our Elder Brothers at the annual Brotherhood Conference. Let us "strive with zeal and passion glowing" as we daily serve our Lord and Saviour. Our fervent prayers bring our dear Elder Brothers to our Lord's attention. May He grant rich measures of wisdom and grace to our shepherds as they seek to hold to the true path.

Elder Bro. John Wiegand gave exhortation for our upcoming Holy Communion service. In humble gratitude we realize anew the great sacrifice and gift of eternal life that Jesus' shed blood affords us. What place does self-will have in our lives? We were reminded to look deep into our hearts.

Do they love and teach the truth?
Will their wisdom God approve?

*Zion's Harp #127
"Prove Ye Every Spirit"*

It was truly a blessing to have retired Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Sis. Lois, Peoria, IL) here on September 18. May God bless him for teaching the truth. Bro. Stephen Baner (Sis. Donnalou, Gridley, IL) was willing to serve on our pulpit on September 25. Bro. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA) served us on October 2. We pray that God will bless these brothers and their wives with fervent faith as they continue to serve in their

home churches.

Feeling thankful for the arrival of a healthy baby girl is Bro. Adam and Sis. Lori Kuenzi. Lydia is being adored by siblings, Julia, Kendra, Jacob and Travis. Grandparents are Bro. Terry and Sis. Ann Kuenzi and Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich.

On October 1, the church was blessed to hear the testimonies of three young converts. We rejoiced with each one of them as we witnessed their baptisms and then greeted them as new sisters-in-faith. Sis. Lydianne Metzger (Bro. Kurt and Sis. Koreen), Sis. Christina Sinn (Bro. Don and Sis. Linda) and Sis. Jenna Wiegand (Elder Bro. John and Sis. Jane) were thankful for the many family members who traveled the distance to be a part of the special weekend. Those family members included Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Sis. Michelle, Philadelphia, PA) and Elder Bro. Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN) who assisted our Elder Bro. John Wiegand.

How shall it be when now the soul,
unfettered,
goes soaring upward in unhindered
flight...?

*Zion's Harp #146
"How Shall It Be?"*

We grieve with Sis. Joan (Bro. Jim) Dietrich, and her family, as her mother, Sis. Martha Feucht (Lester, IA) has passed away from this life. What a blessing to know that Sis. Martha heard the voice of her Master and followed Him home.

With sad hearts the Silverton and Portland churches wish Bro. Art (Sis. Betty) Metz blessings of

comfort, joy and peace as he retires from the Elder body. His years of self-denial and dedication to both flocks have been greatly appreciated. At a potluck and singing recently, we all tried to put down in a few words some memories and thoughts of appreciation on small note cards. Words cannot express our thanks enough for Bro. Art's many years of teaching the Truth and his humble and prayerful counsel.

Johanna Dietrich (Brian and Sis. Amanda) has broken a bone in her foot. Our hope is that it heals well and fast.

PENNSYLVANIA PHILADELPHIA

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

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Our Philadelphia Church has experienced a number of transitions over the last months. First, we had a farewell for Andrew Klopfenstein who had worshipped with us as he had interned at New Holland Tractor over the past months. We wish him God's blessings as he returns back to college to continue his studies.

Second, we had a farewell singing for Sis. Emily Wiegand as she begins her college studies in Columbus, OH. We have been thankful for her service as our Silver Lining correspondent, as well as many other positions of service. We trust that she can feel the prayers of the Church and will come home and visit often.

Third, we have been blessed with the recent wedding of our Bro.

Joel Isch (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda) and Sis. Laura Bauman (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Martha) from Rittman, OH. We welcome them as a married couple to our Philadelphia congregation and look forward to many times of worship and fellowship together.

We have been blessed over the last months with a number of visiting ministers, including Bros. Darren Price (Milford, IN), Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH), Jacob Kuntz (Croghan, NY), and Loren Schrenk (St. Louis, MO). We are thankful for the clear leading of the Holy Spirit through these brothers to hear the truth of God's Word spoken to us in love for the edification of the saints. May each one of us be not only hearers but doers of the Word.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE Mike and Monica Fritz

We have been greatly blessed by the willing service of our recent visiting ministering brothers: retired Elder Bro. Merle Hartzler (Sis. Bonnie; Rittman, OH), Elder Bros. John Laukhuf (Sis. Marcia; Latty, OH) and Ben Walder (Sis. Juanita; Congerville, IL), and Bro. John Rowell (Sis. Nelda, Burlington, IA). We have also been strengthened by the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Congerville and Eureka, IL; Burlington, IA; Bern, KS; and Junction, Latty, and Rittman, 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: Sabetha, KS (11/20); Peoria, IL (11/27); Leo, IN (12/4); Bradford,

IL (12/11); and Latty, OH (12/18). We do not have a visiting minister scheduled for 12/25 or 1/1/12, but if there are local brethren in the area we will meet to listen to a tape or call-in service. 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 call-in services and would welcome any midweek visitors. Contacts are Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz, (615) 866-5543 (fritzmb.family@gmail.com); and Sis. Gwen Leuthold, (615) 356-5755.

TEXAS, AUSTIN Serenity and Jasmine Ringger

“The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come. Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage. But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise.”

Matt. 22:2-5

Let's keep it in our minds that if we don't maintain our first love for our King and put Him before everything else, we won't be found worthy of being His servants.

Ministers who came to preach the Word were: Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzler (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS), Bros. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI), Galen Rokey (Bern, KS), and

James Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Congerville, IL). We also had visitors from West Bend and Forrest.

The following is the minister schedule for December: (4) Detroit, MI; (11) Milford, IN; (25) Smithville, OH.

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

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Mary Plattner

We are thankful that the fall-winter season is here as we are able to assemble with visitors from the Northern States. We appreciate all those who have returned to their winter residences and certainly welcome any visitors coming to South Texas this winter.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Leo and Sis. Hedy Ormscher (Mansfield) as their daughter in Kansas City has been under medical care for several months. Sis. Hedy has been able to travel back to Kansas City to spend some time

with her.

VERMONT, CLARENDON
Nathan and Miriam Reutter

“And there they preached the gospel.”

Acts 14:7

The fulfillment of this verse occurred here this month. The first weekend of the month we were privileged to host two visiting ministers and their wives, Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane Stoller (Rockville, CT) and Bro. Gary and Sis. Edie Anliker (Elgin, IL). The second weekend Bro. Dan Goric and his wife, Sis. Mary Lou (Rockville, CT) were with us. The third weekend we were blessed with the ministry of Bro. Tom Bahler (Sis. LaNae, Rockville, CT). The fifth weekend Bro. Tom returned with many single Brothers and converts from the Rockville, CT, congregation. They provided a youthful zeal for the

Lord, and invited us to join them on a hike in the Green Mountains. We pray for God's blessings on these dear Brothers and their wives for taking the time to come and minister to us. May God watch between us through the next month.

If you are interested in fellowship 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



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Bro. Mike Moore (256) 729-0620 (256) 777-3390

Email: ALM38@aol.com

Sermon continued from page 2

I came before the Lord, but I said these two verses: verse 23 and 24. So many times I've fallen before the Lord, and I've said, "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

I would encourage everyone here to write those words upon your heart and your mind. Memorize them. Don't only memorize them so you can quote and say them, but memorize them for what they mean. Memorize them as a prayer of sincerity. Memorize them as a plea before God. Understand what it means to ask the Lord to search you, to know your heart, and to know your thoughts. Understand what impact that has in your relationship with Him and what impact it has on your life and in the eternal life ahead of us. What a difference that can make to have the Lord search your heart, try your thoughts, and know them. Then if there's any wicked way He would find in us, He would strip us of our unrighteousness, cleanse us of our sin, and lead us in the way everlasting. Walking in the light with Jesus Christ, that's what we want to pass on – not only to our church, our brothers, sisters, and friends here, but to everyone we come in contact with, everyone throughout the world – that we can share the love, mercy, and goodness of God through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Starting at St. Mark 10:17 is the Scripture about the rich young man. It says, "And when he was gone forth into the way, there came one running, and kneeled to him, and asked him, Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" Just think for a moment about that setting as we read that verse. Here was Jesus walking along the way. It says He was gone forth so He was headed in a direction. He was moving, and yet this young man came running to catch

up with Jesus. So he must have heard about Him. He must have had some kind of information about this Jesus. Maybe he didn't have a good understanding of who He was, but he certainly had something that compelled him to run after Jesus. He called Him Good Master. I guess that was the best he could come up with. He really didn't know, perhaps, who Jesus was and what His position was, but he knew He was somebody rather special.

He said, "Good Master, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?" What a question! Think about that. Who doesn't ponder what's going to happen to them when they die? That subject even came up this week amongst some of my co-workers – that question about eternal life and dying. It was so interesting to listen to them have conversation without me getting in there and trying to take over. I just kind of sat back and listened. They had asked a few things, and we had some interesting interchange. Who doesn't wonder what's going to happen or what has happened to those who you know and love who have passed away? Certainly if we had no idea and we didn't already have an understanding of God's Word and what's involved, wouldn't we be like this young man running to Jesus saying, what do I need to do to inherit eternal life? What's going to happen to me when I die?

"And Jesus said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God." v.18. It's kind of an unusual answer, but I really see here that He's pointing him in the right direction already. He was Jesus, the Son of God, our Savior, but He's pointing him to God.

"Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother. And he answered and said unto him, Master,

all these have I observed from my youth. Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me. And he was sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions." v.19-22.

The checklist of commandments that Jesus gave him in verse 19 you might look at as: Do not commit adultery. I haven't done that. Check it off. Do not kill. I haven't done that. Check that one off. Do not steal. I haven't done that. Check it off. That's what was obviously going through this young man's mind. Do not bear false witness. Don't be a liar. I haven't done that. Check it off. Defraud not. Don't take advantage of somebody and hurt them or take something that doesn't belong to you. Check it off. I haven't done it. Honour thy father and thy mother. Check it off. I'm clean. Obviously that's what was going through his mind because he looked at Jesus. I don't know how he could look at Jesus Christ. Even if he didn't have a complete understanding of who He was, he knew enough to call Him Good Master and to ask Him for the answer to eternal life. So he had to know there was something very, very powerful about Jesus.

He said, "Master, all these have I observed from my youth." I don't know if by the time I was ten years old I could have said that; probably not by the time I was three years old if I would have had any understanding of what I was dealing with. I don't know. I don't remember when I broke the first commandment. I really don't know. Maybe it was even the day I was born because we are born in sin, and we need a Savior.

But this young man said to Jesus, "I've observed these from my

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youth.” I think we would look at him and say that’s a pretty good young man. That’s a pretty good boy if that is true. Yet Jesus could see way beyond that because it’s not about this checklist of checking off how good I’ve been and how successful I’ve been at keeping these commandments. Yes they’re important, and yes we would be delighted if everyone could check off and say, ‘Yes, I’m good here.’ But Jesus saw much more, and for that very reason, it says He loved him. Think about that.

As I think back to that Scripture in the Old Testament, “Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.” What a tie-in that really is. If we think of being before the Lord and Him looking into the depths of our heart, there is some thing there we know He’s going to find. It’s my desire that He looks in there, He finds it, and then He fixes it. We might think, ‘Oh, but if Jesus knew this about me.’ Or you might be thinking, ‘I fail so miserably. How can God love me? How could Jesus forgive me?’ What He’s doing is looking at you and looking at this young man, and He’s seeing our need and loving us! He’s loving us, and He’s wanting us to be set free. He wants us to recognize what it is that is keeping us from that relationship with God our Father and Jesus Christ our Savior.

That’s what He wanted, and so He said, “...One thing thou lackest: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.” Mark 10:21. It’s really not another checklist – if I sell this, then go and donate here, and do these wonderful things, that’s all I need to do yet. It goes beyond that. Undoubtedly Jesus recognized that was what this young man was clinging to. That was his security.

In his heart and mind, that is what was going to get him through, and Jesus knew it. He knew it.

If we don’t sincerely want Him to know and try our hearts and thoughts, we’re going to continue to convince ourselves that this is an area that Jesus doesn’t need to go. This belongs to me. I’m going to do it my way because I’ll do everything else for Him, but this is just an area He doesn’t need to become involved in and so I’m going to hold onto this. He sees it. That’s why we need to pray, Search me, O God. Know my heart. Try my thoughts. We tend to hold onto some things that we need to let go of, and that’s what Jesus is saying here. It’s not another checklist of do something else that’s a little bit better than what you’ve done, but He’s saying take up the cross and follow Me. Make the sacrifice that you need to make. Give up your life.

That young man knew Jesus hit a nerve. He hit it right on because it says the young man was “...sad at that saying, and went away grieved: for he had great possessions.” v.22. He knew now he was holding onto something he needed to let go of, and it hurt. He just wasn’t ready. Where are you today? What are you hanging on to? You may want to understand how you may inherit eternal life. You may be wanting that relationship or working on that relationship with the Good Master, Jesus Christ, who says there is none good but God. You may want to establish that relationship and to have it be everything in your life, but there’s something that you’re holding on to that you need to let go of.

It says, “...Jesus looked round about, and saith unto his disciples, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!” v.23. We need to understand this a little better because I know we’re not all independently wealthy. I don’t know where you would draw the line. I’m not going to pick on someone who is. We all

are rich in many ways. Every one of us here is rich in some way or another.

“And the disciples were astonished at his words. But Jesus answereth again, and saith unto them, Children, how hard is it for them that trust in riches to enter into the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. And they were astonished out of measure...” v.24-26. It’s an interesting way of saying it, isn’t it? Astonished out of measure; it’s another one of those Scripture terms. I love these, but I have to interpret it some way or another. Astonished out of measure – they were just amazed. It was beyond their comprehension.

“...saying among themselves, Who then can be saved?” v.26. Think of the disciples of Jesus asking that question among themselves – who then can be saved? That must have been a moment of frustration and dismay for them to think, ‘We’re trying to figure this all out. This is way beyond our understanding, and now we don’t even know who can be saved.’

“And Jesus looking upon them...” v.27. It doesn’t say it here, but if you go back to verse 21, I imagine the same emotion was there because it was Jesus – beholding the young man, loved him. It doesn’t say it in verse 27, but I think we can put that in there. Jesus looked at them and He loved them. They were His disciples. You know He loved them.

“...With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.” v.27. Once again, where is He pointing their focus? To God. Get away from these things. These riches make our lives nice in a lot of ways, don’t they? They make it enjoyable, and we have many nice and enjoyable things. Hopefully we can share with others, maybe even more freely, but as with anything, the

more we have, the more of a burden it becomes. The more it ties us down.

He says, “How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God”, but then He also goes on to say, how hard is it for them that trust in riches. I think there’s a key there – trusting. What is it that we trust in? Just as that young man was holding onto his great possessions – it wasn’t so much that he had the possessions, it was the attitude he had about them. It was the need for them.

I don’t know how it would be if we all had to live in poverty and were all forced to live in a situation where we lost everything. There are people, loved ones in our families, who went through incredibly difficult times and lost maybe everything they had. My generation has heard it all our growing up days – ‘If you lived through the depression...’ ‘Why do you do this?’

Why do you save that?’ ‘Well, in the depression we had to hang on to everything. We got an orange and an apple for Christmas, if anything.’ My generation heard things like that. I don’t know that we can say we ever truly understand it because we didn’t experience it, but it does happen. We talk about economic downturns, recessions, and things like that. We had experiences with things that have hit us, maybe hard, in some ways, but most of us don’t know poverty. I’ve been able to witness it. I’ve been able to interact with it, and it’s something that I’m drawn to do. Brother Jon Zeller is in Haiti right now. Brother Ken and Sister Devon Rinkenberger just returned. You can’t go there and experience those things without having it affect you. For some, it may be almost too difficult to return to. For others, you are drawn back to it because you know it’s good for you.

Could we live like that if we had to, or are we trusting too much in riches?

Let’s not be like the disciples here where they were wandering around now saying, ‘Well now who can be saved? It’s hopeless. I might as well just give it up.’ No! “...With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible.”

Let’s never lose our focus. Let’s always look to God, focus on Him, and realize that whatever it is we have upon this earth or what we don’t have is really insignificant to eternity – to walking with Jesus Christ, to being in His presence. As He told that young man, “...take up the cross, and follow me.”



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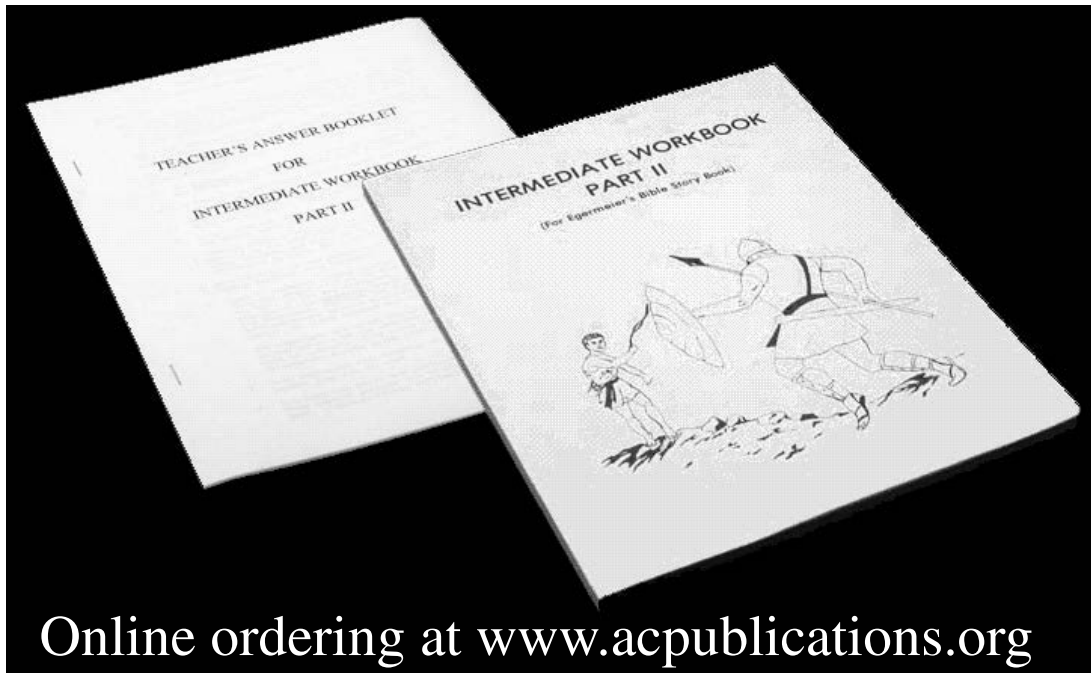
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Healthy Boundaries - Part 2

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

Boundary problems.

Boundary problems come either from not establishing boundaries to start with or from not keeping and maintaining them. So often it is hard to say "no" to additional tasks or not to allow others to take advantage of us. There are four categories these boundary problems fall into; compliant, avoidant, controlling, and nonresponsive. Healthy boundaries are all about being able to find a healthy balance. The four above-listed categories are problems because they are extremes. While we consider each of these further, we should identify how and when we may fall into these extremes and what would be a more biblical response.

Compliants.

We may become compliant and simply allow others to control our lives. One of the reasons we do this is that we may have an unrealistic fear or guilt about the consequences of our establishing or maintaining boundaries. We may fear hurting someone else's feelings or fear being seen as selfish or even unspiritual. We may fear their anger or fear being abandoned and separated from others. Being so easily compliant is not healthy and may be considered the evidence of a weak or uninstructed conscience. In other words, we may be using a man-made standard instead of God's Word to determine right from wrong. If we give in to guilty feelings, we may not be able to confront others. Because of our inability to confront others we may present a compliant nature on the outside, but can become bitter and resentful on the inside. Moses became compliant in that he allowed the needs of the people to overwhelm him until his father-in-law taught him to delegate.

Exodus 18:17-18 "And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest is not good. ¹⁸Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that is with thee: for this thing is too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone."

Avoidants.

Those who are avoidant tend to keep

their struggles inside and don't allow the good that is available to come in. In *Revelation 3:20* we read that Jesus stands at the door and knocks. If we keep everything to ourselves and don't let our boundary gate swing open, we may have spiritual difficulty accepting the love He offers. As a result of not allowing the good to enter, we may actually be allowing the bad to enter and for this reason, being an avoidant is often called "exercising reverse boundaries." As a result, we may feel unable to receive the support we would gladly give others and are stuck in a cycle of feeling drained with nothing to replace lost energy. The prophet Jonah tried to avoid accepting the fact that God's love was universal and that He was not a respecter of persons. Jonah correctly guessed that the Ninevites would repent if they heard the truth but he was not willing to open the boundary of his heart to accept the fact that his mortal enemies could receive God's mercy. His personal biases overruled the truth therefore he tried to run from his obligation. Instead of allowing the love and mercy of God to move him, he became bitter.

Jonah 4:1-2 "But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry. ²...Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil."

Controllers.

Controlling people have difficulty recognizing and respecting the boundaries of others. There are two kinds of controllers: aggressive and manipulative. Aggressive controllers blatantly run over the boundaries of others like a tank over a fence. They are often verbally abusive and sometimes physically abusive. They have no place for someone else's "no" and attempt to get everyone else to fit their idea of the way life should be. They neglect their own responsibility to accept others as they are. Manipulative controllers are more subtle and dishonest in their approach to the boundaries of others and will try to coerce them into thinking their way. They can use the "guilt trip" method of talking others into a "yes." Manipulators deny their responsibilities to others and brush aside their self-centeredness. Even compliants and avoidants can be manipulative if they

do things for others expecting a favor in return. Controllers are undisciplined and have little ability to curb their own desires and impulses. Because of their behavior, controllers often find themselves isolated from others and rarely feel loved. That is because they fear that if they would stop controlling the lives of others, they themselves would be abandoned. We are cautioned to give and to help as we have opportunity and means not because others would demand it.

Proverbs 3:27-28 "Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it."

Nonresponsive.

Those who are nonresponsive cannot hear the needs of others. These are often people who don't recognize their responsibility to others, as mentioned in *Galatians 6:9-10 "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. ¹⁰As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."* According to Scripture we are not responsible for someone else's behaviors, but we are responsible to help them as much as we are able within healthy boundaries. Nonresponsive people fall into two specific categories: those with a critical spirit who feel incomplete in themselves and therefore ignore the needs of others and those who are so completely consumed with their own needs and desires that they exclude the needs of others. We might consider nonresponsive people as being simply unfeeling or insensitive to others but they are actively choosing to disregard the boundaries of others. We are instructed in *Philippians 2:4 "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."*

Controlling and nonresponsive people have a difficult time looking beyond themselves. They see other people as being the cause for their own struggles and therefore depend upon others to take care of them. They seek out those people with blurry boundaries who will naturally take on too many responsibilities within the relationship and won't complain about it.

Next month we will share some examples of boundaries in Scripture as well as the ten boundary laws as identified by the authors of the book "Boundaries."

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Interested in Houseparenting?



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

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

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

"We have always considered our position a ministry for our entire family not just a job for us. Relationships built during this time can last for a lifetime." - Bro. Jason & Sis. Joy Kilgus, Houseparents

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 November 14th, 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 November 14th, 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 mfiechter@onlyinternet.net
Data updated from the Apostolic Christian World Relief web site as of November 14th, 2011 - www.acworldrelief.org/work-teams-mexico/

Location	Year 2012	Coordinator			
Magdalena Construction	Jan 7-14	Troy Lanz 815-688-3417 troy@lanzinc.com	Magdalena Construction	Mar 31-Apr 7	Curt Hodel Roanoke Bible Class 309-923-8091 cjhodel@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Jan 14-21	Steve Kaeb 217-379-4707 kaebsb@frontier.com	Magdalena Construction	Jun 16-23	Andy Sauder Morton Bible Class 309-263-9965 andy.sauder@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Feb 18-25	Jon Baner 309-747-4085 jbaner@grid.com.net	Magdalena Construction	Jul 21-28	Rick Kaisner Chicago Bible Class 248-924-7547 rick@kaisner.org
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			

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.

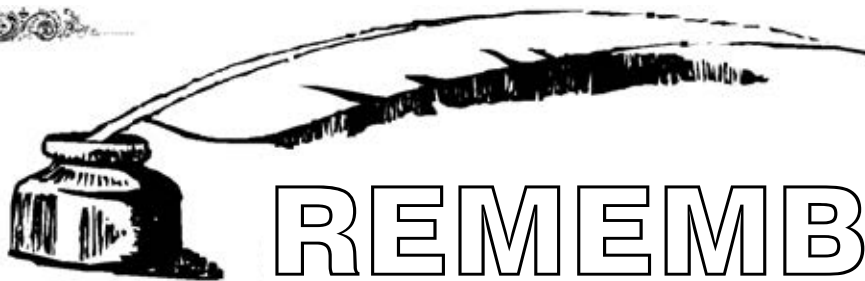
As the Lord lays this opportunity to serve on your heart, please contact:

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



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REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

The autobiography of Elder Ernest Graf, Sr., continues. This is the second in an ongoing series of articles. He served as Elder from 1922 until his death in 1946 at Akron, Ohio. He was 48 when he was ordained to serve as an Elder.

School Days Continued

The older children busied themselves with drawing pictures or pulling apart linen rags into lint, which we were told was to be used in hospitals to dress wounds. At other times they would make cases for slippers or clothes brushes by sewing together pieces of pasteboard which Sister Verena had cut out. When there was a washbasket full of these, she would send three of the largest boys to peddle them out, two to carry the basket and one to carry the purse.

I well remember how pleased I was when in my last year I was delegated to receive and carry the money, although I had yet to let the people who bought make their own change as I did not know the exact value of coins.

On warm summer days she (Sister Verena) would take all of us afield or to some shady grove, and for this purpose we had a half-inch rope about 20 yards long, with every two feet a smooth round stick inserted, which acted as a handle on either side of the rope. Of these handles the children took hold, the older ones at one end and so on down to the other end, the smallest bring up the rear with Sister Verena walking behind. Thus, the larger ones at the front end had to pull the small ones at the rear, which was no small task. Behind the schoolhouse were piles of sand where we could also dig around with wooden shovels.

After harvest, we were allowed to go with Sister Verena over the wheat fields and pick up any ears of wheat which had

fallen off. These we would put in our empty lunch bags and take them home in the evening. I dumped mine day after day into my old cradle upstairs, and one year it was brimful. The ears were threshed out and ground, and when I was told it was enough for one week's baking, I was surely proud.

The day our class finished with Kindergarten, being promoted to first grade, Sister Verena made a farewell speech which moved all the girls and some of us boys to tears. All hard feelings were laid aside and all punishments were forgiven, for after all, we loved her.

Progressing At School

Now began a more strenuous part of our schooling, although I had mastered the art of reading and could write all the letters of the Alphabet before I entered the first grade. I had two classmates who were good scholars, and the three of us led the classes in everything throughout the first years of grade school. Their names were Samuel Stamm and Johan Tanner. The latter, one day, assayed to ride a cow to water, and fell off onto the cobblestone pavement breaking his left arm. Upon hearing that it (the arm) was to be amputated and seeing the doctor come to the home, all the boys in the class congregated in front of the house out of morbid curiosity. Not knowing that anesthetics were used in such cases, we expected to hear shrieks of pain, but all was quiet. The Doctor came out and we dispersed, rather disappointed. He afterward had an artificial arm.

There was also an athletic field just outside the village where there were various fixtures and appliances for exercising the body. Here I fell one day from a height of about 8 feet, landing on my head, which stunned me so that I never remember how I got home. When I came to and looked into the mirror, my fea-

tures were all drawn to one side of my face and naturally I feared they would remain thus. However, in the course of several days all was normal again. The worst part of this incident was that the day after my fall was the school picnic, and of course, I had to stay indoors. I was somewhat consoled when in the evening some of the neighbor boys brought me about a quart of nice cherries.

New Teacher

Our next teacher's name was Carl Schaad. He was a good-natured man, but had his rules to obey and prescribed punishments to administer. These were mostly in the form of strikes or blows upon the palm of the hand with a ferrule about 20 inches long and three-fourths inches square. According as the offense or delinquency was, he would give one, two, three, or four such blows. If more than one was given they would be received alternately on each hand. A very painful blow could be administered for the ferrule was of hard wood.

In mental arithmetic class the teacher would say a problem and immediately start for the pupil whom he addressed. If by the time he reached the pupil the answer was not forthcoming, one blow on the palm of the hand was supposed to sharpen the wits and accelerate the slow-moving mind. But I fear with some it had the opposite effect, for they were so scared that their wits could not function properly. I will remark here that it was my good fortune never to receive such blows, as figures and sums were always easy for me. When my third school year was nearing its end, we left Switzerland for America.

Edited by Bro. Perry Klopfenstein

Next Issue:

This series is to be continued

The Light Of Hope

“Receiving Correction”

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

When ministering in our Portland, Oregon, church recently, I opened to Jeremiah, chapter five. Jeremiah was bewailing and lamenting about the sad spiritual condition of the children of Israel. In verse two it is written, “They say, The Lord liveth.” The problem was not in what they said but in what they did or didn’t do.

One of the things about the children of Israel at that time, according to the third verse in chapter five, is “They have refused to receive correction.” So I ask myself, “Have I ever refused to receive correction?”

What do you think about receiving correction directly from God or from His Word? Are you and I always willing and anxious to receive correction so that we can better serve our God and our Saviour, Jesus Christ? If we aren’t, I see a red flag. Something is wrong, or am I mistaken? What do you think? I welcome your comments via email or letter.

II Timothy 3:16 reads, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.” Please note that the purpose of correction, etc., is that the man of God may be perfect. It doesn’t say so that the man of God may have superior understanding of doctrine and prophecy. I believe that God is more interested in what we are in the depth of our souls, than He is in our understanding of the depth of spiritual truths and teachings. There are many things that God knows and

understands that you and I will never know, at least not so long as we are here on earth.

Romans 11:33 reads, “O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God? How unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out?” We need to know that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that he died for our sins, that He arose from the dead, and that He is coming again. Beyond that, knowledge, as far as I can understand, is not the main issue. The main issue is, “What are you in the depth of your soul?”

If the purpose of correction is to make us perfect, how are we doing? We know that we can only be perfect in God’s sight through repentance and conversion so that we can be found in the righteousness which is by faith in Christ. In Romans 4:22 it is written, “And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.” Paul was explaining that Abraham’s faith was imputed to him for righteousness, which means, if I’m not mistaken, that he was given righteousness that he didn’t earn. However, we are called to put that perfection into practice. Christ said, “Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.” Matthew 5:48.

Receiving correction is very much like being chastised. Hebrews 12:6 reads, “For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.” If you or I sometimes feel guilty about something, isn’t that the Lord chastising us? And if it is the Lord chastising us, then isn’t that evidence that He loves us and is

working with us to make us perfect? The important thing is that we receive the correction and press forward in the Lord., always trying do better. What do you think?

In Jeremiah’s time, the people no longer received correction. Are we all willing to receive correction? Do we long for our brothers and sisters in Christ to make suggestions as to how we can improve in our Christian life?

If we are really dead with Christ and have risen with Him to seek those things which are above (Colossians 3:1) we surely will thank anyone who corrects us in love and in accordance with God’s Word. On the other hand, if we have lost our willingness to receive correction, it would appear that we have departed from the standards set by God’s Word. May God be merciful and may we all plead with God to bear with us and make us all willing to receive correction, from the least to the greatest. We need each other’s love and correction, based on God’s Word.

I notice that the word “chastisement” is used in Isaiah 53:5, “The chastisement of our peace was upon him.” This prophecy concerning the Lord Jesus Christ indicates that He was to be punished or chastised so that you and I can have peace. You and I should have been chastised or corrected forever in hell, but Christ suffered that for us so we can have peace and be ready to meet God at any time. This being true, if we really believe, there is no sacrifice too great for us to make for Him. Let’s all be willing to receive correction.

希望の光



*To all parts under heaven
Thy truth and faith extend;
We see each morn and even
Thy grace of covenant.
Let us this day consider,
Oh, Lord, Thy kindness;
Our heart and soul together
Inspire with thankfulness.*

Lions Harp #154 vs.2