

# The Silver Lining

In Everything  
Give Thanks

1 Thessalonians 5:18

November 2012

## Sermon by Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand, Philadelphia, PA

*Jeremiah 7:1-15; St. Luke 2:41-52*

Greetings Loved Ones in our precious Savior's name. I had to think as we often do when we come to God's house and have the privilege of song worship, it helps set our minds in the right places. Did you notice as we sang one of the first songs tonight, *How Great Thou Art*, it says "then sings my soul". You probably thought about it much deeper than I have, but tonight before we'd open the Word, I just have to think a little bit about how a soul sings. We know how we sing with our lips, we know how we sing with our mouths, but how does a soul sing? It's a deeper thought, isn't it? It's actually not just expressions that come out of our lips that we read in a book.

I believe if we see through Scripture and if we see through whatever God desires of us, He wants us to love Him with what? Our whole heart, our whole soul, our whole strength, and our mind. I really believe if we look through the Word and we understand the thoughts that the singing of a soul is something that happens, not just on a Wednesday evening, Sunday, or wherever we are when we open a song book, but it's the thoughts that emanate from our heart. It's the thoughts that emanate from our very soul. It's the expressions that we have and what we're thinking about. It's where our treasure is. It's what's important to us in life.

Loved Ones, even as we sing in those hymns, it's easy for us and it's good for us, in fact it's a pattern in our lives that when we come to God's house, we sing the songs. In fact, we could see many people could sing even without the books open because they are familiar songs to us. That's good! Those are patterns written upon our hearts expressed with our lips.

We read in the Scripture that God knows the very thoughts and intents of our hearts. (Hebrews 4:12) He knows the very thoughts we are thinking about. He knows what's important to us. He knows the ups and downs of the days. He knows as we come, Lord willing, to tomorrow in the Thanksgiving

season, He knows if our soul is singing of thanks or if our soul is singing of the things of this life. He knows if our soul is offering up to Him a sweet smelling sacrifice of desire of service to Him or if we are looking forward to the events of life that so often overwhelm us and surround us.

It is said that each of us think about fifty thousand thoughts in a day. That's a song. That's a cacophony. Lots of things come out of our minds in a day. The question that comes to us is, as the Father hears our song and our thoughts, what does He hear? Hearts full of love, thanksgiving, appreciation, as we sang, that our name could be written there in the Lamb's book of life not because of what we have done but because of what Christ has done? Thoughts of thanksgiving for His grace to help us throughout the day, His guidance in situations in life that He was the creator of heaven and earth and yet is mindful of us and cares and wants to help us in each decision we have? That would be best for us because the Father loves the child and wants to give us good gifts – some times admonishments, some times correction. So maybe it's a thought for us as we would consider it a Thanksgiving Day.

Today we were walking. There were those we would see, and it was easy for us to say, 'Hope you have a nice Thanksgiving' with our lips. But I believe the Father tonight reminds us as we look into His Word, as we have the opportunity to sing praises unto Him with our soul, that our thoughts would be thoughts full of thanksgiving, thoughts that would be heavenward, affections not on some of those things here below but of Christ and the Father. May it be, Loved Ones, even as we look into His Word in this evening hour, that that would be our desire and that through your prayers, God would teach us and help us that we could learn more of His excellent way.

It's amazing as we read these two

*Sermon continued on Page 47*

The Silver Lining subscriptions are due from the following in August:

1. Akron
2. Bradford
3. Latty
4. West Bend

*Suggested donation: \$18/subscription.*

*Write check payable to  
"Silver Lining"*

*Send all payments to:  
Apostolic Christian Publications  
805 W. Cruger St., P.O. Box 52  
Eureka, IL 61530*

**Correspondence  
For December Issue**  
*(news from Oct. 16-Nov. 15)*  
**Due: November 20, 2012**

The Silver Lining (Vol. 67, #11)  
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:  
[fellowshippromoter@gmail.com](mailto:fellowshippromoter@gmail.com)  
(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

*"These things have I written unto you...that ye may know that ye have eternal life..." (1 John 5:13)*

## Light from the Word

### The Assurance of True Faith



*Writings based on God's Word*

The danger of labeling a complex subject is that we run the risk of oversimplifying to the point of distortion. Such may be the case with "once saved, always saved," the common name for the false doctrine of unconditional eternal security. Make no mistake: it is a false doctrine; the Word clearly shows that. However, in rejecting "once saved, always saved," we must be careful not to deny the power of God in the lives of His children. Let's review what we know from the Word about our salvation, the promise of eternal life, and the need to remain faithful.

First, we must recognize that God is sovereign and free to save whomever He wills (Rom. 9:15). When Adam sinned, God would have been justified in closing the book on His relationship with man. *"But God, who is rich in mercy...even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ... that in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace...for by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God"* (Eph. 2:4-8). God chooses to save those who come in humble faith in Christ (Eph. 1:15-16; 1 Tim 2:4), and thus His people are repeatedly called the "chosen" and the "elect" (Col. 3:12).

Though God's gift of salvation is unearned, it is not unconditional. The answer to the Philippian jailer's question, "What must I do to be saved?" was a condition: *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved"* (Acts 16:31). God's Word has many conditional statements, including 2 Chron. 7:14: *"If my people...shall turn from their wicked ways,"* and Romans 10:9: *"If thou shalt confess...and believe that God hath raised [Jesus] from the dead, thou shalt be saved."* Thus, we know that God requires genuine faith on the part of those who are to inherit eternal life. Further basic responses are embodied in the *"fruits of repentance,"* which result from true faith (Mat. 3:8): confession of sin, sorrow for and turning away from sin, and submission of one's will to God's by obedience to His Word. They are modeled in David's Psalm 51 prayer and proclaimed by God

as the type of heart He seeks: *"...him that is poor and of a contrite spirit and trembleth at my word"* (Is. 66:2). God promises to save those who choose to respond in faith to His free gift (John 1:12).

God desires that all men come to repentance (2 Pet. 3:9) and that those whom He saves possess their vessel in sanctification and honor, *"for God hath called us unto holiness"* (1 Thes. 4:3-4, 7). We are sanctified as a result of God in His mercy justifying us through Christ. It is His work, available by grace through faith (Heb. 10:10, 14; 12:14; Phil. 2:12-13). We are to be dead to sin and alive unto Christ, no longer under the dominion of sin (Rom. 6:11, 14).

Yet, as Christians, we are subject to temptation and if we yield it is sin. If we deny this, we deceive ourselves (1 John 1:8; 5:17). We are called to walk in faith and in the Spirit, whereby we can overcome temptation (Rom. 6:13; 1 Cor. 10:13). Thankfully, Christ is our *"advocate with the Father"* and *"the propitiation for our sins,"* (1 John 2:1-2). We trust His ongoing sanctifying work in our lives (John 17:17; Eph. 5:25-26) which moves us to humbly repent for any sin we commit and be cleansed through the propitiating sacrifice of Jesus Christ, by which he is qualified to be our advocate (1 John 1: 7-9; Heb. 7:24-25; 9:14, 22; 10:19). Thus, we need not live in anxious fear of our salvation being snatched away. God promises to never leave or forsake us (Heb. 13:5), and He wants us to rest in the confidence of the gift of eternal life. The same Paul who warned of *"every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us"* (Heb. 12:1), expressed confidence that *"he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ"* (Phil. 1:6). We who are in Christ Jesus rest in the promises that no external forces can separate us from Him (Rom. 8:38-39).

We may, however, choose to walk away (Luke 8:13, Heb. 6:6). Man's free will does not end at the foot of the cross. Christ said, *"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me"* (Luke 9:23).

Indeed, the Word teaches that some will walk away. Paul writes, *"The Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, speaking lies in hypocrisy, and having their conscience seared with a hot iron"* (1 Tim. 4:1). Christ warned the church at Ephesus: *"Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen...or I will come unto thee quickly and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent"* (Rev. 2:5). He later exhorts them to *"be faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life"* (Rev. 2:10), which echoes his earlier words: *"He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved"* (Mat. 24:13). Clearly, lifelong perseverance is another condition of God's free gift of eternal life.

These Scriptures refute any notion that man is free to do what he pleases upon finding salvation in Christ. They also counter the idea that a man who "falls away" was never really saved in the first place. We must remain diligent in our walk with God life-long. In Hebrews we read this warning: *"Exhort one another...lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin, for we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end"* (Heb. 3:13-14). 2 Peter 2:20-22 removes any remaining doubt: *"If, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. It had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them. But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb: the dog is turned to his own vomit again, and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire."*

What a joy to undergird our peace by simply trusting in the whole counsel of God. *"Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith..."* (Heb. 10:22); *"Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast..."* (Heb.6:19).

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

## Winter Heating Needs in Eastern Europe

As the scorching heat of the summer fades into autumn and winter, the realities of providing fuel for heat is a concern in the minds of many Nazarean brethren who are already faced with challenges in obtaining basic necessities.



*While the earth remaineth, ...cold and heat, summer and winter; and day and night shall not cease.*

GEN 8:22

As with most other commodities in Eastern Europe, fuel for heat is generally in ample supply. However, due to ever-present economic difficulties and obstacles, the ability to afford that fuel is an entirely different matter, especially for the elderly and infirm, those most destitute and those unemployed with large families.

### Harsh climates

The in-land countries where our Nazarean brethren live are similar to latitudes in the North Central areas of the United States. As such, their climates are often more harsh and extreme. Summers are extremely hot and often parched with drought, made all the more uncomfortable by the lack of air conditioning in homes, businesses, and vehicles.

Winters frequently bring extreme cold and wind, and sometimes-

copious amounts of snow. This past winter brought up to fourteen feet of snow in one blizzard to portions of Hungary and Romania; the worst winter in over forty years. Thanks to God's protection and winter heat assistance, no believers suffered or lost their lives during that period.

### Fuel not affordable

The countries of Eastern Europe are blessed with many natural resources, including vast fields of natural gas in Ukraine. During the decades of Communism, cheap natural gas heated endless complexes of dull gray apartment buildings as the populations were herded to the cities for cheap labor in Soviet-style factories.



In addition, many village homes, businesses, and churches were also connected to the natural gas pipeline network for easy and convenient heating. However, after the fall of Communism and the dramatic rise in the cost of energy worldwide, natural gas is no longer an affordable heating option for most common folk. In response, most have resorted to the basic fuel over the ages... firewood.

Here again, these lands are blessed with abundant wood, as forests cover the foothills, peaks, and valleys of the fabled, mystical Carpathian mountain range. Because most non-farming brethren own no land other

than their homes, they arrange for a load of small logs to be delivered, which they then cut, split, and store for season-long heating. To assist with this effort, we have provided chain saws just for that purpose, to be shared among brethren in the villages.

Older homes and buildings often use the ages-old technology of ceramic-tile ovens for heating, cooking, and baking. Tended by a slow wood fire during the day, they radiate warmth and comfort throughout the long, cold winter nights. Newer buildings, including businesses and churches, use efficient wood-fired boilers to power hot water heating systems.

### Radiating warmth and light

Despite ample fuel supplies and adequate technology, the primary challenge remains affordability for the most needy brethren, even as they maintain their faith in an area growing ever darker and more turbulent. As physical heat and light are necessary for life, Nazarean believers continue to radiate the warmth and light of God's Word while they uphold the witness of Jesus Christ in Eastern Europe.

### How you can help

Pray that believers will persevere against the adversary as they face physical, material, and spiritual challenges during the coming winter season. Your donations will be used to provide winter heat assistance to those most in need across all countries in Eastern Europe. Contributions can be given through your local World Relief representative and designated for the Eastern Europe Winter Heat Program.



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

## Distribution Centers

The National Distribution Center Committee coordinates the overall operations of six distribution centers in the United States. These locations are Goodfield and Fairbury, Illinois; Wolcott and Bluffton, Indiana; Bay City, Michigan; and Smithville, Ohio.

The centers receive material donations from individuals and corporations, including food products, medical supplies, clothing, and household items. These donations are distributed locally, shared with other centers for their local distribution or packaged and shipped internationally. Volunteers often donate time and resources. Most of the centers serve as a collection site for quilts, kits, clothing and many other items.

## Supporting the work

The distribution centers were started in order to support the work of the other World Relief committees. Initially, the purpose was to procure needed items through donations and bulk purchases. As the years progressed, this has expanded to shipping loads of well drilling supplies, clothes, disaster aid, canned meat, grain, hospital supplies, and many other items. Much can be done when we labor together for God.

## Shipping the goods

Shipping goods is more complicated now than it once was. Having dedicated centers with years of experience helps keep things moving. Whether in small vans, sea containers, the trunk of a car, or a semi trailer, getting from here to there is accomplished by God's grace. A forklift or two along the

way comes in handy also. All of the bills of lading, manifests, phyto certificates, donation letters, and master bills are collected and sent to brokers for shipping arrangements. The goods shipped are intended to alleviate human misery and suffering and show God's love throughout the world.

## Packaging the food

Packaging food at the centers is an important part of the work. Rising food prices have pushed us to find suitable replacements for protein. The dry soup mixes are part of the solution. Soups and rice pilaf are tasty, nutritious and provide projects for our brethren to work on, even when there is no center near them. Talk to your nearest center for information on ways to package meals in your local area. These meals can be distributed by one of the centers or kept for the needs in your local area.

## Filling the need

The distribution centers are used to help fill needs in local as well as more distant locations. Examples of projects that help people in more distant areas are the disaster boxes packed in Bluffton, food sent from Bay City to a school in Honduras, clothes packed at Goodfield for Europe, and grain bagged in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois for shipment overseas.

We endeavor to do what the Lord asks of us. The efforts to help those in need could not be accomplished without you. Thank you for your physical and financial support, but even more for your prayers. With God's grace and your prayers, we can be His hands and feet during the time we are here on this earth.



Bay City



Bluffton



Fairbury



Goodfield



Smithville



Wolcott

## APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

[achh.org](http://achh.org)

God allows things like suffering, disabilities, and disease, not because of anything our loved one did, but so that we might change as we respond properly to them. For this reason, the team at Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped (ACHH) depends upon God's provision and the Holy Spirit to change us into Christ's likeness (see John 9:2,3). We are blessed when someone comes to work or volunteer with our ACHH team to provide for individuals with developmental disabilities and then finds the Lord's purposes were two-fold in bringing that person here. The Lord both provides for residents and also changes the caregiver by the Holy Spirit into His own special vessel of compassion.

To take care of people with developmental disabilities we also depend upon your support and prayers for this worthy work. There is a true team effort to provide for our residents at ACHH. We not only care for our residents' medical needs but also many other aspects of their lives. The agency consists of many departments that are set up to provide for the many needs. Each department is made up of individuals who are here to serve; and each of these departments is a separate entity that depends upon the others to provide our residents' quality of life and quality care. Each one must work together like a well-oiled machine for all to go well. Pray for our current staff that we are able to continue to cooperate and submit to one another. Please continue to pray that staffing and funding needs will be provided by our Heavenly Father.

## GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

**Britni Eisenmann**

**Foster Care Caseworker**

This past spring, after three and a half years of serving with Bruce and Heather Drayer at the Oak House, God called Darren and I out of Residential Care. I switched departments and now work in Foster Care! Being removed from houseparenting induced a lot of reflection about the spiritual needs of Social Care Workers, specifically those that are working directly with the children on a daily basis.

While working as houseparents, Darren and I were sapped of our *own* strength and wisdom as the day-in and day-out work with children from hard places caused us to lean on the everlasting arms of our magnificent Savior. In my new position, where each week I visit many foster homes, I see these foster families in small snapshots, and I am encouraged as I see them being pushed by their unique circumstances continually closer to the cross. It brings back memories of when we were working in the Oak House. Memories of failing and needing to go back to a child and apologize for engaging in a power struggle. Memories of looking into Darren's eyes as he reminded me that we were at Gateway because we were called, and not because we were especially equipped. Memories of calling on my extended family and friends to hold up the Oak House and Darren and I in prayer as we dealt with different tough situations.

Working directly with children, whether as a foster parent or houseparent, is a grueling daily battle with Satan as he desperately clings to these children and

refuses to forfeit his hold on their minds and hearts. It will change a Christian, there is no way around it. Being faced daily with this fight, and continually seeing the mercy and GLORY of our Savior will turn a content Christian into a fierce warrior. All through the mercy and grace that comes from an all-powerful and all-knowing Heavenly Father.

Take a minute right now to pray for Christians around the world that are fighting Satan at this very moment as they work directly with children from hard places. These workers need the prayers of those they love, as through this battle they are emptied of self and are granted mercy from our Savior.

News:

Gateway Woods welcomed three new residents to campus this past month. Please pray with us as they become accustomed to their new homes. 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 these new children and their families. Also, please keep the teachers, houseparents and counselors of these children in your prayers.

We were excited to welcome Bro. Eric and Sis. Marissa Bahler to campus this past month. Eric and Marissa will become Alternate Houseparents in the Cypress house, serving alongside Bro. Paul and Sis. Nichole Suvar. Please pray for the Bahlers as they complete their training and begin serving as Houseparents.

Praise God for a wild week recently in our Foster Care department! We were able to place children in several different homes. We praise the Lord as three of

these children were removed from homes where they were neglected and sexually abused. Sadly, this is the harsh reality many of our foster children come from. Please be prayerful for these children, as well as their foster parents.

We are grateful to God for providing us with wonderful staff. We currently have two career positions available. We have an opening for Development Director and a Foster Care Program Manager. For more information, please see the notices in this issue 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).

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

October 2012 was very, very busy (and we didn't even have any weiner roasts)! We had our annual Trike-a-thon fundraiser right before the preschool board meeting. The kids donate money to the school which we use for more expensive preschool

purchases. We also use the money for fun things that the students can enjoy.

In the middle of the month, Mr. Roger came and took everyone's fall pictures. It's always fun watching him try to get the children to smile. One of his best techniques is to bounce a ball into his face and make a funny face.

At the end of the month, we enjoyed an outing to Tate Farms Pumpkin Patch. The students jumped on an inflatable trampoline, interacted with some farm animals, played in a "corn crib," went down some giant slides made out of field tile, and of course picked a pumpkin from the field. We plan on having our Halloween Party October 31. Seeing the cotton fields always reminds me of the verse that speaks of the fields being white unto harvest.

**ALABAMA, ATHENS  
Roger and Becky Roberts**

*"Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits even the God of our salvation. Selah."  
(Psalms 68:19)*

Aren't we thankful that our God daily loads us with blessings, but much greater provides us with the gift of salvation.

We were thankful this month to have Bro. Jaye (Sis. Peg) Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL) serve on our pulpit. The preschool board meeting brought us Bro. Andy (Sis. Roberta) Stoller (Smithville, OH), Bro. Ted (Sis. Cindy) Witzig (Morton, IL), Bro. Ted (Sis. Sandy) Steffen (Alto, MI), and Bro. Duane (Sis. Kay) Reutter (Rockville, CT).

Our prayers are with Bro. Ed Haggemaker who had surgery recently. Our thoughts also go to Sis. Susan Koch in the loss of her grandpa.

When traveling to the Fellowship area using a GPS, use Frankewing as the final destination. Once you turn off Hwy 64, the Fellowship area is the first drive on the left.

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 (931) 309-9335 [mrpipes@afo.net](mailto:mrpipes@afo.net)

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX  
Heather Hinrichsen**

August 26 was the beautiful wedding day of our Sis. Abby Freed and Bro. Zach Schumacher (Leo, IN). We rejoice with them and their parents, Bro. Steve and Sis. Kelly Freed and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Tina Schumacher (Leo, IN).

We are so thankful the Lord has called another soul to repentance. Fredric Hoerr (Bro. Jake and Sis. Wanda) has begun this walk and we trust the Lord to guide him.

Bro. Jake and Sis. Wanda Hoerr also are rejoicing as their daughter, Sis. Anneliese is engaged to Bro. Ben Lindberg of Taylor, MO (Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie).

Sis. Louann Klopfenstein is recovering from a successful surgery. Our prayers are with you, Louann!

Mitch Manz has decided to return to Junction, OH after living here for the past 5 years. We are thankful he can once again be near his family, but we will miss him.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN) and Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton North, IN), Bro. Duane Ruetter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT), and Bro. Willis Ehnle (Sis. Lois, Peoria, IL). We thank them for their service to us on the pulpit!

Our dear Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall

(Bro. Kenny) passed away peacefully on Sept. 9. We sympathize with Bro. Kenny, Doug (Susan), Dorene (Brad Bahler), Allan (Julie), Jay and many grandchildren in the loss of their mother and grandmother.

### ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

#### Denise Steidinger

We are thankful for the following visiting ministers that came this past month: Bros. Duane Reuter (Sis. Kay, Rockville, CT), Jeff Grimm (Sis. Ruth, Goodfield, IL) and Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam, Latty, OH).

*“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” (Romans 10:13-15)*

### ARIZONA, TUCSON

#### Lisa Knapp

We are thankful that our Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA) had a safe trip to Tucson last week to address some church business. It was good to see him again. We certainly thank him for his visit. We assume that “no news is good news” and that he returned home safely.

We have begun our Wednesday evening services again after a summer break.

Lord willing, we will enjoy our Sunday School Picnic on October 28. The weather should be beautiful as our mornings and evenings are cool and crisp and our daytime temperatures are falling down into the 80's - and even teasing us with

some forecasted daytime highs in the 70's.

### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

While the rest of the country is experiencing autumn, we in Altadena have been sweltering in extremely high temperatures. We are quickly approaching November and look forward to celebrating a drop in temperatures.

Being a small church, it is good to have visitors join us. Bro. Mark Wettstein (Sis. Karen) from LaCrosse, IN shared the Word with us this past month. We are always grateful to have visiting ministers.

Following the funeral of Alan Crockett, the Crockett family, Bro. Bob and Brian (June) are thankful to all who expressed the love of Christ in so many ways.

We are thankful that Bro. Laszlo and Sis. Maria Cser and Maria Partida could join us for Sunday worship again recently, an answer to many prayers. Join us in prayer for some in our church who have ongoing needs: Bro. Clarence Graf and Sis. Lydia Lira.

As always, we welcome visitors and feel certain that when the summer heat breaks, we will be experiencing beautiful weather. We will look forward to seeing many of our winter travelers in the near future.

### CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

#### Janelle Brewer

God has blessed us this past month and we praise Him for His goodness and mercy toward us. Bro. Mike Rieker (Sis. Carol, Peoria, IL) and Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City, MO) were among our visitors this month. We pray that God will bless them for their efforts in bringing forth the Word. It was also a blessing to have other

visitors with us.

*“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.” (St. John 14:27)*

We are very thankful that our convert, Lizzie Fulop, has found peace with God and man. As the Lord wills, we look forward to her testimony and baptism December 1 and 2.

Elder Bro. Peter & Sis. Marian Petrovic are grandparents again as Tiffany Rachel was born to Bro. Zach & Sis. Rachel Kuenzi, Silverton, OR.

We are prayerful for our Bro. Rory Strahm who is currently dealing with health issues. We trust that God will be a comfort to him during this time.

Special prayers to Bro. Brent Wagenbach as he returned to Les Cayes, Haiti this month.

We are also thankful that Elder Bro. Peter & Sis. Marian Petrovic had a safe trip to Europe for World Relief.

### CANADA, KITCHENER, ONTARIO

#### Kim Leman

*“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 14:26,27)*

We thank Bro. Dan Goric (Sis. Mary-Lou, Rockville, CT) and Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI) for travelling to minister to us this month.



Bro. Mike and Sis. Barb Ursu are rejoicing as they welcome their first grandchild, Josiah Doyle, born to Bro. Doyle and Sis. Naomi Stoller (Smithville, OH).

Bro. Peter Ursu was a surgery patient. We trust God will heal him and restore his strength.

We were blessed by a visit from the Vermont church at the end of September. It was a special blessing for two small churches to combine for a weekend of worship and fellowship together.

### COLORADO, DENVER

Lily Zarkovacki

We are thankful for the visiting ministers we've had recently; Bros. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX), Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL), Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI) and Edwin Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern, KS). May the Lord richly bless them for being willing to be used in His service.

On the weekend of September 29, our High School Sunday School took their annual trip out to Kansas. We would like to thank the Bern, KS church for their love and hospitality. It was a wonderful experience of fellowship and encouragement.

Recently, this past month we had the reading of the Memorandum, we thank Elder Bro. Dave Steffen (Sis. Linda, Elgin, IL) for assisting our Elder Bro. Mike Leman.

We would also like to share in the joy with our Elder Bro. Mike Leman and Sis. Deb as they welcomed their first grandson, Graysen Caleb. Thankful parents are Bro. Caleb and Sis. Erin Leman, Roanoke, IL

***"A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." (Proverbs 18:24)***

### CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Sheila Gerber

Lauren Goric

*"But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches I glory by Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:19)*

We want to remember Sis. Martha Luginbuhl (Bro. Robert, dec.) and Sis. Elsa Hoffman (Bro. Ed) in the passing of their brother, Emil Aberle.

We were thankful to have Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL) sharing the Word with us this past month.

*"Thus united and in concord, let us walk the path of life; hand in hand, O may love bind us, for each other's welfare strive." (Zion's Harp, Unity #237)*

October 13 was the wedding day of Bradly Bahler (Bro. Steve and Sis. Lori) to Amanda Sullivan. We wish them God's many blessings in their married life.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

WASHINGTON

Henrietta Meyer

Our caretakers for September were Bro. Ike and Sis. Verna Rufener (Rittman, OH). 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. Mark Wettstein (Sis. Karen, LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Curt Walter (Sis. Elizabeth, Mansfield, OH), Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit, MI), Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA ) Bro.

Ted Luginbuhl (Sis. Stephanie, Smithville, OH ) and Bro. Mark Zimmerman (Sis. Cheryl, Eureka, IL). Other visitors this month were from Rockville, CT, Elgin, IL, and Rittman, OH. Thanks to everyone who has made Washington, DC part of their vacation this year.

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

### FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

Renee Mangold

We were thankful to have two visiting ministers this past month. Visiting us and sharing God's Word were Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI) and Bro. Ron Koehl (Sis. Carol, Sarasota, FL). We pray for a blessing on them for their service.

Congratulations to Bro. Rod and Sis. Sally Greiss on the birth of another granddaughter, Olivia. Our prayers for a blessed life are with this new little one.

As the fall weather approaches up north, we look forward to a beautiful winter here in Florida and welcome all who would like to visit.

*"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3)*

### FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS

Victor Beer

Our North Fort Myers committee of brothers working on the move of our church further south has been busy finding a place for our mid-week church services. This move will accommodate those that met in two places in past years. The committee consists of Bros. David

Kieser, Ray Haerr, Dave Hodel, Chris Huber, Stan Vogel and Roger Ward. We are very thankful for each one of them to take on the great job of finding the right place for us. They report great cooperation among these brothers, which urges them to continue their work. We're looking forward to the potluck supper this Sunday at the club house at the Vogel's residence in south Fort Myers.

From November 11, 2012 till March 20, 2013, all Wednesday evening services will be held from 7 PM to 9 PM at Three Oaks Elementary School, 19600 Cypress Dr, Fort Myers, FL 33967.

### **The New Beginnings**

There were several little trips taken this month by residents and mentors at The New Beginnings. Angelica and her children traveled to Miami with her grandmother to celebrate an aunt's birthday. We celebrated Marta's birthday by going out to eat at Rib City, compliments of Marta's aunts. Amy had a work conference in Tampa.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary went on a trip to Illinois and Tennessee. While in Illinois, they met their 26th grandchild, Eli Winston Romersberger. His parents are Nathan and Leslie Romersberger who live in Bloomington, IL. Beside visiting their youngest grandchild, they visited their oldest grandchild, who lives near Pigeon Forge, TN. Along with his wife, they are house parents at a ranch for children whose parents are not able or willing to care for them. The ranch where they work is at the edge of the Smokey Mountains. The scenery was magnificent and reminds us of the beauty of God's creation.

Since the work at The New Beginnings is in a similar vein,

there were many stories shared. Our young ladies and their children attended the annual Lakewood Retreat hosted by our Sarasota church the weekend of October 19 and 20. They reported a very positive experience and an enthusiasm to attend again next year. Thanks to all who contributed to a great weekend. s

### **FLORIDA, SARASOTA**

**Kim Ott**

*"That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." (Philippians 2:10-13)*

We rejoice with Tony Christopher, as he has decided to seek the Lord with a repentant heart. Our prayers are with Tony as he works out his salvation, with faith believing that God's grace is abundant each day for those who seek the Lord with trust and obedience.

We continue to pray for many in our congregation who are under medical care. Our thoughts and prayers are with Retired Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann (Sis. Judy, Chicago, IL), Sis. Linda Sabo (Bro. Doug), Bro. Art and Sis. Marie Keller, and Sis. Betty Siladie (Bro. George). We long to see our loved ones assemble with us again and we pray God would be gracious with His healing mercies.

### **GEORGIA, ATLANTA**

*"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord." (Proverbs 18:22).*

On September 29, Jacob Lindberg and Rachel Kuhl were joined in marriage! Jacob is the son of Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg. Rachel is the daughter of Art and Marsha Kuhl. We pray for God's nearness to be with Jacob and Rachel as they settle into their home in Roanoke, IL!

On October 7, we rejoiced to hear of the engagement of Bro. Benjamin Lindberg (Taylor, MO) and Sis. Anneliese Hoerr (Phoenix, AZ)! Bro. Benjamin is the son of Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie Lindberg. Sis. Anneliese is the daughter of Bro. Jake and Sis. Wanda Hoerr of Phoenix, AZ. As Bro. Benjamin and Sis. Anneliese join hands to walk down the path of life God has given them together, we pray that they can continue to be His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for the good works God has ordained for them!

Each Sunday in the month of October, we were so blessed to have a visiting minister with us! Thank you, Bro. Jesse Bedolla (Detroit, MI), Bro. Dan Goric (Rockville, CT), Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) and Bro. Ted Hirsten (Morton, IL), for traveling south and sharing God's Word with us! Through your labor of love, we are touched by the Spirit of God!

We gathered around the warm fire, the autumn leaves and the sweet fellowship for the annual "Brewer's Bonfire" October Potluck! We appreciate the Brewers opening their home for this special evening, a wonderful highlight of autumn!

We rejoice in the beautiful ways which God has answered the prayers before His Throne

for Debbie Brucks (daughter of Bro. Rich and Sis. LaNae)! Let us continue to lift up Debbie and her family, especially her husband, Mark, and sweet daughter, Peyton. As Debbie continues to walk the bumpy path of healing and recovery, what a beautiful hope to know that God is touched with the feeling of infirmities! He is so Faithful!

*"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."*  
(Jeremiah 33:3)

### ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE

**Doreen Moser**

**Shayla Steffen**

*"More about Jesus let me learn  
More of his holy will discern  
Spirit of God, my teacher be  
Showing the things of Christ to me"*

It seems as there is just never enough time to sit and soak in all the information and retain all the information we gather from the conference tapes, from the pulpit and from Bible studies. There is always a time constraint in this busy world and we have so much to learn about Jesus and so much to discern in this world around us.

Our teachers this month have been the elders we have listened to on the conference tapes, our brothers who have led the Bible studies and our visiting ministers who have shared the pulpit with our local brethren. Bro. Doug Moser (Morris North, MN ) and Bro. David Oberghel (Peoria, IL) were our willing servants to help us learn more about Jesus. Thank you to all of our loving servants who spent time teaching and showing the things of Christ to us!

*"More about Jesus in his word,*

*Holding communion with my Lord  
Hearing his voice in every line  
Making each faithful saying mine"*

The Peoria Choir blended their voices to teach more about Jesus this past week-end. What a JOY to hear the voices ring praises to His holy name. Singing is such sweet communion time with the Lord. As the minister expounded on how much practice it takes to sing together and the hours spent in doing so, do we do the same with God's Word? We will not know the Lord's voice and be able to discern the spirit if we are not constantly in communion with our Lord.

*"More about Jesus would I know  
More of his grace to others show  
More of his saving fullness see,  
More of his love who died for me"*

The annual harvest party was held this month at the Moser's. The Lord blessed us with a beautiful fall day and much sweet fellowship. As we played a game of Bible Jeopardy, we all seemed to know many of the answers, but then the question was asked, "Do we really know it in our hearts?" Are we showing grace and love to others? What are we doing for JESUS? JESUS died for you and me!!!

*"More, more about Jesus  
More, more about Jesus  
More of his saving fullness see  
More of his love who died for me!"*  
(Tabernacle Hymns #257)

### ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

**Shelley Steffen**

**Gina Hodel**

*"From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I." (Psalms 61:2)*

This is one of the verses our Sunday School children are committing to memory this month. It is a verse that will serve them well through every stage of life, whether they are in school, in the workplace, raising a family, or dealing with grief.

Our love and sympathy are extended to families who have recently lost loved ones. Sis. Ann Kellenberger lost her brother, Bro. Alan Unsicker of Morton, IL. Sis. Tillie Nussbaum's sister, Sis. Elsie Bachtold, of Fairbury, IL also passed away.

The All-Church Camp-Out had a new location this year. The event was moved to Lake Bloomington where campers could utilize cabins, tents, and RV's. Those of us who preferred to sleep in our own warm beds were able to drive out for the activities each day. It was a special time of fellowship and worship for all who attended.

Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN) was a visiting minister this month.

### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

**Sandi Joos**

**Roseann Stahl**

Thank you to Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago) for bringing the Gospel message to us this month.

Those in need of prayers in our congregation are: Sis. Esther Streitmatter (late Bro. Leroy) in the passing of her daughter, Beverly Drinnin (Des Moines, IA), in a car accident on October 1. Also, Bro. Rich Gillespie's mother passed from this life. May the Lord grant comfort to each one in need at this time.

Lauren Hasbrook is also in need of prayers as she is now at home recovering from a liver transplant.

*"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 vs. 1)*

It is with peace that Jamie Joos (Bro. Ralph & Sis. Jenny) awaits baptism with the hope of burying the old man and rising out of the waters a new creature. We look forward to greeting her as our sister in Christ.

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

On September 22-23, we had the wonderful opportunity to witness testimonies and baptisms of Bro. Sherm Bauer, Bro. Jerry Vogel, and Sis. Ashley Aberle. We were blessed with many visiting ministers over the course of the weekend, including Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL), Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary, Fairbury, IL), Bro. Leeland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX), Bro. Daron Price (Sis. Monica, Milford, IN), Bro. Duane Metzger (Sis. Ruth, West Bend, IA), Bro. Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL), Bro. Nelson Beer (Sis. Minnie, Milford, IN), Bro. Virgil Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL), and Bro. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA).

Additional visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago, IL) and Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL). We have been thankful to have had so many visitors lately.

On September 30, a lunch and time of fellowship was enjoyed in belated celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of Bro. Keith and Sis. Joan Hanson. Bro. Keith and Sis. Joan are enormous blessings

to our church, and we thank God for their servant hearts.

October 6 was the annual cookout and hayrack ride at the home of Bro. Dennie and Sis. Cheryl Mangers. Every year they graciously host the young group on Friday night, as well as the entire church on Saturday evening. Both nights were a blessing. Many thanks to the Mangers family for their hospitality.

Our congregation wishes God's best for the family of Bro. Eric and Sis. Marissa Bahler as they move from the Champaign area to Leo, IN. We have enjoyed our time with Bro. Eric, Sis. Marissa, and their adorable children, Elliot and Ivy. Our prayers are with them as they move and take on new responsibilities serving Gateway Woods.

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

Greetings from Chicago. We thank the following ministers for sharing God's Word with us this past month: Elder Bro. Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL), Bro. David Eisenmann (Champaign, IL), and Bro. Chris Wuethrich, (St. Louis, MO).

We continue to pray for our retired Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann and his wife, Sis. Judy, as Bro. Dale continues his medical treatment. We are thankful that Bro. Charles Stoller (Sis. Ella Mae) is recovering from a few days in the hospital because of a severe infection. Sis. Christine Eckel's daughter, Janet, is struggling with yet unknown conditions. May we keep them in prayer.

On October 1, our Bro. Steven Hofstetter from Washington, IL, passed away. He is our dear Sis. Janell Hofstetter's brother. Please pray for his wife, Sis. Tamara, along with their four sons: Luke, Joel,

Nathan, and Levi. Steven & Tamara lived in Chicago (as singles and then married) for many years before moving to Washington. If you have been following the Chicago *Silver Lining* article for the past months you know many prayers and pleas for physical healing have been prayed for Bro. Steve. Victory has been achieved through the blood of Christ...the grave cannot hold him. The prayers have been answered – and Our Father chose divine healing.

In Memory:

*“There's a peace I've come to know  
Though my heart and flesh may fail  
There's an anchor for my soul  
I can say “It is well”  
Jesus has overcome  
And the grave is overwhelmed  
The victory is won  
He is risen from the dead  
And I will rise when He calls my  
name  
No more sorrow, no more pain  
I will rise on eagles' wings  
Before my God fall on my knees  
And rise  
I will rise” (Mr. C. Tomlin)*

On August 3, Gretchen and Adam Zuckerman, from Lisle, IL, became first-time parents to daughter, Keaton Rae Zuckerman. We congratulate them as their family now is three! Loving grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Jean O'Shea.

September 29 was the birthday of little Peter Benjamin Blunier. Parents Bro. Troy and Sis. Carrie (Stoller) Blunier are thankful for his safe arrival. May God bless this family.

We recently took Communion together and were blessed by remembering the suffering of Christ on our behalf. We thank Elder Bro. Steve Sauder for assisting our Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann.

We rejoice with Tim Anliker as he has begun the path of repentance.

I was going through mail recently and found several pieces that I wanted to keep. To ensure this, I wrote "Save" in large letters across the front. To me those were the important ones and the others were thrown away. I am glad Christ is not like me when it comes to mail. How hard is it for us to understand that every human being has "Save" written on their souls in the form of the blood of Christ? There are no throw-aways. I miss this often. There are those people with whom I come into contact – some once, some often – who bring out negative emotions or behaviors in me. Suddenly that person becomes an annoyance or – dare I say it – a perceived enemy. My prayer is to try to see my fellow man through the lens of Christ. Perhaps one day he or she will become my brother or sister. Saved.

### ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

**Marilyn Maul**

**Tina Walder**

*"Come ye thankful people come,  
Raise the song of harvest home:  
All is safely gathered in,  
Ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our maker, doth provide  
For our wants to be supplied:  
Come to God's own temple, come,  
Raise the song of harvest home.  
All the world is God's own field,  
Fruit unto His praise to yield;  
Wheat and tares together sown,  
Unto joy or sorrow grown;  
First the blade, and then the  
ear,  
Then the full corn shall appear:  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
Wholesome grain and pure may be.  
For the Lord our God shall come,  
And shall take His harvest home;*

*From His field shall in that day  
All offenses purge away;  
Give His angels charge at last  
In the fire the tares to cast,  
But the fruitful ears to store  
In his garner evermore.  
Even so, Lord, quickly come  
To Thy final harvest home;  
Gather Thou Thy people in,  
Free from sorrow, free from sin;  
There forever purified,  
In Thy presence to abide:  
Come, with all Thine angels, come,  
Raise the glorious harvest home.  
(Gospel Hymns #823)*

We are so thankful that the Lord has sent his servants to minister to us is this past month. May God richly bless Bro. Paul (Sis. Carmen) Kilgus (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Art (Sis. Marlene) Mueller (Belvidere, IL) for their efforts teaching His Word.

Thanks be also to the members of the medical field for helping our Sisters Shirley (Ron) Krumwiede, Mary Ann Mann and Marj (Bro. Bill) Rinkenberger with their bodily afflictions. Our prayers are extended for healing from their ailments.

Thankful for the harvest season just passed. While not necessarily a bountiful yield of grain, we have also reaped bountiful blessings from our Lord as we walk our spiritual way.

### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

**Rachel Currier**

*"It is God's good will and pleasure  
To conclude this work of love. For  
in Thee is found the fulness Of all  
wisdom from above; That not one  
be lost nor perish Who began this  
heav'nly race, Bur be led from earthly*

*tumult To that joyful resting place."  
(Hymns of Zion 56 vs. 2)*

We are thankful that two more souls have been brought into fold. Bro. Harold and Sis. Ashley Schieber (Bro. Mike and Sis. Mary Schieber and Bro. Mark and Sis. Lisa Schmidgall, Eureka, IL) were recently proved and baptized. We rejoice with them and their families, and wish them God's continued peace and guidance throughout their lives.

Our hearts also go out to those who are grieving at this time. Bro. Denny and Sis. Emily Wettstein have felt the loss of a dear little grandson, Tanner Wettstein, (Sis. Wendy, Oakville, IA). May the Lord be near to comfort them in their need.

Sis. Sherri Dietrich (Bro. Bill) has recently spent time in the hospital. We wish the Lord's healing hand to be near them.

Visiting ministers this month include Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL), Bro. Chris Wuetrich (St. Louis, MO), Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO), Bro. Jacob Kuntz (Croghan-Naumburg, NY), Bro. Dan Moser (Elgin, IL), and Bro. Barry Dietz (Bradford, IL). May the Lord reward them.

### ILLINOIS, ELGIN

**Amy Gasser**

We appreciated our many visitors on September 23 for "Invite-a-Guest Day," including the following ministers: Bros. James Fehr and Dan Koch (Tremont, IL), Bro. Paul Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), Bro. Chris Huber (Francesville, IN), and Bro. Barry Dietz (Bradford, IL). Other visiting ministers during the month were Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Gary Maibach

(Smithville, OH), and Bro. Wayne Wiegand (Goodfield, IL). We thank these brothers for their willing service.

We extend sympathy to Dave (Lori) Lodge, whose father, LeRoy Lodge of Elgin, passed away on September 23.

We were saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Grant Schrock, whose funeral was on October 2. Survivors include his children: Jolene and Cody and their mother, Jan Schrock; his father, Bro. Mel (Sis. Nola) Schrock, of Normal, IL; his brother, Stan (Karen) Schrock; two sisters, Sis. Julie (Bro. Jeff) Kellenberger and Sis. Sara (Bro. Jeff) Dietz, and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, family and friends. May God comfort each one.

Those who have spent time in the hospital include Sis. Marie Hugh, Sis. Kathy Stefan, Bro. Don Stettner, and Bro. Bill Wewetzer. We are thankful that all are home again, and we pray for continued healing.

Tonya Dietz and Tim Sauer were married on October 13. Their parents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Sara Dietz and Mary Sauer. May God bless them as they establish their home.

### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

**Debra Blunier**

**Linda Roche**

We appreciate the support of the brotherhood so much, as shown through the visiting ministers who have shared God's Word with us in the past months. These in the last month included Bros. Alan Schambach (Remington, IN), Matt Feucht (Roanoke, IL), Tony Manz (Junction, OH), Arlen Leman (Forrest, IL), Chad Leman (Kitchener, ON), and Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL).

Bro. Duane and Sis. Eileen Blunier

welcome a new grandson, Olen Marcus. His parents are Sis. Beth and Bro. Tyler Sauder (Roanoke, IL). He is also welcomed by his big sister, Zoe.

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Lisa Banwart welcome their first grandchildren, twins, born to Bro. Doug and Sis. Tricia Banwart (Taylor, MO). They are Stryder Cruz and his sister, Arianna Joy.

Bro. Pete and Sis. Holly Wettstein rejoice in their first child, a daughter, Everly Claire.

#### *Note of Thanks:*

I would like to thank everyone for the prayers and cards when my sister Betty (West Bend, IA) passed away. They all meant so much. Sis. Frieda Gerber

### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

**Angela Herr**

**Kay Steffen**

The weekend of September 29 and 30 we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Bro. Walter and Sis. Sadie Moser (Sis. Julia and late Bro. Doug). We welcome them as our new brother and sister in the Lord and wish them God's continued grace as they walk with Him! We thank Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL) for assisting our Elder Bro. Rick Plattner throughout the weekend.

On October 14, our Bible Class hosted Bible Classes from the Congerville and Tremont churches. We were thankful to have Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) and Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL) in our midst and then with our Bible Class for this occasion.

Other visiting ministers serving our congregation this month were Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Oakville, IA), Bro. Frank Sauder (Roanoke, IL), and Elder Bro. Mark

Streitmatter (Bloomington, IL). We thank each of these brothers for sharing God's Word with us and pray that He will richly bless them.

Kortney Michelle was born on September 26 to Bro. Wes and Sis. Erinn Steidinger. Lucas, Kiley, and Wade are happy to have a new little sister to love. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Martin and Sis. Trish Steidinger and Will and Juanita Kaeb.

Bro. Neil and Sis. Kay Kaisner welcomed their first-born, Cody Lee, on October 4. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Donna Kaisner and Bro. Phil and Charlotte Leman (Forrest, IL) are Cody's grandparents.

Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marsha Fehr welcomed another granddaughter on August 16 when Mia Kristine was born to Troy and Hannah Schuler.

Sis. Elsie Bachtold passed away on September 21. We extend our deepest sympathy to her husband, Bro. Willis, and to her sister, Sis. Louise Hartman (Bro. Warren).

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Justin and Sis. Kaylee Kilgus as they mourn the loss of her parents, Bro. Eldon and Sis. Stephanie Kaeb (Forrest, IL), who were killed in an automobile accident on October 7. Our sympathy is also extended to Morris Kaeb in the loss of his brother and sister-in-law. May God comfort each one who is grieving the loss of a loved one.

Many in our congregation have recently undergone surgery and our prayers have been with each one as they recuperate, including Bro. Walt Edelman (Sis. Rosetta), Sis. Karen Steffen (Bro. Albert), and Bro. Kevin Moser (Sis. Kara). Bro. Willis Bachtold (late Sis. Elsie) has also spent time in the hospital.

**ILLINOIS, FORREST**

**Lisa Aberle  
Lynn Dotterer**

*"There are loved ones in the glory  
whose dear forms you often miss,  
When you close your earthly story,  
will you join them in their bliss?  
Will the Circle be Unbroken?"  
(Hymns of Zion #222)*

Our church mourns the loss of Bro. Eldon and Sis. Stephanie Kaeb as they were killed in a car accident on October 7. They are survived by their children: Sis. Krystle Leman (Bro. Reuben); Josh; Sis. Kaylee Kilgus (Bro. Justin) of Fairbury, IL; Sis. Kara; Jenna; Joseph; Levi; Lucas; and Loren. We also extend sympathy to their surviving parents, Adeline Kaeb of Fairbury, IL, and Sis. Elaine Mueller, and to their siblings. Bro. Eldon's siblings are: Sis. Jean Knapp (Bro. Harlan); Sis. Marlene Dettwyler (Bro. Loren) of Silverton, OR; Susie Knapp (Alvin) and Becky Schaffer (Lynn) of Fairbury, IL; Lori Morrison (Jeff) of Hudson, IL; Julie Ifft (Tim) of Piper City, IL; Bro. Steve Kaeb (Sis. Bonnie) of Cissna Park, IL; Morris Kaeb of Fairbury, IL; Merlin Kaeb (Ida Lou) and William Kaeb (Juanita) of Arrowsmith, IL; Gary Kaeb (Paula) of Stayton, OR; and brother-in-law, Bro. Russ Leman (Roanoke, IL). Sis. Stephanie's siblings are: Stephen Mueller (Tina) of Pontiac, IL; Brian Mueller (Denise) of El Paso, IL; and Keith Mueller of Miami, FL.

We know many prayers have already ascended to our heavenly Father on this family's behalf and, no doubt, there will be many more as the days and months go by.

Even in the middle of great sorrow, there is rejoicing. First, three children joined our congregation. Bro. David and Sis.

Janella Zimmerman welcomed their first child, Orrin Jonathan. His grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta Zimmerman and Bro. Charles and Sis. Charlene Gerst of Oakville, IA. Bro. Clint and Sis. LeAnne Steidinger are also first-time parents with the birth of Karli Rae. Karli's grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Shelly Steidinger and Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol Edelman. Kyleigh Nicole Schmidgall joined the family of Bro. Trent, Sis. Tiffany and Brock. Bro. John and Sis. Janet Schmidgall and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Nancy Zimmerman are Kyleigh's grandparents.

We also rejoice with Ben and Stephanie Gunther who recently started repenting.

Mark Kuntz (Bro. Rollyn and Sis. Brenda) married Emily Kraft on October 6. Emily's parents are Daniel Kraft of Lexington, IL and Andrea Schumm (David) of Towanda, IL.

Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Jerry Bauman (Rittman, OH), Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Chad Gerber (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Art Mueller (Belvidere, IL), and Bro. Dana Nieman (Remington, IN).

Also, Lorene Boner and Sis. Velma Schladenhauffen spent time in the hospital.

Regardless of whether the situation is one of sorrow or joy, we have so many opportunities to pray for our beloved brotherhood.

**ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD**

**Melissa Rokey  
Kayla Wiegand**

*"Praise him for his mighty acts:  
praise him according to his excellent  
greatness." (Psalms 150:2)*

A precious girl, Nora Grace, was born on September 22 to Bro.

Herman and Sis. Sara Glueck. Her older sister, Miriam, welcomes her home.

*"Apply thine heart unto instruction,  
and thine ears to the words of  
knowledge." (Proverbs 23:12)*

We have been listening to the CD's from the general conference and are thankful that God can speak to us in this way.

We sincerely express thanks to Bros. Tom Bolliger (Sis. Jane, Tremont, IL), Chuck Kellenberger (Sis. Debbie, Elgin, IL), Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL), Elder Bros. Ted Witzig, Sr. (Sis. Cindy, Morton, IL) and Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley, IL) for sharing their time and ministry with us recently.

**ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY**

**Perry Klopfenstein**

Sis. Jane Steidinger had brain surgery on October 1; and later had to undergo another surgery. Surely we offer sincere prayers for her recovery. May God comfort and heal her.

Sis. Mary Ringger is recovering from surgery. Bro. Don Gramm is recovering from shoulder surgery. God hears our many prayers for the sick.

Bro. John Kilgus had undergone heart-valve surgery in mid-October. God be with him.

Sarah Ringger was married to Andrew Hermes of Bloomington, IL. She is the daughter of Bro. Steve and Sis. Donna Ringger. His parents are Pete and Susie Hermes of El Paso, IL. We wish them well, and their presence is welcomed at church.

We offer our sympathies to Sis. Sis. Shirley Kilgus over the loss of her mother, Sis. Mabel Bowald, 98, at Roanoke, IL. She died on Oct. 5.

The wedding of Sis. Shelby

Steidinger and Bro. Jonny Wellwood took place on September 30. She is the daughter of Bro. Ryan and Sis. Laurie Steidinger. His parents are Jim and Jackie Wellwood (of rural Gridley).

We welcome Tim and Dawn Huber and their children, Addison and Riley, to our congregation. They reside in Fairbury.

Also, we are glad to welcome as well Robers Mesidor of Normal, IL.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Jeff Neihouser, Morton, IL and Bro. Jeff Wiegand, Goodfield, IL.

A comforting Scripture is found in Isaiah 26:3: *"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."* This reminds me of a saying I saw in someone's office that reads, "No God - No Peace: Know God - Know peace."

### ILLINOIS, MORTON

**Annette Tanner**

**Julie Bahr**

With Thanksgiving approaching, you and I have so much to give thanks to God about, especially when God has said, *"In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."* (1 Thessalonians 5:18) Imagine a large sheet of brilliant white paper with nothing on it - that would be God's blessings. Then imagine that same sheet of white paper with a dark dot or two placed on it - representing our hardships. Similarly, we seem to focus on the few dark days in our year rather than the many days that have been full of God's blessedness. Father, our plea is to help us to INVEST time with you so we have a godly perspective of your goodness when we face the darker days.

We have love and gratitude for the elders that came to spend time with

us, as our Morton Church sought an Ordained Deacon. Elder Bros. Wayne Banwart (Sis. Charlene, Champaign, IL), Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL) and Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) assisted Elder Bro. Ted Witzig, Sr. in this process.

Bro. Bob Pfloderer has retired from the position of Ordained Deacon. An all-church event and dinner was given in honor of the many years that Bro. Bob and Sis. Ellie have so passionately served (through God's faithfulness) the Morton church. We give God all honor and praise for this transition!

Bro. Jeff Neihouser covets the prayers of the church as he expounds the Word of God on the topic of "The Holy Spirit: The Fire Within"! *"Revive us Again fill each Heart with Thy Love, May each Soul be rekindled with fire from above!"* (Hymns of Zion #290)

A precious baby boy, Ace Anthony, entered the home of Bro. Clayton, Sis. Trisha and big sister, Stella Monfre. Bro. John and Sis. Peg Sauder and Bro. Tony and Sis. Deonne Monfre (Goodfield, IL) are the thankful grandparents.

On October 7, the engagement of Bro. Clinton Leman and Sis. Maria Sauder was made known. Bro. Clinton is the son of Bro. Tim and Sis. Beth Leman. Sis. Maria is the daughter of Bro. Andy and Sis. Jane Sauder.

### ILLINOIS, PEORIA

**Pam Fritzenmeier**

We were blessed to have several visiting ministers share God's Word with us in the past month. They included Bro. Randy Mogler, Washington; Bro. Ryan Bertsch, Bluffton North; Bro. Ron Kipfer, Bluffton; Bro. Darren Metz, Gridley; and Bro. Troy Leyse, Bluffton.

Our sympathy and prayers are extended to Bro. Dwayne (Sis. MaryLu) Bowald, and Don Bowald as their mother (Sis. Mabel Bowald, Roanoke) passed away Oct. 5.

Please also remember to pray for our local families serving far from home and loved ones: Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family and Sis. Janelle Grassi, Haiti, and Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Bere Aupperle, Bro. Zach Knobloch and Bro. Jason Grassi, Magdalena, MX.

### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

**Linda Joos**

**Gloria White**

We remember those who have had physical challenges in the recent past. Sis. Cynthia Martin is in our prayers as she recovers from surgery. We also keep Bro. Bob Wieland and Mitch Hartzler in our thoughts and prayers as they recover from injuries. May God bless and provide for them.

Sis. Sharon Menold (Bro. Michael) loss her brother, Bradley Smith, of Peoria, IL. Our prayers are with Sis. Sharon as it is never easy to part from someone dear to us.

Baptism services were held following testimonies the evening before for Victoria Stoller (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary) and Alisha Knobloch (Bro. Keith and Sis. Lisa) on October 7. Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN), Bro. Steve Ringger (Bluffton North, IN), and Bro. Craig Stickling (Peoria, IL) were here for the weekend. We rejoice for each soul who follows God's will for their life.

Other visiting ministers this month have been Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Fred Witzig (Washington, IL). Thank you for your willingness to minister to us.

Andrew and Bernice Streitmatter



celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on September 13. We rejoice with them as they have been blessed with many years together.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Mary Herrmann welcomed a son, Asher William, on September 27. Robert, Gabriel and Shiloh are glad to have another brother. Bro. Howard and Sis. Mary Ann Herrmann and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Karen Leman (Roanoke, IL) are thankful grandparents.

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary Stoller welcomed a new grandson, Cohlson Charles, born to Kendall and Hannah Stoller.

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Luann Endress welcomed two new grandchildren. Brynn Marie was born to Troy and Lindsay Endress, and Brett and Cassandra Endress are thankful for Faith Elizabeth.

Doubly blessed are Bro. Rolland and Sis. Linda Joos as they welcome twin granddaughters, Ellie Mae and Emily Faith, born to Brian and Jodi Joos on September 13. What a miracle and blessing new little babies are. May God ever be praised.

## ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

**Jamie Hodel**

**Barb Schwind**

*"A Christian is....*

*A mind through which Christ thinks;  
A heart through which Christ loves;  
A voice through which Christ speaks;  
A hand through which Christ helps."  
(Author unknown)*

*"I am crucified with Christ;  
nevertheless I live; yet not I, but  
Christ liveth in me; and the life  
which I now live in the flesh I live  
by the faith of the Son of God, who  
loved me and gave himself for me."  
(Galatians 2:20) Regardless of life's  
circumstances, if Jesus lives within  
us we have much to be thankful for*

this Thanksgiving season.

We rejoice in the birth of three new babies. Bro. Dennis and Sis. Eva Rocke and Bro. Linn and Sis. Brenda Stoller (Atlanta, GA) welcomed granddaughter, Sophia Simone. Sophia arrived on September 18 to Bro. Brent and Sis. Staci Rocke of Temple, TX. Her big brother is Malachi. Graysen Caleb was born September 24 to Bro. Caleb and Sis. Erin Leman. Caleb's grandparents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Patty Hodel and Elder Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb Leman (Denver, CO). Bro. Tyler and Sis. Beth Sauder became parents of Olen Marcus on October 11. Olen's older sister is Zoe and his grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Bonnie Sauder and Bro. Duane and Sis. Eileen Blunier (Eureka, IL). May the Lord bless each of these dear families and their precious bundles from Heaven.

Calla Hodel (Neil and Leila) and Alex Fehr (Ben and Sis. Kathy) were united in marriage on September 29. We wish Alex and Calla God's blessings and guidance in their marriage.

We thank Bros. Jeff Leman (Bluffton North, IN) and Mike Leman (Denver, CO) for visiting and sharing God's Word with us. We also thank the Goodfield choir for the inspiring songs at the Family Hymn Sing.

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of Sis. Mabel Bowald, who passed away on October 5. Sis. Mabel was an avid gardener and enjoyed the outdoors. She is survived by a daughter Sis. Shirley (Bro. John) Kilgus, two sons, Bro. Dwayne (Sis. Mary Lu, Peoria, IL) and Don (Peoria, IL), 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and 4 great-great-grandchildren.

Our hearts also go out to the

family of Bro. Bob Zimmerman in the death of his son-in-law, Bro. Steve Hofstetter (Sis. Tammy, Washington, IL) on October 1.

On October 7, Bro. Eldon and Sis. Stephanie Kaeb (Forrest, IL) went to be with the Lord. They were in-laws to Bro. Russ Leman.

We welcome home Bro. Stan and Sis. Verna Hodel who have moved back to Roanoke and will be worshipping with us again.

It was a blessing to see Sis. Marge and Bro. Gene Fehr and Sis. Virginia Blunier back in church after lengthy illnesses.

We ask for prayers for those in the Roanoke church who are recuperating or battling illness: Bro. Rich Knepp (Sis. Janet), Sis. Ann Hodel, Bro. Merlyn Getz (Sis. Jan), Sis. Shirley Gerber (Bro. Rick), Sis. Judy Sauder (Bro. Harold), Sis. Mardell Bowald, Sis. Mary Lou Martin (Bro. Lyle), Sis. Dorothy Pfister, Sally Achterberg, and Jacob Achterberg. Sis. Carol Feucht (Bro. Randy) is recovering from knee replacement surgery.

### *Note of Thanks:*

We would like to thank everyone for their cards, prayers, gifts of love and meals that have been prepared for our daughter and her family during her surgery and treatments. We appreciate our church family. Thank you!

Bro. Jim and Sis. Helen Martin, our daughter, Sally, and family

We want to thank each of you for your prayers, love, and deeds of kindness shown to us at the time of our mother Mabel's illness and death. Thank you very much and God bless you all. The Bowald family: Bro. Dwayne & Sis. Mary Lu Bowald, Bro. John & Sis. Shirley Kilgus, Donald Bowald

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

Praise the Lord that souls are still turning to Him in repentance. We are privileged to welcome Bro. Gabriel and Bro. Josiah Koch (Bro. Nate and Sis. Sandy) and Bro. Lucas Kaiser (Bro. Mark and Sis. Renee) into our church family. With us for this special weekend were Elder Bro. Lynn Stiglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN) and Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL). We thank these brothers for their willingness to be God's vessels to bring us the Word. Also here to preach the

Word on a different Sunday was Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Sis. Sharon, Cissna Park, IL).

There is always an excitement when we hear of another engagement among us. Bethany Dill (Bro. Dave and Sis. Ann) has announced her engagement to Reagan Smith. He is the son of Glen and Pam Smith from Tremont. Carrie Beutel (Bro. Roger and Sis. Joann) is also engaged to Paul Wildermuth. He is the son of Sharon and the late Pete Wildermuth, also of Tremont. In this new step in their lives, we wish them God's richest blessings.

We have enjoyed having little Reese and Hagen in our church and community as the foster sons of Chris and Sis. Sheri Allen. Imagine our joy as they have now been adopted and are now a permanent part of their family and our church and community. We pray for wisdom and discernment as Chris and Sheri raise these little ones for Him. Also, blessing the home of Andy and Marie Williams is Gabriel James Koch. He is the grandson of Bro. Elmon and Sis. Janice Koch. Gabriel has 2 big sisters, Hannah and Naomi, who are excited to have

him in their family.

We were sorry to hear of the passing of Bro. Dave Koch. He will be missed by his dear wife, Sis. Francie and sons: Bro. Dave T. (Sis. June), Bro. Roger (Sis. Sally), Bro. Ken (Sis. Amy) and Dennis (Micheline), many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. It is always bittersweet when a believer dies. We would never wish them back from the beauty of heaven, but our hearts ache with longing as we are left behind. May God comfort all those who have experienced the loss of a loved one.

We pray for David Callen as he is deployed to Afghanistan for 9 months. He is the husband of Tammy and son-in-law of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Zuercher.

**ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON****Marlene Prather****Jodi Fehr**

*"A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance." (Ecclesiastes 3:4)*

The past month has brought both times of joy and times of sorrow to the Washington congregation.

Bro. Layne Steffen and Sis. Heather Wulf of Burlington, IA were united in holy matrimony on September 16. His parents are Bro. Scott and Sis. Marvella Steffen and her parents are Bro. Leroy and Sis. Carolyn Wulf of Burlington. We pray God blesses their marriage and extend a warm welcome to Sis. Heather.

We also want to welcome Isaac and Rachel Wofford and their children: Sam, Caleb and Grace who recently began attending our Washington church.

We heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of RachelBeth Dreeste, Michael

Rasmussen, and Janelle Ricketts the weekend of September 29 and 30. We rejoice with their families, especially Bro. Mike and Sis. Kathy Dreeste; Michael's wife, Katie; and Bro. Jon and Sis. Cheryl Ricketts. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the ministers who were with us that weekend including Elder Bro. Lynn (Sis. Ronda) Fiechter of Bluffton, IN and Bro. John Lehman of Wolcott, IN.

Other visiting ministers this month were: Bro. Glenn (Sis. Rachel) Steiner of Winthrop, MN and Bro. Jeff (Sis. Gloria) Fischer of Fort Scott, KS. We pray God blesses each of them.

We were deeply saddened by the death of Bro. Steve Hofstetter who had been battling cancer. Our deepest sympathies go to his wife, Sis. Tamara, and their four young sons: Luke, Joel, Levi and Nathan along with Steve's brother, Bro. Keven (Sis. Ann) Hofstetter of Washington and his sister, Sis. Janell Hofstetter of Chicago. Bro. Steve had a deep faith and we find comfort in believing that he has now reached his heavenly home.

We also extend our sympathy to Bro. Mike (Sis. Judy) Mangold in the passing of his aunt, Sis. Rose "Marty" Schlatter, also of Washington. She was a kind woman who loved the Lord and her nephews and nieces.

We continue to lift those up in prayer who are struggling with medical issues and illnesses including Bro. Harold Meiss and Sis. Sue Rupert.

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

*"For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one*

to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would... <sup>22</sup>**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.**" (Gal. 5:17, 22-25)

This month we have said goodbye to several loved ones. Although the loss can be grievous, I can't help but think of a verse in John. "Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I." (Jn. 14:28) Jesus was telling His disciples that if they loved Jesus they would rejoice for Him because He was going to go and be with the Father. Isn't this what we want for everyone...to be with the Father? Yet it's so hard to let go sometimes. "...The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak." (Mk. 14:38b)

Bro. Godfrey Bertsch (Sis. Anita) passed away. Along with his wife, he is survived by his children: Ruth (Harry Anderson), Sis. Becky (Bro. Dennis Caffee), Robert (Brenda), Sis. Rhonda (Bro. Eric Tonner), Sis. Roxanne (Bro. Jeff Roop).

Sis. Martha Heyerly (Bro. Luster) went home to Jesus. Her children are: Herb (Janet) and Sue (John Lantz).

Dale Meyer peacefully slept his way into Jesus' arms. Sally, the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren will greatly miss his loving example. Their children are Greg Meyer (Bev), Sis. Patti (Scott Schwartz), Sis. Lisa (Bro. Kelly Aschliman), Bro. Andy (Sis. Cindy Shively), Bro. Tony Shively.

Sis. Aldulla Pulver (Bro. Lester-dec.) also passed away. Carol (Dave

Masel), David (Ilene), Mary Ellen (Palmer Hillegas), Bill (Ruth), Dan (Deb), Stan (Wendy), Steve (Nancy), Barb (Russ Hutson), Karl (Lisa), Bro. Chris (Sis. Kara) will greatly miss their dear mother.

Bro. Leon Gerber (Sis. Mary Kay) was called home to heaven. Bro. Jeff (Sis. Rhonda) and Brad (Shawn) are their children.

We never know God's timing, but we pray for these families that God will uplift them and be their strength. We are reminded that we are mere mortals just passing through, but what a home these four dear ones have entered! May we rejoice because they are with the Father, just as Jesus told His disciples.

Sis. Rachele Grube (Bro. Jay & Sis. Ronda) has felt led to spend some extended time in Haiti. She plans to be there until May. We pray that she will be used fully and only for God's glory. She is asking for prayers for safety, strength, conviction and continued guidance.

Bro. Marv & Sis. Kim Reindhard along with their girls, Sydnee and Lindsey, have relocated to Naperville, IL due to his work situation. We miss their presence, but are thankful they can worship with the Elgin church. What a blessing to know that we have a body of churches all across the states that will embrace us when life has us moving and traveling.

Bro. Claire Yergler (Sis. Mary Jane) had a successful hip replacement this past month. Bro. Keith & Sis. Connie Aschliman's son, Bryan, had double knee surgery. His right knee is going to take a little longer in therapy and possibly another surgery. We uplift Bryan in prayer through this recovery time. Bro. Steve Reinhard (Sis. Renee) has suffered an injury

to his good arm and hand. We pray for healing as this has left him quite handicapped.

We were blessed to hear from Bro. Joe Sprunger (Sis. Tara, Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Doug Wagenbach (Sis. Lillian, San Diego, CA). Thank you for visiting your loved ones here in Bluffton and also being willing to stand before us and share God's living Word with us.

Bro. Andrew and Sis. Katy Harris are rejoicing in the birth of their first child, Lillian Rose. She was born on October 11. Her grandparents are Bro. Gene & Sis. Joni Longenberger and Bro. Mark & Sis. Susan Harris. We pray for Godly wisdom and direction as they begin their family and raise this precious daughter.

Sometimes we don't have a lot of happenings that get reported and other times the list goes on and on. And that's okay. I guess the question that I have been asking myself recently is "Am I more worried about ALL that I am doing or WHAT I am doing?" "Am I zealously hot doing God's will in my life or am I zealously lukewarm and doing my goodwill?" If we are living by our own power and strength, relying on our own natural gifts, then people are going to naturally praise us for how we are living. However, if we are living in a way that requires us to rely on the power of the Holy Spirit, then people will respond by praising God. So what's the Fruit from your life? It might be bountiful right now or maybe you're in a pruning season. Whatever your state, what would God have you doing today? Not next week or next year, but today, when you're at the gas station, grocery store, or at home sitting on the floor stacking blocks with a little one? Remember our flesh is weak, but the Spirit is

both willing and ready. And this Spirit that is willing and able to empower us is the same Spirit that was with Jesus when He died on the cross for us! Let's walk in the Spirit together!

### INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH

**Jessie Longenberger  
Amy Moser**

Greetings in the Lord Jesus Christ! We are so thankful for another convert. Kailey Kershner (Bro. Dan and Sis. Jacki) has begun her repentance. May she find the grace of God to be sufficient for her every need.

We extend our sympathy to those who have recently lost loved ones. Marsha Brewster (Bro. Brian) bid farewell to her son, Michael Belsley. We lift Marsha and her family up in prayer as they go through this difficult time. May our Heavenly Father bring peace to the hearts of all concerned.

We also are mourning with Bro. Kyle Schwartz (Sis. Kyann) and Bro. Ryan Schwartz (Sis. Mandy) as their grandfather, Dale Meyer (Sally) passed away. We need to also pray for Sally and her children, Bro. Kelly and Sis. Lisa Aschliman, Bro. Andy and Sis. Cindy Shively, and Tony Shively. May they be comforted and feel our love and support.

Also, our Sis. Aldulla Pulver went to be with the Lord Jesus this month. We extend our sympathy to the family.

Our thoughts and prayers go to Sis. Mary Kay Gerber and her family on the death of her husband, Bro. Leon Gerber. We pray that God's Holy Ghost comfort you as only He can.

We pray for God's healing hand to be upon Sally Meyer as she had heart surgery and also for Stephanie Gerber. May we also continue to

pray for those who are dealing with physical afflictions as well as emotional.

**INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE  
Mildred Clauss  
Jacki Huber**

All around us the harvest is in progress. Corn is being harvested where corn was sown; beans are being harvested where beans were sown! I know this sounds utterly simplistic, but let it remind us that what we harvest depends on what has been sown.

*"For whatever a man sows, that he will also reap" (Gal.6:7)*

Let's pray that "seeds of goodness" can be sown, and that our lives will produce the fruit of the Spirit!

We have been blessed to have visiting ministers in recent weeks: Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue) from Morton, IL; Bro. Rustin Meister (Sis. Amanda) from West Lafayette, In; Bro. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi) from Wolcott, IN; and Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie) from Gridley, IL. We are indeed grateful for their encouraging messages.

Bro. Jan & Sis. Val Gutwein gave a presentation of the on-going work in Haiti with special emphasis on "Loving Shepherd Ministries". We thank the Lord for every child who can be cared for and who can find hope in Him. Bro Jan has returned to Haiti after a furlough here. Sis. Val and family will return in the near future.

Our hospital patients have been Bro. Rich Wuethrich (Sis. Nola), Sis. Sharon Denton (Bro. Jim) and Jim Albrecht (Karen) and we continue to pray for their good recovery.

***"A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." (Proverbs 18:24)***

### INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

**Katy Frantz  
Sandy Lichtle**

*"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15)*

On September 25, Bro. Scott Klopfenstein (Sis. Abby) led a Bible study on 1 Timothy. On October 10 Bro. Bill Bradford (Sis. Gail) led a Bible study on 2 Timothy.

A church potluck supper and singing was held on Saturday, October 6. It was a blessed evening of fellowshiping together and singing praises to our Lord and Savior.

We appreciate the servant heart and labors of love of Bro. Todd Stoller (Sis. Pamela, Latty, OH) as he shared the Word with us this month.

### INDIANA, LACROSSE

**Julie Roche  
Meagan Frank**

**INDIANA, LEO  
Kirby Reutter**

This was a typical month at Leo: So much to report, so little space, and it's already two days past the deadline before I even start the article. We can be so thankful for so much grace and mercy within the Body!

On September 30, the Leo church received this notice: "Bro. Bob and Sis. Jan Pfister are celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this Sunday." On October 21, the Leo church received this notice: "Our prayers and sympathy go out to Bro. Bob and Sis. Janice Pfister at the passing of their son, John, on Friday afternoon."

From rejoicing to affliction, what would we do without the Spirit amongst us?

On September 30, the Leo church received this notice: "Leo is hosting a singing shower for Bro. Ben Gerber and Sis. Alissa Maibaich."

On October 21, the Leo church received this message: "There is an invitation posted on the bulletin board to (yet another) 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary for Bro. David and Sis. Sharon Pfister."

From recently betrothed to five decades of marriage, what would we do without the Spirit amongst us?

The annual Leo Church Picnic/Bonfire was held on October 7. On the same day, a group from Leo joined the Latty church as we supported Sis. Ashley Plummer (from the Gateway Foster Care Department) in becoming Sis. Ashley Maibach. The church was so packed that the sanctuary swelled to capacity, and local congregants were asked to vacate the balcony to accommodate the overflow of visitors. According to one brother, 20 greetings were extended on Sunday morning.

During the wedding service (while trying to juggle three unruly children in the balcony) I had to think: "Here we are in a nondescript location, completely unremarkable to the world, and surrounded by cornfields. And yet hundreds of people have gathered in this place from coast to coast, from California to Connecticut, from San Diego to Rockville, from the balmy southwest to the blustery northeast. Are Sis. Ashley and Bro. Mitch really national celebrities...or are they simply members of a brotherhood, a fellowship, and a network of believers that spans from sea to shining sea—and to yet another shining sea?"

What would we do without the Spirit amongst us?

Finally, we will conclude this

month with another note of appreciation:

*Note of Thanks:*

Dear Leo Church Family: We would like to thank everyone involved with planning, attending, set-up, clean-up, and singing in the 'Send-Off' event this past weekend. It was such a blessing to receive such a warm expression of support and interest in what God is doing from our sending church. As many of you experienced, the Covenant Chamber Choir was beautiful and we were so thankful for their vocal expressions of worship to Christ, the One leading us to serve the Awi people of Ethiopia. We are so thankful to have Leo as our sending church and will continue to need that support as we make the transition to the field in the Spring of 2013. Much love to you all! Bro. Jon, Sis. Amy, Jada, and Adia Gerst.

PS. What would we do without the Spirit amongst us?

#### **INDIANA, MILFORD**

**Janie Price  
Paula Haab**

Upon completion of his college career, Matt Longcor has moved to the Princeville area. Our prayers go with Matt as he seeks out a career in Illinois.

Amelia Elizabeth is the little girl sent to be loved by Eric and Mary Bales born on October 2. Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Cockburn are Amelia's grandparents rejoicing in God's blessings.

We have a God who loves us, who hears us, and who answers prayers. Russ Mikel has recuperated from surgery. Our Bro. Walt Steffen recently spent time in the hospital. Our prayers are with Bro. Walt as he seeks guidance to deal with his discomforts.

We look forward to our elder Bro. Bill Schlatter coming to Milford October 27 to share the memorandum. We ask God's blessings on the elders for their dedication and words of wisdom God lays upon their hearts. A thought of kindness to their faithful wives for the sharing and caring, along with their zeal and firm devotion that enriches the soul. Our congregation was blest to have Bro. Matt Feucht (Sis. Jennifer, Roanoke, IL) minister to us this month.

#### **INDIANA, REMINGTON**

**Jenni Honegger  
Marcella Tyler**

We would like to thank our visiting ministers this month: Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Sis. Sharon, Cissna Park, IN), Bro. Ed Fritz (Sis. Sally, Washington, IL) and Bro. Marshall Heinold (Sis. Jan, Ixtlan, MX). May the Lord bless them for their willingness to serve.

We want to remember to be prayerful for Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores Reinhard, as his sister, Sis. Aldulla Pulver (the late Bro. Lester) from Bluffton North, IN, recently passed away.

Sis. Marge Pitman has had a change of address. She is now at Whispering Pines Rehabilitation Center, 410 Tioga Road, Monticello, IN 47960. She is able to attend church again and we are thankful to have her assembling with us.

Our 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School class recently visited the Wolcott church for Junior High Youth Fellowship Day along with the classes from several other Indiana churches. The students were challenged to view the world through a perfect Biblical lens, not a lens made out of fallible men's knowledge. They also enjoyed many

games and activities together that will hopefully strengthen the ties of fellowship among them as they grow and mature. Many thanks to those at Wolcott and others who gave their time and talent to make this day a success!

## INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Joshua Martinez

*“One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to enquire in his temple.”*  
(Psalm 27:4)

Our youngest son, John, turned a year old in September. He is at the stage of development where his curiosity leads him to constantly get on top of, under and into everything around the house. His big brothers are constantly watchful, ready to sound the alarm, swift to pull him out of trouble. Daily life raising four boys makes me aware of the everyday gift of grace from a merciful Heavenly Father. I am also constantly thankful for the earthly fellowship of family and brethren who look out for us, love us, and pray for us. I hope it is a gift we never take for granted.

We are thankful for the safe return of Bro. Robert (Sis. Sue) Beebe from his most recent mission trip to Haiti. We are also happy that Bro. Marty (Sis. Lavilla) Langhofer has recently returned to church after recuperating from foot surgery.

We give thanks to Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton, IL), Bro. Randy Gudeman (Sis. Becky, Francesville, IN) and Bro. Ryan Bertsch (Sis. Jessica, Bluffton, IN) who blessed us with their service from the pulpit. Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. led seminars on Spiritual Gifts and Family Relationships during

his weekend visit. We are grateful for our time of fellowship with the many visitors from near and far this month.

*“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”*  
(3 John 1:2)

## INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Marguerite Hoerr

**We were so blest by our Harvest Day program.** Bro. Darren (Sis. Sue) Plattner and their lovely family of the Champaign, IL church were with us that day. He inspired us with the morning message and then again as he closed our program. We ask God’s blessings on them in fullness. The program itself was presented by our Sunday school and church members.

Of special interest were the slides shown by Bro. Dennis Weiss of his trip to Guatamala. It was a touching experience for all of the rural electric cooperatives. The teams required many linemen who set electric poles under the greatest difficulty in the mountainous area. Dennis said when they left, he didn’t see a dry eye among the linemen on his team. They evidently were so touched by their experience and so in awe of the happiness among those Guatamalan people who literally had nothing. He remembered one little four-year-old girl who went to the switch which led to their one bulb ceiling fixture; she turned it on and off as if she couldn’t believe it.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol Bucher were bid goodbye this Sunday as they head for their newly purchased home in Florida. They will be gone longer this year and we will miss them. It’s with unselfish hearts that we bid them goodbye but we will sorely miss their presence.

We do have joy in our hearts to tell you that our dear Latoya Thomas has made her decision to live for the Lord. Latoya is the daughter of our ministering Bro. Mike and Sis. Claudia. She went off to school in Southern Indiana this fall. While there, she did some serious thinking and has made this her choice. She’s another young person who is so loved by all of us and we are very happy to know this. She will find a welcome place among us.

Today I visited my friend Jennie at the nursing facility where she now lives. Jennie and I used to work together at the New Buffalo Library (MI). We made a team, because each of us could anticipate what the other needed. We are almost the same age. The Home she resides in is an older one and I have been struck each time I enter it, just how fresh-smelling it is. The help is kind to the core and they are doing their best to make the residents happy. I found Jennie in the “coffee room” when I got there. Residents were served coffee, hot chocolate or tea if they wanted it. We visited for over an hour and I told her goodbye as they took her to the dining room. We might never meet again on this earth, but I hope we do because I love her and I feel her love for me. Jennie lived with an abusive husband, whom she nursed until his death. Her oldest child was born with severe cerebral palsy and she spent years taking him to Riley Hospital in Indianapolis. Her only daughter died, leaving Jennie a grandson to care for. Life has offered her many more tough situations than I’ve had to bear, but she persevered and was always cheerful at work. I admired her for all the years I worked with her and so now – when we see each other, we think

of the our bond of friendship. I pray for her each night and ask God to watch over her.

I'm sure many of you have a friend like Jennie; one you would wish an easier path in life. And, when it doesn't happen, you care and wonder why. I know God will continue to be with her. The speaker system was playing hymns this morning, and when one of the help came in, she asked, "What kind of music is that?" She was answered by an older woman who was in charge, "Those are hymns, and they are soothing to them." I wanted to stand up and applaud her.

Remember we are just 2¾ miles south of US 30 on SR 49. Our little church at Valpo always welcomes visitors, and we need them.

#### INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE

**Ben Stoller  
Katie Widmer**

#### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

**Sasha Kyburz  
Donita Edelman**

This month was a time for rejoicing and a time for sorrow. Our lives are full of ups and downs but with the Lords help we can do all things!

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

*a time to be born, and a time to die;  
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which I is planted;*

*a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;*

*a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;*

*a time to get, and a time to lose; a*

*time to keep, and a time to cast away; a time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;*

*a time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace."*  
(Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8)

We were very thankful to have visiting minister Bro. Dale Banwart (Sis. Missy, Congerville, IL) with us to share the gospel message this month. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

The Lord has called one of His home. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Bro. Steve Hofstetter at the time of his passing. May God guide and comfort you during this difficult time.

We are so very thankful and humbled to announce that three dear souls have declared that they are at peace with their God and man: Kaleb Wagenbach (Bro. Michael and Sis. Erica), Leah Lehman, (Bro. Rob and Sis. Becky), Marcus Schwab, (Bro. Mark and Sis. Shari). We will continue to pray that God will guide and direct you in your journey through this life.

We gathered together at Bro. John Lehman's home for our annual fall cookout. It was a wonderful time of food and fellowship. Thank you, Bro. John, for opening up your heart and home to us! It is such a blessing when as a church family we can gather together for a time of fun, food and fellowship!

We would like to welcome Sis. Tasha Steffen to our Wolcott church. Our prayers are with you as you adjust to your new home. We are very happy and thankful to have Sis. Tasha with us!

We are very happy to announce the long-awaited arrival of baby, Leah Lynn Wagenbach, born on September 28 to Bro. Michael and Sis. Erica. Siblings are Kaleb, Daniel,

Joshua, Timothy, Anne, Jacob and Melanie. May God continue to guide you as a family and help you raise your children to serve Him!

#### IOWA, AMES Jacob Schulz

We had visiting ministers one Wednesday night and one Sunday this month. We would like to thank Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Oakville, IA), Bro. Ryan Schock (Sis. Melanie, Bloomfield, IA), and Bro. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA) for bringing forth the Word. May God bless them for their willing service.

#### IOWA, BLOOMFIELD Teresa Schock

Harvest is in full swing. One can only marvel that there is anything to reap after the hot and dry summer. Just recently, we were blessed with a wonderful rain, as were our souls refreshed with the preaching of The Word. We sincerely thank Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Washington, IL) who visited and ministered to us this month. He read from 2 Samuel 1, and brought out David's loyalty to his King, his people and his God, even though King Saul sought to destroy him. How blessed are we to have 'ordained authority' who wish only to help us obtain eternal life.

Our hospital patient his month was Sis. Christy Wiegand (Bro. Daryl). We pray for God's healing touch.

#### IOWA, BURLINGTON Marilyn Anderson Monica Eisenmann

Our congregation has been blessed with the birth of another child! On September 29 Brandon Michael was born to Bro. Phil & Sis. Kelli Schulz and family. He has three older brothers: Quinton, Connor,

& Trystian, and his grandparents are Bro. Gary & Sis. Melody Schulz (Burlington, IA) and Bro. Dale & Sis. Tina Frank (Oakville, IA).

We were thankful to have our Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) with us on a Wednesday evening. Having recently listened to our conference CD's, we appreciate our elder brethren even more as they continue to guide us in the ways of truth.

We gladly welcomed many single members who came to visit us one Sunday from several churches. We appreciate each and every one of our visitors and pray that they always feel welcome to come to Burlington!

### IOWA, ELGIN

**Maria Rocke  
Brianna Strahm**

We welcome Bro. Eric Bachman from the Minneapolis, MN congregation, as he plans to make Elgin his home congregation.

Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm and his wife, Sis. Rose (West Bend, IA), shared the day with us one Sunday this month. We appreciate his many labors as our under shepherd and pray God would bless him.

*"O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home!  
Before the hills in order stood,  
Or earth received her fame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.  
A thousand ages, in they sight,  
Are like an evening gone;  
Short as the watch that ends the  
night,  
Before the rising sun.  
Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Bears all its sons away;  
They fly, forgotten, as a dream  
Dies at the opening day.*

*O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come;  
Be Thou our guide while life shall  
last,  
And our eternal home! Amen."*  
(Hymns of Zion #287)

### IOWA, GARDEN GROVE

**Laura Funk**

We enjoyed an evening of fellowship, singing and an abundance of food when we gathered with the Bloomfield church on October 7.

Bringing forth the Word of God this month were Bro. Merlin Meyer (Lester, IA) and Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL). May the Lord be your rich rewarder. Both brothers brought their families and other visitors which increased the blessings.

Harvest is nearing completion. The yields are less than we would desire due to the drought we are experiencing. When the Lord comes to harvest His "church", I wonder if the Lord will be disappointed with the yield?

*Thankful  
Thankful for health, Thankful for life,  
Thankful for guidance in sorrow and  
strife.  
Thankful for food and ripe golden  
grain,  
For all that is need-ful our life to  
sustain.  
Thankful for home with comforts  
blest.  
Where peace abides with love and  
rest.  
Thankful to hear the still small voice  
making our heart in life's sorrows  
rejoice.  
(Gospel Hymns #480 vs. 1,2,4,7)*

*"God has two dwellings: one in  
Heaven, and the other in meek and  
thankful hearts." (Izaak Walton)*

### IOWA, IOWA CITY

**Diana Butikofer**

Bro. Glen and Sis. Audrey Braker (Princeville, IL) and their family visited recently as did Elder Bro. Wayne and Sis. Charlen Banwart (Champaign, IL). We appreciate the willingness of these brothers to serve us and pray the Lord will bless them.

### IOWA, LESTER

**Joyce Moser  
Gloria Moser**

*"O Lord, we pray to us reveal Thy  
words of grace and might, which  
Thou from him dost not conceal, who  
seeketh truth and light." (Zion's Harp  
#216)*

We were thankful to have Bro. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL) minister the Word of Life to us on October 14. We were exhorted and encouraged in faithfulness.

We have had several loved ones spend time in the hospital. They were Bro. Bob Gerber (Sis. Nancy), Bro. Willy Knobloch (Sis. Helen), Bro. Tony Bosch (Sis. Pam), Sis. Esty Metzger, Sis. Estelle Leuthold, and Leah Doorneweerd. We pray they can feel God's comfort, peace and strength as they heal.

*"Come follow Me, the Savior  
spake, all in My way abiding! Deny  
yourselves, the world forsake; obey  
My call and guiding! O bear My cross  
whate'er betide; take My Example for  
your guide." (Zion's Harp #57)*

We rejoice with Tyler Metzger (grandson of Bro. Art & Sis. Kris Metzger) as he has begun the pathway of repentance. May the Lord grant him grace and courage in rich measure as he builds his new life on the Solid Rock of Jesus Christ.

Our church has been blessed with



two new bundles of joy! Bro. Mark and Sis. Lee Leuthold welcomed Alex Robert into their family on September 16, along with Jenna, Ella, Justus, and Jonathan and grandparents, Bro. Bob and Sis. Cindy Leuthold. On the special date of 10-11-12, Bro. Kent and Sis. Elyse Moser were blessed with Meredith Kate. Big sister, Evie, and grandparents, Bro. Denis and Sis. Jill Meyer and Bro. Donn and Sis. Joyce Moser, welcome her into their family circle.

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Phil and Sis. Donna Mogler in the passing of their precious 2-year-old great-grandson, Tanner Wettstein (Sis. Wendy Wettstein, Oakville, IA). May the hope of meeting again on yonder shore encourage us all onward and forward to that Heavenly Home.

### IOWA, OAKVILLE

**Sharla Wiegand**

We are always thankful for visiting ministers. Bro. Todd Graf (Akron OH) shared the Word with us on October 7.

Our hearts grieve with Sis. Wendy Wettstein (Bro. Henry, deceased) as her two-year-old son, Tanner, passed from this life on September 28. Also sharing in this loss are Tanner's grandparents, Bro. Roger and Sis. June Schulz and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Emily Wettstein of Congerville, IL. May the Lord comfort each one.

### IOWA, WEST BEND

**Janet Fehr**

**Leona Fehr**

Micah Fehr (young son of Bro. Kent and Sis. Joleen) spent a few days in the hospital in September due to a skin infection. Thankfully he is home and back to his normal activities at this time.

Our sympathy extends to Jim and Sherry Schmidt as her sister from northern Minnesota passed away. May God comfort their family and each sorrowful heart.

On September 30, Bro. Philip Virkler and Sis. Coleen Fehr were united in marriage. We pray God's blessings on their union as one in the Lord, and rejoice with their parents, Bro. Andy and Sis. Becky Virkler and Bro. Byron and Sis. Anita Fehr.

*"Love of all gifts if the greatest, which the Spirit does bestow.  
Though I had a voice like angels,  
Lacking love, I truly know  
That I'd be a tinkling cymbal or a  
wretched sounding brass:  
For although the sound were present,  
Lifeless through this world I'd  
pass" (Zion's Harp #37 vs.1)*

The hearts of our congregation were encouraged on the weekend of October 7. There were four souls who brought the testimony of their conversion before the church. Our new lambs in Christ are Sis. Tayla Banwart (Bro. Mark and Sis. Jami), Bro. Taylor Fehr (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Lonnie), Bro. Trevor Fehr (Bro. Mark and Sis. Janet), and Bro. Evan Fehr (Bro. Byron and Sis. Anita). We rejoice with these families! Present with us for the weekend was Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzfel (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS), Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN) and ministering Bros. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Oakville, IA), Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA), and Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda, Winthrop, MN). Also our Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy, Portland, OR) who has been assembling with us for a few weeks was here for both the wedding and baptisms. As we were reminded on Saturday evening that it is a proving of the heart, may

each of us prove our heart every day with the Word of God so when we reach the gates of Heaven, God will welcome us as one of His children.

### JAPAN, SHIODA

**Carrie Ito**

### JAPAN, TOKYO

**Manuela Denes**

**Marie Inoue**

Fall has arrived in Tokyo. The days are getting shorter, the weather is cooler and the leaves are starting to change colour. A favourite getaway from the hustle and bustle of the city is Mt. Takao. It is not a very high mountain but it is quite steep with several trails a person can take. I happened to go there early one Saturday morning. On my way down I decided to take a different trail from the one I used to get to the top. What I thought was the easy trail turned out to be quite winding with rocks and tree roots making the walk rather treacherous. Somehow I kept getting turned around and after about an hour and a half I started to worry that I would never find my way down! With a little prayer I kept on walking. I enjoy listening to music on my walks and this song started to play, *His Eye is on the Sparrow*. The chorus was an answer to my prayer! *"I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free, for His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me."* The songwriter was inspired by this scripture:

*"Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows." (Matthew 10:29-31)*

How reassuring it is to know that,

no matter which path we take nor how many times we might get lost, our Father is watching over us and knows everything about us. He will always guide us in the right direction!

A new class has been added to our Sunday School taught by Sisters Sarah and Hannah Klaus. We ask for God's blessings and prayers for this group of young children.

Our shut-in, Sis. Urushino's condition has stabilized. She was able to go to a regular hospital from the ICU unit. God surely has a purpose, yet, for her life. May we continue to learn from Him.

**KANSAS, BERN**  
**Sheri Edelman**  
**Rita Menold**

Our visiting ministers this month have been Bro. Tim Ramsier (Sis. Jonell, Rittman, OH), Bro. Tim Lehman (Sis. Amber, Taylor, MO), Bro. John Rassi (Sis. Heather, Tremont, IL), Bro. Klint Beyer (Sis. Kara, Sabetha, KS) and Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS). May God richly bless them for their labors on our behalf.

The high school Sunday school class hosted the area students in grades 9-12. We appreciated everyone who came!

Our fall picnic was held. It was a pleasure to be together as a church family for the evening!

Becky Wegner (Tim) of Lincoln, NE has begun her repentance! May God bless her and lead her as she grows in the knowledge and love of the Lord!

It was a blessing to hear the testimonies and witness the baptism of three more souls who love the Lord! We welcomed Sis. Amanda Rokey (Bro. Dwight and Sis. Anita), Bro. Josh Strahm (Bro. Brad and Sis. Michelle) and Sis. Jody Goodman

(Mike and Sis. Luci) on Oct. 14! May they ever cling to the Lord and wait on Him for their every need!

Our prayers have been with our hospital patients this month. Dorothy Strahm (Bro. Matt), Yalana Edelman (Michael) and Bro. Joe Rokey Jr. (Sis. Kathy) are all healing. We hope to see them again soon in church!

**KANSAS, FORT SCOTT**  
**Teresa Bahr**

Our visiting minister recently was Bro. Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL). This past summer our converts: Joseph Fischer and Mary Fischer (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Gloria) traveled to Magdalena, Mexico with the Chicago Bible Class.

Results from Sunday School elections are to give Bro. Chris Wuthrich (Sis. Janelle) and Sis. Debbie Banwart (Bro. Lon) each another term.

We are thankful when God restores our health. Sis. Lillian Fischer is recovering from her surgery.

Sis. Helen Farney from Kiowa, KS, is recuperating from her surgery by living part-time in Fort Scott with her daughter, Sis. Aleta Banwart (Bro. Don). She is still able to return to Kiowa to spend time in her own home. Sis. Aleta is her companion in Kiowa.

Many of us from Fort Scott traveled up to Kansas City on the afternoon of Sept. 16 as Kansas City hosted our annual Sunday School fall fellowship picnic. Then on Sept. 29, Bro. Trent and Sis. Kristi Banwart invited our church to their home for a potluck hot dog roast. It is a blessing to gather together to enjoy and encourage each other.

Our Elder Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City, MO) was here recently to

minister to us.

Bro. Bob Lemons (Sis. Betty) was a hospital patient. We are thankful he is healing and is able to assemble in church again.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Carol Carter in the passing of her brother, Richard "Dick" Sin.

A wedding on Oct. 14 united Kent Kellenberger and Kelsey Roberts. Kent is the son of Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen. May God bless this couple as they make their home in Memphis, TN.

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

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

Our church was blessed with company for an Invite-a-Guest weekend. Those who labored in ministering God's Holy Word were Bros. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA) and Cory Metzger (Sis. Jodi, Wichita, KS).

Bro. Doug and Sis. Judy Kraft are thankful for another grandchild. Ella Marie was born October 2 to Bro. Ben and Sis. Kasha Lanz (Oakville, IA). Ella Marie has a big brother, Tate, who welcomes her home. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Tonya Lanz (Oakville, IA).

We all enjoyed gathering with our Sunday school students for the annual Sunday school picnic.

**KANSAS, SABETHA**  
**Sally Strahm**

*"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me."*  
*(John 14:1)*

Our thoughts and prayers are with our surgical and hospital patients this month. Bro. Kevin Grimm

(Sis. Nita) had a couple of surgeries following a farm accident and Sis. Marian Kellenberger (late Bro. Gene) suffered a fall. May God's healing hand be with both of these loved ones.

We appreciate having visiting ministers with us. Bro. Ron Isch (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS) was with us this past month.

At the time of this writing, we will start listening to the conference recordings. May our hearts be open to receive both encouragement and admonishment.

As Thanksgiving approaches, may we all continue to be thankful to our Heavenly Father for all He has done for us. He will never leave us nor forsake us.

*"Finally my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." (Ephesians 6:10 & 11)*

*Sheep in His Pasture*

*"We are the sheep of Thy pasture  
And oh, how we need Thee to guide,  
Lord God of heaven, our Shepherd,  
Gather us close to Thy side.*

*The pasture we're in is a desert,  
Show us Thy 'springs by the way,'  
How precious Thy life-giving water  
Thou givest us day unto day.  
The darkness, the conflicts of earth-  
life*

*Confuse us, the sheep of Thy hand,  
Oh, let the light of Thy truth, Lord  
Shine through this wilderness land.  
Thy will is not darkness or conflict,  
Thy way is the pathway of peace;  
When we walk in the light of Thy  
presence,*

*The powers of evil must cease.  
A world of danger surrounds us,  
Dark chasms on every side,  
Sin's briar reach out to ensnare us,  
Lord Jesus, we need Thee to guide!*

*Thy Spirit to keep us from straying,  
Thy Hand to reach down from above,  
And bring us—the sheep of Thy  
pasture  
To rest in the fold of Thy love."  
(By: M.J.Z.)*

## KANSAS, WICHITA

**Emma Miller**

The theme for the Wednesday evening Bible Study is "One for all Ages". The children and adults meet together to study the Ten Commandments.

Sis. Lillian Bower has been in the hospital. She is hoping to be home in the near future. Also, Bro. Jerry Carnahan underwent an appendectomy and is hoping to be released from the hospital soon.

Our small church minister for October was Bro. Brandon Emch from Kansas City, MO. Their children made a nice addition to our Sunday School.

Juan and Shantel Espinoza are the proud parents of a baby girl, Dahlia. Proud grandparents are Steve and Maria Schrader.

## KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

**Barb Huber**

*"Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:2)*

Inspiring words of Truth, Wisdom, and Grace were expounded upon so fully and clearly, providing much spiritual strength, enlightenment, admonition, and encouragement. We were thankful for Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL) and Bro. Tim Drayer (Sis. Gwen, Bluffton North, IN) and their

dear family, who came to minister God's Holy Word this past month. We were reminded to walk with joy through the trials of this life and to look forward to our Heavenly Home, being forever with our Heavenly Father and His dear Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May the Lord bless these dear Servants of God and their families as they serve so faithfully in the Lord's vineyard.

We welcome all who may be in our area or travelling through to worship with us. You may contact Bro. Lester Huber (859) 745-2541. Church services are held at 3938 Becknerville Rd., Winchester, KY. Directions are in the Minister's Book.

## MEXICO, IXTLÁN

**Matt Gerber**

*"Then saith Jesus unto his disciples, 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)*

A group from the Ixtlán church drove the twelve-hour journey (one way) to Barra Vieja for an extended weekend of fellowship to support the church there. We're thankful for the willingness of various brothers and sisters from Ixtlán to volunteer to go and encourage the believers in Barra Vieja/Lomas, who are grateful for the spiritual interaction and the teaching of God's Word. The long drive, sometimes dangerous roads, intense heat, and hungry mosquitoes can make for an exhausting and harrowing trip, but the blessings are many. Those who went all expressed how worthwhile it was. They also said that there are more people interested in the Word now in Barra Vieja/Lomas, and they

have a spiritual hunger. They are praying earnestly for God to send someone who can stay long-term to teach and shepherd them. Please join them in praying for this need.

José Cabrera was in a near-death hunting accident. Thank God for sparing his life. Please pray for his healing and for José to respond to God's mercy.

### MEXICO, MAGDALENA

The Lord provides in so many ways. This month with the help of World Relief, Bro. Todd Stoller and his wife (Sis. Marcy, Morton, IL) used his professional knowledge to set up an on-site dental clinic at Casa Vida y Esperanza. Our Sis. Berenice Aupperle (Bro. Jonathon) is a professional dentist who is now able to help maintain healthy teeth for our children and staff at CVE. We are very appreciative for this huge labor of love. May God bless you Dr. Stoller for your assistance in bringing all the instruments Sis. Bere needed to start the clinic.

Our CVE family enjoys having visitors and family members share in fellowship and encouragement. Bro. Denver Slagel (Silverton, OR) spent several weeks at the orphanage assisting in the construction of a new home on the campus. His construction skills and willingness to do whatever needed to be done were appreciated. If the Lord would put volunteering here in Magdalena on your heart, please contact us through CVE email [cvmexico@gmail.com](mailto:cvmexico@gmail.com). We could use those that have a few days available, or a month, or more.

Elder Bro. Jose Cervantes and his wife (Sis. Kathy, Tecate, MX) shared with us one Wednesday evening service. We are always thankful for their visits and encouragement.

Our congregation wishes to

express our sorrow for the loss of the dear couple from Forrest, Bro. Eldon and Sis. Stephanie Kaeb. They were like parents to our Endi & Sis. Alisha Ramirez. We are thankful Sis. Alisha could return for the funeral and spend a little time with the family. May God comfort and be with each of their children.

### MICHIGAN, ALTO

Listyn Oesch  
Melissa Blough

Harvest is here! The smell of spices in the air, the warmth of cider in your hand and here in Alto, the sounds of children playing. Our annual Sunday School picnic is always a special Autumn treat; the start of a new school year with new faces and refreshed zeal. We are thankful for our dear sisters and brothers who pour their hearts into teaching and growing our children.

Bro. Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis MO) visited our church recently. Thank you for your service and love. Miles may separate us, but love and truth keep us close in heart.

Jonas, Hope and Lucy are happy to announce the arrival of their sister, Gwen Leigh. We pray for Luke and Ruthanne Grummet as their home floods with little hands and precious hearts. May God continue to bless their family as they seek His guidance. Joyful grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Michelle Oesch.

Prayers have been pouring up to Heaven for our dear loved ones who have been hospitalized. We want to remember them continually in prayer for healing, grace, and strength: Travis Sixberry (Jason and Angela), LeAnn Winans (Daven), Sis. Sandy Schutte (Steve), and Judah Oesch (Bro. Matt and Sis. Shelli).

*"Blessings come in many guises*

*That God alone in love devises,  
And sickness, which we dread so much,  
Can bring a very healing touch,  
For often on the wings of pain  
The peace we sought before in vain  
Will come to us with sweet surprise,  
For God is merciful and wise...  
And through long hours of  
tribulation  
God gives us time for meditation,  
And no sickness can be counted loss  
That teaches us to bear our cross."*  
(Helen Steiner Rice)

### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Sarah Knochel  
Janelle Ramseyer

Several from our congregation spent time in the hospital or were surgical patients. We trust that healing would be restored to each one if it would be God's will. They include Sis. Yolanda Jackson (Bro. Richard), Bro. Joe Ramseyer (Sis. Dort), Sis. Marilyn Ruegsegger (Bro. Fred), Sis. Margaret Schlatter, and Tess Wieland (Bro. Chad & Sis. Rebekah).

*"Rejoice in the Lord, ye righteous;  
and give thanks at the remembrance  
of his holiness."* (Psalms 97:12)

Correction: In the last Silver Lining issue, I incorrectly stated that Sis. Janet Kober had completed her term in Sunday School. Sis. Carol Wieland completed her term in September.

### MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Krista Wieland

We are enjoying God's beautiful handiwork as the leaves turn to the reds and oranges and yellows that we enjoy each fall.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held on Sunday evening September 23. Wonderful

fellowship, games and singing were enjoyed. It really was a joy to be together.

*“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)

We also were blessed this month by working together to be Christ's Hands and Feet. Many in our church have been meeting periodically to make sandwiches for meals at a local shelter. This has been a blessing to both those preparing and receiving the meals. We also held our 11th Annual Clothing Drive, where our church asks the neighborhoods surrounding the church for any gently-used clothing. This clothing is then taken to a street ministry in Detroit where the clothing can be distributed to those in need. These activities are a wonderful opportunity to glorify God by working together and by sharing with those who lack some of the basic material blessings that we too often find ourselves taking for granted.

Bro. Dan Koch (Sis. Julie) from Tremont, IL shared the Word with us this month. We appreciate their visits to our congregation and invite them to come back again soon.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Marti (Bro. John) Gleichman in the death of her brother, John Cannon. May the family feel our prayers.

We continue to hold several members of our church family and those close to them up in prayer. Sis. Linda Reardon is back at home after a stay in the hospital but is still very much in need of our prayers with her ongoing treatment for cancer. We also think of Bro. David Eyerly, father to Sis. Melinda Lanski, with his ongoing health issues. Debbie

Brucks, niece to Sis. Judy Aberle, has experienced relative progress, which is an answer to prayer. We know that there are still many challenges for her and her family and we want to entreat Jesus to be near to them.

Our church came together on a Wednesday evening at Woodpointe for a meal and presentation by Bro. Zach Bertsch from Bluffton, IN about how God has used his cancer to bring Glory to His Kingdom. Many thoughts that Bro. Zach shared about eternity and our true purpose while on this earth brought us nearer to the heart of God. We thank Bro. Zach, Sis. Jenny and their family for spending the evening with us.

**MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS**  
**Brenda Messner**  
**Betty Rassi Lindwall**

We are thankful for our elder body who brings us Biblical truths through the Light of the Word. Last month's article on Spiritual Pride was especially timely. Perhaps the clearest definition of spiritual pride is found in Luke 18:9-14 when Jesus spoke a parable to "certain who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others." It was a good exhortation for all of us.

We rejoice as Cory Schmidt (Nikki) continues to experience healing both physically from his surgery and spiritually as he has expressed his desire to repent.

We extend our sympathy to Bob Schmidgall with the passing of his sister, Ruth Kerney, from Morris, MN.

We wish Krista Deragisch (Dan and Lola) and Bruce Grandits (Greg and Martha) God's blessings on their recent marriage.

We rejoice with the births of Jackson Benjamin Messner on September 13 to Tyler and Tisha

(Bro. Rick and Sis. Brenda Messner and Ron and Linda Kroells) and Piper Jean Stover on October 5 to Zack and Emily (Todd and Sis. Renee Messner and Scott and Connie Stover).

We held our College Student Welcome at Dodge Nature Center for our new college students, including Karmen Klostergaard (Brad and Sis. Linda, Lester, IA), Leah Knobloch (Bro. Darryl and Sis. Debbie, Bradford, IL), and Alexis Smithburg (Roger and Mary Kay, Elgin, IL).

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

*“Years I spent in vanity and pride,  
Caring not my Lord was crucified,  
Knowing not it was for me He died  
On Calvary. By God's Word at last  
my sin I learned; Then I trembled at  
the law I'd spurned, Till my guilty  
soul imploring turned To Calvary.  
Now I've given to Jesus everything,  
Now I gladly own Him as my King,  
Now my raptured soul can only sing  
Of Calvary. Oh, the love that drew  
salvation's plan! Oh, the grace that  
bro't it down to man! Oh, the mighty  
gulf that God did span At Calvary!  
Mercy there was great, and grace was  
free; Pardon there was multiplied to  
me; There my burdened soul found  
liberty, At Calvary.”*  
(Hymns of Zion #151)

Elder Bros. Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Oakville, IA), Bro. Rod Bajema (Lester, IA) and Bro. Gerry Hertzell (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS) were with us for the provings and baptisms of Bro. Lafe and Sis. Kristin Grimm, Sis. Esther Koehl, Sis. Angie Fehr and Bro. Andrew Steiner. We welcome these dear lambs into the fold. The same weekend we also partook of Holy Communion. What a blessed weekend it was.

We thank our dear elders for their service. May we all continue to help each other toward that Heavenly home.

Other visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Andy Stoller (Sis. Roberta, Smithville, OH); Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH); Elder Bro. John Leman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS); Bro. Arlen Leman (Sis. Denise, Forrest, IL); Bro. Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth), Bro. Wes Moser (Sis. Esther), Bro. Dale Wulf (Sis. Becky) all from Lester, IA; Bro. Clint Beyer (Sis. Kara, Sabetha, KS); Bro. Glen Steiner (Sis. Rachel, Winthrop, MN); Bro. Brian Huber (Sis. Jackie, Francesville, IN); Bro. Joe Gerst (Sis. Connie, Iowa City, IA); and Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Oakville, IA). We are thankful for every one who came to share God's Word with us.

#### MINNESOTA, MORRIS NORTH

**Lois Schmidgall  
Wanda Gramm**

*"Happy moments, praise GOD.  
Difficult moments, seek GOD.  
Quiet moments, worship GOD.  
Painful moments, trust GOD.  
Every moment, THANK GOD."  
(Unknown)*

Visiting minister for this month was Bro. Brian Metzger (Sis. Angie, Lester, IA). We thank him for sharing GOD's Word with us along with our Elder Bro. Paul Messner and ministers Bro. Dale Zeltwanger and Bro. Doug Moser, at Morris North.

Our deepest sympathy and continued prayers to the family of Ruth Kearney on the passing and loss of their mother, grandmother, sister, and friend.

We rejoice with Jeff and Rebekah

Schaefer over the birth of their second son, Briggs Everett, born on October 1. Our congratulations to Jeff, Rebekah, and big brother, Benton.

Sis. Alyssa Knobloch has accepted the Lord's will and will be moving to Haiti in November to do mission work at Hospital Lumiere. Our prayers are that the LORD will use Alyssa for HIS glory.

Morris North was blessed this last month with two potlucks/singings. Bro. Adam and Sis. Christy Zeltwanger along with Bro. Russ and Sis. Beth Koehl were hosts of a potluck rib feed and Bro. Mark & Sis. Lori Mattson were hosts of the second potluck. Thanks for sharing your special love and fellowship.

Sincere prayer for our country, "The United States of America", as we near the elections in November. May we always pray and remind ourselves "IN GOD WE TRUST".

#### MINNESOTA, ROCHESTER

**Mark Stork  
Eric Bachman**

We would like to thank Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sis. Larae, Minneapolis, MN) and Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA) for bringing forth God's Word this month. We appreciate those who willingly travel for our benefit.

We would like to thank those who helped build a storage shed here at the Guest House. It is a blessing when we can blend our talents together. We are thankful to God that all could be done without accident.

We have openings at the Guest House for those who have a need. Additional info and contacts are in the back of this issue. Future Sunday services are planned for Nov. 18 and Dec. 9.

#### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Lindsay Schmidt  
Heather Steiner**

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

Bro. Dean & Sis. Wanda Messner are pleased to announce the birth of their grandson Adler Dean (Bro. Jordan & Sis. Shayla, Belvidere, IL). We rejoice with their blessing and pray that God will bless Adler's life.

*"Preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ, with all confidence, no man forbidding him."  
(Acts 28:31)*

Our single group held their annual invite. On Saturday evening, the single group was encouraged and motivated after listening to Elder Bro. Duane Rocke's (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN) topic on 'Sharing the Gospel with Those around Us'. We were thankful and blessed to enjoy fellowship with these brethren from across the land.

*"A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."  
(Proverbs 18:24)*

The Sunday school enjoyed a fun evening of fellowship with guests from Morris North & Minneapolis churches. We hope that the children were able to build lasting friendships

*"Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore."  
(Psalm 16:11)*

Trey Stoll (Bro. Ed & Sis. Ginny) and Stephanie Dalluge (Tony & Tracey) announced their engagement and up coming wedding. We pray for them as they

plan their life together. May they remember to put God first in their lives and marriage.

*"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)

Prayers of healing have gone out to Cory Schmidt (Nikki) and Bro. Ernie Dapper (Sis. Marcelle). We pray that God will be with them and continue to grant healing and full recoveries.

*Note of Thanks:*

We wish to thank all those that remembered us during the loss of our mother. Each word, card, visit and prayer provided comfort. May God bless you for your love, support and prayers.

Sis. Lois & Bro. Marlyn Messner  
Sis. Joyce & Bro. Mike Messner

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

**MISSOURI, LAMAR**  
**Lisa Stoller**  
**Venetta Banwart**

We would like to thank our visiting ministers this month: Retired Elder Bro. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City, MO), Elder Bro. Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Bro. Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor, MO), Bro. Loren Schrenk (Sis. Betsy, St. Louis, MO). May God grant each an extra measure of his grace and strength for feeding us from his Holy Word.

We would welcome anyone to come worship with us. If you do plan on visiting us, please contact Bro. Alfred and Sis. Carolyn Banwart. Their phone number is (417) 682-3111.

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

Our congregation was blessed by all the visitors this past month. We especially enjoyed the Indianapolis Bible Class group that came to worship with us. We pray for the Sunday school teachers throughout our congregations and for the effort they put forth and the impact they are making on our youth. May the relationships they are fostering make an eternal difference!

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

What a great turnout we had for the annual Taylor invite, our largest ever. We had young members from San Diego, CA to Atlanta, GA. They worked on 15 different work projects in our community. Work projects included building handicap ramps, helping the elderly with lawn work, cleaning around the church and fellowship hall area, and cleaning at places such as the Red Cross building. May God bless all who worked so hard. It certainly had an impact with souls in our community.

Elder Bro. Mark Streitmatter (Sis. Sara, Bloomington, IL) traveled to Taylor to have a Wednesday evening Bible study. His topic was the Book of Acts. Bro. Mark told us about the actions of the early church. We should use it as a pattern for our lives. Bro. Mark impressed upon us to use the Holy Spirit as our central figure in our actions. He asked us if we are witnessing in this world to our neighbors, friends, and to those that we work with.

Thanks to Elder Bro. Tom Hoffman (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL) for coming to help in the testimonies and baptisms of Bro. Brett Wegman (son of Bro. Scott and Sis. Dawn Wegman) and Sis.

Rachel Reinbeck (daughter of Bro. Adam and Sis. Katie Reinbeck).

Bro. Dale Moore (Sis. Cheryl, Elgin, IA), along with several couples, traveled from Elgin, IA to spend a weekend with us. Thanks for visiting the "Little White Church on the Levee".

Bro. Doug and Sis. Trisha Banwart had twin blessings on the birth of a son, Stryder, and a daughter, Arianna. Grandparents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Lisa Banwart of Eureka, IL and Bro. Darrell and Sis. Deb Hodel of Gridley, IL.

We wish God's blessings to Sis. Anneliese Hoerr (daughter of Bro. Jacob and Sis. Wanda Hoerr, Phoenix, AZ) and Bro. Ben Lindberg (son of Bro. Richard and Sis. Julie Lindberg, Atlanta, GA) on their upcoming wedding. The wedding is scheduled for December 2.

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

Our prayers go out to our dear Sis. Alice Farney's family after her death on September 26. She will be greatly missed by our congregation. We thank the brethren who traveled here from Rockville, CT to help with the funeral singing.

We also remember Sis. Rita and Donald Petzoldt in prayer as they both have been ill and Sis. Rita hospitalized.

We enjoyed sharing a potluck dinner together on Saturday evening, October 20, followed by a singing. Several brethren traveled here from Rockville, CT and assisted our congregation by serving the lunch for us on Sunday. We pray for God's blessings upon them for their love and generosity.

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

*“And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” (2 Tim. 3:15)*

We are rejoicing with our new Brother David Henico (Bro. Greg and Sis. Sarah). We were very encouraged by his proving that God is able to reach those who have the seeds of truth planted in their hearts in their youth. We also wish to thank Elder Bro. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) and Bro. Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH) for their labors on the weekend of Bro. David's proving and baptism.

Our heartfelt prayers and support are with Bro. Matthew Pamer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Arliss) and Bro. Doug Demiter (Sis. Maria) who have faced health issues this month. We trust that God will provide for each one and strengthen in time of need.

Congratulations to our Sis. Rachael Indermuhle and Bro. Matthew Steiner (Rittman, OH). Their engagement was shared with the church on October 14. We wish them God's guidance and peace throughout this time. Their parents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Carol Indermuhle and Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail Steiner (Rittman, OH).

We have been blessed with two baby boys this month. Bro. Micah and Sis. Marcy Gherian are thankful for the arrival of Kyler Micah on September 21. His grandparents are Sis. Sharon Gherian and Bro. Pete and Sis. Susan Van Wyhe (Lester). His excited siblings are Zachary, Jenneka, Abel, and Dayne. Seth Emery joined the family of Bro. Emery and Sis. Erika Gal as well as Tiffany, Mark, Breanna and Blake. He was born on October 16. His

grandparents are Eugene and Helen Gal (North Port, FL) and Sis. Sherri Schlatter (Forrest, IL). May God bless these families with His grace and wisdom to raise these dear boys for His service.

**OHIO, COLUMBUS****Lauren Rufener**

We rejoice with Josiah Grimm (Bro. John and Sis. Julie Grimm) as he has sought the Lord in repentance.

We are thankful that Cheryl Gehres is recovering from a recent surgery.

We appreciate visiting ministers: Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda Isch (Philadelphia, PA) and Bro. Bill and Sis. Miriam Brake (Sardis, OH) for sharing God's Word with us.

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

We were thankful to have several visiting ministers this month. Bros. Don Steidl (Sis. Nan, Akron, OH), Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield, OH), Nathan Walder (Sis. Denise, Cissna Park, IL), Chad Leman (Sis. Kim, Kitchener, ON), and Arlen Leman (Sis. Denise, Forrest, IL). Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago, IL) also helped our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter with the Memorandum.

Makenna is excited to have a new little brother. Conner Craig was born on October 16 to Bro. Tim and Sis. Joy Manz. Grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Sandra Manz, and Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth Stoller (Latty, OH).

Likewise, Aubrey is happy to have a little sister, Tecca Mae. She was born on October 23 to Bro. Greg and Sis. Christina Gasser. Grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Sue Gasser, and Bro. Don and Sis. Nan Steidl (Akron, OH).

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

Greetings of love to each of you!

We have several visiting ministers to report this month. They include Bro. Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo, Leo, IN), Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI), Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lana, Toledo, OH), Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL), Bro. Mike Walder (Sis. Sue, Smithville, OH), Bro. Vic Bauman, (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH), and Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH). We thank these brothers for their willingness to serve us.

We rejoice with Sis. Ashley Plummer (Bro. Rick and Sis. Denise) and Bro. Mitch Maibach (Bro. Steve and Sis. Dawn) from Smithville, OH as they were united in marriage. May God richly bless them as they walk as one.

Another cause for rejoicing is that Sergie Greutman (Bro. Greg and Sis. Kristy) has turned to the Lord in humble repentance. May God bless him with mercy and grace.

**OHIO, MANSFIELD****Tami Griffey**

We are thankful for the Holy Spirit's presence in our midst. Nicole Baumann (Bro. David and Sis. Luci) was announced for peace, and has our prayers as we look forward to hearing her testimony of faith, and how God has worked in her life.

An invite-a-friend weekend was hosted October 6. We appreciate all those who made the effort to share a time of fellowship and worship with our church.

We have been blessed again with many visiting ministers including: Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI); Bro. Matt Manz (Sis. Deanna, Toledo, OH); Bro. Gary Brown (Sis. Jane, Forrest, IL); and Bro.



Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH). May God bless these brothers for their willingness to preach the Word.

I AM THE WAY so just follow ME. Though the way can be rough, and you cannot see... I AM THE TRUTH which all men seek. So heed neither "false prophets" nor the words that they speak... I AM THE LIFE and I hold the key that opens the door to ETERNITY... And in this dark world I AM THE LIGHT, TO THE PROMISED LAND WHERE THERE IS NO NIGHT! *"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."* (St. John 14:6)

### OHIO, RITTMAN

**Jenny Pertee**

**Anna Bauman**

Heartfelt thanks go out to the ministering brothers who visited and shared God's great Word on the pulpit this month. These ministers include Elder Bros. Kevin Ryan (Rockville, CT), Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH), and Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH), and Bros. Mark Steiner (Smithville, OH), Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Marvin Zollinger (Smithville, OH), Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Gary Sinn (Latty, OH), and Matt Feucht (Roanoke, IL).

The number of new families in our congregation is on the rise due to recent engagements and weddings. The latest couple to be married was Bro. Reid Beery and Sis. Amber Sayre. Bro. Reid is the son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Suzanne Beery, and Sis. Amber is the daughter of John and Carol Sayre. We wish Bro. Reid and Sis. Amber God's grace and joy as they transition to married life.

The most recent couple to become engaged are Bro. Matthew Steiner,

son of Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail, and Sis. Rachael Indermuhle, daughter of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Carol (Akron, OH). We look forward to that wedding and pray that Bro. Matthew and Sis. Rachael will feel God's blessings during their time of engagement.

We were so blessed to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of Sis. Amanda Miller (Bro. Mike and Sis. Carol), Sis. Rachel (Jeffrey) Snyder, and Bro. John (Sis. Cynthia) Nussbaum. God's graceful and merciful love was very present that weekend, and it's our prayer that Sis. Amanda, Sis. Rachel, and Bro. John will always carry that love within them, wherever they may be.

Bro. Ryan and Sis. Laura Riggenbach welcomed a new baby girl into their family with the adoption of Willow Gail, born on September 24. Willow joins her siblings Owen, Wyatt, and Oliver. Her grandparents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Pat Steiner, and Bro. Donald and Sis. Gail Riggenbach (Smithville, Oh). On October 3, Bro. Dale and Janet Gasser welcomed their new granddaughter, Jori Katherine. Jori's parents are Chad and Heidi Elser.

Prayers and well-wishes are extended to Bro. Harlan (Sis. Jean) Stoller, and Sis. Betty (Bro. Rinehart) Keiper, who have recently spent time in the hospital.

### OHIO, SARDIS

**Faith Beard**

We enjoyed spending the day outside with the crisp, cool air and the beautiful fall foliage at our annual Fall Gathering. We also had joining us that weekend the family of Bro. Matthew and Sis. Bridget Rassi. We pray for God's blessing upon them as Bro. Matthew ministered to us the next day during

our Sunday service.

An update on our dear family we miss who now live in Haiti. Bro. Eric and Sis. Jami Hartzler and family have now moved to their permanent home in Bonne Fin, close to Hospital Lumiere after having lived for a couple months in Les Cayes. They now have a new address for anyone who wishes to send them a paper letter or package:

c/o Agape Flights CAY 27119  
100 Airport Road  
Venice, FL 34285

Following direction from the Master Pilot, a new couple has recently moved to the area and joined our church family... which was an even more significant blessing to us since Eric and Jami had just left for a time. We want to welcome Bro. Anthony and Sis. Jill "back home" to our congregation, and we also want to thank the Columbus congregation for nurturing and ministering to this couple for the past 16 months.

*"Jesus, Saviour, pilot me,  
Over life's tempestuous sea;  
Unknown waves before me roll,  
Chart and compass come from Thee:  
Jesus, Saviour, pilot me."  
(Gospel Hymns #366)*

### OHIO, SMITHVILLE

**Sarah Crist**

**Kara Stoller**

Congratulations to Bro. Don and Sis. Gail Riggenbach on the new addition of granddaughter, Willow Gail! Bro. Ryan and Sis. Laura Riggenbach (Rittman, OH) became adoptive parents to this precious girl, born in California on September 24. She joins brothers: Owen, Wyatt and Oliver.

On September 26, Margaret Brubaker, 81, of Smithville, OH passed away in her home. She is

survived by husband Kenneth and many other dear family members. She is the mother of Lynne Riggenbach (Bro. Art). Our sympathy goes out to the Brubaker family.

Best wishes to newlyweds, Bro. Mitchell Maibach and Sis. Ashley Plummer! Marriage vows were exchanged October 7 in Latty, OH. Latty will be their home church. Thankful parents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Dawn Maibach and Bro. Rick and Sis. Denise Plummer (Latty, OH).

Our church family enjoyed an evening of fellowship at our annual Pig Roast. It was a delicious meal. We appreciate all the effort that went into this. Also in October was the semi-annual Meat Canning and Soup Packaging event. Thank you to the many volunteers who gave their time at our World Relief Center during this week. We trust you have already received a blessing.

Our thoughts are with Earl Hartzler, who was recently hospitalized. No doubt prayers have been offered for comfort, and physical healing where it is the Lord's will.

Thank you, Bro. Mike Ursu (Sis. Barb, Kitchener, ON), for visiting us. We appreciated the inspired teaching of 2 Peter 1. Verse 19 says, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts." Bro. Mike spoke, "Has the day dawned for us? We sometimes use the word, 'Well, it didn't even dawn on me. It didn't even arise in my heart or mind.' And here, God is looking to His light and His Word to dawn upon us, that our eyes would be open... To allow the *day star to arise in our hearts* is what God

wants." May the day dawn on us in a powerful way! May God bring revelation and light to any area of spiritual blindness, and let the day star arise in our hearts.

### OHIO, TOLEDO

Our annual College Picnic was held on September 23. We look forward each year to becoming better-acquainted with our college students and their families, and thank each one who made the effort to be with us!

*"How shall it be when we at last returning from weary wand'rings and from toil and strife, shall reach the home for which our heart is yearning and enter into everlasting life? When from our feet the dust of earth has vanished, the last sweat from our brow is wiped away, our eyes behold what oft earth's care has banished and gave to us new courage on our way."*

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

On September 28, we laid to rest our Bro. Glen Whittaker, after a brief battle with cancer. Our hearts are saddened as we think of the vacancy left in our small church in Bro. Glen's absence. While he will be dearly missed, we rejoice in knowing that his life was devoted to serving his Lord, and now his battle is over and he has attained the most precious prize. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Glen's surviving siblings: Kathy (Steve) Warrington, Sis. Mary (Bro. Joe) Croy and Michael Whittaker. We trust the Lord will be near them in their time of mourning.

We also extend our sympathy and prayers to Sis. Holli (Bro. Brad) Shields, as she grieves the loss of her grandfather, George Fleeman. May the Lord comfort and grant peace as only He can.

### OREGON, PORTLAND

Rebekah Jones

### OREGON, SILVERTON

Kelsey Walder

Ann Kuenzi

We so appreciated having Bro. Steve Baner (Sis. Donnalou, Gridley, IL) stop in to visit and preach the Word. His visit was timely and uplifting. Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Liz, Portland, OR) shared God's Word with us this month, also.

We have completed the conference recordings, which gave us all much to ponder and now to put into action.

Bro. Zach, Sis. Rachel and Courtney Kuenzi welcomed a new little one into their home. Tiffany Rachel was born Sept. 20. Her grandparents are Bro. Myron and Sis. Diane Kuenzi, and Elder Bro. Peter and Sis. Marian Petrovic (San Diego, CA).

Evelyn Hari (Ernest-dec.) has been recuperating from cataract surgery. We hope and pray her vision will be considerably better following this procedure.

Our hearts are hurting for the Kaeb family in Forrest, IL. Here in Silverton, we extend our sympathy to Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene Dettwyler and their family. Sis. Marlene is a sister to Bro. Eldon Kaeb.

#### Note of Thanks:

A note of thanks to all who prayed, sent cards or prepared meals for our family following my recent hospital stay. We are blessed to be part of our church family. "Cast thy burden upon the Lord and He shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved." (Psalm 55:22) Sis. Becky and Bro. Dan Von Flue

## PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

*“For Thy most wonderful redemption,  
For the atonement of our wrong,  
For Thy most gracious invitation  
And for Thy Word with promise  
strong.*

*Yea, for the comfort of Thy Word  
Our hearts bring thanks to Thee, O  
Lord.”*

*(Zion’s Harp #75 v. 2)*

This hymn reminds us to always be thankful for God’s precious and holy Word that feeds and strengthens us. Here in Philadelphia we are very thankful for this message which has come to us in strength and clarity. This month, we were blessed by Bro. Everett Gerber (Rockville, CT) sharing the Word with us. May God bless him for his efforts and may we all take heed and obey the Lord’s holy Word.

## TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE

### Mike and Monica Fritz

We rejoice in the lessons we have received from God’s Word, brought to us by our recent visiting ministering brothers: Bros. Bob Dotterer (Sis. Laura; Sardis, OH), Mark Rufener (Sis. Julie; Mansfield, OH), Steve Pamer (Sis. Arliss; Akron, OH), Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol; Gridley, IL), and Steph Baner (Sis. DonnaLou; Gridley, IL). We have also been encouraged by the fellowship of brethren and friends visiting from Congerville, Gridley, and Tremont, IL; Akron, Junction, Mansfield, Rittman, and Sardis, OH; and Philadelphia, PA.

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: Gridley, IL (11/25); Latty, OH (12/2); Bluffton, IN (12/9); Elgin, IL (12/16). If you

plan to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule.

We do not have visiting ministers scheduled for 12/23 or 12/30, but if there are brethren in the area, we will likely gather to listen to a tape or call-in service. 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. Contact Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz, (615) 866-5543 ([fritzmb.family@gmail.com](mailto:fritzmb.family@gmail.com)).

## TEXAS, AUSTIN

### Serenity and Jasmine Ringger

*“Look upon with special favor, those  
who ask of me, O Saviour,  
That for them my prayers may rise; to  
Thy mercy I commend them;  
To each one such blessing send them  
as they need; for Thou art wise.”*  
*(Zion’s Harp, Intercession #189)*

We rejoice with the angels in heaven that Lane and Lanae Hartzler have started repenting. We wish them God’s nearness and guidance as they begin their journey to that heavenly home.

Our love and prayers go with Tom Dotterer as he moves to Smithville, OH. We have appreciated his part in our small congregation. May God be with him in the future.

It’s a blessing to have Bro. Gary and Sis. Betsy Leman, and their two children from Forrest, IL. Due to work in our area, they are worshipping with us for a few weeks.

Thanks to the ministers who came to preach the Word this month: Bros. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH), Galen Rokey (Sis. Nancy, Bern, KS), Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH), Myron Knobloch (Sis. Beth, Lester, IA).

We appreciated our visitors from Bradford, IL, Belvidere, IL, Forrest, IL, and Bluffton, IN.

The following is the minister schedule for December: (16) Indianapolis, IN, (23) Latty, OH, (30) Smithville, OH.

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

## TEXAS, DALLAS-FORT WORTH

The next services are scheduled for Dec. 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

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Victor Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH). May God bless Bro. Vic for his time and effort to come serve this small church. It was an added blessing to have Bro. Ken and Sis. Jane Hartzler come with the Baumans. Since we are so small in number, we so much appreciate all who can worship with us. Each one adds so much to the service.

Services are scheduled for Nov.25, Congerville, IL, Dec. 9, Forrest, IL, Dec. 16, Rittman, OH, Jan. 6, Alto,

MI and Jan. 13, Remington, IN.

Andy and Kristi Plattner have a two-bedroom 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

*"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.*

*And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.*

*And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.*

*Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, doth not behave itself unseemly,*

*seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.*

*For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.*

*But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.*

*When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.*

*For now we see through a glass, darkly, but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.*

*And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." (I Corinthians 13)*

We fall on our faces before God knowing how much we need to work on our lives in the area of charity. Our prayer is that God can draw us close together in love and charity for His edification and glory, speaking those things that edify and build up.

We are so thankful for the faithful brethren and their dear wives, who are willing to stand before us,

expounding on the Word of God in spirit and power. Appreciation and thanks go out to: Retired Elder Bro. Ron Schambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin IL). Also, our Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Sis. Cheryl), Bro. Jeff Gerber (Sis. Carol), Ordained Deacon Bro. Warren Zahner (Sis. Bonnie) and Bro. Brent Walder (Sis. Naomi) all of Rockville, CT preached the Word to us this past month. May God bless each of you.

At the end of September, our church was invited to Kitchener, ON for the weekend. We felt blessed to fellowship with loved ones there. We send a big "thank you" for their love and hospitality. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all!

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 is held during the morning service.

***"A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."  
(Proverbs 18:24)***

***"But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches I glory by Christ Jesus." (Phillipians 4:19)***

<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 fehrrrealstate@frontier.com	Gridley SS
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>
Les Cayes MEBSH Construction	Nov 30- Dec 7	Ted Habegger 260-341-7273 tjh@citznet.com	12
Les Cayes FRW Vocational School	Dec 10-18	Rick Wuethrich 219-863-4163 rick@wuethrichfarms.com	4
<b>Project</b>	<b>Year 2013</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
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 Lifeline Construction	Jan 21-28	Ted Steidinger 1-815-848-5495 tsteid@frontier.com	Full
SEED Ag School Haiti Agriculture	Jan 25-Feb 1	Dale Frank dtfrank@louisacomm.net 319-766-3661	12
Dumay Lifeline Construction	Jan 28- Feb-4	Alan Gerber 1-815-657-8629 alan_gerber@sbcglobal.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 Lifeline Construction/Medical	Feb 18-25	Paul Zimmerman 1-815-848-2173 pallan2@frontier.com	12
Dumay Lifeline 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
SEED Ag School Haiti Agriculture	Mar 8-15	Larry Kaufmann ljkaufmann@juno.com 815-457-2924	12
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

*“These things have I written unto you... that ye may know that ye have eternal life...” (1 John 5:13)*

*“But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches I glory by Christ Jesus.” (Phillipians 4:19)*



**Winter Work Project 2013**  
**Cullman, Alabama**  
**An Opportunity to Serve**

Beginning January 7, 2013 and continuing through March 2013,  
there are opportunities to serve in Cullman, Alabama.  
The project involves building new homes and repairing damaged homes  
for victims of the April 2011 tornadoes.  
Displaced families need help rebuilding their shattered dreams.

50 volunteers are needed each week.  
All skill levels are needed; even the unskilled.  
There will be a job for every willing heart.  
Skills needed: carpenters, electricians, plumbers, drywall hangers and finishers, painters,  
housecleaners and kitchen helpers.

Participants must be at least 14 years old to serve on a work team.

Volunteers will be housed dormitory-style at Stoney Creek Camp near the town of  
Cullman. Meals will be provided Sunday evening through Friday evening at the camp. One night  
during each week is a night out when volunteers go to a restaurant for dinner, a Dutch Treat.  
Mid-week services will be held at the camp.

**All volunteers must register online at [www.acworldrelief.org](http://www.acworldrelief.org) .**

More project information is available on the website. Before registering, check the work team  
schedule to be sure the dates you have chosen are available. Volunteers are encouraged to  
worship at Athens, Alabama Church at the beginning of their work week. Stoney Creek Camp is  
approximately one hour south of the church.

**Please pray that the Lord will be honored through these efforts.**

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



## 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



## USA World Relief Committee

### Contacts for area work or disaster projects

Brother	Position	Home Church	Cell Phone
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
Stan Schambach	Consultant	Prescott, AZ	(224) 698-0899

*“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.” (St. John 14:27)*

## 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 Director Needed

Gateway Woods has an opening to lead 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 Director position is a key full-time position that offers responsibility, creativity, management 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

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

## Needs and Opportunities

### 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).

## Christian Guesthouse and Worship Services in Rochester, MN

### Accommodations for Mayo Clinic outpatients and families:

Three bedrooms with private baths, laundry, kitchen and family room area.

**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.

## 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

307 First St.

Congerville, IL 61729

(309) 265-0857

## 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 do nearly any address.

To order, contact:

Apostolic Christian Church  
Bible Distribution  
P.O. Box 30  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
Ph/Fax: (260) 824-5587  
biblelist@adamswells.co

## Interested in receiving a printed sermon?

To order, contact:  
Printed Sermons  
102 Lake View Drive  
Fairbury, IL 61739  
(815) 692-3616  
printedsermons@gmail.com

*"A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."  
(Proverbs 18:24)*

## Give a Child Hope

### Child Sponsorships

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



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

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

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

### To sponsor a child

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mr.  Mrs.  Miss

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please check preference:

- Haiti  Guatemala  
 Mexico  Jamaica  
 Zambia  Wherever needed

If possible I would prefer:

Boy – Age \_\_\_\_\_

Girl – Age \_\_\_\_\_

No Preference

Cost: \$25.00/month

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

### Send to:

ACWR Child Sponsorship

PO Box 36

Morton, IL 61550

Phone: 309-266-6080

Fax: 309-266-5281

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



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
**World Relief**

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



## COUNTRY INN

### *Enhanced Living Center*

12651 Road 82, Paulding OH 45879

Phone: 419-399-2345 Fax: 419-399-2341

Job Title: Administrator

Reports to: Apostolic Christian Country Villa Board of Trustees

**Position Purpose:** The administrator is a vital component in the overall success of the facility in giving loving care to its residents and their families. The administrator is in charge of the performance of Country Inn facility. He/she is primarily responsible for directing and motivating others, developing and implementing policies, procedures and guidelines that would continue to keep Country Inn at the forefront in providing high level person-centered care to the aging.

**Responsibilities:** The administrator is responsible to oversee the daily, monthly and yearly operations within the assisted living facility. He/She will oversee and manage the various departments within the facility: Dietary/Housekeeping Services, Director of Resident Services, Activities and Maintenance Services. In addition, he/she will implement department policies, manage operations budget, and work with regulatory agencies such as Board of Health and Medicaid Offices. The Administrator should possess excellent communication skills, leadership abilities, and have experience in handling diverse situations appropriately. The administrator should have a sound knowledge of the latest healthcare trends, good marketing ability, and ability to motivate high quality staff in a productive manner. All duties and responsibilities must be carried out in a professional manner consistent with the values and guiding principles of the Country Inn organization.

If you are interested in this full-time position and feel that you meet these qualifications, please contact board member Ross Stoller (419) 576-7406 or Rod Laukhuf (419) 513-1064 for information.

## Light from the Word

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

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*).



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN

## Counseling and Family Services

515 E. Highland Street, Morton, IL 61550 • Tel: (309) 263-5536 Fax: (309) 263-6841 • www.accounseling.org

## Apostolic Christian Way of Purity A Volcano of Filth

At nearly 10,000 feet, Mt. St. Helens was a majestic volcanic peak in the Cascade Range of SW Washington state, which lay dormant for over 100 years. But on May 18, 1980, it erupted in one of the largest explosions in North American history. A blast of stone, ash, and poisonous gas carried debris for 17 miles, and a volcanic plume reached 80,000 feet into the air. The disaster took over 60 lives, wiped out large numbers of wildlife, and destroyed 230 square miles of vegetation.

A description of the eruption of Mt. St. Helens is a very accurate parallel to the spewing forth of an ever increasing supply of pornographic movies, television programs, magazines, videos, and books. And just as a volcanic eruption results in devastation to everything around it, the use of pornography likewise results in devastated lives and broken relationships.

Only God Himself has sovereign control over the forces that shape and re-shape our earth and seas. The disciples said of Jesus, *"What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!"* (Matthew 8:27). In the same way, we realize that only God has the power to enable a soul to overcome the forces of evil that have enslaved him in pornography and sexual addiction. Our enemy is cruel and deceptive, and he does not care who his victims are. If Satan tried to deceive the Son of God, he will certainly try to deceive us also. But the same weapon that Jesus used to defeat him will also work for us - the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

### What is Purity?

The Bible is far from silent on what constitutes sexual purity. One of the major themes in Scripture is the battle between the flesh and the Spirit. *"For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would"* (Galatians 5:17). The first four items listed in the "works of the flesh" - adultery, fornication, uncleanness, and lasciviousness - are all related to sexual impurity or excesses of lust.

But God has given instructions in

His Word that clearly define what is acceptable and not acceptable in His sight: *"Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge"* (Hebrews 13:4). Jesus Himself gave the disciples a warning that even lustful looks are contrary to God's will: *"But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart"* (Matthew 5:27).

These and other passages of Scripture give us a definition of purity - a sexual relationship is reserved for a man and a woman united in the bond of marriage. Any lustful or sexual act by a single person, or by a married person other than with his or her spouse, is sinful and against the will and commandments of God.

### Divine Help

However, God has not left us to fight the battle alone. His desire is that each of us lives a holy life, and that everything we do can be to His glory. He provides the Holy Spirit to warn us of temptation and to chastise us when, in our weakness, we make mistakes (Romans 8:11). He also provides abundant grace to be the overcomer He expects us to be (Revelation 2:7).

One of the tools that God has provided for those who struggle with issues of sexual purity is a mentored program called the Apostolic Christian Way of Purity (ACWP). This program has been available from Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services (ACCFS) for over five years and has helped many brethren.

The program is distributed on a CD which the student installs on his or her Windows computer. It is a 60-lesson, biblically-based accountability program for persons struggling with pornography or any other sexual temptation. Each student is assigned a mentor who provides prayerful support, guidance, and feedback. As the student completes each lesson, they e-mail the completed lesson to their mentor and the mentor provides feedback, accountability, and encouragement.

These lessons contain much practical advice built on sound scriptural principles. There are five major steps that

a course participant is led through in order to gain freedom from bondage:

### (1) Recognition of the problem and desire to be free

*"If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."* (John 8:36)

### (2) Confession and repentance, commitment to prayer, and studying the lessons and Scripture passages

*"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* (1 John 1:9)

### (3) Radical amputation - complete removal of all sources of lust; cutting off all access to pornographic programs, movies, books, and magazines

*"And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched."* (Mark 9:43)

### (4) Daily accountability with a spouse or mentor

*"Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend."* (Proverbs 27:17).

### (5) Walking in the Spirit, being filled with the power of God and the victory of Christ

*"This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."* (Galatians 5:16).

### The Anchor of Hope

Those who were living in the vicinity of Mt. St. Helens in May of 1980 received strong warnings that they should leave the area immediately. Those who heeded the warnings escaped, but those who didn't were buried under tons of volcanic ash and debris. Likewise, the warnings continue to be sounded that those who partake of pornography and perversions will be enslaved with the filth of the flesh until Christ sets them free. He is our only hope in being set free from sin.

*"... lay hold upon the hope set before us: Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast."* (Hebrews 18-19)

Anyone who wants to start the Way of Purity program should begin by contacting his or her elder for more information. It is being administered by Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services, and there is no charge for using this program.

*Sermon continued from Page 2*

accounts in the book of Jeremiah and the examples of the Lord and Master about our walk of life, we'll do probably some comparing and contrasting. We'll probably do some considerations of the different accounts and really look in our own hearts. I trust each of us can as we consider these things, to see where we find ourselves. Do we ever find ourselves as the children of Israel of old in terms of what God had asked them to do, and how they had not done things well? There was a temple there. There was a place of worship. There were things that were to be observed. In fact, in the time of Jeremiah, what happened? They were not used in the right way.

In the New Testament time, we see the same thing - there were examples, customs, things to be observed, and Jesus Christ shows us and teaches us the way to observe them. We see the difference in life of going through the motions and understanding the truths of God's Word as we read here of the time of Joseph and Mary. They went to Jerusalem as was the custom. It was the feast. (St. Luke 2:41-42) They had an order in their life, and Loved Ones, there's nothing wrong with order.

In fact, Scriptures are clear from Genesis to Revelation of God's desire for order in our lives - both in the terms of first things first and what those first things really are. The first fruits of our lives we give to Him - rising up early in the morning, we worship Him, we commune with Him, and without ceasing we have our souls praying to Him. Then there are events in life that He asks us to set aside with special preparation - whether it's a Sabbath day or whether it's partaking of Holy Communion, whether it's a time where the Brotherhood gets together and listens to a testimony of a soul. There was no question back in the time of the Jewish people of old that, when they had the three feasts, that's where they should be.

Yet, what happens? We read in this account of the difference of going through the motions, and we don't know exactly all that happened. We read here a portion of it. We see the

difference of an observation of the Passover and an understanding of the Passover. We see the difference of who our Father is and where our focus should be. We have the difference and an understanding of what God, our heavenly Father, desires us to do and how we should be focusing on that. That's what we're going to consider this evening hour. It starts with obedience - the parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover. Again, it was a good thing. It was a responsibility, and I think each of us - parents and grandparents, maybe great-grandparents - have a responsibility to teach those that are younger in the ways of God.

It was interesting - I don't think I've shared this example with you before - a man that I worked with was a Jewish man. He was able to trace his roots, and he was actually a descendant of Moses. Because of that, he had a special privilege in the Jewish synagogue where he was at. I often talked to him, and he said it was important for him to teach his two sons the Old Testament. It was important to him to teach of the Jewish beliefs. There was no question, and in fact, if you saw and observed him, when we talk about first things first, he lived it. He saw it. There are a lot of pressures in our life, but as he got older, he still taught. They were born in the United States, and he took them back to Jerusalem and Israel. They walked around the different places and things you could read about in the Old Testament. Yes, it's a shame - we'll talk later of his lack of understanding of a Messiah, but the principles, Loved Ones, I believe are there of his desire of the older to teach the younger and the examples that are there for us to be. In fact, I believe if we look through Scriptures, I don't think there's a time that it says God asks us to be faithful to our children, and then once we get a little bit older then we can sort of put the mantle down. I think in this world at times we think the children should be laying up for the parents, but the Scripture tells us the parents should be laying up for the children. (2 Corinthians 12:14) That's our responsibility. I speak to myself and to all of us of what our responsibilities are.

Here it was - there were good examples and the parents took Jesus there. *"And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. And when they had fulfilled the days..."* (St. Luke 2:42-43) We could see they fulfilled the days - they did that which they were supposed to do. Yet, what do we read here? What do we understand? What do we think about? What is the understanding of God's teachings when we come church? It is easy for us to come tonight at 7:15, and we can fulfill the moments of time that we have in the sanctuary - twenty-five minutes, forty-five minutes, whatever it is - and then we can return, as we read here, back home.

The question for us is, if we go back and read here in the book of Jeremiah, Jeremiah came and spoke to them, and he asked them about the ways that they were walking in. The words that he used were, *"If ye oppress not the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, and shed not innocent blood in this place, neither walk after other gods to your hurt: Then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever."* (Jeremiah 7:6-7) The worshipping that God desired of His children of old was to appreciate the teachings that He laid out for them of compassion, love, care, and separation and sanctification - Old Testament teachings relevant to us in the New Testament world today.

Yet, what do we read here? It says if you don't, *"Will ye steal, murder, and commit adultery, and swear falsely..."?* (Jeremiah 7:8) The question comes to us, when we come here in a place where the Holy Spirit resides and dwells with us, are we taught of those ways and is it written upon our hearts and our lives? Are we taught, are we exhorted, are we encouraged, and maybe pricked in heart of understanding who the stranger is and understanding our responsibility to the fatherless and to the widow. Thinking about those we are around and about, we can be teaching of innocent lives and the messages that were shared.

*Sermon continued on Page 48*

*Sermon continued from Page 47*

I hate to bring work in, but it's a thought that comes to me when I read words like stealing. We have a saying at work that when we are in meetings are we an oxygen thief. Are we sitting in there just sucking up oxygen and utilizing it but contributing nothing going forward? We often think about stealing money or other gifts, but you know when God gives us the breath of life, a day of grace, and the opportunity as we read here to fulfill that which He calls us to do and we don't use it wisely, in some ways are we a thief? If we think about it, in some ways are we not obedient to the Word we sang and read about tonight?

Are we no different than when we go back in Old Testament times where God provided a way of escape, God provided victories for the children of Israel time and time again? He provided a place to worship in. He provided pillars of cloud and fire to lead them just as it was no question as to His direction. But, what happened to them? They turned to other gods. (Exodus ch.12-ch.40) Their affirmation of service to Him was a false affirmation because it was a broken covenant. It's a challenge for us today because it's not just for the outward lips, it's not just with the outward dress or appearance that God wants, and yet that's important. But as in that first thought, it's the soul that He desires to sing to Him of thanksgiving, love, and obedience.

So the question is, as we fulfill the days and the examples that God calls us to, and as we return home, what do we take with us? We've probably heard these stories over and over again. It's no different - this morning it was amazing: our children haven't been here in a long time and the number of shells they want to take home with us because they just haven't seen this anywhere else. How precious the shells are!

Yet, what happens? I hate to say it, but I'm getting gray in my hair. I've been down here probably twenty times, and shells don't seem as precious to me today as they did twenty years ago. Have they changed? No. Has God's beauty changed? No. Has my eyesight

changed a little bit? Probably so. Not because I need glasses but because we allow things of this life to change our outlook on things, and we don't appreciate the experiences and the beauties that God gives to us on a day-by-day basis. It's almost something we might say as a natural man, we need to have something bigger, more stimulating, brighter, more whatever, and the motions that maybe we can go through year after year after year could rob us of the blessing that God desires for us.

So on a Thanksgiving night, and every night, God desires to be real in our hearts and lives if we would be still and know Him and appreciate and understand how great He is and what He desires for us - a wonderful home in heaven.

We read they fulfilled the days and returned, and we see all that happened. There was more work to be done. There probably always will be, and yet this work was what? It was a work that was ordained of the Father. It's important for us because we probably all have Outlook calendars or some sort of binder that says here is the time we have allotted for certain activities in life. Why is that? We almost say this is what we think is relevant. From what we understand, we can read in Isaiah and other places that God's ways are so far above our ways. His thoughts are above our thoughts. (Isaiah 55:8-9) His time is above our time.

So the question comes to you and me: are we the one defining things or are we allowing the Master to define the business of our life and the time that is necessary for service? It would be easy for us to say we came on a Wednesday night, we came on a Sunday, and so our time there is done. But what do we see here? The time of the Master wasn't done. While the days of the feast were fulfilled, and that was what we might say the law had ordained, what was the spirit of the law? Not the letter of the law. The spirit of the law was to teach others the more excellent way.

Where, so where do we find Him? It says they found Him in the temple. (v.46) Where else would you find Him? He was there in the place where

God was to be found. We read here "hearing them"; I appreciate that. Did you notice that as we read it in verse 46? Listening. But not just listening but answering.

I don't know about you, but I can tell you by personal experience, when there are those who come, and we can almost see them from a ways away. They come to us, and we know they have a question. Before they are finished, I already have the answer. Why is that? Because you know what? I have other things I need to do. If I listen to the whole question, they may ask me a different question, and that might require additional answers, and that may ruin my next meeting and my next meeting. I know I'm exaggerating a little bit, but the thought is that Scripture tells us of the example of Jesus - whether He saw the woman at the well or whether He listened to the thief on the cross, He listened. (St. John 4:6-26 & St. Luke 23:42-43) He didn't just listen, He heard them. There's a difference isn't there?

At times words can come into our ears. We can sort of hear what they say, but our mind is on something else. We don't get the examples of this in the Master do we? We see Him, as we read here, that He heard them, and He spoke back to them. He asked them questions. He taught them because the work was still to be done.

I think on a day like today, probably any day, if we really understand who God is, how much He loves us, the beauty of His creation, and His care for us and His creation, would we not all say with an affirmation, there's more work to be done? Would we not declare with our hearts and our lips, Lord send us. However you want us to go - if we are to listen, if we are to speak, if we are to be quiet, to go, or to stay.

What do we read here? Because He was about the Father's business, verse 47 says, "And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers." We read throughout Scripture that the Lord never spoke of Himself. He always spoke of God. He wasn't trying to draw attention to himself. In fact, many were the times when



He healed the lepers or others and told them to go tell the priest what things have been done. The focus wasn't to be on Him. The focus was to be on God because man could be concerned or miss out on the truths that He was trying to teach.

So He reminds us, are we about the Father's business today? Are we on His time or are we on our time? Do we think it's just the words we say or is it the thoughts that He wants to hear? I think we all understand - it says "*out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh*". (St. Luke 6:45) That which is in our hearts will come out. There's just no question about it.

In fact, we all have experienced in our lives where we try to do good. I remember over thirty years ago, in an unconverted state, I kept telling myself I was going to try to do things better and will myself to do what was right. Maybe for an hour or two hours a day you could try, but invariably what would happen? When we least expected it, something would happen, and in an unconverted state, unconverted thoughts became unconverted words became unconverted actions. We would try to grab them back, but they were gone. Invariably we would try to change them, and we couldn't.

But, God in His goodness shows us a more excellent way. He is willing to change our hearts that we could be born again to a new creature, perfect unto salvation. God works in our hearts so that what? We might say before in the vials were water, now He's changed us into wine. He's changed us into something useful for Him. Now what happens?

We see it in our own lives when the pressures of life come. No longer is it self that should be there, although that's a daily battle. Invariably we experience in life, that just as we read here, the questions of life come, and questions don't just have to be verbal, Loved Ones. Questions can be when we might be driving and someone cuts us off. Questions of life come when we are trying to be in the front of the line. Questions come when we always want to get the last word in because we

think we want to be the most important.

If we understand that we are just pilgrims passing through, we have no continuing city, and we are going to a better place. Then out of the abundance our heart comes the other cheek, comes soft words that turn away wrath, comes patience, comes compassion so that we can make a difference, not because of what we've done, but because of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit working through us.

As He heard them and asked them questions, they were astonished at His understanding and His answers. So it behooves us - how did the Saviour know what to say? We read as His custom was, He was up early in the morning, and He prayed. Why do Scriptures tell us the noble Bereans searched the Scriptures daily, and they were diligent in understanding? (Acts 17:10-11) Why do the Scriptures always tell us to study the Word that we would be that workman that can rightly divide the Word of Truth that we would not be ashamed but approved? (2 Timothy 2:15) So when the questions of life come, it's the Word of God hidden in the depths of our hearts that comes out wherever we are because we are about His business.

I know we are focusing a lot on the Master tonight, and I believe that's a good thing for us to do. It's also important for us to realize, Loved Ones, that Joseph and Mary were parents of the Master. They observed Him. They saw Him. They were right next to Him. They held Him.

Again, if you think about it, in some ways it parallels Old Testament thinking that just because we are in the right place, around the right people, seeing the right things, that doesn't change the heart, does it? It's a good start. We could learn more that way. We're a blessed people because as a young child many of us were brought to church, but that of itself is not enough. What's the difference? It's a heart issue. It's a soul issue.

Here we can see they were concerned about themselves. They were concerned about what happened,

why He was doing this to them. They were concerned about all these other things, and the Master had to tell them what was most important. The Master had to tell them how to think about, we might say, family relationships. He spoke to His father and said, "*How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?*" We don't read Joseph pondered. We know it says Mary pondered things, but Joseph probably thought about that a little bit and started gaining a little bit of a glimpse - here was the Son of God in his midst. He didn't completely understand it.

Loved Ones, we still see through the glass darkly. We don't completely understand, but what do we know? What does Paul write to Timothy? Consider what I have told you through the Word. (2 Timothy 2:7) If we consider, it says I will give you the understanding that you need in the situations in life - to answer the questions of the doctors, the teachers, the co-workers, the bus drivers, whoever they are.

If we trust Him that it's His time, it's His ways, it's His understanding and not ours, and be submissive to His will, the Lord will use us wherever we are. Then we won't look at the time as being fulfilled or the feast being over, but we realize it makes it easy in our lives, we don't have to say we have to be on or off. The Father says what? Each day, each hour, each second, He says serve me. I have a wonderful home for you in heaven above.

May we in a time of Thanksgiving, show Him our thanksgiving. Not just by the words we say, although that's a good start, but by the actions of our heart and soul - our thoughts being heavenward, reflecting the actions of true love one to another and for our heavenly Father who loved us so much that He gave us His Son who died for us on Calvary.

***"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." (3 John 1:2)***



# REMEMBERING

## *Our Spiritual Heritage*

*After the series of articles containing the autobiography of Elder Ernest Graf, Sr., of Akron, Ohio, it seemed appropriate to record additional facts of his church life.*

### **Elder Ernest Graf, Sr., 1873-1946**

Ernest Graf, Sr., was a native of Oberhallen, Canton, Schaffhausen, Switzerland, and arrived in America in 1883. He, like millions, was an immigrant and schooled in hard work and endurance.

In time here in America, he was called into the ministry, and finally into the eldership where he served from 1922 to 1946 or so. While serving at Akron, Ohio, his leadership duties took him to many locations where he served as needed. Included were congregations at Girard, Ohio, Rockville, Connecticut, Croghan and Naumburg, New York, Union City, New Jersey, Sardis and Mansfield, Ohio, and Maywood, California. He helped organize churches at Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona. He served briefly as elder at Cissna Park, Illinois in the early 1930's. Elder Graf also traveled to northern Alabama to help with the establishment of churches in that area.

In 1917-1918, when an official name for our American church was listed with national authorities, Ernest Graf (not yet an elder) suggested that the name "Apostolic Christian" be used. The elder brothers at that time adopted this suggestion.

The church's name in Europe was Evangelical Baptist.

He helped translate hymns in the Zion's Harp from the German into the English language. The first edition was published in 1924. He served on a translation committee with Bro. Henry Beer of Milford, Indiana. He also translated 54 hymns from the *Hefli* (called the "long book") into the English language. This translation was published in 1931.

He did another large work of translation when he translated a book on prophecy from German to English. It was written by Elder G. M. Mangold and entitled *Meditations of the Past, Present, and Future*.

His life of selfless devotion to the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to the ongoing upbuilding of the Apostolic Christian Church serves as a legacy to those who have followed him. He worked to preserve "our precious faith" and was dutiful to its preservation.

His Christian life, and work among the flocks, stemmed from a good foundation. He recounted his conversion: "I had always intended to become a member, but now something awakened in me which I recognized as a call from the Lord to repent and give Him my heart. It took me a whole week to decide between this and a worldly career which opened up to me at the same time. I thank the Lord

that I chose to endure the reproach of the world, rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. I was led to repentance, spent several weeks in conflict with the evil one and in earnest prayer. Finally I won the victory, and grace and peace filled my heart. On Christmas Day, 1889, I was baptized by immersion in a brook by Elder Henry Schwier, who had come from Mansfield. I felt that in this new birth I had become a child of God, and still feel so."

Elder Ernest Graf's ministry and service lasted a long time. His eldership covered a time span that dealt with challenges and opportunities. He was involved with choosing an official American name for our church denomination, with changing our worship language from German to English, with bringing in the King James Version of the Bible, with helping to translate hymns from German to English, and with helping military authorities improve policies that allowed our young men to serve in the army without bearing arms. - His life was a busy one. And God's work through him was beneficial to many in his era, and we yet today benefit by his God-inspired influences.

By Perry A. Klopfenstein

**Next Issue: Misc. stories of history**



# The Light of Hope

## The Mystery of It All

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

I've been thinking that our life is a mystery and so is this universe. I just have the feeling that there is much more in existence than what meets the eye of our telescopes and our space vehicles. Surely the universe known to our scientists is not all there is. It seems incomplete. So far as we know there is no end to space. We are dealing with infinity which is defined as the point where parallel lines meet. Parallel lines are defined as two lines equal distance apart at every point. That being the case, the two lines should never meet. However, we have the feeling that surely they must meet somewhere and that point we call infinity.

The word "mystery" is used a great deal in the New Testament. In Mark 4:11 we read, "And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God." How do we define the "kingdom of God?" There may be different definitions. One definition is "heaven" where God reigns supreme without any interference from the devil. It is in the spiritual world but still, it may be an actual place somewhere out in space.

Another definition of the "kingdom of God" is that it refers to Christ's thousand year reign here on earth with His holy angels and His saints which He brings with Him. In Jude, verse 14, we read, "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints." In Mark 8:38, we read, "When he cometh in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." It sounds to me that when Jesus comes to earth to set up His millennial reign, he will bring with Him all who are redeemed and also His holy angels.

It is difficult for us to understand how the disciples knew the mystery of the kingdom of God. We don't understand; we live by faith. We leave it with God. "Be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:10)

In 1 Corinthians 2:7 we read, "But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery." I reckon the wisdom of God is a mystery all right. If wisdom is the ability to make right decisions, and I think it is, then God is the best decision-maker ever. He knows the future which in itself is a mystery. It is too much for us. But we trust in God and in the Lord Jesus Christ. We have reason to be more humble and never to exalt ourselves. God is worthy of all honor and glory and of our complete submission and obedience.

In 1 Corinthians 15:51 we read, "Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed." When Christ comes for His saints, the bodies of those believers who died in Christ will be raised in a changed or new, spiritual form, and those who are alive and remain, will be caught up together to meet the Lord in the air, in a changed and spiritual form. No scientist can explain that. It is a mystery.

In Revelation 1:20 we read, "The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches." Here we are told that the seven stars which Christ held in his right hand represent seven angels. By ourselves we would hardly think that those seven

stars are angels. The idea of holding angels in your hand is foreign to us.

Christ was in the midst of the seven candlesticks which we are told are the seven churches spoken of in Revelation. If we were not told, it would be a mystery as to what those candlesticks represent or mean. Thereby we know that the book of Revelation uses a lot of symbolism but what it all means is a mystery, except where the meaning is explained to us. We live by faith.

We have considered space and all the stars, planets, asteroids, etc., that are out there twirling around. It is mind-boggling.

However, there is another section of our universe which is very thought-provoking. It is the world of tiny microbes which can only be seen through a microscope. Without those microbes or bacteria we would be inundated with refuse or rubbish. Nothing would decay or disintegrate. All I can say is that God didn't forget anything to make our world functional and livable. The question that comes to mind is, "Will God make more worlds or universes in the future?" The mystery of God stimulates my thinking and I stand amazed at the mystery of it all. With that amazement comes a realization of how small you and I are and how we should never think more highly of ourselves that we ought to think. Romans 12:3. The mystery of it all, but how wonderful!

**"And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God." (Mark 4:11)**

THE SILVER LINING  
1523 County Road 400N  
Congerville, IL 61729



**COME YE THANKFUL PEOPLE, COME**

*Come, ye thankful people, come  
Raise the song of harvest-home  
All is safely gathered in,  
ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our Maker, doth provide  
for our wants to be supplied*

*Gospel Hymns #823*

