

# The Silver Lining

*And he shall be like a tree  
planted by the rivers of  
water, that bringeth forth  
his fruit in his season; his  
leaf also shall not wither;  
and whatsoever he doeth  
shall prosper. Psalm 1:3*

October 2012

## Sermon by Bro. Bruce Endress, Bradford, IL

*Leviticus 9:1-14 & 22-24; Romans 1:32 & 2:1-29*

Greetings this morning to each one of you in the name of our Lord and Savior. What an opportunity we have to be here in the house of God! We've come and assembled together to worship Him. Then we know this afternoon is a special afternoon for four souls who will be baptized into the body of Christ. We ask for your continued prayers all day that God's Spirit would be among us and speak.

Just a few thoughts on Leviticus 9 - when we come to the pulpit and open the Bible, we don't ever know where it's going to open. We don't know what chapter it will open to, what verse, or what the text will be. It can present a fair amount of fear in our hearts if we would allow it, but in faith we open the Scripture. Sometimes we read, and we don't quite know what to say. Thoughts don't come right away. Maybe this is a little bit like one of those chapters. We understand here this is the sacrifice. We understand this is the plan God had laid out for His people to come before Him with a sacrifice and offering for the sinfulness that was in their heart and for the wretchedness of their actions.

If we just stop and think for a minute, this really is for and to us. When we walked in this morning, we didn't go out to the calf pen and look around to find the best calf that was there, the one who was without blemish, the one who was perfect, just the right one, a firstling of the first year, to bring here to the house of the Lord, did we? We didn't come that way.

In fact, we have not offered those kinds of offerings. We have not offered those types of sacrifices. Sometimes I have to wonder when these people went out to the lamb pen, found that perfect cute little lamb, and brought it to the temple to be

sacrificed, they watched that lamb lose its life and watched the blood flow. Right there they could see it. They understood it. Don't you think the exceeding sinfulness of sin was very real to them?

We're that way. When we see something die, when we see life taken, when we see blood flow, it really means something to us. It gets our attention. These people would see that day after day, year after year. They were continually reminded of the holiness of God, and they were continually reminded that they were not holy as God was.

The other thing I think when I consider this is some of us who are involved in agriculture, and I know all of you can understand this, when it is that perfect animal, we like to hold on. It would stretch us to go and to give that which is without blemish, that which is of a firstling of the first year. It stretches us to give those things that are the most precious to us, the things we hold closest to us, but that's what God asks. I don't know what it is in your life. Frankly, at times I don't know what it is in mine, but I know I am so quick to hold onto the things that God would like me to let go and offer.

They brought the blood unto Aaron, and he would sprinkle it around as they sacrificed (v.9 & 12). Everything here we read about points to One who would come. It points to the Lord Jesus Christ. All of the Old Testament sacrifices, the temple, and the economy of worship come to fruition in our Lord and Savior. I can't understand it, but what little we can, we can see a perfect parallel through time as God continued to point to One who would come - our Lord and Saviour, Christ Jesus.

At the 24<sup>th</sup> verse, it talks about the  
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The Silver Lining subscriptions are due from the following in November:

1. Remington
2. Bluffton
3. Bluffton North
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5. St. Louis

*Suggested donation: \$18/subscription.*

**Write checks payable to  
"Silver Lining"**

**Send all payments to:**

Apostolic Christian Publications  
805 W. Cruger St., P.O. Box 52  
Eureka, IL 61530

### Correspondence

#### For November Issue

*(news from Sept. 16-October 15)*

**Due: October 20, 2012**

***If you wish to cancel your  
subscription, please notify us at  
fellowshippromoter@gmail.com  
or (309) 965-2626.***

The Silver Lining (Vol. 67, #10)  
1523 County Road 400N  
Congerville, IL 61729

**USPS 496780**

Published Monthly by the Apostolic  
Christian Church of America  
Counselors:  
Tom Stock, Rick Plattner

Official Apostolic Christian Church  
Website:  
[www.apostolicchristian.org](http://www.apostolicchristian.org)

Send correspondence to:  
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(email is preferred)  
The Silver Lining  
1523 County Road 400N  
Congerville, IL 61729  
Ph: 309-965-2626  
Fax: 866-389-9835

Periodical non-profit postage paid at Roanoke, IL 61561 and additional post offices. The subscription rate is a donation. Send zip number with address. Remember to send changes of address. Send both old and new addresses (with both zips). Postmaster send address changes to:

The Silver Lining  
1523 County Road 400N  
Congerville, IL 61729

*"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another..." (John 13:34)*

## Light from the Word

### A New Commandment



*Writings based on God's Word*

*"The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell; It goes beyond the highest star, and reaches to the lowest hell." (Hymns of Zion, #289, verse 1).*

One of the most fundamental needs of mankind is to love and be loved. One of Satan's greatest weapons is to cause strife and a loss of love among God's people.

With these thoughts in mind, we think of the message of Jesus Christ: *"A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another"* (John 13:34).

With the need for love so universal, we might wonder why it was necessary for Jesus to deliver a new commandment. It seems that it should just come naturally, especially for God's chosen people.

There was a degree of love among God's people before Jesus came to earth. The word "love" or a form of the word appears in the Old Testament hundreds of times, and yet those teachings were very difficult to apply by the efforts of man. In spite of the instruction to *"Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt"* (Deut 10:19), when it came to loving people, most of their efforts were directed only toward those of their own nation. The way they treated their enemies was certainly very different than what Christ taught later.

A new understanding of loving one another was needed. The love that God showed by sending His Son to die for our sins, and the love that His Son showed by willingly coming to live in a sin-filled world and then die for those who committed the sins, goes far beyond anything demonstrated under the Law of Moses. Thus it was necessary for Jesus to emphasize a new way of thinking about relationships with God and among His people.

We must remember that Jesus did not come to destroy the Law. He came to fulfill it. One of the definitions of "fulfill" is to accomplish what was intended. The Children of Israel were not living as God intended. They needed to go well beyond the "minimum" in terms of love for one

another. They needed to love with a new heart (Ezek. 36:26-27).

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus explained that the commandments in the Law of Moses needed to be taken to a much higher level. He often exhorted the believer to purity and obedience, starting in the heart. (Matt. 5-7; Mark 7:20-23). James 1:13-16 further clarifies the importance of resisting temptation in the privacy of the heart and thus avoiding the resulting sin. Jesus also said *"Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good unto them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you"* (Matt. 5:43-44). That was certainly a change from what the children of Israel were used to doing.

It was so important to Christ that we show love toward one another that He did not want us to even approach the altar with a gift if we were lacking in love. This could apply to any act of service.

*"Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee: Leave there thy gift before the altar and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift"* (Matt. 5:23-24).

It is not enough to abstain from physical sin; we must not allow the thought of sin to take root in our minds and we must seek peace among ourselves (Rom. 12:18). Other examples could be given from Christ's sermons that would extend the intent of God's commandments.

As we can readily understand, the concept of love at the level that Jesus commanded was truly "new" in the minds and thoughts of the people. Jesus put it all in perspective when He was asked by a lawyer, which is the great commandment. He replied that we are to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, and mind, and the second is like unto it. We are to love our neighbor as our self. He then taught them that on these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. (Matt. 22:35-40).

There are many examples we could cite of Christ's great love for us. First, He left the glories of heaven and came to earth to live among sinful men. He knew that He would face all of the temptations that Satan could devise against Him. He knew that he would experience torment from those in authority and, perhaps more significantly, from His own people (*"For neither did His brethren believe on Him"* John 7:5). He knew that He would face a brutal trial and a horrific death. Finally, He knew that He would face the burden of bearing the sins of the entire world. In spite of all of this, He willingly came to rescue man from sin. It was said of Him that *"...he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil"* (Luke 6:35).

Jesus said *"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"* (John 15:13). He lived those words to the very end. As He was dying on the cross, He was concerned about the welfare of His mother and asked John to take care of her (John 19:27). He interceded for a dying sinner who realized at the very end of his life that he was not prepared for eternity (Luke 23:43). Also, He forgave His executioners even though none of them acknowledged that they needed forgiveness (Luke 23:34). We are the recipients of such great love. Jesus prayed for us personally: *"I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them"* (John 17:26). Finally, *"We love him because he first loved us"* (1 John 4:19).

Jesus emphasized that to demonstrate true love, we must know the source of love. *"As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love"* (John 15:9). He also made it clear that our love for Him must be evident in our lives: *"If ye love me, keep my commandments"* (John 14:15).

How can we demonstrate to everyone around us that we are truly seeking to follow Christ's example?

*"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another"* (John 13:35).

An editorial committee of elders prepares articles for this section of Silver Lining to address some special needs of our times.

Suggestions for subjects are welcome and can be sent to:

Silver Lining Editorials, 1523 County Road 400N, Congerville, IL 61729 or fellowshippromoter@gmail.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

### Building Trust at CVE

House parents at Casa Vida y Esperanza in Magdalena, Mexico, like most of us, are keen to watch for those teachable moments when a child's heart is open for spiritual and character training. Those moments do not happen without first building trust. As the old saying goes, "People don't care what you know until they first know that you care."

This is not easy with a child coming from a broken home. Something as simple as an annual 4H Fair at CVE has generated good fruit in building trust with the children and the community of Magdalena.

Most of us have grown up with a standard of excellence and an early pattern of assuming daily responsibilities of household chores, animal care or such activities that infuse generational and lifetime values. This is a privilege we often undervalue and take for granted. How can we share this with others?

### Discipleship

**A biblical pattern.** Moses and Joshua. Eli and Samuel. Elijah and Elisha. Paul and Timothy. The older teaching the younger, one generation to the next. We each were created to learn; we also were created to teach. From that natural curiosity evident in small children, to the deep hunger of every human to know their Creator, it is clear we were designed to grow in knowledge and then pass it on to others. Some things are "taught," while others are "caught."

### Community

**God's purpose in common activities.** For many children growing up in the United States, 4-H was a valuable program for passing down

skills and knowledge development. This agricultural-based summer program involved children in an assortment of activities, from showing sheep to sewing, rock collections, photography, food, art, and just about every farm animal imaginable. Projects were designed to be worked on throughout the year, and then ultimately presented and judged at the local county fair.

Such a program did not exist in Mexico, but through the reminiscing of a few staff members of CVE, it became evident how useful a similar program might be for both the children at CVE and the community in Magdalena.



Children showing sheep

It would encourage relationship building between adults and children, and foster responsibility and a good work ethic, useful qualities sometimes lacking in children of dysfunctional and broken families. And so began "Expo Esperanza" which has been a part of CVE for the past three summers. Houseparents and children partner together in a biblical tradition of discipleship as they work on projects of farming, garden, cooking, sewing, music and art.

### Character

**Strength for life.** One houseparent testified of the beauty of working side by side with his boys as God

used their projects to spark "teachable moments." It has also been a productive way to fill up those long summer days as the children discover the valuable connection between hard work and a just reward. A quality job receives a higher rating on presentation day, and this experience impresses children with a standard of excellence that prepares them for adulthood. The Expo also provides an opportunity to emphasize commitment and perseverance to the children as they work through the difficult phase of bringing a project to completion.

### Calling

**Being salt in the world.** As the 4-H program at CVE has grown, it has also become an opportunity for outreach into the community as local ranchers have become livestock judges, town kids now participate, and other projects encourage children to seek out interactions among the elderly in Magdalena.

Through relationships, the truth of the Gospel has opportunity to penetrate, and Expo Esperanza can help jumpstart those meaningful connections. It is the vision of CVE to grow the program and facilitate more community involvement, both with children and adults.

Would you consider coming in July or early August 2013 to come along side children finishing their projects? Are you interested in participating as a judge of projects? If so, email [cvemexico@gmail.com](mailto:cvemexico@gmail.com) and we will connect you with those who administer Expo Esperanza. Please join in praying for God's purpose to be accomplished and His glory proclaimed through opportunities like the growing 4-H program in Magdalena.



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

## Simone Orphanage

The Simone Orphanage, located near Les Cayes Haiti, is just a ten-minute walk from both the guest house where work teams stay and the compound where many of our World Relief missionaries live.

Several years ago, Bro. Jan and Sis. Val Gutwein, a Francesville family in Haiti, established a connection with the Simone Orphanage. As the relationship grew, the Francesville church received a double blessing; not only being involved with the orphanage, but also staying better connected with their family in the field. Work teams from Francesville spend a week in Les Cayes every year, combining work at the orphanage and time with the Gutwein family.

In 2006, the Simone Orphanage was accepted as a World Relief project, a joint effort where the Francesville church shares the project costs 50/50 with World Relief. While in Haiti, the Francesville team and the Simone Orphanage staff establish a plan to provide for the needs at the orphanage. The plan is then presented to the Caribbean Committee for advice.

This project support model has numerous positive attributes; encouraging missionary family support, a vested and personal involvement from the local church and shared planning and work team responsibilities between World Relief and the local church.

## Nurturing the orphans

*“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight*

*to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.” LUKE 4:18*

The arch over the gate at Simone Orphanage reads “Home of the Children of Providence.” Providence, meaning divine intervention, in this case is very evident as we observe the daily routines and actions of Gerta and Michaelle, the two single Christian ladies who started the Simone Orphanage.

The orphans’ routine consists of prayer twice a day, using devotions translated into Creole, the Haitian language. Praising God through song is part of their worship, and when they sing for us the tears flow. What a blessing!



There are currently around thirty girls from three months to eighteen years old being cared for at the orphanage. It is a joy to watch the older girls help care for the younger ones. Gerta, Michaelle, and the girls attend church within walking distance from the “Home of the Children of Providence”.

## A testimony from a sister

I’ve been so incredibly blessed through my trips to the Simone Orphanage in Les Cayes, Haiti. Each time I went, the children taught me a little more about what really matters. As much as we were doing for them through our work, I also realized they needed our love

just as much as, or even more than they needed our labors. I saw this conveyed as their eyes lit up and they ran toward us, calling our names each time we entered the gate; and in the way they snuggled in close when we pulled them into our laps. There was a connection between us, deep in our hearts where the Love of God surpassed all language barriers. *“My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.” 1 JOHN 3:18*

## Work in progress

Humanitarian accomplishments have been the rewiring of the orphanage, hanging new lights and ceiling fans, painting, new playground equipment, funding a new kitchen, new roofing, and helping to cement a large gathering area. Currently a second story is being added to the orphanage. The unfinished walls are up and the tin roof is on. Bathroom facilities, windows, doors, wiring, and smoothing out the cement walls are needed.

Without God in it, our work is certainly in vain, whether our effort is humanitarian or spiritual. Please pray for wisdom as this project moves forward by the grace of God.

## Financial support

If you desire to support this project, donations can be made out to “AC World Relief” and mailed to:

AC World Relief  
Simone Orphanage Project  
711 Elm Drive  
Bluffton, IN 46714

For more information, please contact Bro. Rick Wuethrich at [rick@wuethrichfarms.com](mailto:rick@wuethrichfarms.com).

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

Apostolic Christian Timber Ridge offers optional monthly Bible studies for several groups of interested residents. One of these groups is led by a resident. A staff sits in to facilitate the group. All eight residents that attend, including the leader, are physically challenged and use a wheelchair to ambulate. These participants require a variety of adaptive equipment. Most have somewhat unintelligible speech, but understand what others are communicating. One lady even uses a slight movement of her head to activate her talker. This is a computer that speaks for her and is a device which is mounted on her wheelchair. When she sees something on the screen that she wants to say, she moves her head slightly to activate the switch. The device talks for her. This is her only way to tell us things. Other residents have a range of unique needs, but all come to the Bible study enthusiastically.

The following is an excerpt from one of these Bible studies, drafted by the staff that facilitates the Bible study.

“Last night our Bible Study leader told me he wanted to do the study on ‘the blood and grace’...but I was not sure what he meant, but proceeded assisting the group to the Bible study area. He said he needed a CD player, too...but he managed to get one from the staff by himself.

He did the usual prayer requests, asking each of us what should be included in the prayer tonight. We had the opening prayer and then he asked me to read something in the Bible about grace. I wanted to read, *‘His strength is made perfect in weakness, His grace is sufficient*

*for me’* But he wanted to read: *‘I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.’*...and some other scriptures, too.

He then asked us what grace is...but no one knew how to say it. Someone said it is the hardest thing which you have had to do ... and when God helped you do it... that is grace. The residents all had examples of the hardest time in their lives. These examples were normal things that people struggle with. They talked about getting through those times.

Then he said he wanted to listen to something...and wheeled himself to the CD player that had been strategically set up. He found the exact spot on the CD for the song, Amazing Grace. He made us listen twice to Amazing Grace. He sang along with the CD. As he sang with his semi-unintelligible speech, we saw Jesus and grace...in the flesh... as he sang.

We realized, *‘His grace is sufficient for us; His strength is made perfect in weakness.’*

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

**Ross Feller**

*“Pilate therefore said unto him, ‘Art thou a king then?’ Jesus answered, ‘Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice.’ (John 18:37)*

Over the last several months I have been going over an in-depth study on truth. The study specifically addresses the above verses, and how important the concept of truth is to our Savior. What is truth? Do we really believe

in what we call Truth? How does this belief drive our actions? It fascinates me that Pilate responds to Jesus’ question in what I consider the “modern” way. He asks the same thing that many broken people we serve ask, “What is truth?”

In the past I always got annoyed at people that argued for multiple truths. “Well that’s your truth, but this is my truth...” Yet this idea pervades our society, and we deal with it constantly with our clients. I’ve talked about this study with Gateway Woods counselors, houseparents and other staff, and am always interested to see that this concept is a part of their everyday lives! Simple truths like personal responsibility and a basic moral code are under fire in our society. When that is the case, we are in danger of making the same mistake Pilate did—ignoring the one thing that can answer our needs.

R. C. Sproul defines truth as “that which corresponds to reality as perceived by God.” Some of our clients don’t have a view of God, and often those that do have a warped and confused concept of our Heavenly Father. It is becoming increasingly clear to me that as we continue to try to turn lives around, we must begin by helping to establish truth in the lives of those we work with. Please pray with us that we can establish *the* Truth in their lives through the grace of God. Only then can we hope for lasting change in the lives of those we are serving.

*News:*

Gateway Woods welcomed one new resident to campus this past month. Please pray with us as she becomes accustomed to her new home. It can be a difficult adjustment for new residents as they discover a very different

living situation than they have experienced before. We are very excited to work with this new child and her family!

We are very excited to announce the hiring of an Illinois Adoption Manager! Sis. Lucinda Koch (Tremont, IL) has accepted the position and will soon begin training and working toward securing a license in IL. We are excited for the opportunity to help our Brothers and Sisters in Illinois that are interested in adopting.

We are grateful to God for providing us with wonderful Staff. We currently have two career positions available. We have an opening for Development Officer and a Foster Care Program Manager. For more information, please see the notices in this month's edition of The Silver Lining or visit the Career Opportunities page on our website at: [www.gatewaywoods.org/supporters/career-opportunities](http://www.gatewaywoods.org/supporters/career-opportunities). We trust that God will continue to provide qualified, mature brothers and sisters who will serve Him in a ministry that is 'Turning Lives Around'. Perhaps this includes you!

You are an important advocate to help us spread the word about God's work at Gateway Woods. Please continue to lift us up in prayer, check our website [www.gatewaywoods.org](http://www.gatewaywoods.org) and our Facebook page at [facebook.com/gatewaywoods](https://www.facebook.com/gatewaywoods) often for updates, and make sure that you are on our mailing list. In an effort to be as efficient as possible, we are gathering as many email addresses as we can for our Restoring Hope. Please send a quick message to [mail@gatewaywoods.org](mailto:mail@gatewaywoods.org).

**"Be still, and know that I am God"**  
(Ps 46:10)

### **APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL ATHENS, AL Susan Koch**

Our new school year officially kicked off in September. The themes we studied this month were the color blue, community helpers, and space. For those of you who aren't familiar with our curriculum, we study a letter of the alphabet each week starting in September. We take a few breaks around holidays and end in May (just in time for graduation). Each teacher ties in the monthly themes in addition to focusing on the letter. So in September, we studied letters A – D. At one point, Ms. Louise's classroom had butterflies hanging from the ceiling and Ms. Susan's classroom had bats hanging. Ms. Kalla's students have been learning how centers work. They have been learning about balance, magnets, and math. They have also talked about different careers they could pursue when they are older. Our new students are adjusting well to our routine and learning lots of "Jesus songs." Their favorites are songs that include actions like "The Butterfly Song," "Nod Your Head if You Love Jesus," and "The Happy Day Express." We also like to memorize a verse that begins with the letter we are studying each week. So far we have done Romans 3:23, Acts 16:31, Ephesians 6:1, and Psalms 34:24.

### **ALABAMA, ATHENS Roger and Becky Roberts**

We appreciate those who were willing to minister to us this month. Those who shared God's Word were Bro. Jerry (Sis. Martha) Bauman (Rittman, OH), Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), and Bro. Dan (Sis. Ann) Moser and family

(Elgin, IL).

If you are traveling through the area this fall or winter, we would love your fellowship! Please either call or email us ahead of time so we can make plans.

Bro. Roger & Sis. Becky Roberts  
(309) 208-5590 [mrpipes@afo.net](mailto:mrpipes@afo.net)

### **ARIZONA, PHOENIX**

**Lynn Wiegand**

### **ARIZONA, PRESCOTT**

**Denise Steidinger**

We are thankful for the many visitors that have come to Prescott during the past month. Those who came to preach God's Word were Elder Bro. John Leman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), Bro. Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kay, Bloomington, IL), Elder Bro. Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Justin Moser (Sis. Robin, Altadena, CA).

*"Rejoice with them that do rejoice,  
and weep with them that weep."  
(Romans 12:15)*

We extend our love and sympathy to Doug & Susan Schmidgall in the passing of Doug's mother, Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall (Phoenix).

We rejoice with Bro. Tom and Sis. Kim Wackerle in the wedding of their daughter Jennifer to Rick Olesinski (Glendale, AZ) on September 15.

### **ARIZONA, TUCSON**

**Lisa Knapp**

Our Sunday School Bible Class was once again blessed to travel to California with the Phoenix Bible Class for a Labor Day weekend of fellowship and fun. Many, many thanks to the Phoenix church for their generosity in sharing their lovely charter bus with our teachers and students. And, of course, a great big "Thank You" to the San Diego

church for their warm welcome and Christian hospitality.

Sunday School has started after a summer break. Our prayers are with the teachers and students as they grow and learn together.

Lord willing, we will begin our Fellowship Suppers and Wednesday evening services in October.

We are excited to feel a little coolness in the morning and evening air. Our days are still very warm, which is typical for the middle of September.

### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

The end of summer has come far too quickly. It has been a wonderful season of visitors and vacationing members and friends. We praise God for His provision and for the safe travels.

Our ministers have been very busy over the course of the past month. We welcomed Bro. Joe and Sis. Sue Klotzle back from their extended stay in Switzerland. Bro. Tom (Sis. Jody) has traveled to elder meetings; and, Bro. Justin (Sis. Robin) Moser have visited churches to assist in the ministry of other churches in other states. All of our ministers remain in our prayers for safety, clarity, wisdom, and – most of all – that they will remain in the Spirit as important decisions are made on behalf of the churches throughout the country.

We enjoyed having a visiting minister this past month. Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Sis. Lillian) shared our pulpit. The willingness to serve is greatly appreciated.

Bro. Scott and Sis. Shayna Mangers and our Bible Class joined San Diego, Phoenix and Tucson for their Bi-annual ACYF weekend. What a blessing to continue to build life-long relationships and benefit from spiritual teaching and loving

fellowship! Thanks to the San Diego church for hosting a wonderful weekend!

It is with sorrow, mingled with hope and faith, that we announce the passing of Allan Crockett on September 21, 2012. He is the beloved son of Bro. Robert Crockett and the brother of Brian (June) Crockett. Alan was seriously injured in an auto accident 25 years ago. We entrust Allan into the care of a wonderful, merciful Savior.

We continue to pray for all of our members and friends who are continuing to suffer illness. We lift up Sis. Lydia Neri as she is cared for by her family. We lift up Bro. Laszlo and Sis. Maria Cser as they struggle with health issues. Also, we are prayerful for Bro. Clarence Graf.

### CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

**Janelle Brewer**

This month we had the opportunity to host the Arizona/California ACYF weekend. We appreciated the Sunday School students and teachers we had present from Phoenix, Tucson, and Altadena. It was a blessing to have the young people fill our small church and to share one with another! We are thankful for other visitors that worshipped with us this past month, too.

We also remember our Sunday School teachers and students in prayer as they have resumed from their summer break. It's a joy to hear their enthusiasm as they raise their voices to praise God!

May God give us grace to stay true and faithful to Him so that we may inherit eternal life after our life on earth is over.

*“After the toil and trouble, There cometh a day of rest;  
After the weary conflict, Peace on the Saviour's breast;*

*After the care and sorrow, the glory of light and love;*

*After the wilderness journey, The Father's bright home above.*

*(Gospel Hymns #446 vs. 1)*

### CANADA, KITCHENER, ONTARIO

**Kim Leman**

*“Salt is good: but if the salt have lost his saltness, wherewith will ye season it? Have salt in yourselves, and have peace one with another.” (Mark 9:50)*

We have had a number of visiting ministers recently. We were blessed and encouraged by the ministry of Elder Bros. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) and Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA) and Bros. Chad Gerber (Sis. Jami, Bluffton, IN), Jeff Leman (Sis. Val, Bluffton North, IN), Tim Ramsier (Sis. Joni, Rittman, OH), and Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park, IL). May God bless these brothers for serving us God's Word.

Our love and sympathy are extended to Sis. Michelle Davidson in the loss of her grandmother, Joy Davidson. We trust God to comfort her heart.

After several months of being under construction due to a broken water pipe, we are thankful to have new carpet in our church. However, just a few days before the new carpet went in, a heavy rain caused our roof to leak into the baby room. So, although this sets our project back a little, we appreciate the progress that has been made!

### CANADA, REGINA, SASKATCHEWAN

**Myrna Shipley**

### COLORADO, DENVER

**Lily Zarkovacki**



**CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE****Sheila Gerber****Lauren Gottier**

*"Be present blessed Jesus, To join their loving hands,  
As thou didst bind two natures In thine eternal bands."  
(Hymns of Zion #196 vs. 2)*

The engagement of Sis. Laura Virkler (Bro. Terry and Sis. Cindy) to Bro. Sam Greenbank (Bro. Glen and Sis. Joan Greenbank, Akron, OH) was announced to our congregation on September 2. We look forward to welcoming Bro. Sam to our congregation.

September 7 was the wedding day of Kayla Schneider (Bro. Lenny and Sis Deb) to Sean Mitchell (Tom and Mary Mitchell). Also marrying this month were Ben Carlson (Bro. Wally and Sis. Judy) and Christy Speilman (Roy Speilman and Sis. Jody Speilman) on September 8. We wish both of these couples God's blessings and love as they begin this new chapter of their lives.

*"...and from our mother's arms has blest us on our way..." (Zions Harp #236)*

Roth Keith joined the family of Bro. Brad and Sis. Deanna Wiegand. Kaleigh and Kenzie are excited to have a new baby brother to love. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Maureen Virkler and Bro. Rick and Sis. Sue Wiegand (Congerville, IL).

*"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Matthew 16:24)*

We are thankful for our two new converts, Jay Lemire and Jessica Richards. Our prayers are with them and we wish them much grace as they grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Our prayers have also been with the family of Deborah Aberle Brooks (Bro. Rich and Sis. LaNae Aberle (Atlanta, GA), niece of Bro. Doug and Sis. Carole Moser, as she continues to be hospitalized.

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

Our caretakers for August were Bro. Earl and Sis. Liz Anliker (Francesville, IN). We're thankful that our caretaker program continues to be successful. If you are interested in serving as caretakers for a month (minimum of 3 Sundays), please contact Sis. Doreen Steffen at (302) 540-6574 or [dkgsteffen@gmail.com](mailto:dkgsteffen@gmail.com). We have a few months left in 2013, and we will soon start booking for 2014.

Our ministers this month were Bro. Jim Butifoker (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA), Bro. Nathan Steffen (Sis. Susan, Alto, MI), Bro. David Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL), Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Brad Strahm (Sis. Michelle, Bern, KS). Other visitors this month were from Rockville, CT, Rittman, OH, Forrest and Princeville, IL and Bloomfield, IA. Thanks to everyone who has made Washington, DC part of their vacation this year.

The highway/toll road is now open behind the church (even if your GPS or internet map says it isn't). It will save time, miles and stress as you travel from I-270 to the church. There are no toll booths; you will need an E-Z Pass or other electronic payment method. I-Pass works. If you have another multi-state device, check with your provider to see if it works in Maryland. If you use the highway without such a device, you will receive a bill by mail with a service fee added.

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

**FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE****Renee Mangold**

We were grateful to have two visiting ministers this past month. We pray for a blessing on visiting minister Bro. Ken Dietz (Sis. Mardell, Bradford, IL) and Bro. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi, Wolcott, IN) for bringing us the fruit of God's Word.

*"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." (John 15:5)*

**FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS****Victor Beer**

We are enjoying the return of the rainy season and the thought of our winter-time friends and brethren returning too. Yet we are encouraged most by the assurances of the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ, and these few words say it clearly.

*"Who Is He that cares and watches,  
O'er our life and soul's estate.  
Who is He that thus has drawn us?  
Christ Alone, His love is great.  
Though the world our souls is calling  
From the Lord, who loves us best,  
May our love to Him be constant  
Till we meet there with the blest.  
(Zion's Harp #18)*

**The New Beginnings**

We celebrated Ja'ziah's first birthday with a cookout in our back yard. A sprinkler and balloons provided some fun entertainment

for the children and Ja'ziah enjoyed digging in her birthday cake.

We enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ when we went to Sarasota with our residents at the New Beginnings. The Martin sisters hosted an afternoon of games and entertainment for the children. The weather was rainy, but the cookout went on as planned utilizing the gazebo and the garage as covering from the weather. Each of us was provided a family to spend the night with and we worshipped with our dear brethren on Sunday before heading back to Cape Coral.

We would like to congratulate Angelica on her induction into the Student Government Association as a senator. Our young women are settling into their first semester at Edison College and doing quite well.

Once again we would like to invite anyone coming to the Fort Myers, Florida area an invitation to come and see what we are doing here at The New Beginnings. We have six fully-furnished apartments where we provide homes for single mothers to be able to earn a degree for a better job. Since we are short of help at this time, we have three apartments that are unoccupied. If you or someone you know sense a calling to be a mentor or helper in a ministry such as this, please call Bro. Bill Masters at (309) 824-3981.

### FLORIDA, SARASOTA

**Kim Ott**

*"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)*

Our hearts and prayers are with Retired Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann

(Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL) as he going through treatment now for his lung cancer. We also lift up in prayer our Sis. Linda Sabo (Bro. Doug) as she is recovering from an infection. We hope that they will soon feel the renewed strength of the Lord and once again be able to assemble with us in worship.

### GEORGIA, ATLANTA

*"Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4:14-16)*

Clinging to this promise, our congregation comes before the throne of grace to lift up Debbie Brucks (daughter of Bro. Rich and Sis. Lanae Aberle) to our Heavenly Father! Thankful that He knows exactly how to heal her of the bleeding in her brain! Her husband, Mark, and daughter, Peyton, are also in our prayers, as they walk through this time.

This month, we were very blessed to have Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie Bollier (Indianapolis, IN) minister to us! Thank you for traveling to serve our congregation! The afternoon service on John 14 was a comforting exhortation!

*"Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's*

*which sent me. These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid."*  
(John 14:23-27)

### ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Doreen Moser**

**Shayla Steffen**

*"Rejoice in the Lord Always and again I say Rejoice" (Phillipians 4:4)*

JOY is one of the fruit of the spirit that I have been trying to focus on lately. Although there seems to be many trials in life, we are to be joyful in the midst of them. This month we have many reasons to express JOY....

Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN) and his precious family spent the Labor Day week-end with us! We are so thankful for faithful brothers and their families that travel and worship with us on Sunday. It certainly brings JOY to our hearts to hear the word preached and the message expounded upon.

The cries and laughter of little ones always bring JOY and a smile when new babies arrive in our congregation. Bro. Jordan and Sis. Shayla and big sister, Elaiah Steffen, welcomed a new baby, Adler Dean. We hope he brings much Joy to his family and to our small congregation. Grandparents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Wanda Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Dean and Sis. Carol Steffen

from Belvidere.

There are always reasons to rejoice in listening to the conference tapes. It seems we will need to use all the fruits of the spirit to continue to grow in our brotherhood. If we endeavor to use all the fruits, it would seem that the Joy and Love in our churches would be unspeakable and full of glory.

It was with great sadness that Gary and Sis. Doreen Moser had to say good-bye to a beloved Mother, Sis. Pearl Moser from the Morris North congregation. There was also much JOY in knowing that Mom had given her heart to the Lord long ago and had the hope of Heaven in her sights. What a Joy it will be to meet on yonder shore. We would like to also say thank you for the many cards, prayers and love we felt from our brotherhood across the land.

*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith.....” (Gal. 5:22)*

### ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Shelley Steffen  
Gina Hodel

A new school year is always a busy time of year. On August 19, our church was able to welcome students and their families who will be attending college in the Bloomington-Normal area this fall. We had a wonderful day of worship and fellowship followed by a meal. We are thankful for these students and enjoy getting to know them as they worship with us.

A new year of Sunday School began on Sept. 9. May the seed fall on fertile hearts and take root as the children hear Bible stories and receive instruction on how to live according to God's Word. We are thankful and prayful for our willing

teachers as they teach and show the love of Jesus Christ.

We have several new converts and praise God as He continues to call souls to repentance. Dylan Rabe (Bro. Derek and Sis. Julie Rabe), Stephanie Schwartz (Russ and Nancy Schwartz) and Rika Inoue have begun a new walk with Christ.

On September 8 and 9, we were blessed to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of Elizabeth and Kathy Balch (Bro. Mike and Sis. Annie Balch). We are so happy for them and wish them God's continued grace and blessings.

Children are a blessing from the Lord and we are happy for the following families. Bro. Will and Sis. Lexi Nussbaum welcome adopted son, Seth William, born on July 30 to their family. Big sister Kayla is excited to have a brother to love. Grandparents are Bro. Jay and Ann Nussbaum and Rick and Carol Hany from Bloomington. Bro. Matthew and Sis. Rebekah Kaufmann are thankful for Hans Hisato, born on Sept. 11. Siblings Joshua, Darci, Aria, and Garrison are excited to have a new brother to play with. Grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Bonnie Kaufmann and Hisato and Rika Inoue from Bloomington.

We extend our sympathies to Sis. Mary Knapp and Sis. Barb Knapp as their brother and uncle, Vernon Gholson passed away. We are also are praying for Sis. Helen Hoffmann as she is recovering from a fall that included a short hospital stay. May she feel God's peace and comfort during this time of healing and transition.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. David Steffen (Sis. Linda, Elgin, IL) and Bro. Mike Hohulin (Sis. Faye, Ft. Lauderdale, FL).

### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Sandi Joos  
Roseann Stahl

*“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.” (Psalm 23)*

This psalm, which was read by one of our visiting ministers, brings a calmness, comfort, and peace. Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Tom Bolliger (Sis. Jane, Tremont, IL) were with us for our invite-a-guest weekend along with many other visitors. We were grateful also to have Bro. Ken Schneider (Sis. Bernice, Remington, IN) and Bro. Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL).

Just as we are thankful for visitors, we are thankful to have Lucas Herrmann assembling with us as he has moved into our area. We also welcome Jessica DeFreese who is assembling with us.

*“If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: (Isaiah 1:19)*

We appreciate the willingness of Sis. Sandi Joos to teach our young children in Sunday School.

**“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another...”  
(John 13:34)**

**ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN****Sarah Drake**

We are thankful to report that we returned to our regular church building on Sunday, September 9 for services. The Lord provided abundantly for this remodeling project, and we pray that the updated facility will be used for His glory. Thanks to all who contributed to the project. More recently, thanks to all who helped with the preparatory church cleaning on September 7-8!

We rejoice that Sherm Bauer, Ashley Aberle, Jerry Vogel, and Caleb Plattner have repented of their sins and found peace with God and man. Lord willing, testimonies and baptisms are planned for Sherm, Ashley, and Jerry on September 22-23, and for Caleb on the weekend of October 27-28. We are very blessed to serve a loving and merciful God.

In a college town, the end of August marks the beginning of a new year. We welcome our new and returning college students and look forward to another year of fellowship together. Due to the remodeling project, our annual student welcome day was held on September 16 instead of the typical August timeframe. We enjoyed many visitors for church that day, as well as for the afternoon picnic. A special thank you to Bro. David Oberffel (Sis. Kathleen, Peoria, IL), Bro. Dan Koch (Sis. Julie, Tremont, IL) and Bro. Glen Braker (Sis. Audrey, Princeville, IL) for sharing God's Word with us that Sunday.

Believing it is the will of their Heavenly Father, we are joyful to announce the engagement of Sis. Sydney Eisenmann (daughter of Bro. David and Sis. Jackie Eisenmann) who is attending our St. Louis church to Bro. Amit Parkhe

(son of Dr. Parkhe and Mrs. Parkhe (deceased) of the Rural Gospel Medical Mission of India). Bro. Amit currently attends the Chicago church.

We join Bro. Brent, Sis. Janelle, and big brother, Grey Young, in welcoming Brooks Daniel Young into the world. Brooks was born on September 16. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Twyla Schlipf of Gridley, IL and Bro. Norman and Sis. Lollie Young of Fairbury, IL.

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

Greetings from Chicago. We thank the following ministers for visiting Chicago and sharing God's Word with us: Elder Bro. Jay Luthi, (Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bros. Tim Hohulin, (Roanoke, IL), Gary Anliker, (Elgin, IL), Jeff Fischer, (Fort Scott, KS), and Jedd Rocke, (Goodfield, IL).

Several loved ones have been in need of prayer for physical reasons. We continue in prayer for our retired Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann who is continuing treatment and for our Bro. Steven Hofstetter who has been in the hospital. Our love for these brothers and their families cannot be expressed in word and we pray for God's miraculous hand of healing and comfort.

We are happy to welcome Bro. Ryan and Sis. Alyssa Funk, along with their children Abram Timothy and Charles Ryan. Our prayer is they begin to feel at home within our church family.

Another family we are pleased to welcome to our fellowship is Jerime and Staci Barrett and their children Reagan, Kobe, and Zion. We are thankful for them.

On August 25 we had the opportunity to serve at a World

Relief Day at church. These moments are a blessing and opportunity to work for the Lord.

We are in the process of listening to the 2012 Conference recordings and are thankful for the opportunity to hear what God has put upon the hearts of the elder brothers – shepherds of the flock. We thank them for the time they put in on our behalf – and the many hours of which we don't know.

We were pleased to hear the engagement announcement of Sis. Alyssa Nuest from Latty, OH, and Bro. Dean Nelson from LaCrosse, IN. We have enjoyed having Sis. Alyssa as part of our church in the past several months – and perhaps God will lead her back to Chicago again. You are both most welcome!

With joy in our hearts, we heard another engagement announcement. Our Bro. Amit Parkhe, (son of Dr. Parkhe of RGMMI, India), felt God's leading to Sis. Sydney Eisenmann from St. Louis, MO. Sis. Sydney is the daughter of Bro. David and Sis. Jackie Eisenmann from Champaign, IL. We wish them God's blessings as they prepare for their life together. God provides.

Recently, I visited my niece's Sunday School class and after the lesson the children were doing a word search. One of the words they had to find in the puzzle was "God." As each began to find it they joyously shouted, "I found God!" One-by-one each shared they had found God, too!

Immediately my heart was touched as I pictured a world where people everywhere, upon discovering the true living God and His Son Jesus Christ, would go up and down streets shouting, "I found God!" Unfortunately our culture has been leaning to the opposite. But the more I thought about it I

realized that each Christian – in his or her own way, on a daily basis – can proclaim *with our lives and interactions with others* that we found God. Let's pray for these opportunities to come our way – whether known or unknown.

### ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

**Marilyn Maul**

**Tina Walder**

*"Brethren be ye not affrighted; God is yet among you here; You are still with Him united, And His grace is ever near. His corrections prove His love, Showered on us from above. Let this be your consolation! Why despair in tribulation?" (Zion's Harp #38)*

This song was sung recently in church and the words have been a great comfort to me.

This month we were encouraged by our ministers who labor on our behalf every Sunday. We sometimes take them for granted, but we appreciate their labors of love so much. We also appreciated the labors of the visiting ministers this month. They were Bros. Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN), Justin Koch (Washington, IL), Dan Moser (Elgin, IL), Steve Pamer (Akron, OH), and Mike Walder (Smithville, IN).

Chalise Steffen, daughter of Bro. Rod and Sis. Beth Steffen, was married to Troy Wieland in Leo, IN on July 7. His parents are Brad and Vera Wieland. We pray God will bless their married life. Bro. Rod and Sis. Beth were also blessed with another granddaughter on August 9. Skye Rose was born to Quinn and Sadie Steffen. Skye's other grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Jackie Hoerr (Peoria, IL).

We enjoyed our annual Senior Citizen supper. It is so nice to see old and young interact. One of the

older brothers related the account of finding his salvation as being the most important step in his life. He encouraged the children to seek first the kingdom of God.

Our church was privileged to host ACYF this year. We pray the Bible School students will take the words of the songs sung to heart. *"Where could I go but to the Lord..." (Gospel Hymns #806)*

Our prayers are with Sis. Joan Rudin (Bro. Gerald), Les Maul (Sis. Marilyn), and Sis. Dorothy Rudin as they went through surgeries this month. May God's healing hand be upon them.

### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

**Rachel Currier**

*"Depart vain world, with all your sin! From bondage I am free. A humble off'ring do I bring; My heart I give to Thee!" (Zion's Harp 163 vs. 11)*

We welcome two more souls into our brotherhood. Bro. Joshua Knepp (Bro. Doug and Sis. Lynette) and Sis. Lynn Walder (Bro. Ben and Sis. Juanita) were proved and baptized the weekend of August 25-26. We are thankful for them and their families, and also appreciate Elder Bro. Bruce Endress (Bradford, IL) being willing to assist Bro. Ben on Saturday evening.

Bro. Mikel and Sis. Stephanie Steffen embraced a new daughter, Mya Marie, into their home. Older siblings are Cherie and Brenner. Also thankful for her safe arrival are grandparents Bro. Mark and Sis. Joan Steffen (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Rollyn and Sis. Brenda Kuntz (Forrest, IL).

Sis. Molly Hartman (Bro. Bob and Sis. Lisa) was united in Holy Matrimony to Bro. Jaylin Teubel (Bro. John and Sis. Lavonne, Forrest, IL). Their wedding took place on

Sunday, September 9. May they continue to look to the Lord for their help and guide throughout their lives.

Visiting ministers this past month include Bro. Brent Walder (Rockville, CT), Bro. Trent Meiss (Eureka, IL), Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO), and Bro. Mark Rufener (Mansfield, OH). May the Lord continue to bless them with His Spirit to speak forth words of Truth.

### ILLINOIS, ELGIN

**Amy Gasser**

We thank Elder Bro. John Jackson (Bay City, MI) and Bros. Tim Drayer (Bluffton North, IN), Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI), Scott Schambach (Columbus, OH), and Greg Stieglitz (Indianapolis, IN) for ministering to us this past month.

The annual pancake breakfast on September 8 was a good success. It was served by our Bible Class students to raise money for their bus trips to ACYF and other activities.

September 16 was the wedding day for Daniel Steffen (Elder Bro. David and Sis. Linda) and Samantha Lange (Jeff and Cindy). We wish them much happiness in their new life together.

### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Debra Blunier**

**Linda Rocke**

Ann and Daniel Ledergerber were blessed with a new baby boy, Lincoln Daniel. He is welcomed home by sisters, Emersyn and Ashlyn. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Carol Ehnle and Roman and Cathy Ledergerber of Walnut, Illinois.

Bro. Joe and Sis. Andrea Ehnle also were blessed with another boy, Dalton Jay, welcomed home by his

big brother Treyden. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Carol Ehnle and Bro. Stan and Sis. Dawn Knobloch (Lester).

Bro. Leroy Fehr and Bro. Josh Wettstein are both recovering from recent hospitalizations.

We are always thankful to have visiting ministers to share God's Word with us. These included Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Philip Shulz (Burlington, IA), Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Bro. Jim Butikofer (Iowa City, IA), and Bro. Warren Schlatter (Junction, OH).

#### *Note of Thanks:*

I would like to thank everyone for the many cards, gifts, and love shown to me for my 95<sup>th</sup> birthday. May God richly bless you. Sis. Ann Leman

#### **ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY**

**Angela Herr**

**Kay Steffen**

*"Glory be to God in heaven, Praise to Christ, our Saviour great!*

*By the power of Thy Spirit, A new man Thou didst create." (The New Birth from Above, Zion's Harp #34)*

On August 25 and 26, we were blessed to hear the testimonies and witness the baptism of Bro. Abram Zehr (Bro. Nelson and Sis. Amy) and Bro. Caleb Hartman (Bro. Ryan and Sis. Lori). We are grateful for Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest) who helped our Elder Bro. Rick in this work. Other visiting ministers with us on this weekend were Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Bro. Al Schambach (Remington, IN), Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Wolcott, IN), and Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL).

Other ministering brothers who visited us were: Bro. Don Sinn (Silverton, OR), Bro. Matthew

Feucht (Roanoke, IL), and Bro. Barry Dietz (Bradford, IL). We are thankful for these dear brothers who continue to bring forth God's Holy Word.

We rejoice as Jamie Steidinger (Bro. Martin and Sis. Trish), Lauren Fehr (Bro. Darren and Sis. Kendra), and Martha Moser (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Sara) have answered God's call to repentance. May God's grace be with these dear souls as they turn their backs to the world and begin their walk of faith.

God has blessed Bro. Joel and Sis. Amber Plattner with the arrival of little Kennan Lee on September 2. Happy siblings are Micah, Leigha, and Landon. Thankful grandparents are Elder Bro. Rick and Sis. Mary Plattner and Bro. Kevin and Sis. Denise Kilgus (Forrest, IL).

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have recently spent time in the hospital, Bro. John Stork (Sis. Eunice), Sis. Ronda Stoller (Bro. Randy), Sis. Helen Zimmerman, and Sis. Barb Mashburn (Bro. Billy). May each one feel God's grace and nearness as He provides for their every need.

Our sympathy is with our Sis. Laura Knapp in the loss of her sister, Sis. Alvina Wackerle ( Bay City, MI). We pray that God will comfort the heart of each one who has lost a loved one.

#### **ILLINOIS, FORREST**

**Lisa Aberle**

**Lynn Dotterer**

Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH), Bro. Ron Koehl (Sarasota, FL), and Bro. Dale Stoller (Fairbury, IL) ministered to us this month. We are thankful for their willing service.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Larry Bachman (Sis. Donna), Sis. Pauline Wiegand, and Molly

Brown (Bro. Brad and Sis. Shannon) as they've spent time in the hospital.

We extend our sympathies to Bro. Gary and Sis. Jane Brown and family at the passing of their father, Allan Brown. We also offer our sympathy to Bro. Elmer Ifft and family at the passing of his brother, Ray Ifft. May God comfort each of your hearts.

We are so thankful when a soul answers God's call. Philip Ricketts (Sis. Marie) has turned his heart to the Lord. We wish him God's guidance and direction during this time of repentance.

*"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." (Genesis 2:24)*

Bro. Jaylin Teubel (Bro. John and Sis. Lavonne) and Sis. Molly Hartman (Bro. Bob and Sis. Lisa, Congerville, IL) were married on September 9. Sis. Jodi Wenger (Bro. Rich and Sis. Jill) and Bro. Levi Grimm (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Nita, Sabetha, KS) have announced their engagement. May God bless each of these couples!

#### **ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD**

**Melissa Rokey**

**Kayla Wiegand**

On August 26, Sis. Erin Davis (Manchester, Jamaica) and Bro. Allen Roth (Sis. Joanne) gave a presentation at the Fellowship Hall about Jamaica and the Lord's work that is being done there. Sis. Erin shared with us how the school, children's homes, and infirmaries are benefiting from the two sea containers full of supplies we send from the World Relief distribution center each year.

We continue to remember our convert, Joe Brady, in our prayers as he has some pain and back issues that he has been struggling with.

Bro. Gary Allen (Sis. Connie) had a knee replacement recently and we pray that God's healing hand will be upon him.

We rejoice that two more souls have felt the need to come to the foot of the cross in repentance. Our prayers are with Kate Hinrichsen (daughter of Bro Rod & Sis. Lynda) and Jamie Wiegand (daughter of Bro. Wayne & Sis. Rosemary) as they seek out the Lord for guidance and direction in their life.

*"Sometime our loved ones we shall greet, Sometime! When in the Father's house we meet, Only to sit forever at His feet, Sometime, sometime soon!"*  
(Tabernacle Hymns #43 vs. 2)

Sis. Helen Fehr (the late Bro. Ben, Roanoke) went suddenly to her home in heaven on September 3. She was the mother of Connie Rocke (Mark) and the grandmother of Bro. Jedd (Sis. Marsha), Bro. Luke (Sis. Jill), Bro. Adam (Sis. Maribeth), Sis. Carrie Wiegand (Bro. Erik, Leo IN), and our our converts Abbie and Tyler Getz. We trust that this dear family can take comfort that she is with her Lord and Savior and that God can ease the pain of her sudden death.

Rigg Edward blessed the home of Bro. Darrell and Sis. Jennifer Stoller on September 11. He was welcomed home by his excited siblings; Mason, Kinley, and Miles. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Eddie Stoller (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Larry and Sis. Lori Wiegand.

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

As Sunday School has started back up, we want to remember our dear brothers and sisters that give of their

time and talents in teaching our children and future church. We pray that God will give them the wisdom and the grace needed for each day.

### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Perry Klopfenstein

*"Be not dismayed, what-e'r be tide,  
God will take care of you;  
Beneath His wings of love abide,  
God will take care of you."*

In light of the hymn above ("God Will Take Care of You"), it is instructive to note indeed that God will take care of us. The chorus reads, "Thru every day, O're all the way." This song is perhaps more appropriate in this year of 2012 as the nation's grain belt has experienced a significant drought, and it has affected the Gridley area. The harvest is short and the yields, although varying, are low and, in some cases, dire. Yet, God provides, and His benevolences are welcomed.

Much talk accompanies the harvest, and the most significant part of discussion centers on yields with respect to corn and soybeans. The word "yield" (per acre) is forever coming as farmers visit and share harvesting experiences. We can all take this a step further, and apply a spiritual focus toward the word "yield." As we live out our Christian lives, what kind of a yield (of service, obedience and good works) to be bring forth? Each of us should examine ourselves to insure we are exhibiting a significant, God-empowering yield. High yields will glorify God, and bring honor to His name.

We surely offer our sympathies to Sis. Marcia Campbell over the loss of her father, Bro. Bruce Schmitgall of Morton.

Bro. Don Gramm had shoulder surgery. Sis. Mary Ringger was a

surgery patient. Bro. James Funk continues to deal with health issues. We pray that God can heal these health issues according to His will.

Sydney Anne Steidinger was born on August 23 to Bro. Dallas and Sis. Beth Steidinger. Her sibling is Liam, age 1. Grandparents are Bro. Randy and Sis. Dawn Steidinger, Fairbury, IL; and Bro. Bryce "Chip" and Sis. Sieda Hill, Mansfield, OH. May God be with this couple as they train up their children in the nurture and direction of the Lord.

Elder Bruce Endress, Bradford, IL, was a visiting minister on September 23, 2012. We surely thank him for his labors from the pulpit.

We offer our sincere best wishes to the Doug Wettstein family as they have moved to Ramona, CA, and will attend the San Diego church.

Our congregation had an all-church picnic on Sunday evening, September 9, at the West Point Park building in El Paso.

### ILLINOIS, MORTON Annette Tanner Julie Bahr

I recently read a wonderful personalized interpretation of the beloved Psalm 23. Let the Psalmist speak to you with a more personal awareness and take it to Heart! The Lord is my Shepherd-that's a Relationship! I shall not want-that's Supply! He maketh me to lie down in green pastures-that's Rest! He leadeth me beside the still waters-that's Refreshment! He restoreth my soul-that's Healing! He leadeth me in the paths of Righteousness-that's Guidance! For His name's sake-that's Purpose! Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death-that's testing! I will fear no evil-that's Protection! For Thou art with me-

that's Faithfulness! Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me-that's Discipline! Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies-that's Hope! Thou anointest my head with oil-that's Consecration! My cup runneth over-that's Abundance! Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life-that's Blessing! And I will dwell in the house of the Lord- that's Security! FOREVER and ever-that's ETERNITY!

We are thankful for ministering Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL) for his willingness to give our Family Worship topic "God's Word: The GPS of the Soul". How thankful we are for the compass of God's Holy Word pointing us in that Heavenly direction! Thanks also to visiting minister Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago, IL).

Congratulations to grandparents Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth Feucht who welcome their 2-year old granddaughter, Maelyn Grace Feucht from China. Maelyns' parents are Joel and Dawn Feucht, Morton.

We rejoice with our Bro. Amit Parkhe and Sis. Sydney Eisenmann as they share the announcement of their engagement. Bro. Amit is here from India studying medicine. Sis. Sydney is the daughter of Bro. David and Sis. Jackie Eisenmann (Champaign, IL).

### **ILLINOIS, PEORIA**

#### **Pam Fritzenmeier**

We are thankful to report two new converts this month: Whittney Streitmatter (Bro. Doug and Sis. Cindy) and Brock Streitmatter (Bro. Ron and Sis. Lori).

On September 2, the engagement of Sis. Emily Kieser and Bro. Andrew Fischer, both of Leo, IN, was made known. Parents are Bro.

Mark and Sis. Cathy Kieser and Bro. Paul and Sis. Leanne Fischer (Leo). We rejoice with them!

Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL) encouraged and challenged us with his message on Wednesday evening, September 5.

After a small break, our youth started Sunday school again September 9. On that same weekend, we hosted the Latty choir, who blessed us with their ministry from the pulpit (Bro. Chris Laukhuf) and in songs and hymns.

Bro. Gary Unsicker and Sis. Sara (Bro. Ed) Dingleline have our sympathy and prayers at the passing of their brother, Bro. Alan Unsicker (Morton, IL).

Please remember in prayer our local families serving far from home, including Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family and Sis. Janelle Grassi (Haiti), and Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Bere Aupperle, Bro. Jason Grassi, and Bro. Zach Knobloch (Magdalena, MX). It is a treat to see the Aupperles on home visit and to have Bro. Jason home for a time.

### **ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE**

#### **Linda Joos**

#### **Gloria White**

We were privileged to hear testimonies and baptisms the weekend of September 15 and 16. Our new sister in faith are Sis. Rhea Berchtold (Bro. David and Sis. Leann), Sis. Larissa Herrmann (Bro. Roger and Sis Darlene) and Sis. Tori Herrmann (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Renee). May God's grace be with these dear ones. Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN) were with us to assist our Elder Bro. Jim. Other visiting ministers for the month were Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), Bro. Clark Stoller

(Gridley, IL) and Bro. John Lehman (Wolcott, IN).

Sunday, September 9, was the engagement of Sis. Brittany Martin (Bro. Larry and Sis. Tiffany) to Bro. Tim Schwind (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Rita) of Roanoke, IL. May God's grace be with them as they go forward.

Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann were blessed with 50 years of married life on September 2, 2012. We rejoice with them at this special time.

Bro. Neil and Sis. Luann Stoller are first-time parents of a healthy baby boy, Logan Christian, born September 6. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Anna Stoller (La Crosse, IN) and Bro. Sam and Sis. Mary Martin. Also first-time parents on the same day are Bro. Mark and Sis. Katelyn Stoller. They have a precious baby girl, Jade Quincy. Grandparents are Bro. Gale and Sis. Sonia Stoller and Dave and Sis. Linda Fehr (Washington, IL). Marvin and Sharon Eberle were privileged to be grandparents again of a baby girl, Macy Margaret, born to son, Scott and Jennifer. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Luann Endress were also grandparents again to a baby girl. Brynn Marie, born to son Brian and Jodi on September 13. What a joy new birth brings to everyone! Marvin and Sara Streitmatter have again adopted a little boy, Silas Gudeta. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Diane Streitmatter. We pray for much wisdom and guidance for parents as they raise and nurture these precious young souls.

Those requiring hospital care this month were Bro. Art (Sis. Joy) Baurer, Bro. Jim (Sis. Helen) Knobloch and Sis. Diana (Bro. Herb) Rumbold.

Sis. Mary Lynn (Bro. Steve) Streitmatter bid a final farewell to



her brother , Bro. Alan Unsicker ( Peoria, IL). Let us remember them in prayer.

### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Jamie Hodel**  
**Barb Schwind**

*“What glorious state, to be a lamb of Jesus,  
To feel the faithful Shepherd’s loving grace.  
In all the earth there is no higher standing  
Than this, to follow in the Saviors’ ways.  
What all the world could never give,  
A lamb of Jesus from its Shepherd will receive.”  
(Zion’s Harp #16)*

August 22 was the testimony and baptism of Bro. Richard Burton (Joann). What a blessing it was for our congregation to hear of the working of the Lord in his life.

On August 24 & 25, our Nursing Home benefit was held. We are so thankful for God’s blessings on this event, and for all who supported it.

Bro. Fedi Davidovic (Peoria, IL) was with us the evening of August 29 to share a presentation on “Christianity in Eastern Europe.”

On September 2, Bro. Brad Metz (Bloomington, IL) ministered the Word to us.

*“Noah’s ark long drifted  
On the surging flood,  
But with eyes uplifted,  
Trusted he in God.  
When throughout life’s journey  
Raging storms I see,  
This shall be my comfort:  
God is still with me.”  
(Zion’s Harp #148)*

On September 3, Sis. Helen Fehr was taken from this life. Our prayers continue to be with her family: Sis. Chris (Bro. Bob) Hartter (Roanoke);

Cassie (Al) Rocke, of Brighton, CO; Sis. Connie (Bro .Mark) Rocke (Goodfield); Cam (Tim) Leary of Bloomington; Ben (Sis. Kathy) (Roanoke); Jeff (Eva) Roanoke; Bro. Jon (Sis. Jill) (Roanoke), Bro. Nate (Sis. Chris) (Roanoke), and Matt, Roanoke. Her Grandson, Bro. Jedd Rocke (Goodfield) had the graveside prayer.

We welcomed Bro. Jason and Sis. Ellie Rassi, and their sons Jack & Boone to our congregation this month. We are thankful to have them worshiping with us.

On September 8, the counseling center held a Women’s Seminar at the Fellowship Hall.

On September 9, the marriage engagement of Bro. Tim Schwind (Bro. Dennis & Sis. Rita) to Sis. Brittany Martin of Princeville was made known. Sis. Brittany is the daughter of Bro. Larry & Sis. Tiffany (Princeville.)

### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

**Teresa Rowell**  
**Janice Sauder**

Visiting ministers this month included Elder Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO); and Bros. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO), Ken Hoerr and Dave Obergfel (Peoria, IL), Neal Widmer (West Lafayette, IN), Tom Troxel (Lacrosse, IN), and John Steiner (Oakville, IA). We were grateful for each brother’s part in God’s work, and may this same good God be their rich rewarder.

*“Therefore being justified by faith,  
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:” (Romans 5:1)*

The Tremont church was happy to welcome four new sisters in the Lord. They are Sis. Megan Wagenbach and Sis. Lucy Wagenbach (Bro. Marvin and Sis.

Paula), Sis. Carly Ehnle (Bro. Russ and Sis. Terrie), and Sis. Katy Beutel (Bro. Dean and Sis. Karen). May their faith increase as God continues to guide them through life.

Bro. Trent and Sis. Emily Stuber exchanged wedding vows on September 2. Their parents are Bro. Todd and Sis. Beth Stuber and Bro. Ron and Sis. Liz Wagenbach. We wish them God’s richest blessings in their marriage in the Lord.

Bro. Steve and Sis. Barb Pflederer are thrilled to welcome a granddaughter, Joy Michelle. Her parents are Austin and Joni Parker of Normal, IL, and her big brothers are Ezra and Jordan.

Our sympathy and prayers on behalf of Bro. Don and Sis. Sandy Kaiser and family, at the passing of her mother, Lila Dunlap, of rural Pekin, IL. May they feel God’s comfort in the future days.

*Note of thanks:*

We wish God’s blessings on all of our dear church family for their outpouring of love and support during my surgery and recovery. The prayers, visits, cards, and gifts were much appreciated. I love all of you! Sis. Carol Beutel

### ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

**Marlene Prather**  
**Jodi Fehr**

*“Nevertheless let everyone of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.” (Ephesians 5:33)*

On September 9, Bro. Matt Wyss and Sis. Lena Steiner were married. We rejoice with this dear couple, and want to welcome Sis. Lena to Washington. Their parents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Rachel Steiner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Ed and

Sis. Kathy Wyss.

We wish a true blessing in the lives of Ben Koch and Kyra Johnson, as they plan their upcoming wedding. Parents are Bro. Justin and Sis. Marcia Koch and the late Sis. Barb Johnson.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Sis. Beth Unsicker's brother, Alan Unsicker. We extend our love and prayers to Sis. Beth.

On August 26, our children and teachers started another year of Sunday School. May God bless the efforts of the teachers and touch the lives of all of our dear children.

Our annual father-son campout was September 14. They had a beautiful evening and made many special memories.

Those dealing with health issues and needing our prayers include Bro. Lloyd Moser, Bro. Dave Schumacher, Bro. Steve Hoffstetter and Sis. Sue Ruppert. May we continue to pray for them.

## INDIANA, BLUFFTON

**Kim Meyer  
Suzie Fiechter**

*"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, Now It Is Done)*

Made new through Christ's shed blood at Calvary are Bro. Phillip and Sis. Joanna Gerber, children of Bro. Nathan and Sis. LeAnn Gerber, and Sis. Olivia Moser, daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Sheri Moser. Thank you to Elder Bro. Steve and Sis. Myra Ringger (Bluffton North) for assisting our Elder Bro. Lynn on Aug. 25 – 26, a beautiful, joy-

filled weekend! Also, thanks to ministering Bro. Tim (Sis. Gwen) Drayer (Bluffton North) for visiting.

We rejoice with the angels in Heaven, as Troy Tonner (Bro. Tim and Sis. Susie) and Tianne Fiechter ( Bro. Don and Sis. Suzie) have answered the call of the Lord to repentance!

God often uses suffering as a means to cleanse us and draw us closer to Him. Bro. Zach and Sis. Jenny Bertsch hosted a Bible Study on "The Fellowship of His Suffering." His battle with cancer has enabled Bro. Zach to experience, and then teach us, the value and privilege of partaking in some of Christ's suffering. He listed 22 possible reasons for suffering, with corresponding Scripture and personal experiences. While our flesh would desire to avoid all pain, our spirit grows in intimacy with our Savior during those times. Others of our church family who have experienced physical suffering this month are Bro. Bob (Sis. Jan) Herring, Bro. Ted (Sis. Rose) Pfister, Sis. Marilyn (Bro. Tom – dec.) Baumgartner, Bryan (Bro. Skip and Sis. Connie) Aschliman, and Sis. Sally (Bro. Lester) Schwartz.

Bro. Godfrey Bertsch slipped into the arms of Jesus as he was sleeping. Sorrowing, yet joyful for his victory, are his wife, Sis. Anita, and children, Ruth (Harry) Anderson, Sis. Becky (Bro. Denny) Caffee, Robert (Brenda) Bertsch, Sis. Rhonda (Bro. Eric) Tonner, and Sis. Roxanne (Bro. Jeff) Roop.

Our prayers are with Andrew and Autumn McAfee, as well as Autumn's parents, Bro. Jeff and Sis. Rhonda Gerber, as Andrew is currently deployed in Afghanistan.

We welcomed Bro. Allen and Sis. Susan Stoller home for a short visit from Ethiopia, where they are

serving with LSM. Our love, prayers and support will also envelope Sis. Rachele Grube, as she is led to Haiti with our World Relief.

God has blessed the home of Justin and Kelsey Grube with their first son, Cole C. Grube. Grandparents are Bro. Jay and Sis. Ronda Grube and Bro. Gary and Sis. Jean Compton.

August 27 was an exciting day for Bro. Shawn, Sis. Kara, Tristan and Archer Leman, as Conrad Bahler joined their family. Also rejoicing are grandparents, Bro. Jeff and Sis. Val Leman and Bro. Herm and Sis. Julie (Bahler) Drayer.

Bro. Michael and Sis. Jane, Deacon and Finn Reinhard have opened their hearts and home to little Scout Alden, born on August 29. Bro. John and Sis. Pam Reinhard are the thankful grandparents.

Our congregation has had the blessing of listening to the conference tapes. We are so thankful for Godly leadership and for all the sacrifices they make to benefit us in our earthly walk to our Heavenly Home. In submitting ourselves to their direction, we fulfill the command of God and bring His blessing upon ourselves, our children and our brotherhood.

### WHAT IF...

What if we loved the Lord so much that we would delight in worshipping Him with our children in church on Wednesday evenings as well as on Sundays?

What if we were so excited that others have come to salvation, that we would eagerly attend testimonies – that they would be so important to us that we'd hire a babysitter for them instead of , or in addition to, shopping or eating out?

What if our children would regularly hear us express our thankfulness for our church and the

messages?

What would happen if our children could see that it wasn't important to us to chase the styles and fashions? That being Christ-like was more important than being beautiful or "cool"?

What if we showed our thankfulness to God for our church by supporting the doctrines and traditions joyfully? And, then taught our children the biblical basis for them?

What if our children would hear us pray for our church and its leaders, and thank God for them?

What would our children think if we got excited about attending the brotherhood conference and then shared with them how the Spirit worked?

What if we would teach our children our heritage – how their great-great grandparents were persecuted, and even died, for their faith – our faith?

What if our children heard us singing or playing songs at home from the Zion's Harp or the Hymns of Zion?

What if our children would hear us share our faith when asked why we look or act "different"?

What would our children think if we hosted a singing instead of taking them to a sporting event? If we served others together instead of watching a movie?

What if they heard us often tell our "love story" – how God chose our mate, and how He did such a great job?

What if we would throw out the TV, shut off the computer and our cell phone, and read Bible Stories together?

What if we truly loved the Lord and our church more than we loved ourselves?

## INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

Jessie Longenberger

Amy Moser

*"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you." (John 16:7)*

The duty of the Holy Spirit is to comfort the afflicted (persecuted) ...and afflict the comforted (lukewarm believers).

Dylan Markley, son of Bro. Matt and Sis. Lisa, has made a beginning in repentance this week. Let us be prayerful as he begins this part of his spiritual journey.

The 2012 Bluffton-North picnic was held on September 9. We were blessed with beautiful weather and wonderful fellowship.

## INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Mildred Clauss

Jacki Huber

On a recent Wednesday evening, Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth, Wolcott, IN) was with us. We were blessed to hear God's Word read and meditated upon through the inspiration of God's Holy Spirit. We wish to thank him for sharing with us.

Several loved ones have been hospitalized recently. They are Sis. Joan Gutwein (the late Bro. Harvey), Sis. Linda Gutwein (Elder Bro. Steve), Sis. Sharon Denton (Bro. Jim), Phyllis Knapp (the late Irvin Knapp), Jim Albrecht (Karen), and Bro. Mark Wuethrich (Sis. Lynne). Our prayers are for God's healing, and even more for His nearness and peace, to each one.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Wilma Clauss have moved to West Lafayette. We miss them here, but are happy that the Lord has provided a wonderful place for them to reside.

Many enjoyed working together as we joined to clean the church this past month. We are thankful for a clean building, and pray that our lives, the Temples of God, are clean and pure as well.

May our days be full of praise for our Wonderful Lord and all He has done.

## INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Katy Frantz

Sandy Lichtle

This month has been one of wonderful joy and deep sorrow as our body has come together to support and encourage one another.

Our hearts are heavy with the unexpected passing of Bro. Michael Stratton, Sr. (Sis. Cheryl, Taylor, MO). He was the dear father of our Indy sisters, Sis. Missy Ackerman and Sis. Jan Roberts.

Bro. Tyler and Sis. Janna Gerber's little girl was born 11 weeks early. Bexleigh Piper Gerber was born on September 1, 2012. Grandparents are Bro. Stan and Sis. JaNahn Sinn (Latty, OH), John Gerber (Fort Wayne, IN) and Ricki Gerber (Smithville, OH). Our church has been praying for Bexleigh's health and peace for Tyler and Janna, since much of their time is spent at the hospital.

Bro. Clint and Sis. Alesa Bahler welcomed Olivia Noel Bahler into the world on Tuesday, September 4, 2012. Olivia's older siblings, Greyson and Ellie, were happy to meet their little sister. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Annette Bahler (West Lafayette, IN) and Bro. Kevin and Sis. Dixie Knapp (Bloomington, IL).

Bro. Daniel Bollier lead the Walk Thru the Bible in James on September 12.

Bro. Sasha Mojic and Sis. Marija Doric were united in marriage on

August 26 in Serbia. We welcomed the new couple to our church on September 16. We are thankful that the Lord provided a way for them to come from Serbia and to arrive safely in the Indianapolis area. We continue to look to Christ Jesus for wisdom as he leads our church in his way.

*“The wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.” (James 3:17)*

We are thankful for the service of Bro. Randy Beer (Sis. Debra, Milford, IN) when they visited over Labor Day weekend.

## INDIANA, LACROSSE

**Julie Roche  
Meagan Frank**

*“While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.” (Genesis 8:22)*

We are beginning to see the changing of the seasons. Temperatures are dropping, leaves are falling, and the air is full of the lovely smells of autumn. As a farmer's wife, I have come to a new appreciation of the above verse; a beautiful reminder of God's order that we so often take for granted.

Our new Bro. Jackson Troxel (Bro. Tom & Sis. LuAnn) began a new season in his life on Labor Day Weekend as he gave his testimony of faith to the church and was baptized. We rejoice with him and welcome him to our precious brotherhood. The pulpit and congregation were full that day. We were blessed to have Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis. Linda, Francesville, IN) as well as ministering Bros. Kent Mogler (Sis.

Mary, Minneapolis, MN), Les Kaeb (Sis. Christine, Francesville, IN), and Chris Wuethrich (Sis. Carla, St. Louis, MO) on the pulpit and in Sunday School.

Our LaCrosse congregation held a reception to share in the joy of Bro. Joel & Sis. Amy Troxel's recent marriage. What a blessing it was to have another full Sunday. We thank Bros. Joe Gerst (Sis. Connie, Iowa City, IA) and Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda, Winthrop, MN) for ministering to us. We continue to pray for this dear couple, and appreciate the light Sis. Amy has already been among us.

We rejoice that our congregation continues to grow. We pray for much grace and wisdom for our Bro. Dean Nelson (Larry & Lorrie) & Sis. Alyssa Nuest (Bro. Lee & Sis. Paula, Latty, OH) as their engagement has been announced and they begin to plan their wedding, and life together in the Lord. We look forward to having Sis. Alyssa in our midst.

*“My Lord, an offering do I bring; My heart I give to Thee. I gladly give this heart of mine, Which Thou dost ask of me.” (Zion's Harp #163 vs. 1)*

Our dear Kaleigh Schneider (Bro. Calvin & Sis. Jeannie) has turned her life to our Savior in repentance. We are so thankful for Kaleigh and continue to pray and encourage her as she allows the Lord to do His perfect work.

As brothers and sisters we have been convicted and encouraged as we gather on Wednesday nights to hear the Elder Conference recordings. Our prayers are with these dear brothers as they labor tirelessly on our behalf.

We enjoyed again the fellowship, food, and singing at Bro. Tom & Sis. LuAnn Troxel's annual Stone Soup

Supper.

Bro. Steve & Sis. Anna Marie Stoller are rejoicing at the safe arrival of another grandson. Logan Christian was born to first-time parents Bro. Neil & Sis. Luann Stoller (Princeville, IL). Also thankful for his arrival are Logan's other grandparents Bro. Sam & Sis. Mary Martin.

*Note of Thanks:*

Thank you to everyone who sent me a card on my 96<sup>th</sup> birthday. I appreciated them so much. I think often of all of you, but with some heart problems, I do get tired. So thankful I can go here to Francesville. God bless you all for your friendship and love over the years. Sis. Carolyn Levy

**We are looking forward to hosting a Hope for Haiti Benefit Sale to raise money for the ladies of Center Lumiere in Haiti. We welcome anyone who would be interested in supporting these women and their families to come on Saturday, November 3 at the Valparaiso Apostolic Christian Fellowship Hall from 9am to 4pm Central Time.**

## INDIANA, LEO Kirby Reutter

According to the new Silver Lining guidelines, we reporters should be more sensitive to how much space we are using in our articles. While neither compliance nor brevity comes naturally for some of us (which is probably the reason for the guidelines), there is always a blessing in submission!

Our dear Sis. Ashley Plummer (Latty, OH) was recently engaged to Bro. Mitchel Maibach (Smithville, OH). Ashley was the third single sister at Gateway Woods to be engaged this summer. In addition,

our dear Sis. Emily Kieser (Peoria, IL) was recently engaged to Bro. Andrew Fischer (Leo, IN). Emily was the fourth single sister at Gateway Woods to be engaged this summer.

Our biggest staffing problem at Gateway Woods seems to be the following: We chronically import single sisters while exporting married sisters. This is an ongoing issue that three decades of management has not been able to resolve. Remarkably, however, each of the four sisters referenced above will remain employed at Gateway Woods. Thus, we can only hope that eventually their husbands will also join the Gateway Team!

Ashley first joined us in 2011 as an unconverted intern. She later accompanied a group of Gateway employees on a mission trip to Mexico. Ashley started repenting as soon as she got back from Mexico, and was subsequently hired into the Foster Care department. We are all amazed at how the Spirit has worked in Ashley's life! Sis. Emily also joined us in 2011 as our receptionist. When she came to Gateway she repeatedly stated that it was not her intention to get married. Thus, we are also amazed at how the Spirit has worked in Emily's life!

Incidentally, Sis. Abby Freed (who was our second sister to be engaged this summer) is now Sis. Abby Schumacher. Abby teaches Social Studies at the Gateway School. Perhaps the greatest "social study" she taught this summer was the following topic: A Case Study in Faith-Based Marriage. For example, Abby moved all the way from Arizona in 2011, and then one year later accepted a proposal from her boss's boss's boss's son. Our walk in Christ is always a "social study" to

those that observe us!

Finally, we will conclude this month with a note of appreciation:

*Note of Thanks:*

Dear Leo Church Family: It was 11 years ago when you graciously welcomed me into your fellowship. The Leo church instantly took a piece of my heart and then subsequently filled it back up with expressions of love and support. You graciously supported Keri and I as we started our lives together and also shared your love with our children. There is something profoundly deep about this love that we experienced in the Leo church community. Then, as we left for Jamaica, you remained critically supportive of our work with prayers, gifts, and other expressions of love. We always felt a part of your church community and we were blessed by two teams partnering with us in the work. We have now returned from Jamaica, and Leo still holds a piece of our hearts, but by the grace of our God, we have landed in West Lafayette, IN. It breaks our heart to think of not continuing our regular fellowship in your community, but we are confident in the Lord's plan. Therefore, as we move on, we want to express our deep thanks for all you have done on our behalf. May the Lord bless you for your expressions of love and it is our prayer that we will take what you have given us to pass on to others in the name of our Lord! Kirk and Keri Plattner (Drew, Truitt, Daisha, and Danae)

**INDIANA, MILFORD**

**Janie Price**

**Paula Haab**

With open arms we welcome Bro. Regg, Sis. Bev and Tucker Beer back home from Ixtlan, MX. Bro. Regg

taught there several years in the school. He came back and took his bride down with him. Tucker was born there. We hope Sis. Bev will feel at home in Milford. May God bless them always.

During the past month, we've been privileged to listen to the CD's from the Elder Conference. We appreciate all the time the elders spent searching the scriptures and preparing the topics for our enlightenment, encouragement, admonishment and correction. We indeed need to listen to what the Spirit has to say, just like Jesus told the Seven Churches.

Our Bible Study this month was based on Ephesians 4:1. Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter pointed out many places in the Bible where it says we are to be worthy. That gives us much work to do in keeping the commandments, loving our neighbor as ourselves and loving the Lord with all our heart, soul and mind.

We have many to put on our prayer list. Some of our church families have loved ones dealing with infirmities of the flesh and needed specialists in the medical field. We are so thankful that the special Devine Healer is always available. We don't have to wait for an appointment or get a «busy signal» or be put on «hold» or told to push 1, 2, 3, etc. We also need to be concerned for and praying for those who have infirmities of the soul.

Bro. Rich & Sis. Kathy Schlipf have a new granddaughter to love and help take of. Their daughter, Sis. Kristy & son-in-law, Bro. Jeremy Reinhard (Leo, IN) were able to go to Florida and bring home Avonlea Lane who was born on September 11. She has a big sister, Addie, who will be mommy's helper. May God

help them to bring up these little ones in the fear and admonition of the Lord.

We so much enjoyed the families that got together in our area for their vacation and took time to worship with us. We hope they received a blessing and will include us in their plans again next year.

### INDIANA, REMINGTON

**Jenni Honegger  
Marcella Tyler**

We are thankful to the ministers who visited us this month: Bro. Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy, Champaign, IL) and Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL). May God bless them for their willingness to serve.

Bro. Evan and Sis. Elizabeth Stoller are happy to announce the arrival of their first child, a son named Rylan Daniel. Grandparents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gayle Virkler (Congerville, IL) and our Bro. Dan and Sis. Deb Stoller. We are all thankful for Rylan's safe arrival and pray that Bro. Evan and Sis. Elizabeth will feel the Lord's guidance and nearness as they raise this precious little one to know and to serve Him.

The angels rejoice over Colby Waibel (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Jody) as he seeks the Lord in repentance, and so do we! What a glorious thought, that the heavenly beings who saw God create the very earth we live upon would rejoice over just one of us lowly men submitting our hearts and lives to the Lord! We pray that Colby will feel Christ's nearness as he begins this new walk of life.

We have several hospital patients this month. Bro. Dan Reinhard (Sis. Delores) is recuperating from shoulder surgery and a fall from the roof of his home. Sis. Tammy Waibel (Bro. Dean) is recovering from

gall bladder surgery. And Bro. Rex Clauss (Sis. Tammy) is healing from burns sustained when an oven in his bakery caught fire. We ask for your prayers for each one that the Lord could comfort and heal them.

Bro. Albert Schambach of Elgin recently passed away. He was the grandfather of our Bro. Alan Schambach (Sis. Sarah). We are prayerful for Bro. Alan and his family, but thankful that heaven has welcomed home another of the Lord's servants.

As we have been listening to the conference tapes recently, I am struck again by how blessed we are as a church family. We have the Word of God to instruct us and show us Truth. We have the mind of Christ which is able to unite us as true brothers and sisters despite any slight differences we might have. And we have faithful brethren to shepherd and lead us through a dark and difficult time. Praise be to God for these wonderful blessings!

### INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

**Joshua Martinez**

*"Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me." (Mark 9:37)*

We rejoice with Bro. Garrett and Sis. Bethany Kupferschmid as they welcomed home a precious baby girl, Addie Lou. She is welcomed by joyful siblings: Ava, Jackson and Owen. Addie's thankful grandparents are Bro. Al and Sis. Wanda Kupferschmid and Bro. Ed and Sis. Renee Wenger of Forrest, IL.

This month we enjoyed the visit of Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL) and Bro. Duane

Reutter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT). May the Lord bless them for their words of truth and encouragement from the pulpit.

We are thankful that Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe are safely back from their recent mission trip at Hospital Lumiere in Haiti. We also look forward to the return of Bro. Marty Langhofer (Sis. Lavilla), as he recovers at home from foot surgery.

We are so happy that Maria Ramirez has decided to trust and obey the call to repentance. May she feel God's spiritual blessings as she experiences deliverance into the abundant life only He can offer.

*"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee: The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace."*  
(Numbers 6:24-26)

### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

**Marguerite Hoerr**

In our small church, it sometimes seems as if we have no news to report. This morning, as I called various members, I was reminded of several activities.

Our Sunday school picnic was held with all of us invited to attend. It's always enjoyable with the kids' enthusiasm sparking the event. A small or large group can inject enthusiasm into others. Thus it becomes a blessing to everyone. We fervently thank our teachers, Bro. Tim Bucher, Sis. Marsha Weiss, and Sis. Dawn Ailes for their devotion to our young people. We ask God to bless them for their tireless dedication to our young folks. The one activity we can share in each Sunday is for them to come to the front of the church with Bro. Tim, and often Bro. Joe Feller, to lead off with our song service. What joy

they inspire as they do this.

Bro. Dennis Weiss reports that their visit with work teams to Guatamala was blest with success. The people, at first, were afraid to agree to this help; as help had been offered before, the people paid, and it never materialized. This time, the work was so blest that it brought electricity to more homes than was originally planned. He wants to thank everyone for their prayers. All workers returned home with no accidents.

Our Harvest Supper is coming up in the near future. We're encouraged to invite guests and also a visiting minister. We have a small program and a dinner is held in our fellowship hall. The men of the church enthusiastically prepare and serve the dinner. We are always blessed by this event and catch their enthusiasm!

In one of my former reports, I asked for prayers for Dot and Greg. I work with Dot at the library and she's shared so much about Greg's cancer and her concern. We've talked at length about prayers and how they reach God and how they give us peace as we turn our concerns over to Him. This week Greg died and now we will be attending his funeral. It's beautiful to see how Dot accepts his death as God's will and how she's making plans to go on ahead without him.

I work with a group of women who are of various religions, but when we speak about prayer, we all seem to find a common denominator and work together as a team. When I first moved to New Buffalo I didn't know anyone here. Through this group of women, three of whom have lost their husbands since I've moved here, I have met many worthwhile people who will stop at the circulation desk and tell

me about the problems they are encountering. We speak of prayer and sometimes I need to write their names down so I don't forget to bring their names before the Lord as I offer my evening prayers. If I tell someone I am going to pray for them I want to be diligent in this. So writing their names down makes sure I remember.

Our director, Julie, has a husband who has such severe diabetes that he's often admitted to ER in a coma, sometimes as often as three times per week. As I pass her office when I go in to work, Julie often asks me for more prayers. Prayer means more to me all the time. When I commune with our God it gives me peace and confidence that He hears and answers. He's been such a faithful God to me during the sixty-eight years I've asked for help. What a great miracle we have! What assurance we can receive by a simple prayer when we turn our problems over to Him.

We are grateful that we have received visitors throughout this past month. We ask you all to remember that we are 2¾ miles south of U.S. 30 on State Rd. 49. We will welcome you with open arms.

#### INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE

**Ben Stoller  
Katie Widmer**

We are so thankful for God's grace and His offer of a personal relationship with Him, through Jesus Christ! This month started out with the baptism of one of our college students, Bro. Jackson Troxel from Lacrosse, IN). We were blessed to hear his testimony of God's faithfulness.

We are so excited and thankful that Troy Tonner and Colby Waibel have both decided to make commitments to Christ and a

commitment to be a part of our body of fellowship.

September 7 and 8 our church put on separate girls and guys retreats for the Purdue Young Group. It was a time of mentoring, growing, and building a strong base of focus for the school year. Pray for us as we learn to prioritize and remember the important things such as 1 Cor. 8:1, "*Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up*".

As for the West Lafayette church, we are enjoying our visiting ministering brothers. We want to thank Bro. Dan (Sis. Deb) Stoller from Remington, and Bro. Steve (Sis. Irene) Frauhofer from Bluffton North for coming and sharing God's Word with us. We were also blessed to have our elder, Bro. Curt Frank, and Sis. Lyla come to share the day with us on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Sasha Kyburz  
Donita Edelman**

We neglected to report on June 2 Kent Bahler (Sis. Elaine Bahler and Steve Bahler) of Indianapolis, IN was united in holy matrimony to Jordan Bailey (David and Cora Bailey) of Noblesville, IN. May they look to God to be the three-fold cord in their marriage.

We had the following visiting ministers this past month: Bros. Ron Isch (Sis. Jane) Lamont-Gridley, KS; Tom Lanz (Sis. Mary) Oakville, IA; and Elder Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy) Alto, MI. We would like to extend the thanks of our congregation to each of them for coming and spending of their time and talents on our behalf. May God be their rich rewarder.

We as a church enjoyed a blessed weekend when we had invite-a-guest weekend. We had visitors from many different locations and

had a great time getting to meet and greet old friends and make some new acquaintances.

We extend our deep sympathy to convert, Wanda Prohosky, in the passing of her son, Rob. Rob had been in ill health for a short time. We would also like to extend our sympathy to Chic and Paula Schleman and Bro. Ryan and Sis. Kim Schleman. Rob was Paula's brother and Bro. Ryan's uncle. May God grant comfort to each of them in their loss.

Bro. Vernon and Sis. Arlene Schwab have moved from their country home to Parkview Haven in Francesville, IN. We pray they will be able to adjust to their new home fairly quickly. Sis. Arlene has also been struggling with some health issues and we pray she may receive healing. May God be with them as they adjust to this new phase in life.

We had the opportunity to host Jr. High ACYF in Wolcott this year. It is such a blessing to see those in Jr. High interacting and making friendships that will last a lifetime. Their singing was beautiful and done with much enthusiasm. May they keep this enthusiasm for the Lord as they grow into adulthood. We want to thank all the teachers from the various Indiana churches that travelled to Wolcott and brought these students for the day.

### **IOWA, AMES** **Jacob Schulz**

We had visiting ministers one Wednesday night and one Sunday this month. We would like to thank Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA), Bro. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara, Bloomfield, IA), and Bro. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA) for bringing forth the Word. May God bless them for their willing service.

### **IOWA, BLOOMFIELD** **Teresa Schock**

Even though we had no visiting ministers this month, we were blessed with many visitors. The Harold Hodel family had a reunion here over the Labor Day weekend.

We have begun to listen to the conference tapes and our spirits are again reminded, admonished and encouraged, if we allow the Holy Spirit to work. We again acknowledge the need to utter daily prayers for those who have been given responsibility to be "under-shepherds and ministers" in our precious faith.

*"And the anger of the Lord was kindled again Uzzah: and God smote him there for his error: and there he died by the Ark of God".*  
(2 Samuel 6:7)

The ark of the covenant was Israel's most holy object. The ark looked to be in need of some "steadying". Was not Uzzah's intent good and proper? Maybe there is a good lesson here for us, in this time.

After a summer recess, Sunday school has begun. We likewise want to pray for the teachers as they strive to "sow the good seed" of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour.

### **IOWA, BURLINGTON** **Marilyn Anderson** **Monica Eisenmann**

Many visitors blessed our church September 16 to witness the wedding of Sis. Heather Wulf and Bro. Layne Steffen (Washington, IL). May they always look to the Lord as their guide.

Elder Bros. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) and Ron Messner (Washington, IL), Bros. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) and Fred Funk (Morton, IL) shared the pulpit for the day.

Other brothers sharing the

Word with us during the month were, Dale Frank and John Steiner (Oakville, IA). May the Lord bless them abundantly.

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

Bro. Floyd and Sis. Jan Frieden are thankful for another healthy grandson. Garrett Eli was born to Bob and Julie Frieden on September 3. His siblings are Kyella, Trey and Broden.

We appreciate the efforts Bro. Tim Gerber (Sis. Wendy, Mansfield, OH) who brought us the message from God's Word on a Wednesday evening. May God bless him.

Our congregation hosted its annual invite-a-guest weekend this month in place of our monthly carry-in meal. We enjoyed the many visiting brothers, sisters and their families from various congregations. It's a real blessing and encouragement to experience the love that binds us on weekends such as this!

*"Hold thou fast! Hold thou fast!  
Persevere now as of old;  
Lukewarm let not Jesus find thee;  
On, behold the crown of gold;  
On, forget what is behind thee,  
Zion, in thy struggle to the last,  
Hold thou fast! Hold thou fast!"*  
(Zion's Harp #20)

### **IOWA, GARDEN GROVE** **Laura Funk**

We are thankful for visiting ministers and other visitors to our congregation this month. Visiting ministers include Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Tom Lanz (Oakville, IA) and Bro. Darren Fehr (West Bend, IA). We enjoyed visitors from two family reunions held in our area.



We held our annual Sunday School picnic one hot Sunday afternoon. The water games were refreshing for the children. We appreciate the time and talents the Sunday School teachers give of themselves.

Luke Stuaan and Alecia Moser (daughter of Bro. Tom and Sis. Dawn Moser) were married September 8. We pray for God's nearness as they establish their home.

*Note of Thanks:*

We would like to say "Thank You" to all who remembered our family with prayers, cards, phone calls, meals and gifts during Sis. Laura's surgery and recovery. God bless each of you. Bro. Brad, Sis. Laura, Jelah and Joel Funk.

**IOWA, IOWA CITY**

**Diana Butikofer**

Bro. Dave Marquart (Sis. Lori, Taylor, MO) was our visiting minister this month. We are thankful for the visit of Dave and Lori and trust the Lord will bless his labor on the pulpit.

Our Sunday School teachers for this new school year are Bro. Andrew Klumpp, Sis. Sharon Gerst and Sis. Wendy Weyrick (Bro. Ben). We are praying for grace and patience for them as they teach our children about our Lord and His Word. We thank Bro. Ben Weyrick (Sis. Wendy), Sis. Ruth Gerst and Sis. Joyce Eland (Bro. Brad) for teaching this past year.

We rejoice with Bro. Kris and Sis. Dixie and big sister, Hadley, that God has safely delivered Bailey Mae Messner into their family on September 17. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Bruce and Sis. Audrey Messner and Bro. Leland and Sis. Kathy Metzger of West Bend, IA.

**IOWA, LESTER**

**Joyce Moser**

**Gloria Moser**

*"God is ever present! Let us now adore Him, And in reverence come before Him!"*

*Holy, holy, holy! Angel bands are singing, And incessant praises bringing!*

*Bow thine ear, Lord, and hear, As we in submission offer our oblation!"*  
(Zion's Harp #68)

We extend our appreciation to our visiting ministers who have shared the Word of Life with us this past month. They include: Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sabetha, KS), Bro. David Hartter (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Ron Jones (Portland, OR), Bro. Galen Rokey (Bern, KS) and Bro. Ron Isch (Lamont-Gridley, KS).

*"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:27)*

Perry Mogler (Jessica) has found the peace that passeth all understanding. May Perry and his dear family continue to trust in God and cling to this precious gift that God has given.

September 9 was the wedding day of Sis. Crystal Moser (Bro. Rick & Sis. Lori) and Bro. Darin Hartter (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth, Sabetha, KS). May God Bless their marriage with joy, peace and contentment. Sis. Crystal's cheerful countenance will be missed. Yet we know she will be welcomed by the Sabetha church.

Lori Feucht and Sis. Abby Knobloch (Bro. Andy) have been hospitalized this past month. May God's Hand of healing be upon them.

We bid farewell to Bro. Matt and Sis. Tasha Warner and Bro. Max

Knobloch as they have relocated. We welcome Sis. Rebekah Jones (Bro. Ron & Sis. Liz, Portland, OR) as she attends college in our area.

Sis. Nettie Banwart (West Bend, IA) passed into eternity on September 10 at the age of 87 years. We extend our sympathy to Elsie Leuthold and Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie Knobloch as they grieve the loss of a dear sister.

**IOWA, OAKVILLE**

**Sharla Wiegand**

We rejoiced to witness the wedding of Bro. Kenton Sinn and Sis. Alicen Wagenbach on August 26. Their parents are Bro. Colin and Sis. Barb Wagenbach and Bro. Tom and Sis. Edith Sinn of Silverton, OR. We will certainly miss Sis. Alicen as she moves to Oregon, but we pray she will fill her place with joy.

Also rejoicing were visiting ministers, Bro. Don Sinn (Silverton, OR), Bro. Gary Endress (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Phil Schulz (Burlington, IA). We appreciated other visiting ministers this month: Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL).

Another baby boy has blessed the home of Bro. Steve and Sis. Abby Lindeen. Zachary Thomas was born on September 9 and joins big brother Mason. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Vera Lindeen and Bro. Mark and Sis. Audrey Metzger (Lester, IA).

**IOWA, WEST BEND**

**Janet Fehr**

**Leona Fehr**

Two of our sisters spent time in the hospital this month. Sis. Sara Metzger and Sis. Madeline Banwart were under doctors' care. We are thankful both have returned home again.

Passing through the valley of life into eternity was our Sis. Nettie Banwart. Our prayers are with the family as she leaves behind her husband, Bro. Ervin, and a daughter, Sis. Charlotte Fehr (Bro. Marvin), and several grandchildren. We have been blessed by the joy that emanated from Sis. Nettie in her deep appreciation for salvation. God has given each of us a responsibility to lift up the dear ones whose hearts are heavy with sorrow. May we do it diligently in prayer, word and deed.

On September 2, Bro. Philip Virkler (Bro. Andy and Sis. Becky) was engaged to Sis. Colleen Fehr (Bro. Byron and Sis. Anita). May God walk beside them in preparation of their wedding day.

We have been very blessed with visiting ministers this month. Bro. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Char, Champaign, IL) and Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN) worshipped with us on August 26. Then on September 9, Bro. Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL) was present to share the precious Word. For this we are thankful. May God richly bless these willing brothers to speak the truth to our hearts.

*"I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me"*  
(Philippians 4:13)

### JAPAN, SHIODA

**Carrie Ito**

We are excited to be moving forward toward a new Shioda church. Demolition of some of a storage shed and house will begin the end of September. The new church will be built behind the current church, so we will be able to continue to assemble in our current building. We are thankful for the Lord's guidance in this project

and pray that it will continue. Sometimes we have wondered about moving forward, but then it seems the Lord shows us that it is necessary—we hadn't seen until recently that some boards in the second floor apartment had turned (probably from the earthquake last March). Please continue to pray for us!

### JAPAN, TOKYO

**Manuela Denes  
Marie Inoue**

Our warm and humid weather continues here in Tokyo. We are all looking forward to cooler temps. We so enjoyed our visitors this month, both from our European churches. Bro. Dusan Vojnov was from Belgrade, Serbia church and came to Japan for sightseeing. He had studied the Japanese language for one year on his computer and could sing our songs and understand some conversation. Gabor Molnar from Budapest, Hungary has visited us several times. He was on a business trip to several Asian countries and came to Japan to visit friends.

We thank them for their efforts to worship with us.

It is a joy to have Sis. Manuela Denes in our circle again. She had a refreshing visit back home with her family and home congregation of Detroit, MI. May God bless her with another year of teaching at the Canadian International School.

We thank the Rockville, CT congregation for hosting the Brotherhood Conference. May we never take for granted the efforts and great love put forth for our spiritual benefit from dear elder brothers to the janitors, both whom we highly esteem. We look forward to hearing the CD's.

At this writing, our dear Sis. Shizuko Urushino was recently

transferred to the ICU unit of a Chigasaki hospital. May the Holy Spirit hover over until the Lord calls her home. We also pray for her family who are often at her side and comfort her in any way they can.

Our sympathy is with Bro. Teruo Sanada whose aged father passed away recently. May the memories of their times together remain very precious to him.

### KANSAS, BERN

**Sheri Edelman  
Rita Menold**

Our prayers are with Bro. Elwin Strahm (Sis. Mary), as he spent some time in the hospital this past month.

As our Sunday School resumes after a short break, we pray for our teachers and students alike, that the seed of salvation may be planted on fertile hearts. We know that much time and preparation is put into each Sunday's lesson, and we are so thankful for each of our teachers that are willing to fill this position.

*Note of thanks:*

From our family to our wonderful, caring church family, we want to thank you for your cards, gifts and prayers in response to the recent illness and death of our father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He served his country for twenty years and he served his family his entire life. Our hope and prayer is that God will welcome him into the heavens above. May God bless you all for your kindness, care and compassion.

Bill & Mary Berg and family

### KANSAS, FORT SCOTT

**Teresa Bahr**

**"Be still, and know that I am God"**  
(Ps 46:10)

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

*“Master, which is the great commandment in the Law? Jesus said unto Him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it. Thou shalt Love thy neighbor as thyself.” (Matt. 22:36-39)*

I love these verses, because they are still the Ten Commandments, just stated simply. If we truly love God, will we have other gods before Him, or make graven images, or take His Precious Name in vain, or not worship Him on His Holy Day? (Sunday, for us)? And if we love our neighbor, will we lie about, steal from, covet, commit adultery against, or kill him? Will we not honor our parents? The Old Testament is not done away with. It's our school teacher, to show us what to do, or what not to do to bring us closer to God.

Our Kiowa church youth and adults gathered one evening this month at a place called “Kids Against Hunger” to put together packets that go to areas in our country and abroad for those who are hungry. It's fun for everyone and such a pleasure to do something for someone else. We appreciate having a place like this so close to us to share in such a good work, and teach our children to do for others.

Our youth traveled to the Bern and Sabetha, KS churches for our Kansas Sunday School fellowship this month. May God bless all who helped with this weekend to bring our young people together to learn more of Christ and enjoy meeting one another.

Keep watching and praying!!!!!!  
God is ever near!!!

**KANSAS, LAMONT-GRIDLEY****Sarah Somerhalder**

Our church was blessed with many visitors this month. We thank ministering Bro. Larry Bahr (Sis. Julie, Ft. Scott, KS) for his willingness to bring God's Word to us when our ministering brothers were away visiting other churches.

**KANSAS, SABETHA****Belinda Kellenberger****Sally Strahm**

*“Our love shall not diminish  
Nor fade nor wax away;  
Bind us till life we finish  
And in the grave we lay.”  
(Our Love Shall Not Diminish #137  
Zion's Harp)*

We rejoice with Bro. Darin and Sis. Crystal Hartter as they were united in marriage on September 9.

Their parents are Bro. Rick and Sis. Lori Moser (Lester, IA) and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Beth Hartter. We welcome Sis. Crystal to Sabetha.

The engagement of Bro. Levi Grimm (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Nita) to Sis. Jodi Wenger (Bro. Richard and Sis. Jill, Forrest, IL) was made known. They are planning a December wedding.

Derik Keim and Laura Langenheim plan to be married April 6, 2013. Their parents are Curtis and Valerie Keim and Rick and Abby Langenheim of Tulsa, OK. May God be with each of these couples as they prepare for marriage.

Our convert, Elijah Hartter (Bro. James and Sis. Sandy), has peace and is awaiting baptism. We are thankful for him.

Bro. Clinton and Sis. Kristi Strahm welcome little Cory Lee into their family circle. Siblings to welcome Cory home are: Katrina,

Kelsey, Carson and Colin. May God be with them as they raise their children. Grandparents are Bro. Curt and Sis. Ellen Strahm and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Bachtold (Forrest, IL).

There was an all-church potluck meal and presentation of Haiti given by Sis. Sheila Moser.

Our Sunday School resumed on September 9. May God be with the teachers as they teach our children.

*“Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.”  
(2 Timothy 6:12)*

**KANSAS, WICHITA****Emma Miller**

Our part of Kansas has enjoyed a few short spells of rain and relief from the sweltering heat. Even though the rain was not a drought-breaker, we praise the Lord for His mercy.

Recent visitors to our small Wichita assembly were the Bro. Dwight Rokey family from Bern, KS. Also, Sis. Judy Langhofer's daughters were able to spend some time with their mother.

I visited with some of our Sunday School students. The first class told me about the collection they take and the little prayer they say before they start the lesson. Two of them said in unison, “We like everything about Sunday School!”

I also talked to the older class and heard them tell that they liked being able to read the Bible. One of the boys said he liked it when they got to see special friends.

***“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another...”  
(John 13:34)***

**KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON****Barb Huber**

*"Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures forevermore." (Psalm 16:71)*

Even though there have been small numbers as we worship each Lord's Day, we have felt His presence and there has been no limit with God's blessing. We have been thankful for visiting ministers, Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jackie, Francesville, IN) and Bro. John Rassi (Sis. Heather, Tremont, IL) and his dear family. May the Lord bless these dear brothers and their families for all their efforts and labors of love to share God's Word with us.

We were reminded that even though at times, things look impossible, difficult or hard, Jesus has said, *"...All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth."* (Matthew 28:18) Things that really work come from God and His Word. There is hope. So we need to go on in the counsel and strength of the Lord with confidence and faith, believing, that the Lord will provide.

We appreciate all brethren and friends who have assembled with us. Your Christian fellowship is always a real joy and blessing. We continue to extend a warm welcome to all visitors who may be in our area or traveling through. Contact Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541. Church services are held at 3938 Becknerville Rd., Winchester, KY. Directions to the church are in the Minister's Book.

**MEXICO, IXTLÁN****Matt Gerber**

*"The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever." (Isaiah 40:6-8)*

A medical team from different parts of the U.S. spent a week in Ixtlan, focusing primarily on health education. Among the activities were: health stations with the school children; first aid training for teachers and parents; a community health fair; home visits; and a men's project designed for building spiritual trust and relationships. Thanks to all who gave their time and expenses to come and be a part of this effort.

Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan travelled to Barra Vieja to spend a week and a half with the believers there. Please pray for Ricardo, the son of Bro. Bartolo and Sis. Kike, who has made a beginning in his repentance and wants to follow Jesus Christ. The mother of Sis. Maria de la Cruz passed away. Please pray for God's comfort.

**MEXICO, MAGDALENA**

Joy is the happiness of being together. We can express this to encourage each other along the way. Spiritually we are growing in joy as we spend time with our Lord in reading His Word or fellowshiping with His children. Many lack this important element in life. Joy can be shared in a simple smile. We can build each other up as we fill each other with expressions of joy. With a joy-filled heart and mind, the

struggles of life can be overcome. Singing to one another in hymns and psalms, and spiritual songs. (Colossians 3:16)

We live in the desert and usually appreciate a rainy day. However this past month, Magdalena experienced a huge amount of rain in one afternoon. With this rain, the waterways filled which had not been used for sometime. Many had filled with brush and trees and garbage. These waterways or ditches are known as arroyos and generally run alongside our main roads. One of these is located behind the home of Bro. Duane & Sis. Ann Wulf. Unfortunately, the rainwater was not contained by the arroyo, and a block wall fell, sending a flood of water through their yard and into the Wulfs' home. No one was hurt, but their house was filled with mud and water. The staff of CVE helped to move out their things while they spent the evening bailing water by the buckets out of their living room window. The clean-up continued through the week enabling the family to return to sleep in their home as soon as possible.

All this has been happening as the Wulf's awaited the arrival of their little baby girl. Victoria Violet is welcomed home by her loving siblings, Sis. Cassidy, Axel, Zacharia, Garrett, and Marshall. It is a joy to all here in Magdalena to see the Wulfs' peacefulness and joy in these times.

October is coming which means the festival that makes life in Magdalena difficult. The town's honorary saint, St. Francis' birthday is celebrated for over a week with many visitors partying all night long. Many journey on foot from Nogales to Magdalena with hopes that their sacrifices will show favor to God and give them pardon for

***"A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another..."***  
***(John 13:34)***

sin or healing for a relative who is ill. Please pray for these pilgrims searching for redemption, yet finding the nothingness of this world, that they might find the only true Savior to worship.

Special thanks to Bro. Trent Gasser, Akron, OH, who used his talents with computers and networking, to do several needed repairs at CVE. May God bless you, Bro. Trent.

We are thankful for Daniela and Yessica as they have confessed peace with God and man and plan on sharing their testimonies and hopefully their testimonies of baptism with the church in the upcoming month or so. We are thankful the Lord's work of salvation continues in those who seek Him with their whole heart.

### **MICHIGAN, ALTO**

**Listyn Oesch**

**Melissa Blough**

The days are getting shorter; the nights are getting longer, and harvest smells are in the air. As the seasons change, what do you think of? What are you reminded of? Maybe dad sitting atop the powerful combine with a yellow field of corn below. Or, maybe its standing at the kitchen counter with grandma working with loving hands to form delicious pumpkin pies. Whatever the memory, whatever your age... they are priceless treasures. What feelings do you have? Love, warmth, unity, peace; all very real gifts. Take a moment...reflect. What is life like now? Is that where your heart remains? Living out those seasons now?

So what does all this mean?... God cares. He is in every moment, every memory. Do you see Him? Are you looking for Him?

*"Lord, thou hast been our dwelling*

*place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God."*  
(Psalm 90:1-2)

We pause to pray for several dear ones in our congregation. Recent illness and surgeries have fallen upon Bro. Wes and Sis. Sue Daniels, Sis. Sandy Schutte (Steve) and Gloria Crumback (Bro. Ed Sander's son). May God lift them up in these times of physical pain and struggle. Also our hearts and prayers are with Bro. Matt and Sis. Shelli Oesch as they await surgery for their son, Judah.

*"Give ear, O Lord, unto my prayer; and attend to the voice of my supplications. In day of my trouble I will call upon thee: for thou wilt answer me."* (Psalm 86:6-7)

We are thankful for the service of Bro. Greg Lehman (Wolcott, IN) this past month.

In recent days we have gathered to hear the conference recordings. Our hearts were encouraged and convicted as the Spirit spoke through men. May we ever strive to seek our first love...first! With much joyfulness we express the humble beginning to turn their lives over to God of AJ and Brett Oesch. May God surround them and give them grace abounding as they seek Him in repentance.

We reflect. We rejoice. We strive. Together.

### **MICHIGAN, BAY CITY**

**Sarah Knochel**

**Janelle Ramseyer**

We are thankful that Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Maryann, Smithville, OH) visited our congregation and was willing to be used by the Spirit

to preach the Word.

*"Just a few more days to be filled with praise,  
And to tell the old, old story;  
Then, when twilight falls, and my Savior calls,  
I shall go to Him in glory.  
What a joy 'twill be when I wake to see  
Him for Whom my heart is burning!  
Nevermore to sigh, nevermore to die,  
For that day my heart is yearning.  
I'll exchange my cross for a starry crown,  
Where the gates swing outward never;  
At His feet I'll lay every burden down,  
And with Jesus reign forever.  
(Hymns of Zion #173)*

Sis. Alvina Wackerle ended her earthly journey on September 13. She is survived by her children, Gayle (Richard) Roberts, Kenn (Kathleen), Tina (Andrew) Heinz and her siblings, Bro. Floyd Knochel, Sis. Laura Knapp (Fairbury, IL) and Fred Knochel II.

The start of the new school year brought changes to the teachers in Sunday School. Sis. Jenay Knochel (Bro. Jim & Sis. Kay), Bro. Derrell (Sis. Sue) Steffen, and Bro. Brian (Sis. Char) Wieland were selected for new terms in Sunday School. We appreciate the past efforts of outgoing teachers, Bro. Jim (Sis. Kay) Knochel, Sis. Janet Kober and Bro. Kurt Munsel.

### **MICHIGAN, DETROIT**

**Krista Wieland**

*"...pray for one another that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."* (James 5:16)

There are various health issues needing prayer this month: Sis.

Melinda Lanski's dad (Bro. Dave Eyerly, Mansfield, OH) has recently been diagnosed with Lymphoma and is requesting prayer. Sis. Judy Aberle's (Detroit) niece Debbie from Atlanta, daughter of Judy's brother, Bro. Rich and Sis. Lanae Aberle, also of Atlanta, experienced a bleed on the brain and has been in critical condition. Both she and her husband, Mark, are in great need of prayer. Sis. Linda Reardon (Detroit) is seriously ill as she goes through treatments for cancer. She has been an inpatient at the Karmanos Cancer Institute and has fluid around the lungs and a blood infection. She is weak and our prayers are important for her and her family. Sis. Mira Matejin (Detroit) has experienced some health issues and we want to remember her in prayer.

Andy and I are so thankful for our church, our family, and the medical staff who have lifted us up in prayer during my recent ten day stay at Mayo Clinic that stretched our endurance beyond what we thought we could take. How thankful we are for the prayers of others when we didn't know how to pray. It is good to be home again and we do entreat continued prayer for ongoing testing and all the "unknowns" each day holds with epilepsy. We are so humbled by your love and the faithfulness of God. We had the opportunity prior to the hospitalization to stay in the Rochester Guest House and attend services at Minneapolis church with Bro. Mark and Sis. Sandy Stork. The guest house and our hosts were wonderful and we would recommend this place to anyone needing a place to stay while at Mayo.

We offer our continued prayer support for Virginia Smiley and her

family in the passing of her sister, Mary Rose Tucker.

We extend sympathy and prayers to Sis. Linda & John Reardon, Sis. Jeanie & Bro. Pat Allen, Steve & Patti Belsley and to Sally and Ron Blaszczyk in the loss of their nephew, Michael Belsley, along with his dear parents and siblings.

Michigan Youth Day, hosted by Alto church, was September 15. Students of the Sunday School Bible Class and also the Middle School Class enjoyed fellowship and activities.

Laza and Sis. Ranka Mojic (Detroit, MI) celebrated their son's wedding recently. Bro. Sasha Mojic and Sis. Marija Doric, (Indianapolis, IN) were married in Serbia in August and we wish them the Lord's blessings.

We congratulate Kyra Johnson on her engagement to Ben Koch (Bro. Justin and Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL). Kyra and her mother (late Sis. Barb) attended our church for years and Kyra holds a special place in our hearts. Their wedding is planned for next June.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Darlene Kujawa were thankful for the birth of grandson Connor James on August 13. He was born to Jeff and Toni Kujawa. We also celebrate with Bro. Steve and Sis. Tiffany Wieland who welcomed Austin Scott on September 15; he joins big sister, Alexa and brother, Gabriel.

### MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

#### Tim McMillan

We began the period reading from Romans Ch.5. *"But God commandeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us"* (vs. 8). How much love can be expressed than by Christ saying, regardless of the

worst thing any of us has ever done, He will take our punishment in our place? Such an offer is not one that should be pondered for a long time, but be taken rapidly. If you have not taken up this offer yet what is it that you are waiting for to make it a better offer?

We rejoice at the announced repentance of Adrian Rocke (Bro. Duane and Sis. Bonnie). We pray help from the flock to keep him surrounded and in the middle so that he would not fall away.

Thank the Lord for the way technology can be used for good in allowing us to listen to the conference tapes this month. The question of asking which of the seven churches we may find ourselves and our denomination in is one to be asked always. May it be the word of God we follow and not the way of our own desires so we are not deceived into the wrong church and that the Lord may find us truly repentant.

Bro. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL.) was available to share the word with us this month. His visits and preaching are always enjoyed and we hope the Lord will allow many more opportunities for these visits!

Prayers continue for Cory Schmidt (Nikki) and his family as he recovers from an injury repaired with surgery. May he feel the Lord's touch and come unto Him that his family may also find such peace that can only be found with the Comforter of Christ in us.

This will be my last writing for the Minneapolis Congregation as Nada and I will, Lord willing, be in Columbus Ohio by November 1. The Lord has opened doors for us to allow Nada to be closer to her family. This is my home church and all will be missed. I am indebted to the love shown by all and am

thankful for the opportunity to serve in helping with these writings. May God be with you all.

I end with a reading from the last Sunday of the period in Proverbs Ch. 20. Verses 6 and 11 stuck in my mind. (6) *"Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?"* (11) *"Even a child is known by his doings, whether his work be pure, and whether it be right."* May it be that when the Lord returns He finds us all faithful and as His children that our work be pure and right.

**MINNESOTA, MORRIS**  
**Annie Wulf**

*"Trusting as the moments fly,  
Trusting as the days go by; Trusting  
Him whatever befall, Trusting Jesus,  
that is all."* (Chorus of #581 Gospel Hymns)

We are thankful and appreciative for visiting Elders Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Oakville, IA), Rod Bajema (Lester, IA), Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN), and Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH), and ministering Bros. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH), Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA), Nelson Beer (Sis. Minnie, Milford, IN), Glen Steiner (Sis. Rachel, Winthrop, MN), and John Hartman (Sis. Rosemary, Fairbury, IL).

Our prayers are with Bro. Jason Moser, Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce Moser and Sis. Minnie Kussatz on the passing of their grandmother and sister-in-law, Sis. Pearl Moser (Morris North).

We continue to pray for Sis. Barbara (Bro. Gilbert) Schmidgall and Sis. Violet Wulf as they have been struggling with their health.

Having peace with God and man

and now awaiting baptisms are: Lafe and Kristin Grimm, Esther Koehl (Bro. Guy and Sis. Lynette), Andrew Steiner (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Jill), and Angie Fehr (Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy). We rejoice with these dear souls and look forward to their testimonies.

*"When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, When sorrows like sea billows roll; Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul."*  
(Hymns of Zion #55)

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

*"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."* (Matt. 9:37-38)

After a summer vacation from Sunday School, our children were excited to return on September 9. A Sunday School kick-off evening was held at Bro. Doug and Sis. Dawn Moser's, with a bonfire, and an evening of fellowship for students, teachers and parents. Making bags for the homeless was their work project. Thank you Doug and Dawn for making this an annual event.

Many were able to help with Feed My Starving Children project. We know that if we do the work that God will add the increase. In this project, many needy children are helped with the food packages that are filled. Let's keep laboring for Him.

We are always so happy when we have visitors come to worship with us. We are so thankful for the visiting ministers who share The Word and give of themselves. Among those are: our Elder Bro.

Paul Messner (Sis. Jan, Winthrop, MN), Bro. Steve Baner (Sis. Donnalou, Gridley, IL), Bro. Jeff Leman (Bluffton, IN). We appreciate our Bros. Dale Zeltwanger and Doug Moser and thank them for being so willing to serve us.

This past month we laid our dear sister and mother to rest, Sis. Pearl Moser. God certainly took a beautiful angel and how we know that she is rejoicing in the heavens above. The family that she has left on this earth are: Sis. Lois (Bro. Keith) Schmidgall, Alexandria, MN; Shar (Terry) Seter, Park Rapids, MN; Marilyn (Jerry) Halseth, Plymouth, MN.; Gary (Sis. Doreen) Moser, Janesville, WI; Myron (Marlene) Moser, Chanhasses, MN; Bro. Doug (Sis. Dawn) Moser, Morris, MN; along with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Hospitalized this month was Lilly Knobloch. We are happy to have her feeling better and able to be with us again.

We are enjoying working together on our Harvest Supper which will be held on October 27. This year's theme is "Come for the Feast is Spread". We extend an invitation to anyone that would like to join us for the weekend.

Our Amanda (Carter) Feuchtenberger was announced for peace and is looking forward to baptism.

*Note of Thanks:*

The family of Sis. Pearl Moser would like to express our sincere thank you to all for the love, the prayers, flowers, cards and gifts that were sent during Mom's illness and funeral. May God richly bless each one of you.

**"Be still, and know that I am God"**  
**(Ps 46:10)**

**MINNESOTA, ROCHESTER**

**Mark Stork  
Eric Bachman**

Greetings from Rochester. We are thankful for all who came to visit this past month. We would like to give a special thank you to Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) and Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN) who came to share God's Word.

If you are in the area, please feel free to stop in for a visit. Anyone needing accommodations, please call the guest house. See the ad in the back of this issue.

**MINNESOTA, WINTHROP**

**Lindsay Schmidt  
Heather Steiner**

*"I am never weary reading, Hearing of His wondrous love;  
How His loving, tender mercy, draws us to His home above."  
(Reading God's Word #75 vs. 6, Hymns of Zion)*

Our church was very blessed to have several visiting elders and ministers. We wish to thank elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL), elder Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City, MO), Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sis. LaRae, Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Ryan Schock (Sis. Melanie, Bloomfield, IA), Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris North, MN), and Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA) for being willing to share God's Word and teaching across the pulpit.

*"These souls betrothed before Thee stand;  
Thy blessings we implore;  
Unite Thou them in heart and hand,  
And guide them evermore."  
(O God of Wisdom #286 vs. 2, Hymns of Zion)*

We were blessed to witness the marriage of Bro. Matt Wyss to Sis. Lena Steiner (Bro. Ed & Sis. Kathy Wyss, Washington, IL and Bro. Glen & Sis. Rachel Steiner). We pray that God will ever be at their sides and bless this union. We also rejoice with their families and pray that God will bless Matt & Lena's life together in Washington, IL. Our church will truly miss Sis. Lena.

*"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."  
(Christian Friendship #91 vs. 2, Hymns of Zion)*

We were blessed to have many visitors for our annual invite weekend. May God bless those who made the effort to come and fellowship with us. We are truly blessed with our friendships that we can have thru our Lord.

*"Take courage, way-worn pilgrim!  
Tho' mists and shadows hide  
The face of Him thou lovest,  
He's ever at thy side.  
Reach out thy hand and find Him,  
And lo, the clouds have flown;  
He smiles on thee who promised  
Never to leave thee alone."  
(Never Alone #127 vs. 3, Hymns of Zion)*

We pray that those in our congregation that have been dealing with physical afflictions have felt God's presence during this time. This hymn so elegantly reminds us that God never leaves us alone. Bro. Kenneth Messner (Margaret) and Bro. Mike Messner (Sis. Joyce), are

some of the most recent brethren that have been on our hearts and in our prayers. We trust God will be with and continue to provide for them.

*Note of Thanks:*

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all who have remembered me by calls, visits, cards, and, most of all, by keeping me in your thoughts and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. God bless you all! Sis. Lois Messner (Marlyn)

**MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY  
Brittany Fehr****MISSOURI, LAMAR  
Venetta Banwart****MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS  
Kary Mangers**

Our congratulations and prayers are with Sis. Sydney Eisenmann and Bro. Amit Parkhe, of Chicago as they announced their engagement. Parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Jackie Eisenmann of Champaign and Dr. Surendra Parkhe of Nashik, India. We wish them God's guidance and wisdom as they prepare their hearts for this journey together in life. We would like to thank Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. and Sis. Donna for their recent visit. Bro. Ted gave a presentation on parenting at our monthly potluck. We also appreciated visiting ministers Bro. Glen Braker (Sis. Audrey, Princeville, IL) and Bro. Brad Strahm (Sis. Michelle, Bern, KS) for bringing us the Word of God.

**MISSOURI, TAYLOR  
Kathy Eberhardt**

When our loved ones leave this life to spend eternity with Jesus, we are reminded of the verse from



Ecclesiastes 3:2, *“There is a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to pluck up that which is planted”*. Bro. Mike Stratton was called home to be with Jesus on August 31. Bro. Mike was passionate about his family, pursued the kingdom of God and is now praising Jesus in glory. *“But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you”*. Our deepest love and sympathy go out to his wife, Sis. Cheryl, and their four children, Bro. Mike (Sis. Lori) of Peoria, IL, Sis. Missy (Bro. Matt Ackerman, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Jason (Sis. Natalie, Taylor, MO), and Sis. Jan (Bro. Dave Roberts, Indianapolis, IN). Bro. Mike is also survived by nine grandchildren and Sis. Loida Hodel (mother-in-law).

We are rejoicing in heaven with three new converts this month. They are Courtney Massner, daughter of Bro. Chad and Sis. Lisa Massner, Dan Winget (Brenda), son-in-law of Vernon and Sis. Judy Huber, and Kirsten Wegman, daughter of Bro. Scott and Sis. Dawn Wegman.

Darin and Dani Heimer along with older brother Trigg are enjoying their new son Bradey Richard, born on August 29. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan Heimer and Dennis and Donna Graupman of Palmyra, MO.

We enjoyed all the visiting ministers who traveled to Taylor this month. Bro. Matthew Steffen (Sis. Deanna, Princeville, IL), was here for a Wednesday night Bible Study on the Holy Spirit. We learned the Holy Spirit does not want to share with Satan. We also were reminded of the importance of building a firm foundation.

Also visiting us were Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL), Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Deb,

Peoria, IL) and Elder Bro. John Laukhuf (Sis. Marcia, Latty, OH).

We also appreciate several groups of visitors having reunions in our area.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Dianne Sutter and Bro. Robert Hoerr.

### NEW YORK, CROGHAN- NAUMBURG Hope Graves

We are thankful for the arrival of fall to our area. How amazing it is to look around us and see God's hands at work in the changing of the seasons. We appreciate the visitors that have traveled from many miles away to be in our midst, including retired ministering Bro. Everett Gerber (Sis. Nancy) from Rockville, CT and retired elder Bro. Ronald Schambach (Sis. Nancy) from Elgin, IL.

We are thankful for the safe arrival of Vanessa Rose Wzykiewicz on September 5. Vanessa was born to Rob and Rachel and joins big brother, Emmet, at home in Colorado. Excited grandparents are Bruce and Gayle Hirschey who have been able to travel out to meet the newest addition to their family.

We extend a happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday wish to our dear Sis. Bernice Hirschey.

Our prayers extend to Betty Richie who is continuing to heal from her ankle surgery and complications that have risen since then. We also remember our Sis. Elveria Martin who is now residing in the Lewis County Extended Care Facility and Sis. Alice Farney who has been very sick and in our Watertown Hospital. We ask that God's will be done for each one.

***“Be still , and know that I am God”  
(Ps 46:10)***

### OHIO, AKRON Erika Gal

We are thankful to share the engagement of Bro. Samuel Greenbank and Sis. Laura Virkler (Rockville, CT). His parents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Joan Greenbank, and her parents are Bro. Terry and Sis. Cindy Virkler from Rockville. We wish them God's blessings and peace throughout this time of engagement and in their future life together.

Our prayers are with Bro. Christopher Indermuhle as he is spending two months in Europe on business. He is planning to also visit a number of our churches in Germany, Sweden, and Hungary. One small church on his itinerary has only 24 members and is located in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains in Ukraine. We trust God will watch over him and bring him safely home again.

We extend hearty thanks to our visiting ministers this month: Bro. Matt Steffen (Princeville, IL), Bro. Curt Walter (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL). May God reward them for their labors in His service.

### OHIO, COLUMBUS Lauren Rufener

A church picnic was held at a local park to welcome the college students and their families. We look forward to spending time with them again as the school year has begun.

Last month we had a farewell for Bro. Anthony and Sis. Jill Amos as they have moved to Athens, OH and will now attend church in Sardis, OH. We wish them God's blessings as they will be missed in our congregation.

We appreciated visiting ministers Bro. Ben and Sis. Michelle Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Ted and Sis. Stephanie Luginbuhl (Smithville,

OH) and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Pam Zollinger (Smithville, OH) for sharing God's Word with us.

### OHIO, JUNCTION

**Vicki Boroff**

We wish Evan and Miranda Schlatter God's blessings. They were married on September 8. Evan's parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Cheryl. Miranda's parents are Robin Baughman Dobbelaere and Craig Dobbelaere.

We are always thankful for a repenting soul. Kyle Kovac has decided to make a change in his young life. Kyle lives with his aunt and uncle, Sis. Vera and Bro. Russ Manz.

Noah Schlatter is excited to have a new little brother. Sawyer Luke was born on September 16 to Kyle and Casey. Kyle's parents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Sheila. Casey's parents are Hal and Kim Kemerer.

We were thankful to witness the baptism of Bro. Derek Schlatter on September 23. His parents are Bro. Dennis and Sis. Laurie. Elder Bro. Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN) helped with the weekend. Bro. Todd Sinn (Sis. Janet, Latty, OH) also joined us that weekend, and we appreciate both visitors.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

Greetings of love! We want to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation for all the prayers, cards, gifts and love we have received since my accident. Truly God hears and answers prayers. May God continue to guide us in our love one for another. Our faith and fellowship are precious and it is our prayer that we may all hold this dear. May God bless you all.

Love in Christ, Bro. Ed and Sis. Cheryl Schlatter and family

### OHIO, LATTY Carmen Stoller Mindy Stoller

Greetings in our Saviour's name! We were thankful to hear Autumn Nuest (Bro. Lee and Sis. Paula) is repenting. We hope she can feel our love and support. We are also thankful to announce the engagement of Sis. Alyssa Nuest (Bro. Lee and Sis. Paula) to Bro. Dean Nelson of LaCrosse, IN (Larry and Lorrie). We wish them God's richest blessings!

On September 1, Bro. Stan and Sis. JaNahn Sinn became grandparents to Bexleigh Piper (Bro. Tyler and Sis. Janna Gerber, Indianapolis, IN). Bexleigh was born early and we continue to keep the family in our prayers!

We are keeping Bro. Walt Sinn (Sis. Renee) in our prayers as he underwent surgery and is to receive radiation for cancer. We know God is faithful and pray they will feel His nearness.

We partook of Holy Communion September 15. We wish to thank Bro. Dan Kilgus, (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN) who was here to assist Bro. John. We enjoyed a very blessed weekend.

We appreciated hearing the Word this month from Bro. Greg Stieglitz (Sis. Lisa, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky, Lester, IA), and Bro. Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb, Remington, IN). May they feel our appreciation and love.

### OHIO, MANSFIELD Tami Griffey

*"I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made..."*  
(Psalm 139:14)

Michael and Elizabeth Brandt and their girls, Emily and Natalie, joyfully welcomed Madilynn Jean

into their family June 21. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Gregory and Sis. Sharon Sabo, and Ruth and Tim Brandt.

Zachary and Kayla Rau and their daughter, Hazel, are enjoying August Angel who was born on July 31. Blessed grandparents are Mark and Lynette Rau, and Brad and Allison Woodruff.

Scott and Laura Gerber became first-time parents on July 31 to a precious daughter, Evelyn Grace. Grateful grandparents include Bro. Tim and Sis. Wendy Gerber, and Joe and Paula Wheeler.

Our love and prayers are extended to Bro. David Eyerly and his family as he is hospitalized and facing health challenges.

*"I do not know what next may come  
Across my pilgrim way.*

*I do not know tomorrow's road  
Nor see beyond today.*

**BUT THIS I KNOW-MY SAVIOUR  
KNOWS**

*THE PATH I CANNOT SEE,  
And I can trust His wounded hand  
To guide and care for me.*

*I do not know what may befall  
Of sunshine or of rain.*

*I do not know what may be mine  
Of pleasure or of pain.*

**BUT THIS I KNOW-MY SAVIOUR  
KNOWS,**

**AND WHATSOEVER BE,**

*Still I can trust His love to give  
What will be best for me."*

*Author Unknown.*

### OHIO, RITTMAN Jenny Pertee Anna Bauman

There have been several from our congregation who have been in the hospital lately. They are Bro. Henry Dotterer, Sis. Velma Rufener (Bro. Jeff), Sis. Martha Walder, Sis. Joyce Stoller (Bro. Fred), Bro. Harold

Widmer (Sis. Carole), Sis. Nina Rufener, Sis. Sarah Bauman, Bro. Harlan Stoller (Sis. Jean), Sis. Ellen Daw (Thom), and Betty Marquart (Walter). We wish them the Lord's blessings as they recover from their illnesses and surgeries.

Our prayers are with Bro. Vernon Landis in the loss of his brother, Don. Our prayers are also with Sis. Carolyn Hartzler (Bro. Dale) upon the passing of her father, Bro. Arthur Knobloch.

We extend a warm welcome to Sis. Rosalia (Rose) Kaplar as she joins our congregation. Sis. Rose has moved to Rittman from San Diego, CA. She resides in Apartment #23 at Apostolic Christian Village. May the Lord bless Sis. Rose in her new home.

We have many new babies to report this month. Bro. Trent and Sis. Kristina Steffen (Belvidere, IL) were thankful for the arrival of their first child, Abel Dean on August 10. Grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Leann Rufener and Bro. Dean and Sis. Carole Steffen (Belvidere, IL). Josh and Brooke and big brother Branson Calame welcomed a baby girl, Savannah Grace who was born on August 16. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Jodi Calame and Curt and Patty Suppes. On August 20, Adrian and Alyssa Beery welcomed Ezra Stanley. Grandparents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Karen Beery and Ed and Darlene Raines. Bro. Scott and Sis. Cindy Steiner were blessed with Thad Philip on Sept. 8. Thad's siblings are Adelynn, Solomon and Tobias. Grandparents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Pat Steiner and Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane Hartzler (Smithville, OH). Also, Bro. Steve and Sis. Tiffany Wieland along with siblings Alexa and Gabriel (Detroit, MI) welcomed Austin Scott, who was born on September 15. Bro.

Fred and Sis. Mary Gasser are the grandparents along with Bro. Rod and Sis. Evelyn Wieland (Bay City, MI). Andy and Holly Anschutz became first-time parents with the birth of Ashley Elizabeth on September 19. Her grandparents are Bro. Stan and Sis. Margaret Winkler and Ken and Mary Anschutz.

The engagement of Bro. Kent Dotterer and Sis. Greta Beery was announced to the congregation. Parents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy Dotterer and Bro. Earl and Sis. Suzanne Beery. We wish them God's blessings as they plan for their wedding.

Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter ministered to us this month. May God bless him for his many labors of love.

### OHIO, SARDIS

#### Faith Beard

Visiting ministers that worshipped with us this month were Bro. Don Steidl (Sis. Nan, Akron, OH) and Bro. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield, OH). How thankful we are that we can continue to hear the truth spoken in its pureness and holiness.

We were blessed with Christian fellowship by those who joined us for an invite-a-guest weekend. We are grateful for those who made the effort to travel the miles to assemble with us.

For the past month, we have appreciated the opportunity to listen to the conference recordings on Wednesday evenings. We continue to pray for the elders, and for all of us, that we all may do - or not do - what is necessary to keep our hearts and minds prepared so that we may listen and hear God's teachings, exhortations and encouragement.

***"Be still, and know that I am God"***  
***(Ps 46:10)***

### OHIO, SMITHVILLE

*"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)*

We are thankful for the safe arrival of several new babies this past month. Bro. Jon and Sis. Lydia Dotterer had a girl, Eden Lydia, on August 31. Bro. Dave and Sis. Luanna Dotterer and Bro. Dan and Sister Kim Stoller are her grandparents. On September 8, Thad Philip joined the family of Bro. Scott and Sis. Cindy, Adelynn, Solomon, and Tobias Steiner (Rittman, OH). Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane Hartzler are his grandparents. Josiah Doyle was born to Bro. Doyle and Sis. Naomi Stoller on September 17. His grandparents are Bro. Scott and Sis. Charlene Stoller and Bro. Mike and Sis. Barbara Ursu (Kitchner).

We were very blessed on September 2 as this was the day for the ordination of Bro. Vic Bauman as an ordained deacon for the Smithville church. We are very prayerful that God will be with Bro. Vic, Sis. Brenda and their family as they fulfill this responsibility in the church. Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sis. Linda, Sardis, OH), Bro. Dave Graf (Sis. Barb, Akron, OH) and Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH) assisted with the ordination work. We appreciated that Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy, Forrest, IL) also was with us for the ordination services. Other visiting ministers this month included Bro. Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit, MI) and Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH). We were reminded that through struggles, God can perfect that which can be perfected in no other way.

Our prayers are with Sis. Carol Schuster (Bro. George), as she again

spent time in the hospital recently. She is now residing in the Rittman nursing home. May God grant healing according to His will. We are thankful that Earl Hartzler has been able to return home after a time in the hospital and in a nursing home. Our prayers continue to be with him.

Bro. Mitchell Maibach and Sis. Ashley Plummer (Latty, OH) were engaged on August 19. Their parents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Dawn Maibach and Bro. Rick and Sis. Denise Plummer (Latty, OH). May God bless them as they begin their lives together.

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Tim and Sis. Melanie Tomic and their children: Christopher, Brian, Jonathan, Matthew and Ruthann. They have recently moved from Kitchener, Ontario, Canada to our community and plan to make Smithville their home congregation. May God bless them as they adjust to their new home and congregation.

### **OHIO, TOLEDO**

**Deanna Manz**

**Anita Schlatter**

We wish to thank Bros. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis, OH) and Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI) for ministering to us this past month. May God bless them for their service.

We welcome a new little one to our congregation. On Sept. 7, William Paul was born to Ella Rywalski and Demetrius Washington. Excited grandparents are Sis. Teresa Rywalski (the late Bro. Paul), Daryel Washington, and Paula King.

We continue to remember Bro. Glen Whittaker in our prayers for his recent illness.

### **OREGON, PORTLAND**

**Liz Jones**

A special thanks to our visiting ministers this month: Bro. Todd Zollinger (Sis. Michelle) and Bro. Harvey Kuenzi (Sis. Jennifer) of Silverton. Thanks also to Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary) of Zapata, TX for sharing God's Word. We also said farewell for a year to Sis. Rebekah Jones who moved to Lester, IA to attend church there and begin a program at a nearby college. We will surely miss her, but wish her God's richest blessings in her endeavors. Our prayers are with Sis. Pearl Miller (Bro. Bob) as she heals from a wrist fracture. We look forward to having them assemble with us again.

### **OREGON, SILVERTON**

**Kelsey Walder**

**Ann Kuenzi**

August 26 was Bro. Kenton Sinn and Sis. Alicen Wagenbach's (Oakville, IA) special day, as they were joined in marriage. Parents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Edith Sinn and Bro. Colin and Sis. Barb Wagenbach. We welcome Sis. Alicen to our Silverton church.

Silverton is also blessed to have another newly-married couple. Clinton Kuenzi (Bro. Jim and Sis. Barb) joined his life with Ellie Martin (Stuart and Phyllis) on September 1. We wish both of these couples our Lord's blessings.

We welcome a new Brother and Sister in the Lord, as Aaron and Stacie Kuenzi were baptized September 9. Parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Barb Kuenzi and Bro. Tim and Sis. Barb Zimmerman (Lamont-Gridley, KS). Assisting our elder, Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane), was elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane) from Lamont-Gridley, KS. We appreciated Bro. Tim Zimmerman

(Sis. Barb) and Bro. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora) for also sharing the word with us that weekend.

We were sad to say goodbye to Sis. Amber Hoffman (Rockville, CT), as she has spent the summer here in Silverton. We hope she felt our love and will return again for another summer.

Bro. Shawn and Sis. Kim Schurter have a new baby girl, Allison, born September 9. Excited siblings are Kidron and Brooklyn. Grandparents are Bro. Lynn and Sis. Marilyn Kuenzi and Leonard and Cheryl Schurter.

We rejoice with George Kaufman (Melvin and Sally), as he has found the grace to repent and now has peace with God and man. We look forward to when he shares his testimony.

Our prayers are with Rudy Dettwyler (Esther) as he has not been feeling well and has spent a little time in the hospital. Sis. Diane Kuenzi (Bro. Myron) recently had knee surgery and is recuperating nicely. We have had several children and young people have their tonsils out this summer as well.

### **PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA**

*"In days of youth seek ye the Lord,  
His love and truth with one accord,  
Go offer Him thy youthful days,  
And walk within the Saviour's ways."  
(Hymns of Zion #135 vs. 1)*

On September 9, we were blessed to gather for our Sunday School picnic. We enjoyed a blessed time of fellowship with our Sunday School students and teachers. We really appreciate all the work and time that our teachers put forth for our students every week. Being with our young people also reminded us to pray for our young people: the

future church. May God give us the grace to be the lights and examples we should be, and may our young people respond to His loving call in His good time.

### TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

#### Mike and Monica Fritz

We have been encouraged by the loving Word of God, and have been blessed by our recent visiting ministers: Bros. Jeff Wiegand (Sis. Janel; Goodfield, IL), Randy Gaser (Sis. Sue; Detroit, MI), Nathan Steffen (Alto, MI), Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol; Peoria, IL), Daron Price (Milford, IN), and our Elder Bro. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH). We have also been blessed by the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Denver, CO; Goodfield and Peoria, IL; Detroit, MI; and Columbus and Smithville, 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: Washington, IL (10/21); Sabetha, KS (10/28); Akron, OH (11/4); Leo, IN (11/11); Oakville, IA (11/18); and Gridley, IL (11/25). 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. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928 and Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz (615) 866-5543 ([fritzmb.family@gmail.com](mailto:fritzmb.family@gmail.com)).

### TEXAS, AUSTIN

#### Serenity and Jasmine Ringger

*“The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is*

*their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.” (Ps 90:10,12)*

Thanks to the ministers who came to preach the Word this month: Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN), Bros. Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis, MN), Ron Heiniger (Sis. Kayleen, Bloomington-Normal, IL).

The following is the minister schedule for November: (11) Morton IL, (18) Taylor MO, (25) Washington IL.

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

### TEXAS, DALLAS-FORT WORTH

The next services are scheduled for November 11 and December 16, 2012. Services are being held generally the second Sunday of each month at the Holiday Inn Express, 4450 W. John Carpenter Freeway, Irving TX. There are many that have Apostolic Christian ties in the area. Please inform your relatives and acquaintances that may have interest. Please call ahead to verify. Leland & Mary Plattner (956) 265-0351 or Dennis & Diane Rassi (512) 321-2345

*“Now the city was large and great, but the people were few therein, and the houses were not builded.” (Neh. 7:4)*

Please pray that God will grant the increase.

### TEXAS, MCALLEN

#### Joyce Nohl

We are always thankful for brothers willing to bring God's Word to us. We thank Bro. Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Austin, TX.) and Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary,

Zapata, TX.) for ministering to us this month. May the Lord richly bless you.

Services are scheduled for Nov. 4, Goodfield, IL., Nov. 11, Tremont, IL., Nov. 18, Rockville, CT., Nov. 28, Congerville, IL., Dec. 9, Rittman, OH, and Dec. 16, Forrest, IL.

Andy and Kristi Plattner have a two-bedroom upstairs apartment available one block from the Gulf at South Padre Island for visitors who wish to spend time there. You may call them at (956) 433-9844 for more information.

Sunday services are held at 10:30 and 12:30 at the Holiday Inn Express, 1921 South 10<sup>th</sup> St. Take the 10<sup>th</sup> Street exit off Expressway 83 and go 1½ blocks south. Please see the ministers' directory for local contact information.

### TEXAS, ZAPATA

#### Mary Plattner

### VERMONT, NORTH CLARENDON

#### Nathan and Miriam Reutter

What a blessing it was to host a number of dear elders, ministers, and their wives this past month, before and after the brotherhood conference in Rockville, CT. We were privileged to have with us Bro. Ron Messner and Sis. Pam of Washington IL, Bro. Tom Klotzle and Sis. Jody of Altadena CA, Bro. Mark Bahr and Sis. Bev of Detroit MI, Bro. Ken Indermule and Sis. Linda of Sardis, OH, Bro. Duane Rocke and Sis. Bonnie of Minneapolis MN, Bro. Ted Witzig and Sis. Cindy of Morton IL, Bro. Wayne Grimm and Sis. Rose of West Bend IA, Bro. Jim Butikofer and Sis. Diana of Iowa City, IA, Bro. Dale Moore and Sis. Cheryl of Elgin IA, Bro. Duane Reutter and Sis. Kay of Rockville, CT, Bro. Tom Bahler

and Sis. LaNae of Rockville, CT, and Bro. Dan Goric and Sis. Mary Lou of Rockville, CT. We pray for a blessing on each one who has come and supported us in the ministry, and also ones who have encouraged us with Christian fellowship.

Saturday evening, August 11, after a pot luck supper, Bro. Duane Rocke presented ways in which we as a small church can work together to help grow spiritually and in number. It was encouraging to know and feel that there is love here among the brethren.

As I was reading the Scriptures with the children this morning, we were reminded how the gospel message is summed up in these three words, "God is Love". Love really needs to be the motivating factor in all we do, say and think! May God bless you throughout this next month.

If you are interested in fellowshipping with us here in Vermont, and would like information about dates of services, please contact Bro. Chad & Sis. Jenny Virkler

(802) 293-2724. We love to fellowship with believers whether it is during the week or on the weekend. Please let us know if you are planning to be in our area so we can accommodate you.

Service times are as follows:

Mid-week services (Contact local brethren)

Sunday Morning Service: 10:10 AM

Sunday Afternoon Service: 12:15 PM

Sunday school held during the morning service.

## Christian Guesthouse and Worship Services in Rochester, MN

### Accommodations for Mayo Clinic outpatients and families:

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**Sunday Service:** (held monthly at guesthouse residence) 10:00 AM and 12:30 PM

For schedule, see: [www.acmission.org/minister-rotation](http://www.acmission.org/minister-rotation)

For information and reservations, contact caretakers:

Bro. Mark and Sis. Sandy Stork

4733 Birdie Lane NW

Rochester, MN 55901

(507) 288-0072

**Mid-week Service:** (held on 3rd Wednesday in Rochester area)

For information, contact:

Bro. Jim and Sis. Deb Tilbury

(507) 281-2875

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

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

1. Regular U.S. passport
  2. U.S. passport card
  3. **Enhanced** driver's license
  4. Any Trusted Traveler Program (for example, Nexus card)
- U.S. citizens under the age of 16 (or under the age of 19 if traveling with a school, religious, or other youth group) may present a birth certificate, Consular Report of Birth Abroad, or a naturalization certificate. Birth certificates can be original, photocopy, or certified copy.

***"Be still, and know that I am God"***  
***(Ps 46:10)***

<b>Mexico Work Project Schedule</b>		
<b>Location</b>	<b>Year 2012</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>
Magdalena Construction	Nov 17-24	Rod Schmidt 303-774-7913 rschmidt@acosta.com
<b>Location</b>	<b>Year 2013</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>
Magdalena Construction	Dec 29 - Jan 5	Karl Edelman 815-735-7385 karledelman@cawi.org
Magdalena Construction	Jan 12-19	Steve Kaeb 217-781-4709 kaeb@frontier.com
Magdalena Construction	Feb 16-23	Jon Baner 309-747-4085 baner@gridcom.net
Magdalena Construction	Mar 9-16	Drew Martin Illinois State University 309-635-0878 isuyounggroup@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	Mar 23-30	Chuck Koch Tremont Bible Class 309-925-3905 cckoch1988@gmail.com
Magdalena Construction	May 25 - Jun 1	Mark Steffen Phoenix Bible Class 602-980-2451 marksteffen@coreccg.com
Magdalena Construction	Jun 8-15	Benj Knapp Washington Bible Class 309-208-7450 benjknapp@homewayhomes.com
Questions?		
Contact Mike Fiechter	260-597-7330	mfiechter@onlyinternet.net

<b>Haiti Medical Work Teams</b>			
<b>Project</b>	<b>Year 2012</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
Bonne Fin, Haiti Hospital Lumiere Medical Teams	Nov 30 - Dec 8	Alice Widmer alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com 330-939-0083	8
<b>Project</b>	<b>Year 2013</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
Hospital Lumiere	Jan 18-26	Alice Widmer	8
Hospital Lumiere	Feb 15-23	Alice Widmer	8
Hospital Lumiere	Mar 15-23	Alice Widmer	8
Hospital Lumiere	Apr 19-27	Alice Widmer	8
Hospital Lumiere	May 17-25	Alice Widmer	8
<b>Trip includes travel dates of Friday thru the following Saturday.</b>			
<b>There is a need for ministers to travel with the ACC medical teams not only for spiritual support, but also to assist with the many non-medical functions.</b>			

<b>Jamaica Work Teams</b>			
<b>Project</b>	<b>Year 2013</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
JDV - roofing project CCCD	Dec 29-5	Greg Herman 309-303-2242 gbherman@juno.com	Peoria roofing
Kingston School CCCD	Jan 26-2	Roger Stoller 309-747-3228 rstoller@gridcom.net	40
Kingston School CCCD	Mar 23-30	Ryan Steidinger 815-848-2500 fehrralestate@frontier.com	40
Knockpatrick School CCCD	Jun 22-29	Trent Johnson 608-882-1259 jenn.j@charter.net	Belvidere SS
Knockpatrick School CCCD	Jun 15-22	Luke Rocke 309-448-2421 jarock71@gmail.com	Goodfeild SS
<b>If you are interested in sponsoring a work team to Jamaica contact Loren Dettwyler at lmdettwyler@gmail.com</b>			

<b>Haiti Construction Work Teams</b>			
<b>Project</b>	<b>Year 2012</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
Hospital Lumiere MEBSH Construction	Oct 19-26	Daryl Luginbuhl 484-433-1205 darylluginbuhl@gmail.com	12
Les Cayes MEBSH Haiti Support	Oct 26-30	Jon Zeller 309-266-9009 jonzeller@comcast.net	ACWR-CC
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Nov 2-9	Maurice Schaefer 309-253-9003 schaefs2@gmail.com	4
Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Nov 30- Dec 7	Ted Habegger 260-341-7273 tjh@citznet.com	12
Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Jan 4-11	Ron Palitto 330-336-5373 Ronp@palittoconsulting.com	12
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Jan 11-18	Maurice Schaefer 309-253-9003 schaefs2@gmail.com	4
Hospital Lumiere MEBSH Construction	Jan 12-19	Daryl Luginbuhl 484-433-1205 darylluginbuhl@gmail.com	12
Dumay Construction	Jan 21-28	Ted Steidinger 1-815-848-5495 tsteid@frontier.com	12
Dumay Construction	Jan 28-24	Darren Fehr 1-815-692-4670 dkfehr@maxwire.net	12



Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Feb 1-8	Rod Wieland 989-671-0404 rhwieland@speednetllc.com	12
Hospital Lumiere MEBSH Construction	Feb 2-9	Daryl Luginbuhl 484-433-1205 darylluginbuhl@gmail.com	12
Dumay Construction/Medical	Feb 18-25	Paul Zimmerman 1-815-848-2173 pallan2@frontier.com	16
Dumay Construction	Feb 25- Mar 4	Neil Bahler 1-815-848-3861 nbahler@gmail.com	12
Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Mar 1-8	Steve Leuthold 309-645-2208 sleuth@speerbank.com	12
Hospital Lumiere MEBSH Construction	Mar 2-9	Daryl Luginbuhl 484-433-1205 darylluginbuhl@gmail.com	12
Les Cayes AWA Water Aid	Mar 8-15	Maurice Schaefer 309-253-9003 schaefs2@gmail.com	4
Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Mar 8-15	Rick Wuethrich 219-863-4163 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	4
Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Mar 15-22	Rich Bertschi 309-467-2351 lemangm@mtco.com	12
Hospital Lumiere MEBSH Construction	Apr 6-13	Daryl Luginbuhl 484-433-1205 darylluginbuhl@gmail.com	12
Les Cayes MEBSH Maintenance	Apr 16-23	Jon Zeller 309-266-9009 jonzeller@comcast.net	4
Les Cayes MEBSH Haiti Support	Apr 25-29	Jon Zeller 309-266-9009 jonzeller@comcast.net	ACWR-CC
Hospital Lumiere MEBSH Construction	May 4-11	Daryl Luginbuhl 484-433-1205 darylluginbuhl@gmail.com	12
Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Jun 7-14	Rick Wuethrich 219-863-4163 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	4

***“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7)***

## **Bible Distribution**

### **Sharing the Word in Love**

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

Bibles in English and other languages, plus Bible Story Books approved by the Apostolic Christian Mission Committee, are available for those who wish to distribute them in the name of Jesus Christ. The inventory is computerized. These materials can be drop-shipped to nearly any address.

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Bible Distribution  
P.O. Box 30  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
Ph/Fax: (260) 824-5587  
[bibledist@adamswells.co](mailto:bibledist@adamswells.co)

## **Needs and Opportunities in the Athens/Tennessee Fellowship Area**

Currently, there are needs to replace an air conditioning unit and carpet in the Athens/Tennessee Fellowship Area apartment located in Pulaski, TN as well as guttering around the property and garage door seals. Any donation or assistance with materials (air conditioners, carpet, etc.), labor for installation or funding for these items would be greatly appreciated. To volunteer or find out more about the needs and opportunities, please contact Bro. Roger Roberts at (309) 965-9134 or via e-mail at [mrpipes@afo.net](mailto:mrpipes@afo.net).

## **Interested in receiving a printed sermon?**

To order, contact:  
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## **Light from the Word**

*Now available by downloadable PDF from the  
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After entering the website, click on the item located at the left hand frame entitled, "Light from the Word Reprints". The entire set of editorials are available in a complete download (*June 1987 to current*).

***"Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee: Leave there thy gift before the altar and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift" (Matt. 5:23-24)***

***"Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good unto them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you and persecute you" (Matt. 5:43-44).***

## Foster Care Program Manager Needed

Gateway Woods has an opening for a brother or sister to manage our Foster Care Program. We are seeking someone who desires to serve in a ministry that serves troubled and broken children and families. The Foster Care Program Manager is a key full-time position that offers responsibility, management and creativity. If you have a dedicated interest, love and sensitivity for youth and families, at least a bachelor's degree in social work, counseling or a related field, and possess good motivational, organizational, teaching and communications skills, please contact one of the brothers listed below for more information and a job description.

Jeff Schumacher

P.O. Box 125

Leo, IN 46765

(888) 443-4283

jeff.schumacher@gatewaywoods.org

Lynn Stieglitz

Counseling Elder

15417 Doty Rd.

New Haven, IN 46774

(260) 657-1033

## Development Officer Needed

Gateway Woods has an opening on our advancement team for a brother or sister to seek donor relations and financial support. We are seeking someone who desires to serve in a ministry that serves broken children and reunites families. The Development Officer position is a key full-time position that offers responsibility, creativity and unique challenges. If you have a passion for helping troubled children and families, versatile interpersonal relationship building abilities and strong communication skills, please contact one of the brothers listed below for more information and a job description.

Jeff Schumacher

PO Box 151

Leo, IN 46765

(219) 627-2159

(888) 443-4283

Lynn Stieglitz

Counseling Elder

(219) 493-6711 home

(219) 657-5461 work

## Used Bible, Bible Story Book, and Song Book Distribution

We currently have outlets for Bibles, Bible Story Books, Hymns of Zion, Zion's Harp, Gospel Hymns, and Tabernacle Hymns. The cost of sending books airmail to foreign countries is greater than what new books could be purchased. We are currently working with organizations (such as Christian Aid Ministries) that send materials to foreign countries by sea container, which is more reasonably priced. Some of the books are also used by U.S. churches and missions. Thank you for providing these materials and for those who help repair them.

Jerry and Arlene Banwart

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Congerville, IL 61729

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<b>USA World Relief Committee</b>			
<b>Contacts for area work or disaster projects</b>			
<b>Brother</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Home Church</b>	<b>Cell Phone</b>
Kent Heimer	Counseling Elder	Taylor, MO	(573) 248-5701
Chuck Kellenberger	Chairman	Elgin, IL	(224) 629-6531
Bill Leman	Treasurer	Roanoke, IL	(309) 241-0257
Les Schambach	Administrator/Secretary	Elgin, IL	(630) 247-5271
Tom Neuenschwander	Consultant	Bluffton, IN	(260) 307-6026
Ray Slagel	Consultant	Fairbury, IL	(815) 848-3714
Paul Kaeb	Consultant	Bern, KS	(785) 547-5269

*“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” (1 John 1:7)*

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*“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another...”  
(John 13:34)*



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### **Forgiveness: What It Is, What It Isn't, & How To Do It**

While forgiveness is a central concept in Christianity, many people find it to be a confusing process that does not always come easily. The emotional impact that comes with dealing with being transgressed against is one factor that contributes to the difficulty of forgiveness. In addition, misunderstandings about forgiveness can make it harder than it needs to be.

Defining forgiveness as it is described in Scripture is a good first step toward understanding this concept. God, through Christ's sacrifice on the cross, offers forgiveness to all who come to Him by faith. Because He has forgiven us, we are called upon to extend forgiveness to others.

*Ephesians 4:32 "And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you."*

Withholding forgiveness, bearing grudges, harboring bitterness, and allowing hatred can all lead to serious consequences. Forgiveness keeps these negativities from developing and from causing more damage to a relationship and to each person involved.

*Hebrews 12:14-15, "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled."*

Being forgiving is part of God's

character and nature. While God does not overlook sin, He is patient, gracious, merciful, and willing to forgive.

*Ephesians 2:4-5, "But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved)."*

#### **What forgiveness is not.**

1. Forgetting: The often cited phrase, "Forgive and Forget" sometimes leads people to believe that forgiveness means that one will truly forget the memory. In fact, trying to deny that some act of mistreatment or betrayal may have hurt you can actually intensify the memory of what you are trying to forget. Instead of trying to literally forget a memory, the goal is to be released from the unhealthy emotional tie it has to you.

2. Pardoning: Pardoning is a legal term that means to release from punishment, or to not punish, for some crime or offense. When someone is forgiven, they are not necessarily pardoned. The pardoning does not relieve the consequences for their actions.

3. Reconciling: A distinct difference exists between forgiveness and reconciliation although many people see them as the same thing. Forgiveness is what one person extends to another. Reconciliation is the process whereby two people take steps to rebuild a relationship that has been hurt. The purpose of reconciliation is *restoration* and *reconnection*. Forgiveness together with reconciliation is a high calling

and worthy goal. However, in some circumstances reconciliation is not always possible. In these cases, forgiveness can occur without reconciliation.

4. Avoidance or denial: Sometimes people are so hurt by something that they quickly say, "I've already forgiven it" in order to try to avoid having to feel the pain of the injury. Forgiveness is not simply a way of avoiding dealing with someone to get around pain or conflict. It is also not the same as denying we were truly hurt by someone's words or actions.

5. Excusing the offense: Forgiveness does not give the offender the right to offend again. Healthy boundaries are important so that we do not simply allow another person's hurtful or sinful actions to continue.

6. Easy or cheap: True forgiveness is not simply a few pleasant sounding words. It is hard work that involves a true and lasting change of behavior.

7. Trusting: Trust in relationships is built and maintained over time. The person who committed the offense must accept the fact that regaining trust will occur as a process over time.

8. A feeling: We can't wait to forgive until we feel like forgiving someone or are no longer feeling the effects of the offense. Rather, forgiveness is an act of obedience through which God can guide us.

#### **What forgiveness is.**

1. Extended with grace: Those that need to be forgiven don't necessarily "deserve" or acknowledge the need for forgiveness. We certainly didn't "deserve" forgiveness from God.

We extend grace to others because we receive grace from the Lord. The fallen nature that led to the offense against us is the same fallen nature we deal with in our hearts. Forgiveness extended with grace both acknowledges the seriousness of the wrongdoing and releases our perceived "right" for vengeance or holding it against someone.

2. An intentional decision and a process: Forgiveness doesn't happen by accident. Rather, you must make a choice to commit to the process that is empowered by the Holy Spirit and takes time.

3. A releasing of a debt: People often find it difficult to forgive because they want some type of vengeance or want the offender to feel how badly they hurt. In forgiving, we choose to release the debtor from his or her debt. This choice also releases us from holding on to something that could hinder

our walk with the Lord (Hebrews 12:1-2).

**Some steps toward forgiveness using the acronym R.E.A.C.H.** (from *Forgiving and Reconciling* by Everett Worthington)

1. Recall the hurt: Acknowledge that hurt occurred.

2. Empathize: Try to understand what the other person may have been thinking, feeling and so on. Also, remember that forgiveness is extended with grace, and that we didn't deserve forgiveness from God.

3. Altruistic gift of forgiveness: Because we have received the gift of forgiveness from both God and other people, we humbly offer forgiveness to others.

4. Commit to forgive: Make a firm commitment to forgive and consider sharing your decision with another person so that they can

hold you accountable for keeping that commitment.

5. Holding onto forgiveness: If you occasionally remember things from the past incidents that you have worked at forgiving, don't get discouraged. Recommit to forgive, commit the event and the person to God, and go on.

Don't stay stuck with the pain, anger, and hurt of unforgiveness. Seek God's help through the Word and prayer; and don't hesitate to seek counsel from a friend, mentor, minister, or Christian counselor if you need help working through forgiveness. Working through these issues will lead to healing and will provide you with an opportunity to learn more about Christ-like love and how it is lived out on a day-to-day basis.

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## World Relief Informational Meetings

### Opportunities to Serve One Another

The mission of World Relief is to provide humanitarian aid and volunteer labor to alleviate human misery and suffering throughout the world, first to the household of faith, and then to others as much as we are able, in a way that is a Christian witness and brings glory to God.

We thank God for the various opportunities to help the needy of the world made available to our congregations through World Relief, not only with funds, but with volunteer labor by our brethren.

One way to hear about these opportunities is to attend one of three presentations held throughout the year.



### Schedule

The Western Meeting is held the second Saturday of March and is rotated between the Apostolic Christian Churches west of the line between Indiana and Illinois.

The Eastern Meeting is held on the second Saturday of November and is rotated between the churches in Indiana and all churches eastward.

Also, Thursday before the conference in August, there are

presentations scheduled by the church holding the conference.

For more information, go to the World Relief web site ([www.acworldrelief.org](http://www.acworldrelief.org)) and check under *Informational Meetings*.

### Next meetings

#### Eastern:

Francesville, IN  
November 10, 2012  
8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

#### Western:

Goodfield, IL  
March 9, 2013  
8:00 am to 4:00 pm



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

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

*Sermon continued from Page 2*

fire that came out from the Lord. When the people saw this, what did they do? They shouted, fell on their faces, and they worshipped. They were in the presence of God. They were in the holy presence of God, and they recognized it. They saw it, they fell on their faces, and worshipped.

Do we recognize when we are in the presence of God? Do we recognize that the Holy Spirit of God dwells in us, lives in us, and we are His temple? Do we go about with the mindset on a daily basis that God is here and He is present? Sometimes isn't it so easy to disregard happenings as chance and to disregard happenings as circumstance instead of seeing the hand of God in all that happens? It takes faith. But when we recognize that God is the creator, He is the orchestrator, He is behind the things that happen, and He knows and understands, I really believe that does bring us into a place of worship where we fall on our face before Him.

In the first chapter of Romans it talks about how God has revealed Himself as creator. Nature teaches us that. It goes through what the results are when man rejects God's ways and disobeys God. It went through all the sinful things that men get caught up in. We could read the lists here.

Then it says in the 32<sup>nd</sup> verse, "*Who knowing the judgment of God...*". I believe every one of us here understands the judgment of God. I believe every one of us understands that someday we will stand before Him, and we will give an account of what has gone on in our life. I believe the Bible says we will be judged whether those deeds be good or whether they be evil (Ecclesiastics 12:14).

"*Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.*" v.32. I can't completely

expound that verse, but I think it says something like this - knowing the judgment of God and yet doing it anyway. Sinners love their sin. That's just the fact of it. We're more intrigued with the sin, the lust, and the pleasure than we are with God, and that's the problem.

"*Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself...*" v.1. We read here that we are sure the judgment of God is according to truth. We understand God has revealed Himself in His Word. He has revealed to us what His plan is for man - the path of obedience and the consequences of sin. The gift of God is eternal life, but the wages of sin are death (Romans 6:23). Life and death. "*Two ways, O man, are there for thee*" (*The Way and the Reward - Zion's Harp #106*). They're laid out plain in the Scripture. We're sure the judgment of God is according to truth. We have the answers to the test.

Then he asks, do you, oh man, who are so quick to look and judge another, do you do the same things? (v.1) We say, 'Oh no!' It's pretty easy isn't it? It's pretty easy to look around outside our walls, outside our house, outside our comfortable area, and shake our heads at what we see around us - at the sin, the ungodliness, the immorality. It's easy for us to do that. Sometimes don't we, I hope we don't but sometimes I do, just have the attitude of 'I just wish God would come and straighten this out.'

We read here do we despise the riches of His forbearance and His longsuffering, and do we not recognize that it's the goodness of God that brought us to repentance? (v.4) It's the goodness of God, the same mercy, longsuffering, and kindness that God holds out to those who we see who are wrapped up in the ways of sin and are walking contrary to God. It's the same mercy that God is

showing to them that was the mercy shown to us.

Without that mercy, who would you and I be? We can't forget it! Who would we be? We would be nobody! We would be lost! We would be nothing in the sight of God because the Scripture has concluded all under sin. There's none righteous, no, not one (Romans 3:10).

"*But after thy hardness and impenitent heart...*" v.5. Oh, I hope we don't have a hard and impenitent heart when we look around at a world of sin. When we see the things going on, I hope we have a heart of compassion of the blessings, the beauty, the joy, and the peace - what they could have if they would repent and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

But we read God "*will render to every man according to his deeds: To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life*" v.6-7. That should be to us as the believers. Who through patient continuance - just think about that term for a minute. That is endurance! That is perseverance! That is standing the test! That is fighting the faith! That is walking in the Spirit. How often or when? Today. Tomorrow. Every day. Patient continuance - we look for, we seek, and we follow after the promise believing God has told us that, to the faithful and the overcomer in patient continuance, we fight the battle. We walk by faith.

In well doing we seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life. That's not well doing as in trying to add up brownie points for us. That's not the point in this. The well doing is through the patient continuance of serving God with all of our heart, soul, and mind. That's one path.

"*But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness...*" v.8. That

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*Sermon continued from Page 47*

strikes me! We understand "obey the truth". A lot of times we don't talk about unrighteousness as "obeying unrighteousness". We just talk about unrighteousness.

Understand this picture. We serve a master, and we are at his beck and call. We do what he asks. We do what he says. We obey. The question is which master? The master of the prince of the power of the air - the devil? He is a master. He is the taskmaster. If you have not surrendered, yielded, and repented of your sin, you are under the slave master of the devil, and you are bound by him! You do what he says - maybe not by choice but by nature.

I don't know that I have a good picture of bondage in my mind, but I remember once being in a museum and seeing a replication of a man who had chains and locks on his hands. That's bondage. He couldn't go free. He couldn't be released unless someone would release him. He was powerless of himself.

When we are a slave to Satan, we obey unrighteousness because we are locked and we are bound with chains. Why did Jesus say he came to set the captive free? Because He knew the captive couldn't set himself free. We know some prisoners break out of jail. No, this is the jail you cannot break out of. This is bondage in chains that can't be broken except by faith and repentance.

So we have the choice of obeying truth, serving the Lord Jesus Christ, and being at His beck and call. We yield our members as we'll read later in Romans (Romans 6:13 & 19). We yield our body. We yield our life, our soul, and our spirit into the service of God to be at His beck and call. We heard that from four souls last night. They yield their life to a life of servanthood to the Lord Jesus Christ. They yield their members to righteousness as opposed to those whose

hands are bound and who yield themselves as servants of unrighteousness. Do we understand the difference? Do we understand the tremendous contrast? In the eyes of God, in the courts of Heaven, in the Spirits, this is evident and it's clear. We are serving a master. What master do we serve? Who do we serve?

It begins to talk about the law, and the Apostle Paul is laying out here that it is not really about the law. It's not really about following after the law and doing everything that it says in its perfection because the Gentiles don't have a law that was given to them. (v.12-20) Yet God can move them in their heart. He can write that law in their heart so they follow after and obey, and they become a law unto themselves because of what God has revealed to them.

He makes several points here. He says, "Thou therefore which teachest another..." - are you listening to what you say? "...thou that preachest a man should not steal..." - do you steal? "*Thou that sayest a man should not commit adultery...*" - do you commit adultery? "*...thou that abhorrest idols...*" - do you? v.21-22

It is very easy to look outside the doors. Brothers and Sisters, look inside our hearts. It's so easy for us to get caught up in what other people are doing and to look down on what's going on here or what's going on there. Are we stealing? Are we stealing God's time? Are we wasting it with lusts, pleasures, entertainment, and those things that have no part of the Kingdom of God? Idolatry - we preach against it. Are there idols in our hearts? Are there things we struggle to give up in the service of God?

The gospel is not a mellow gospel. The Word of God is sharper than any two-edged sword (Hebrews 4:12). May God give us grace to let it cut and do its work in our life.

*"Thou that maketh thy boast of the*

*law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God?" v.23.* The Jews had such a boast of the law. They felt like they had it down pat, they were teachers of the blind, they understood all the truths, and they were just walking and following what God had laid out for them. The Apostle Paul asked the question, maybe not in these words, but I believe this is what he said: If you think that following after the law is making you righteous in the eyes of God, then what happens when you don't follow the law to the "T", to the letter, to perfection?

You and I know, don't we, because if we haven't tried to live and be good enough at some point in our life, we probably will try. This is a hard truth for us. If through the keeping of the law we think we are honoring God, what happens when we don't? The answer, as we've talked about, is the Lord Jesus Christ. We read about Him as our Advocate, our Intercessor, as the One who went to the cross and paid the price.

Brothers, Sisters, and Friends, understand that when we come in repentance and when we allow the Holy Spirit of God to work in us and change us, it's a change of ownership, it's a change of nature, it's a change of activity, it's a change of mindset. Because it's a change of nature and because it's a change of ownership, we are not going to fill out a list of dos and don'ts.

It's God who breaks the bondage. It's God who breaks the chains, and because the chains are broken, because our nature has been renewed, and because we are under new ownership, Brothers and Sisters, we live different, we act different, we think different. We are not doing it to make our boast in the things we do because we all recognize when we don't do them, where is our boast? "*But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me,*



and I unto the world.” Galatians 6:14.

Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift. Thanks be to God that the chains of sin can be broken in your life and in my life so we can be under new ownership and the captive can be set free. I know there are hearts here this morning who feel the bondage. I know there are hearts here this morning who feel the burden. Don't think any words I've said are going to change it, but ask God to open your heart. *“Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.” St. Matthew 7:7.*

Verse 29 - *“But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.”* What is this circumcision that we're talking about? We understand circumcision in the flesh.

It was a cutting off, a cutting in the flesh. We understand that concept, but here he says that's not what we're talking about. We're talking about a circumcision not outwardly but a circumcision in the heart. What is this? This is a cutting of the heart. It's a cutting off of the old man. It's a renewed nature. It's a renewed man. It says it's in the heart.

This change, this transformation, takes place in the heart, and it becomes evident to us after this change of ownership, this new nature, has come about. It's in the Spirit. It's not in the letter, and we make our praise of God and not of man. Oh that we would be people who our praise is truly of God and not of man - that we would have the desire in heart, just like we heard last night from these four converts, to glorify Him in all we do, and that we wouldn't

care about what people think about us. Don't take that wrong. I know we have accountability, and I know we can't just be a loose cannon doing whatever we want but that our praise would be of God and not of man.

One last thought - this really has to be a challenge to the unconverted. So often the thought is, well, what will my friends think? What about this, and what about that? Circumcision is that of the heart. Let your praise be of God and not of man. If the unredeemed could be somehow convinced that they could trade in the burden of sin for the joy and peace of reconciliation, this church would be full. But, it can't be man who convinces, can it? It has to be the Spirit and the power of our God. Let's pray for that revival in your heart, my heart, and in the unredeemed.

## Give a Child Hope

To sponsor a child

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

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APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

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# REMEMBERING

## *Our Spiritual Heritage*

*The life of Elder Bro. Ernest Graf, Sr., continues.*

### **More Children**

In January 1915, a baby boy was born to us whom we named Edwin. But he lived only 24 days and died of pneumonia. On Christmas Eve the same year our twins, Edith and Ellsworth were born. Marian, our youngest daughter, was born September 3, 1918, and Walter, our youngest son, was born July 27, 1920.

As our children grew up, one by one they felt the need of a Saviour, and through repentance and faith they found peace with God through Jesus Christ. First to be baptized was Rudolph in September 1918, Helen in November of the same year. Next was Robert in July 1923, then Elmer in April 1927, and Ernest in November 1927, and Clarence in May 1938. All these are married except Robert; Elmer in November 1922 to Bessie Wormold, Helen in May 1925 to Joe Klotzle, Clarence in January 1927 to Mabelle Dockus, Rudolph in July 1933 to Bethi Studer and Ernest in May 1937 to Louise Stoller, and Ellsworth in May 1941 to Esther Emery.

### **Terrible Sorrow**

In 1926 we were plunged into our greatest sorrow thus far. Our dear son, Robert, passed away on June 8 at the Akron City Hospital after an operation for an intestinal ulcer. Peritonitis had developed before an operation was resorted to, and lastly pneumonia set in. He lived nine days,

and then passed away peacefully after having served the Lord almost 3 years. He was a dutiful son, beloved and greatly missed by all who knew him.

### **Eldership**

In 1922 (February) our Elder, Samuel Engwiller of Mansfield having been called from his labors out of this time into eternity, the church looked for someone to take his place. The task fell on me, and I was ordained in May of the same year by Elders M. Mangold, E. Winzeler, and Joseph Ingold. Since then I have spent much of my time in the interest of the church, making numerous journeys to the various congregations, East and West, and recently to the South.

### **Travels**

During the summer of 1928 my dear wife and I, in company with several other members, made a journey to Europe to visit my brother Hermann and other relatives, as well as our congregations in Switzerland and Germany. We left Akron on July 17 and returned November 2. We had a nice visit, but are glad to be in the U. S. A.

We have made five trips to Oregon, where my wife has many cousins, and to California, where her sister Fannie lived until her death in October 1942.

In August 1942, our Elmer's wife Bessie died of a malignant fever, leaving 7 children, from 19 down to 8 years. In October 1943, Elmer

married again, to Juliet Stoller of Latty, Ohio.

### **Other Family Highlights**

In July 1942 Ellsworth and Esther, his wife, were baptized. In September 1944 Marian was married to Robert Knochel. In December 1944 our grand daughter, Mary Klotzle, was baptized. In January 1945 our grandson, Elmer Graf, Jr., was baptized. In May 1945 Marian and Robert Knochel were baptized. In January 1946 Walter was married to Lois Grimsley.

Edited by Bro. Perry Klopfenstein

**Note:** This is the concluding segment of the autobiography of Elder Bro. Ernest Graf, Sr. It was taken from a typed manuscript of 24 pages. No printed edition of his life's story was ever made. The contents, however, are instructive, and present an interesting life from his youth on up to becoming an Elder for many years.

**Next Issue:** More data on the life of Ernest Graf, Sr. taken from other church files. Aspects of his life and church work will be included.

*"Thy testimonies have I taken  
as an heritage forever: for they  
are the rejoicing of my heart."  
(Psalm 119:111)*



# The Light of Hope

## The Simplicity of the Gospel

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

We have heard that the Gospel is simple, but it sometimes seems complicated. All people are sinners in God's sight because we are not perfect and are under the curse of sin here on earth. God sent His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ to die for our sins so that we can be forgiven and be ready to go to heaven when we die. We live a life of prayer, Bible reading and Godly living, not to earn our salvation, but as a result of having saving faith in Jesus, who saves us. That's the Gospel, and it is quite simple. We are invited to live our life with peace and joy.

How does the Gospel become complicated? One or more of our loved ones may fall into a grievous sin after conversion. Then we must consider the situation. Can that person whom we love so dearly, be forgiven of that sin? Bro. Samuel Frohlich who was the founder of the Apostolic Christian Church, wrote in his book, *Baptismal Truth*, page 186, "For sins unto death, Christ would have to die again but He dies no more and therefore they cannot be forgiven (Hebrew 10:18, 26)" By sins unto death we understand he means sins which were punishable by death in the Old Testament times.

About 50 years ago, one of our dear Elders who visited us in Japan, kindly explained to me that if grievous sins occur after conversion, they can be forgiven by Christ's intercessory prayer but not by the blood of Christ. This is fine with me: I'm just very thankful that such sins can be forgiven. However, I can't help but think that if grievous sins after conversion can be forgiven by Christ's intercessory prayer, then

Christ should not have suffered that terrible death on the cross, but He should have obtained forgiveness for us by intercessory prayer. It also remains that this is a departure from the Frohlich doctrine as quoted above. Bro. Frohlich may have changed his mind later in life, I don't know.

I can see that there is a difference in doctrine as to how grievous sins committed after conversion can be forgiven. Some verses to be considered are Hebrews 10:18, 26, which Bro. Frohlich referred to in his writings. Hebrews 6:4-6 are also pertinent verses. Is it possible that these verses refer to someone who not only falls into sin but continues to live in grievous sin without remorse?

In 1 Corinthians chapter 5, mention is made of a man in the church who had committed a very grievous sin. It is written in verse 5, "To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus." Here we are told that the spirit of such a one can be saved.

We rejoice that such a one can be saved, if humble and repentant the rest of his life. However, if we are investigating the Scriptures about this matter, we should include 1 John 1:7 which reads, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." Some brethren believe that 1 John was written to the unconverted, but if someone is walking in the light as Christ is in the light, I would hesitate to say that he is unconverted.

This discussion is pretty heavy, but I

do feel we have to admit that there are different ways of looking at what the Bible teaches regarding this matter. The Gospel alone is very simple. All human beings are imperfect of themselves and need a Saviour in order to go to heaven when they die. God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die for the sins of the whole world, so that people can become children of God, live a holy life, and go to heaven. Therefore, we beseech all people to repent and live joyfully for Jesus Christ in accordance with the teachings and commandments of the New Testament. That life is by far the best, most wonderful life that can be lived here upon this earth, and the end is beyond our greatest expectation.

Jesus said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." (John 13:35) We must enhance our love for one another.

Jesus also said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." (John 14:15) Every truly-converted person should love Jesus enough to keep His commandments. That includes a lot of teachings in the Bible. Each of us should be willing to give up anything and to do anything that Jesus commands us to give up or to do. Every child of God should not only have that attitude and commitment for himself or herself, but each of us must do what we can to influence those around us to live holy and dedicated lives. Faith and obedience must be better displayed.

Let's keep the Gospel simple and live for Jesus with all our heart, soul and mind.



*Blessed is the man that trusteth  
in the Lord, and whose hope the  
Lord is.*

*For he shall be as a tree planted  
by the waters, and that  
spreadeth out her roots by the  
river, and shall not see when  
heat cometh, but her leaf shall be  
green; and shall not be careful in  
the year of drought, neither shall  
cease from yielding fruit.*



*Jeremiah 17: 7-8*