



"Thus hath the Lord God showed unto me: and behold a basket of summer FRUIT."

Amos 8:1

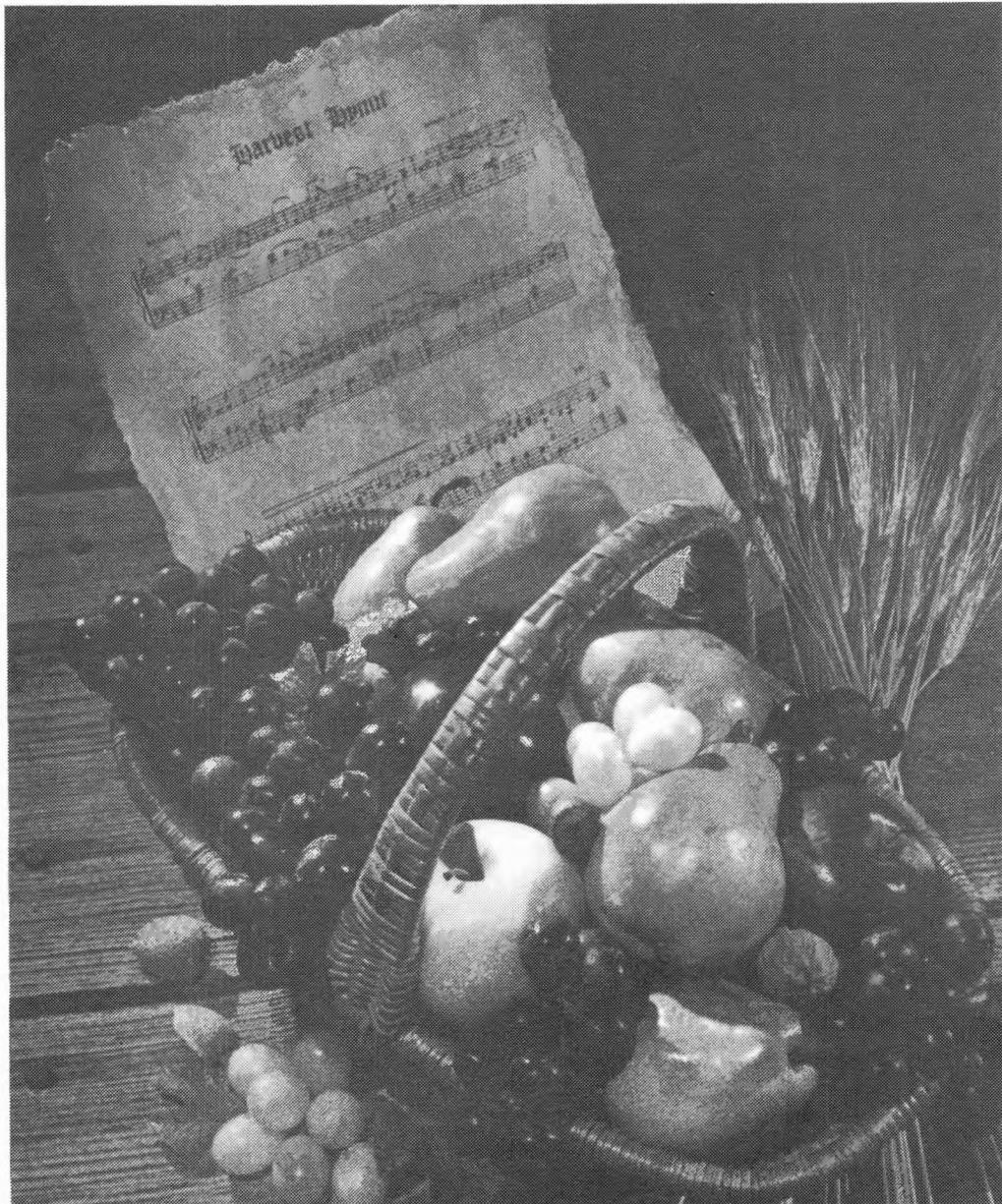
"He shall cause them that come of Jacob to take root: Israel shall blossom and bud, and fill the face of the world with FRUIT."

Isaiah 27:6

VOLUME 40

OCTOBER 1990

NUMBER 10



The Bounties Of The Lord

MISSION -- WORLD RELIEF -- WORKS PROJECTS

ANGER AND FORGIVENESS Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle Shioda, Japan

Expressed anger sometimes has a beneficial effect. It releases stress and pent-up emotions. If someone becomes angry at us, let's remember that he or she may have a need to release stress. At the same time, we should examine ourselves as to what we did which triggered the anger. We may have made a big enough error to justify the other person's anger, in which case we should apologize and insofar as possible, correct our error.

"Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath." Ephesians 4:26. Anger can lead to sin but believers are supposed to have enough self-control to avoid that. Uncontrolled anger is to be avoided. On the other hand, a child who expresses some anger at other children who are always picking on him is only doing what he should do. It is necessary in order for him to maintain his self-worth.

We should not let the sun go down upon our wrath. This is to say that at the end of the day we are to

be forgiving toward everyone who may have crossed our path that day. To be under stress for a short time is one thing; to be under stress day after day is quite another. It can ruin our health and cause our death.

While expressed anger may have some benefits, there are no benefits from unexpressed anger, that I can find. That kind of anger boils inside of us while we try to pretend and smile, on the outside. That can be devastating. Hence, the only cure for some kinds of anger is forgiveness.

When Peter asked the Lord Jesus Christ how many times he should forgive his brother, the Lord replied, "Until seventy times seven." Matthew 18:21. Does this mean that the brother at fault continues to do the same thing over 490 times? Perhaps not. It may mean that we may recall over and over again, 490 times or more, how we have been wronged, and each time it comes to mind we are to forgive. This is the only solution, if it can be called a solution, for the past cannot be undone. We should forgive every

time it comes to mind, thinking that perhaps the other person is suffering, too, more than we realize.

Anger should never be so great that we cannot forgive. God has forgiven us for all our imperfections. How wonderful.

Concerning gifts: Everyone please understand that charity money given to our church cannot be transferred to non-tax deductible causes.

Concerning Meetings for Promoting Missionary Work: Everyone please understand that meetings held in our church facilities for promoting missionary work are limited to those meetings which promote missionary work approved by our church.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH WELCOME

(Continued from September Issue of Silver Lining)

IV LIFESTYLE

As a new creature in Christ, a believer devotes himself to a life of zeal, commitment, and growth in understanding God's Word. He strives to be not only a "hearer" of the Word, but a "doer" of the Word as well. Consequently, his lifestyle is designed to follow the patterns found in the Bible. These are often at variance with contemporary ways which the believer must resist.

The Scripture forms the foundation for one's lifestyle. Because the Word is infallible and without error, its messages and commandments are followed by the church. The Bible's standards are not optional. All of its teachings are "profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness." (II Timothy 3:16)

All of its teachings are essential for godly living. A true believer shuns the modern tendency to divide the Word into "essentials" and "non-essentials," feeling that to categorize a part of God's Word as non-essential is to elevate one's self above God.

Lifestyle centers around the motives of (1) becoming more Christ-like, (2) redeeming the time, and (3) doing those things that bear fruit to the glory of God and our Saviour.

The life of a true Christian reflects the Light (i.e., the virtue and holiness of Christ) in everyday discipleship. The light of Christ is observable, both inwardly and outwardly. Inward holiness is comprised of the fruit of the Spirit -- love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. (Galatians 5:22-23)

(Continued on Page 4)

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741
USPS 496780

EDITORIAL STAFF:

David Bertsch
Uriel Gehring
Lester Stoller

The editorial staff wishes to acknowledge and thank all of the volunteers from the Leo Apostolic Christian Church who willingly give of their time to handle the many address changes, help mail the monthly issues and spend hours in editing. May God reward you.

Published Monthly By The Apostolic
Christian Church of America

Counselors: Theo Beer, Loren Stoller,
David Bertsch, Phillip Stettner

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO:

The Silver Lining
c/o David Bertsch
11520 Grabill Road
Grabill, IN 46741

Second class postage paid at Grabill, IN 46741. The subscription rate is \$7.00 per year. Send zip number with address. Remember to send changes of address. Send both old and new addresses (with both zips).

IN MEMORY -- EDITORS:

HENRY SOUDER
EDWARD SOUDER



Writings based
on God's Word

Light From The Word

"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple" (Ps. 119:130).

FELLOWSHIP

"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 can experience a measure of the joy of Heaven through the beautiful gift of fellowship with one another. This majestic expression of love is made possible only when it is centered in Christ Jesus. We must walk in His light and be cleansed by His blood in order to be joined with one another in this sacred bond. Shortly before He went to Calvary, Jesus asked God to share this wonderful gift with us: He prayed, ". . . that they may be one, even as we are one" (John 17:22).

The expression of our love in true Christian fellowship must come from hearts which deeply care about each other. Solomon made the right choice when he asked God for an "understanding heart" (1 Kings 3:9). God gave him abundant wisdom, which included the ability to listen to his fellow men and understand them. Fellowship involves patient listening and a willingness to take time for others because of a genuine interest in their spiritual well-being.

Fellowship in the spirit of Christ consists of open-hearted communication among brethren. While "small talk" about common interests of daily life may have its place, true edification occurs when fellowship is centered on spiritual conversation. This is pleasing to God. "Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord and that thought upon his name" (Mal. 3:16).

The motivation to communicate at the spiritual level must never be instigated by pride, whereby an individual seeks to demonstrate his knowledge of the Word or to outdo someone else he considers less spiritual. Such an attitude is not only judgmental, but condescending. It

brings no blessing. The goal must be edification, which is the building up of the believers. The entire purpose of fellowship is to edify each other and to nurture our relationship with the Lord (Rom. 15:2).

The primary purpose of assembling in the house of the Lord is for worship. Sharing in rich fellowship while together complements worship, especially when it centers on the spiritual. It is not a healthy sign if brethren frequently head for the door as soon as services are finished. It is also unfortunate if one's visiting is restricted to a particular group of individuals. This may reflect only partial love, as compared to concern for the whole body of believers. Christ was the perfect example in making special effort to seek out the lonely and others whose needs were unnoticed by man.

Active involvement in fellowship requires training. It should start with young children. Parents should encourage their participation in organized Sunday School visits to other churches. Families should experience the blessing of visiting other Apostolic Christian congregations as they travel on vacations or visit friends and relatives. It is unfortunate if children are deprived of this unnecessarily. Occasionally a brother is hesitant to visit other churches because of fear of being called upon to pray. If this cannot be overcome with sincere effort, an acceptable alternative is to ask the lead minister or elder of the church being visited to excuse one from this task. This will be graciously honored. Young group fellowship throughout the churches is also edifying. The bonds of Christ's love are strengthened when the activities are spiritually edifying to all.

The full potential of sweet Christian fellowship can hardly be comprehended. God "hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Eph. 2:6). Christ's pure and holy love is poured out upon every one of

us without partiality. If we are to fulfill His commands and experience fellowship in its purest form, we also must love all the brethren. The Apostle Paul warned: "That there should be no schism in the body; but that the members should have the same care one for another" (1 Cor. 12:25). "Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law" (Rom. 13:8). Brethren should avoid the temptation to withhold their love from someone who does not conform as they might expect. We need not compromise our convictions to be loving and caring to all the brethren. This may be the most effective approach in helping a struggling soul to see the benefit of laying aside personal preferences for the sake of the unity and welfare of the body of Christ.

Fellowship efforts must be extended to seeking souls. It is extremely important that a warm welcome be given to strangers who enter the doors of our assemblies. "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" (Heb. 13:2). Many have testified that their first impression upon entering one of our churches has had a deep and lasting impact. We should gladly encourage anyone who has an interest in learning about our Saviour. We have nothing to be ashamed of. If we are apologetic about some of our church beliefs and practices, it is probably because we do not totally understand them. Rather, we should enthusiastically support our beliefs and try to help others find salvation. Share a "Welcome" booklet and be willing to become personally involved.

Jesus made very clear the most powerful evidence of our being his true disciples: "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35).

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN WORLD RELIEF WORKS PROJECTS HAITI

November '90 - February '91

*"... As Ye therefore have opportunity, let Us do Good unto all men."
Galatians 6:10*

*"... And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works."
Hebrews 10:24*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

What do I do if I am interested in going on this mission?

Contact the World Relief representative from your local church or one of the brothers listed as the project representative for your area.

You will receive an information packet which includes:

- 1) maps, 2) background information on Haiti, 3) a calendar, 4) healthcare form, 5) list of items to take with you, 6) commonly used words in English/Creole, 7) gift suggestions, 8) volunteer form, 9) liability release form.

GEOGRAPHY

Area: 27,750 sq. km. (10,714 sq. mi.); about the size of Maryland.

Cities: Capital - Port-au-Prince (pop. over 1 million). Other Cities: Cap-Haitien (pop. 50,000).

Terrain: Mountainous.

Climate: Warm, semi-arid.

INSIGHTS INTO HAITI

Economy: "Poorest nation in Western Hemisphere, plagued with overpopulation, soil erosion, illiteracy and disease."

- Operation World

Land Used for Agriculture: 31% (some people farm only to raise their own food).

HAITI SCHOOL BUILDING WORK SCHEDULE

PROJECT NUMBER	DATE*	WORLD RELIEF AREA	AREA COORDINATORS
1	11/30 - 12/8, '90	#7 E. IL	Jim Walter R#2, Box 3 Chatsworth, IL 60921 (815) 635-3158
2	12/7 - 12/15, '90	#5 Bluffton & Indianapolis	Carl Hackenjoss Monroe, IN 46772 (219) 692-6311
3	1/04 - 1/12, '91	#8 Western IL	Mike Finley Box 176 Carlock, IL 61725 (309) 376-7301
4	1/11 - 1/19, '91	#9 & #10 KS, MO, MN, IA, TX, CA	R. Schmidgall 955 Lyon Street Hancock, MN 58244 (612) 392-5241
5	1/18 - 1/26, '91	#4 & #6 N. IN, MI, W. OH	Phil Isabel Route 2 Remington, IN 47977 (219) 261-3541
6	2/01 - 2/09, '91	#1, #2 & #3 CT, E. OH, AL, CA, FL	Craig Emch 11856 Miller Road Sterling, OH 44276 (216) 939-4591
7	2/15 - 2/23, '91	#11 & #12 CA, AR, OR CO	Glen Hackenjoss 10564 Haverly El Monte, CA 91731 (818) 442-4957

For additional information — Call Bro. Harold Witzig (309-266-6263)

(Continued from Page 2)

Outward holiness is distinguished by restraint, discretion, and moderation in attire. Costly array (I Timothy 2:9) and conformity to fancy and ridiculous styles in clothing are avoided. (Romans 12:2) Gender distinction in attire and in general appearance is according to God's will. For women, outward piety is reflected by a chaste, non-sensual appearance. (I Peter 3:2) Long hair gathered in a modest style, together with the absence of cosmetic enhancements and jewelry, are reflective of an inner holiness and humility. (I Timothy 2:9, I Corinthians 11:15) Men, too, maintain an outward demeanor that is consistent with the themes of sobriety and discretion. Long hair is avoided. A clean-cut, respectful appearance reflects a heart that is full of spiritual sincerity and seriousness. Men eschew loud and sporty attire.

V WORSHIP

The worship service in the Apostolic Christian churches reflects the brethren's special reverence for God and for Christ. A special attitude toward the omnipotence (Revelation 19:6) and holiness (Psalms 99:5-9) of God is demonstrated.

All aspects of worship are intended to draw worshippers nearer to God and to deepen human appreciation of His ways. Thus, all worship procedures (i.e., reading Scriptures, preaching, singing, and praying) are intended to give God, not man, supreme recognition and to glorify His name.

For instance, the church follows the Bible's ideal in sermon presentation. The Apostle Paul was explicit in stating that he did not preach to his churches "with excellency of speech or of wisdom" (I Corinthians 2:1) and that "my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in the demonstration of the Spirit and of power." (I Corinthians 2:4) Rather, he determined to know nothing except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. (I Corinthians 2:2) Thus, ministers are not trained in man's knowledge at seminaries or Bible colleges, and worldly knowledge is

not deemed important. The church feel strongly that one's faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. (I Corinthians 2:5) If preaching was done with wisdom of words, "the cross should be made of none effect." (I Corinthians 1:17)

Ministers are chosen from among the congregations and serve open-ended terms. They are men of good report, with a good understanding of and fidelity to Scriptures, and are loyal in supporting the doctrines of the church. They serve without salaried compensation. More than one minister serves a church, the average being three to five.

Ministers do not select Scriptural texts or prepare sermon outlines before the worship service (on special occasions such as weddings, funerals, or holidays they may choose an appropriate Bible text). Instead, ministers and elders pray and meditate on the Word during the week. For their message, they open the Scriptures randomly as they stand before the congregation and use these texts for their message. It

is felt God knows much better than the minister what the congregation needs to hear. The minister thus humbly depends on the Holy Spirit for inspiration, praying to be used as an instrument for the benefit and edifying of the worshippers.

Singing, too, is simple and holy in "a cappella" fashion. All music is intended to focus on God. The intent of worship is not to entertain, but to enrich and to glorify God. All parishioners sing. There are no individual soloists and no choral groups during the worship service so that all honor and glory can focus clearly on God, and not man.

In the sanctuary, prayer is offered to God while kneeling. This prostrate style symbolizes fallible mankind "bowing" in heart and mind before an all-powerful, merciful, and infallible God and Father. Prayer language such as "Thee, Thou, Thy, and Thine" -- both in prayer and song -- intends to offer a deeper reverence in the minds of the worshippers as opposed to the more informal and contemporary "You and Your."

Female members wear a veiling over their head during prayer and worship according to Scriptures (I Corinthians 11:5) This reflects the order of God. (I Corinthians 11:3-13) Male members pray with their heads uncovered. (I Corinthians 11:7)

Men and women sit separately during regular worship services. This is sometimes relaxed, however, during special occasions such as weddings and funerals. Although no Scriptures reflect this practice, both Jewish and Christian tradition do. This practice was universally observed in both faiths beginning with temple worship until the late 1800's. Separate seating during worship contributes to better "a cappella" singing, and it helps widows, widowers, and single members feel more comfortable by sitting with believers of their own gender. It also contributes to less gender distraction.

During the first part of the worship service, prayer is offered by the minister conducting the service. Near the end of the service, however, any brother from the congregation may be asked to pray. All male members may participate in praying and the announcing of songs. This is done because the church believes in the "priesthood of all believers." (I Peter 2:5, I Peter 2:9)

It is customary to have two worship services on Sunday. Following a morning worship service, a noon lunch is served, followed by a period of fellowship. Another worship service then follows.

Everyone is welcome to have lunch, including visitors and guests. Members attend both worship services and everyone -- friends, visitors and guests -- are encouraged to attend also.

Charitable collections are not solicited by passing a collection plate after worship services. No one is pressured or should ever feel compelled to make financial contributions. Instead, when collections are taken for special projects they are announced from the pulpit and donations are placed in "charity boxes" which are located in the church hallways. Brethren and friends give on a free will basis as they feel led by God's Spirit.

WORKS PROJECTS COORDINATOR

RE: Obtaining a volunteer to fill the position as an Apostolic Christian Haiti Liaison Coordinator.

Beloved Brethren:

Christian Greetings in the name of our Dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

At the Apostolic Christian World Relief/Work Projects Committee Meeting held in Champaign, IL, August 11, 1990, the Apostolic Christian Caribbean Board requested an invitation be extended among our brethren to obtain a volunteer to serve as a Haiti Liaison Coordinator. The World Relief Committee unanimously approved this invitation. Preferably a couple or two brothers would help with various duties during the time our work teams are in Haiti -- October 1990 through March 1991. Helping with school roof installation, material procurement, water aid, well drilling, pump installation, hospital and agricultural assistance programs.

The length of stay would be five months, with compensation to provide wages, travel, and living expenses. A combination of several persons, each staying a shorter term would be acceptable. Any interested brethren, please address all inquiries to:

Bro. Roger Sauder, Chairman Apostolic Christian Caribbean Board
6261 S.W. 5th Street.
Plantation, FL 33317
Phone 305-584-0947

On Behalf World Relief Committee

In Christian Love,
Jim, Hoerr
Secretary World Relief Committee

Fellowship, while not a formal part of the worship service, is nonetheless complimentary to worship. Brethren, when they come together for worship, have a warm Christ-like feeling for one another. Members thus greet with a holy kiss (within their own gender). This is taught five times in the New Testament (Romans 16:16, I Corinthians 16:20, II Corinthians 13:12, I Thessalonians 5:26, I Peter 5:14) It is a blessing for the humble and converted heart as it is an expression of love and kindness toward others in the household of faith.

Likewise, believers are to be "perfectly joined together" (I Corinthians 1:10) and "fitly framed." (Ephesians 4:16, 2:21) They are to keep the same spiritual judgements, and walk according to the same rule.

Following this Biblical pattern of godly order results in a great measure of love and unity. In Christ and His body, the church (which we are inseparable), the believer finds comfort, contentment, inspiration and unity of the Spirit.

VII MISSION

The mission of the church is to spread the Word of God through preaching, teaching and by a living

example. By preaching the Word, the church and the individual can better "contend for the faith once delivered unto the saints." (Jude 3) The motive of each individual member is to reflect the Light of Christ, to obey the Word, and to witness the message of Christ, both by good works (I Peter 2:12) and by being ready to give verbal expressions of their faith when asked. (I Peter 3:15)

Missionary efforts have seen the opening of many new churches in America together with preaching and teaching sessions among church brethren on university campuses.

Following World War II, missionary efforts resulted in the establishment of a few churches in Japan. Recently, church elders have traveled to India to exert doctrinal influence among a gospel and medical mission in that country over which the church has trusteeship.

Missionary efforts are most prominent, however, on an individual basis by bringing acquaintances to church and letting them hear the Word and observe the Christ-like love and godly order found among the brethren. Parents recognize that one of the greatest missionary fields is in the home with their children. Specific groups mission work is channeled through a national missionary committee.

BIBLES NEEDED NOW

In November of 1989 we began our work in sending used Bibles to foreign countries where the Word of God is very scarce. We have received used and worn Bibles and Bible Story Books in the past, but not near enough. After making the needed repairs, we then package and send them by surface mail to Africa and the Philippines.

The response so far has been somewhat discouraging. If we consider the number of churches we have in our faith and all of the homes and families involved, there surely has to be a lot of used or worn Bibles that could be donated to this work. Right now we need over three hundred Bibles and have less than twenty.

We have been getting letters from individuals from these countries very often. Sometimes three a day which say, "Please send us a Bible." We have already bought "new" Bibles from the Leo, IN, Bible Distribution Center. But that is far more expensive than donated ones.

Hopefully, all of us will take this seriously and help send the Word of God to these needy people. We look forward to hearing from anyone in helping in this work. We do want to thank everyone that has already helped in some way.

Phil & Gloria Grant
R.R. #2, Box 95A
Antwerp, OH 45813
(Latty) 419-258-2197

VIII PURPOSE

The reason for a believer's existence is to glorify God. The major objective of a believer's life is to follow God and to do His will. A true believer lives and walks in the Spirit and has crucified the flesh with its affections and lusts. (Galatians 5:24, 25)

A believer's motive and purpose is to engage in edifying activities that upbuild the inner and spiritual man. He further works to enhance and further the kingdom of God, and to strengthen the church in love. (Ephesians 4:16)

"Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." (Romans 8:12, 13)

"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)

"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." (James 1:27)

IX GOVERNANCE

The church body recognizes Christ as the head of the church, firstborn among the brethren, and the chief cornerstone. Yet, in an earthly sense, a group of approximately fifty local elders comprise a national Council of Elders who, in the form of a servant leadership, exert doctrinal guidance and authority for the benefit of the various local congregations. The leadership committee of this council serves on a rotating basis so no ongoing authority will be vested in any one person or small group.

X HOPE

The prime motive of the Chris-

tian is to achieve the goal of reaching the portal of heaven. The believer sees himself as a "pilgrim" and "stranger" (I Peter 2:11) in this short earthly life who is walking on a "narrow" (Matthew 7:14) pathway to eternal life in heaven. The Scriptures use explicit adjectives such as "pilgrims", "strangers", and "narrow way" and the church takes them seriously.

As a child of God, one's focus is on the unseen things of the Spirit. Only spiritual things will last forever. A believer's value system lessens the importance of material and earthly things -- such as wealth, status, and ease -- because they will

eventually fade away, and they could erode one's spiritual resolve. A believer has a scope and spiritual insight that is not limited to this present life, but encompasses those things that have eternal value. One's affection is set on the things above, not on the things of the earth. (Colossians 3:1, 2)

The blessed hope of heaven is made possible by the death and shed blood of Jesus Christ. As man yields to Him in true repentance, becomes converted (by His grace), and then obediently follows the patterns of godly living, he can entertain the hope of eternal life in heaven! The delights of heaven are so great that

"eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things that are prepared for them that love him." (I Corinthians 2:9)

The doctrine of the church and its subsequent lifestyle standards are all designed to assist the pilgrim believer in reaching the beauties of heaven.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

John 3:16

-- NOTICE --

Repair and Distribution of Worn Bibles, Bible Story Books, Hymns of Zion, Tabernacle or Gospel Hymn Books

Our work in sending Bibles, hymnals and Bible story books overseas has increased. Since 1984, we have sent over 5,000 books. At the World Relief meeting in Leo, November 1989, a plea was made that someone would start in this work in the Eastern States. We're thankful Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria Grant (Latty, OH) volunteered.

You may get your books to either of us or Wing or Bluffton World Relief Centers. We have far more requests for Bibles and Bible story books and Sunday school material, than hymnals.

If you have any questions or wish to send material for repair, please call or write:

Jerry and Arlene Banwart
Box 132, 307 West First St.
Congerville, IL 61729
Phone (309) 448-2416

or

Phil and Gloria Grant
R.R. #2, Box 95A
Antwerp, OH 45813
Phone (419) 258-2197

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Bibles Distributed By Our Churches

First Year -- August 1983 thru July 1984 -- 13,890
Second Year -- August 1984 thru July 1985 -- 10,812
Third Year -- August 1985 thru July 1986 -- 18,247
Fourth Year -- August 1986 thru July 1987 -- 23,048
Fifth Year -- August 1987 thru July 1988 -- 25,969
Sixth Year -- August 1988 thru July 1989 -- 25,509
Seventh Year -- August 1989 thru July 1990 -- 25,501

Bibles Distributed -- Eighth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1990 --	3024	3024
September 1990 --	1270	4294

NOTE: Sets of Braille Bibles are available to give to the blind and KJV, Old and New Testaments, on cassette tapes for those who can no longer read the large print. Also, pocket testaments with Psalms and Proverbs are available.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:35

The following poem was brought by a resident to our Sunday school class at Morton church. I wanted to share it with you because it is an example of their innocent and unconditional love for others.

I pray for those who are my friends
and who are kind to me . . .
That God will bless them with His
love . . .
For all eternity . . .
I pray for every neighbor and . . .
The stranger on the street . . .
Whatever be his standing or . . .
Wherever we may meet . . .
And most of all I plead the
cause . . .
Of those who may despise men
and . . .
Ignore me to the end . . .
For in my heart there is no hate . . .
or eagerness to win . . .
But only warmth and
gentleness . . .
And sorrow over sin . . .
I do not thirst for bitterness . . .
Or crave the smallest strife . . .
But just to be a friend to all . . .
Whom God has given life.

On September 6, four of our male residents from Oakwood, Bros. Frank Kyburz, Ed Getz, Alan Unsicker and Doug Clauss moved to

their new home on Hazelwood Street in Morton, IL. In October, Mike Bodtke and Bro. Harold Miller will join them. The men will be responsible for the housekeeping, food preparation, laundry, meal planning and grocery shopping. These six men's vacancies at Oakwood will be replaced by Bro. Ken Clauss, Max Honeggar, Bryan Tiezzi, Dave Maupin, Dave Taylor and Phil Fehr. Along with the work of moving, the Oakwood group enjoyed a trip to Remington, IN, Amana Colonies, Brown County, IN, and Rockhome Gardens.

We are thankful for those people who came to the home to visit the residents; for the fellowship of those who come for Friday evening services; for the concerts presented by the Howard Family Band, the Senior Citizens band and the Blind Center Choir.

The nice fall weather made several outings more enjoyable. Some of them were apple picking at Tanner's Orchard, the Pumpkin Festival activities, the Labor Day picnic, Horseback riding, and a trip to Springfield to tour Lincoln's home.

As summer ended, two camping trips were enjoyed -- Lake Bloomington for 15 residents and overnight camping at Clinton Lake for 40 residents.

November birthdays at ACHH are: (1) Susie McGinley, (4) Keith Weyeneth, (4) Rhonda Pullen, (5) Kathy Knapp, (8) Tom Manley, (9)

Kay Ellis, (11) Bernice Heiniger, (13) Sam Sigulas, (14) Jane Aberle, (17) Janet Worner. At Oakwood: (2) Ken Clauss, (13) Lucy Endress, (20) Marian Funk; at Hazlewood: (15) Alan Unsicker.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL OF ATHENS, AL Joan Meister

We would like to thank each one who volunteered this past summer. Many of you worked many hours here and some of you return year after year. May God richly bless you for your love and concern you have shown our children.

In September we studied animals and the five senses, and now in October we will be learning about community helpers and transportation. Every day as the children sing songs about Jesus and hear a Bible story, we hope in later years, these seeds will bring forth much fruit. Our enrollment for the year is still down and we would ask your prayerful support for our needs. We work each day with the prayer on our hearts that God's will for His school will be done.

GATEWAY WOODS Apostolic Christian Children's Home Jeff Thames

We can be so thankful that God's

Word is timeless truth. The book of Nehemiah tells us that when the enemies of God realized that God's children were building with a sense of purpose, they plotted together to hinder the building process. This resulted in fearful workers reporting invalid concerns to their leader, faithful Nehemiah. His response to this problem is an exciting encouragement to all of us who are building our lives, marriages and families for God's honor and glory. First, he led them in prayer to God. Second, he set a watch against the enemy day and night. Third, he armed the families with swords, spears, shields and bows. Next, he positioned them in the lower places behind the broken wall and on the higher places as well. Then Nehemiah spoke these words, "Be not ye afraid of them (the enemy): remember the Lord, which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives, and your houses." God brought the enemy's counsel to nought after this and all the workers returned to their work. However, there was a very important change in the manner in which they returned to the work. From that day forward, half of the builders built while half held the weapons. Some held a tool for building in one hand and a tool of war in the other hand, while all the workers had their swords fastened to their sides.

God wants us to know that as we build for His kingdom in these last days, we can expect the enemy to war against us. The enemy has been defeated and Nehemiah's battle plan still works today. We must pray, watch, arm, position, encourage, praise and fight against evil for our brethren, sons, daughters, wives and homes.

We thank God that He has been preparing us for new battles here at Gateway Woods and we encourage all of you, our brethren, to be aware of Satan's tools for hurting our families and especially the youth. Illegal drugs, bad music, immorality, occult practices and other things can all open doors to the devil. Continue to pray for us and our young people that souls can be won and we can remain faithful soldiers for Christ in this battle.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH WORK PROJECT Shadyside, Ohio

On June 15, 1990, a flash flood (the result of unusually heavy rainfall in a localized area) struck several small streams in the Shadyside, OH, area. Twenty-six persons lost their lives. Many narrowly escaped. 187 homes were affected. 72 dwellings were completely destroyed.

The Works Projects Committee has approved at this time projects to rebuild two homes. One of these is ready to start as of the first of September.

Shadyside, Ohio, is approximately 10 miles south of Wheeling, WV, 40 miles north of Sardis, OH, and approximately 120 miles southeast of Akron, OH.

Anyone interested in helping to reconstruct a home and possibly some lives, may contact Bro. Albert Gasser (Rittman, OH), phone (216) 925-3956. All types of construction skills as well as unskilled laborers are needed.

We have some newsworthy items to report for last month. We can hardly contain the excitement we feel for our Sis. Judy Luginbuhl as she and Bro. Lester Stoller have announced God's will in bringing them together in marriage. Judy has served God here at the Home with dedicated zeal for almost eight years and we are thankful that she will be able to continue her valued service as they plan to reside in the Leo area.

Staff and residents had the privilege of serving pancake breakfasts for three mornings at the Grabill Fair.

The Bradford Bible Class, with their teachers, made a very special trip bringing enough cut, bagged and frozen sweet corn to last a whole year! Thank you so much and may God bless all of you for your kindness.

We welcome April as she enters our Transitional Living Program where Sis. Amy Unsicker is serving as coordinator. We look forward to our time together.

Rhonda Stoller's title has changed though her smile remains always pleasant. She is now our office manager and we know that God's blessings will follow her diligent efforts in her new responsibilities.

Did you know that we are building a houseparents' apartment as an addition to the West House? This will allow houseparents to use their own private living space at all times whether they are on duty or not. Brenda and I are so thankful to God, our board of directors, and to all of you who support the home for this new development. Anyone who has ever taken their small children or family for an overnight trip understands what it requires to prepare, pack and unpack in getting there and then again to return home as well. This is what we have had to do three or four times each month for the past year. It is easy to understand why we are so thankful for the speedy progress of the apartment's construction. It will have three bedrooms, two baths and a spacious living, dining area with a small kitchenette. It is exciting to work for a church sponsored organization where you can feel so much love, care and concern from

those in charge of this work. Thank you, Lord!

Keep us in your prayers and remember the words of the Lord concerning the hour of his return. "And what I say unto you I say unto all, Watch." Mark 13:37

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Pamela Moore

We've made it through the hottest part of the summer and now enjoy the cooler weather that fall brings.

Labor Day weekend, we enjoyed a busload of 45 from Peoria, Princeville, Washington, Roanoke, Congerville, Forrest, Champaign and Bloomington, IL, churches. Saturday evening, a supper and singing at the fellowship hall was planned. Sunday, following church and a potluck lunch, the bus headed up in the Tennessee hills to Bro. George Kelley's home. Another singing was held there at Bro. George Kelley's.

Sunday, September 2, a new trustee was voted in to replace the trustee whose term was up. We thank Bro. Winifred Kelley for his assistance as trustee these past 3 years and offer our support to Bro. Mike Moore, voted in as the new trustee.

We are thankful to have Bro. Buddy Lynn and his wife, Sis. Claranne Lynn, back in church with us again. Since Bro. Buddy's back surgery, he has been unable to attend services, due to physical restrictions. Once again, with difficulty, he is able to return to church services.

Our Sunday school teachers have undergone change in the past month. We now have Sis. MaryAnne Link to help Sis. Louise Hall with the youngest class. Sis. Joan Meister will help Sis. Claranne Lynn with the 7-11 year-olds.

Bro. Tom Schrenk was hospitalized with back surgery and is recovering well. He hopes to return to work soon. We're so thankful that all has gone well.

If you are in the Athens area, or would like to plan a special trip to visit us, we always appreciate the fellowship and support of visitors.

Just a reminder to Athens Silver Lining subscribers, dues are due in October.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Ron and Ev Hoerr

Every house needs "law and order" and God's house is no exception, so we give thanks once again to our dear elder brothers for serving our Lord and Savior.

Sympathy is extended to Sis. Barbara and Bro. Richard Schupbach on her brother's death. They went back to Peoria, IL, for his funeral services.

Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol Kaufman, sons, Philip and Sammy, have moved to Silverton. We wish them well and God's blessing.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Christine Baum are happy first-time grandparents. Bro. Randy and Sis. Stephanie Wuethrich became parents to Jared Randal August 11.

We praise the Lord and give thanks for His healing touch to Bro. Harry Roth, Bro. Joe Dotterer and Sis. Evelyn Hoerr and ask for your further prayer in their behalf. Also for little Tina Beery, Bro. Dick and Sis. Marie's granddaughter. Tina needs many prayers as she needs a heart-lung transplant in the near future.

We need the prayers of those we love, pray without ceasing.

The tense condition caused by the Persian Gulf situation is concern for loved ones in our churches. Let's pray for Mark Anliker (Jim and Sharon). Mark is involved in plane escort in the dangerous gulf area.

Praise the Lord for Herbert Mohrman's (Sis. Shirley) heart surgery.

Prayers are requested for others of us who need the touch of His healing hand.

The conference tapes have been shared with us on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. It is worthwhile to remember "it is your soul" our elders are concerned about. Take heed!

Our Sunday school upper grades enjoyed a weekend of good fellowship with their friends in Altadena, CA. We are thankful for teachers who serve the Lord teaching our youth.

Willow Beres (Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois) has reached the wonderful time of her life when she has received the peace of God. We look forward to her testimony and baptism.

On September 9, we heard of the engagement of Sis. Erica Roth and Bro. Todd Baum. May they seek the Lord's help in their wedding plans for November 25. Their parents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Jill Roth and Bro. Robert and Sis. Christine Baum, all of Phoenix.

Thank you, dear ones, near and far, for your prayers, cards, gifts, food and care both before and after surgery. May God bless you for every kind deed done for us. It is quite uplifting to know He never gives us more than we can take.

Sis. Ev Hoerr

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

Harvey Smith

We are very grateful for the ministers from Phoenix who have allowed themselves to be spent in the service of the Lord. We also thank Bro. Loren Knapp (Tucson), Elder Bros. Sam Huber (Sabetha, KS), John Lehman (Bern, KS) and ministering Bros. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott, KS) and Dean Steffen (Elgin, IA) for being in our midst.

Connie Massner, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Ray Massner has turned her life to the Lord. May God grant her grace and strength to build upon the firm rock.

Although it has been some time since Prescott has reported, our little congregation has continued to meet the first and third Sundays of the month. This makes the 5th summer since starting in May 1986.

We welcome visitors. For information, please call Harvey and Ethel Smith at 602-445-2164.

"The difficulties of life are to make us better -- not bitter."

ARIZONA, TUCSON

Lisa Knapp

Our deacon, Bro. Noah Herman, is recuperating from surgery in Peoria, IL. We wish he were here with us but we hope to have him home soon! May God grant a blessed recovery.

We were privileged recently to celebrate the 50-year reunion of Bro. Maynard and Bernetha Beery. Such a happy and rare occasion! May the

Lord richly bless both Maynard and Bernetha in their marriage.

Our Sunday school traveled to Altadena, CA, recently for a week-end of activities. Teachers and students alike enjoyed fellowship and fun. We want to thank the Altadena church for sharing their time and talents for such a good cause! God bless you all.

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO LaNae Meyer - Cindy Schmidt

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman."

St. John 1:15

What a wonderful time to reflect on the words of Jesus and pruning of the vine, as the season of fall comes upon us and we prepare for winter. The first time we raised grapes I'll never forget the feeling I had after my husband pruned our grape vines. Pruning seems to destroy the life of the vine. However, the gardener looks into the future and knows that the final outcome will be enrichment of life and more fruit. Comparing this to our spiritual lives when we encounter sharp pruning and the knife is deep and the pain sore, let's remember that ... "My Father is the husbandman."

We want to express our sincere thanks to Elder Bros. John Klotzle, Arthur Bahler and Leo Moser for spending the weekend with us and listening to our concerns as well as sharing God's Word. We were thankful also for the fellowship we had with Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore.

COLORADO, DENVER

Marlene Leman

Little Nicole Braun (Karl and Mitzi) spent several days in the hospital recently. We are thankful she is again back home and getting along fine.

We welcome Jill Sauder (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann, Roanoke, IL) to our congregation. She has found employment in the area and we trust she will soon feel at home in our midst. We're so happy to have her here!

As some come -- others leave us. We have enjoyed precious fellow-

ship with Bro. Dave and Sis. Eunice Beutel this summer. They spent 15 weeks with us and have now returned to their home in Tremont. May God continue to be with them.

We seem to hear of much unrest in the world today. It makes us just want to draw closer to God, our heavenly Father, for there only can we find true protection and rest.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Martha Luginbuhl

We felt the Spirit of the Lord among us the weekend of August 25 - 26 when our dear Bro. Kevin Ryan, a chosen vessel, was ordained deacon. Visiting us, to carry out the Lord's will, were Elder Bros. Arthur Bahler (Fairbury, IL), Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Loren Stoller (Latty, OH) and Eugene Pamer (Akron, OH). We are grateful they are willing to travel to be in our midst; bringing encouragement and giving of themselves in preaching the Word as it is revealed to them in carrying out God's plan. Bro. Kevin (33) is married to Sis. Cheryl (Gerber) and they have five lovely daughters, Melinda, Katie, Betsy, Colleen and Kara. We pray for and stand under Bro. Kevin's arms in support, as he now willingly gives himself to be used in this capacity by the Lord; to love, oversee and care for His flock.

Two dear sisters, Gerri O'Brien (Edmund and Bea) and Cheri Galat (Bro. Dave and Sis. Marlene) are leaving our congregation and we most certainly will miss them. Sis. Gerri will be living in Sabetha, KS, and Sis. Cheri in Rittman, OH. We wish them God's continued grace and guidance in their new undertakings and may the Lord watch between us over the miles.

Bro. Dave Galat was hospitalized for a slight heart problem but we are thankful he can now be back to work again. Also, our thoughts and prayers are with those who may be under a doctor's care, especially Bro. Mannie Luginbuhl and Sis. Barb Hangartner. Their faith is so evident to us and we are again reminded that the Lord has promised not to lay more upon us than we can bear -- a blessed thought for all of us when "the way is long and

dreary to that far off distant clime, Yet I know that my Redeemer journeys with me all the time; And the more I come to know Him, and His wondrous grace explore, How my longing groweth stronger still to know Him more and more."

**DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,
WASHINGTON**

Catherine Klopfenstein

Good news again this month! Our dear friend Henrietta Meyer has answered the call to repentance, confessing that she is a believer and sorry for past sins. There is now a total of four converts in our Washington congregation. Henrietta has been a faithful attender and strong supporter of this assembly ever since it started in 1986 and we look forward to welcoming her into the fold. She is the daughter of Sis. Lydia Meyer (Peoria, IL).

Visiting ministers in September were Bro. Bill Gerst, accompanied by his wife, Sis. Judy, and daughter, Karlee, and Bro. Dennis Kauffman, accompanied by his wife, Bonnie. We sincerely appreciate their work in the ministry.

Other visitors were from Eureka and Tremont, IL; St. Louis, MO; South Bend, IN; Philadelphia, PA and Minneapolis, MN.

The Strahm family, Bro. Phil, Sis. Gail and children, Philenna and Javan, have rejoined us for what is intended to be a 6 to 9 month period. Bro. Phil's work at the nuclear generating plant near Louisa, VA, brings them back to this area. They are a very welcome addition to our congregation and we wish them the Lord's blessings in this move.

Recent hospital patients were Bro. Matthew Aeschleman, Henrietta Meyer and Javan Strahm.

Several from here attended services in Philadelphia, PA, Sunday, September 23.

Services are held the first and third Sunday of each month at 10:30 a.m., eastern time, at the Westpark Hotel (Best Western) located on U.S. Route 7, about 1 mile west of I-495. Visitors are always welcome. Please join us if and when you are in the area. For information or assistance, please call Bro. Ralph Klopfenstein, 703-979-3476.

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS
Jeanette Yergler
Dorothy Beer

Yes, we believe that the church is an essential element in God's program. As one of our ministers said, It's a place where God is worshiped, the Bible is taught, the gospel is preached, the ordinances are observed and Christian fellowship is enjoyed. How we thank God for our church!

Bro. Ralph Yergler is able to attend church each Sunday, and is recuperating nicely.

Two from our church are returning to college. We wish Chipp and Brett Stoller God's guidance and blessings.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA
Suellen Ott

As summer turns to fall we again see the children starting back to school. We pray that God will protect the young children as they embark on a new year of learning. As adults, we, too, can relate to each day of our lives as a learning process in the school of the cross, asking God to be our teacher and guide.

Our visiting minister this past month is our dear Elder Bro. Ben Maibach. We appreciate his kind words of instruction and ask a special blessing for him and Sis. Lorene. We always look forward to the time they spend with us in Sarasota.

Our prayers continue for Sis. Lydia Vonia as she remains in the rest home. We also wish to remember those not able to assemble with us do to sickness or other health reasons. May God give each of these special ones added grace to make it through the day.

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Peggy Camp

We want to sincerely thank each of the following ministers who came and shared God's Word with us. They were Elder Bro. LaVoyd Moore (Athens, AL), Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) and Bro. Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS). May our heavenly Father be their rewarder.

Our congregation meets every Sunday at the Ramada Renaissance. The hotel is located off I-85 at the

Riverdale Road Exit near Atlanta's Hartsfield Airport. Please contact Bro. Linn Stoller (404-631-4554) or Bro. John Brewer (404-378-5918) for further information.

**ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON - NORMAL**
Marcia Bauer - Carolyn Fischer

It's hard to believe that summer is over and our children are back in school. When the new school year begins, it makes us once again feel such a responsibility to lead them in the right direction. Our schools seem to be pulling them the opposite of what we are teaching them at home. We need to be constant in prayer seeking God's protection over them.

As another Sunday school year begins, we need to pray for our Sunday school teachers that they can be used by the Lord to direct our children to Him. We are in such perilous times when it seems the Lord's return is very soon. We pray that the Lord will be merciful to us and that our children will obey His call.

Little Danielle Elizabeth was welcomed into the home of Bro. Mike and Sis. Liz Robinson. Happy grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Phyllis Rokey (Goodfield), Pat Hursch (Heyworth) and John Robinson (Phoenix, AZ).

We welcome our college students back for another school year. Sunday, August 26, the Bloomington church hosted a student welcome for students and their parents. We have a fall picnic, chili supper and a couple of other activities for them throughout the school year. If anyone is in the area and we have not contacted them, please contact Bro. Ron and Sis. Donna Hodel at 309-662-8338. This includes I.S.U., I.W.U. and anyone new working in this area. We want to be their "home away from home" and share God's love with them.

We thank the Roanoke choir for sharing an evening of song and fellowship Sunday, September 16 at our monthly hymn sing.

Our congregation has truly been blessed over the years to have Elder Bro. Dan Koch as our elder. Due to his health, he has felt it is time to be

relieved of his responsibilities in Bloomington, and the Lord provided Elder Bro. Bob Grimm for us. We cannot properly put into words the love we have for Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol and the love we have felt from them. We truly appreciate all the years of loving instruction from Bro. Dan and pray that God will bless them and continue to provide health and strength to them. We are so thankful Bro. Bob is willing to take on the responsibility of our congregation. Our love and prayers are with him.

We thank Bro. Jim Byrd and Elder Bro. Bob Grimm for ministering to us this past month.

We would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation for the many expressions of love, sympathy and prayers at the time of loss of Mary's father, Edward Plattner. Each kindness deeply touched our hearts.

Bill and Mary Masters
and family

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Karen Ringger

Our best wishes go to Kevin Eberle, son of Ron and Sue, and Michelle Ely, daughter of Lura Hamilton and Darrell Ely, as they were united in marriage August 25.

Sunday school has once again started after a 6-week vacation. Our new teachers this year are Sis. Evelyn Endress (Bro. Gary) and Sis. Char Dietz. They are replacing Sis. Eileen Klumpp and Sis. Barbara Fehr (Bro. Les). We certainly thank the two sisters who have so willingly spent their Sunday morning hour with the small children teaching them of God, and we pray God will grant Sisters Evelyn and Char much grace to teach our precious young ones.

"Safe in the arms of Jesus, Safe on His gentle breast, There by His love o'er-shaded, Sweetly my soul shall rest."

Hymns of Zion #218

Our dear Sis. Bertha Reed passed from this life into all eternity September 10, at the age of 82. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Sis. Audrey Ehnle, her only daughter, and her husband, Bro. Ben, and

two granddaughters, Sis. Pat Plattner (Bro. Sam, Goodfield) and Sis. Connie Manz (Bro. Don, Junction, OH), and ten great-grandchildren. May God comfort each one in their time of sorrow and grant them many precious memories of their dear loved one.

I wish to thank all my relatives and friends for the cards, calls, gifts and prayers during my recent stay in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless you all!

Sis. Emma Knobloch

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

LaRae Dill

Sis. Karen Kaiser is recovering from surgery which she had in late August. We're thankful to see her looking so healthy once again. Karen expresses these words of thanks:

Thank you for all the prayers, visits, cards and gifts received during my stay at the hospital and my recovery at home. May God bless you!

In Christian love,
Karen Kaiser

Jim Blunier, son of Bro. Ben and Sis. Wilma Blunier is a recent graduate of Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL, with a degree in Business and Finance. Jim has accepted a position with Niemann Foods in Quincy, IL. May God be with you and bless you, Jim.

Our fall picnic was held September 5 at Illini Grove. Thanks to the students for organizing the picnic and providing roasted hot dogs for all. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship and potluck meal.

September 14 was the day for our annual church cleaning. Many college students helped and we were able to complete this job in one evening, instead of the anticipated two days. It was a blessing to work together. Thanks to Bro. Ben and Sis. Wilma Blunier for so efficiently organizing this event.

The weekend of September 15 and 16 was a blessed one for our Champaign congregation. As it was stated several times throughout the weekend, this is as close as we're going to get to heaven, here on earth. Saturday evening, we heard the moving testimony of Jonathon Sut-

ter, how with God's help he was able to overcome the bitterness and hatred he felt towards God and the church and was able to admit his need of help and forgiveness from Jesus Christ. We enjoyed the fellowship of Jonathon's friends and family who gathered on Sunday to witness the baptism. Jonathon's parents are Bro. Rich and Sis. Kathy Sutter (Fort Lauderdale, FL). Thanks to Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Bros. Jim Rinckenberger (Bluffton, IN) for ministering to us that weekend.

We were excited to hear that Thane Hanson is repenting. This is a blessing to our church as well as Thane's family, especially his parents, Bro. Keith and Sis. Joan Hanson.

We also appreciate the unexpected visit of Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL). We always enjoy the fellowship of Bro. Don and Sis. Wilma. Bro. Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park) also visited this month.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

We were in Champaign, but somehow it got dark before we found Covenant Medical Center. Yet even before we got there, high above, its flowing letters proclaimed COVENANT. Such a name, such a commitment! In my life, too, it was that way -- dark -- before I found Him and the covenant He offered. But I, too, afar off, had seen the bright letters of COVENANT, the sacred commitment between the Lord and man, written in the "skies" of my parents, ministers and countless other loving, dedicated Christians. Oh, Lord, our God, fill us with Thy spiritual energies so that these alone would fuel the pure light of COVENANT written in our lives, so that others may see, seek and find. We are humbled both by Thy presence within us and by Thy expectations of our lights.

We appreciate the work of our ministering brothers in the harvest. This month we were blessed by the visits of Bros. Art Baurer (Princeville), Marshall Heinold (Washington), Curt Rassi (Tremont) and Dennis Rassi (Fairbury). May the Lord grant them the richest meas-

ure of His Spirit. We need always to support our visiting and home ministers and those who have the oversight of our national church, realizing we also are called to be workers in our Lord's vineyard. We have been privileged to receive much instruction from the tapes of the August brotherhood conference during our September midweek services. May we be granted much grace to apply these spiritual exhortations, to the edification of our souls and His church.

We welcome several new faces to our congregation. We are privileged to greet Bro. Dan and Sis. Ann Moser (Elgin, IL) at our Wednesday evening services. Bro. Pete Monagle (Washington) and convert Jeff Stoller (Morton, IL) are attending the University of Illinois campus in Chicago, Pete in the school of pharmacy and Jeff, the dental school. We pray for their joy as they are much-needed Christian light in the city. May we be a support, one to another, upholding each other's arms in love and prayer.

There are two tiny bundles making their first visits to church in Mom and Dad's arms. Bro. Mike and Sis. Joyce Kaiser have been blessed in the richness of parenthood since August 26 when Lara Elizabeth was born to them. Lara's grandparents are Bro. Roland and Sis. Mary Anne Young (Cissna Park) and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Lorraine Kaiser (Morton, IL). She is also privileged to have great-grandparents welcome her -- George and Marie Young (Cissna Park) and Dorothy Ifft (Fairbury, IL). The Lord has also given Bro. James and Sis. Lynnette Lang another child, Jonathan Robert, born September 5. He has been enveloped in love by his parents and his older brothers, Michael and Phillip, as well as grandparents, Walter and Helen Ripple (Plano, TX) and Bro. George and Sis. Phyllis Lang (Tremont, IL). Jonathan needed a little extra time in the hospital but has been doing very well now. As a church, seeing these two newborns reminds us of our responsibility (not only as parents, thinking of the time when we had babes in arms), but to all of these children we would each be supportive: in our prayers, in our

examples, to these parents and to all the precious children.

Life begins, but that is the start, in a sense, of the inevitable end. In our congregation several are dealing with the sorrow of parting. Sis. Marlene Lau has lost her father Ed (Forrest) and her children, their grandfather. Bros. Tibor and Miklos Bozzay have lost another sister, Sis. Kathy in Hungary. Whether unexpected or expected, as with Sis. Sandy Neu's grandmother and Sis. Lu Feller's brother-in-law, there is adjustment time needed, the claiming of the Lord's promise, "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted." Matthew 5:6 We extend our heartfelt sympathy to these dear brothers and sisters, that the Lord will be that much closer to ease the pain and grief of these earthly endings.

Autumn can be lovely weather for working on areas of our homes or lands that need attention. As a family, we worked on the corn crib together one Saturday. It needed painting! Of course, before the painting came the scraping. Scraping seems such a destructive and unfulfilling activity; however, only with good preparation will the rich paint cover and last. Perhaps we can think of that spiritually and, when we are most convicted or cast down in trial and suffering, remember that only in those ways can we be prepared for the lasting, protective mantle of the Lord. May we submit and even rejoice in His preparation of us.

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Bev Knapp - Karol Stock

We rejoice with Bro. Dan Moser (Elgin, IL) and Sis. Anne Rinkenberg as they were united in marriage August 26. His parents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Libbie Ann Moser (Elgin, IL) and her parents are Sis. Velma Rinkenberg (Rankin, IL) and the late Bro. Steve Rinkenberg. We wish them God's blessings as they establish their home in Chicago, IL.

September 9 was a blessed evening for young and old alike as the senior citizens in our congregation enjoyed a supper and short program hosted by the 3rd through 12th grade Sunday school students.

The students met prior to that evening to make centerpieces, favors, help with food preparation and plan the program. It was a nice evening for our youth and older members and friends to get to know each other better.

We certainly extend a warm welcome to the three people who have recently moved here to Cissna Park. Bro. Rick Meyer from Chicago has accepted a teaching position in the Cissna Park and Iroquois West schools. Also, two young boys, Joshua and Jacob, have moved here to live with Bro. Curt and Sis. Bev Knapp. We are always thankful for new additions to our church and Sunday school.

Visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley), Bros. Bill Gudeman (Elgin), Gary Anliker (Elgin) and Kevin Knapp (Bloomington). We thank each of these brothers for coming and worshipping with us.

Those who have spent some time in the hospital are Sis. Grace Bauer and Sis. Laura Hodel, and Sis. Sylvia Knapp, also had surgery. We pray for God's healing as they are recuperating now at home.

We also wish to extend sympathy to Sis. Clara Vogel in the loss of her brother, Bro. Ed Plattner (Princetonville).

We have been uplifted and encouraged as we heard the tapes of the brotherhood conference the past Wednesday evenings. May we each do our part to support and uphold the teachings we have received through these words of exhortation.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Deb Dietrich - Becky Ott

"Be true; be true!
The Lord is by thee standing;
Joyful with Him at last
Will be the ending!
Tho' hard the strife and
Long the conflict be,
Through faithfulness
The Lord will honored be!"

Zion's Harp #172

As we gathered together to hear the tapes of the brotherhood conference, we received admonition and guidance for our daily lives. How

necessary it is to be aware of the dangers that face God's children in these latter times.

Once again we were fed the Living Word by faithful ministers. Visiting us this month were Bros. Steve Sauder (Tremont) and Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park). May God bless all those who willingly bring forth His Word.

Our prayers are with Sis. Martha Rinkenberger (Bro. Charles) as she recovers from her recent illness. May God's healing hand be upon her.

We are thankful two souls have answered God's call. Mahlon and Katherine Zimmerman have sought God's guidance and direction for their lives. After a lengthy illness, Mahlon was called home in peace. May God be near Katherine as she continues to seek and call upon Him. Our prayers are also with their daughter, Barbara Bartels (Elgin, IL).

Believing it is God's will, Bro. James Knapp and Sis. Lisa Bauman (Goodfield) have announced their engagement. Parents of the couple are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda Knapp (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Larry and Sis. Betty Bauman (Goodfield). We wish God's blessings upon them as they plan for their lives together.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN
Elizabeth Schambach
Betty Bachtold

This month brought joys and sorrows to our congregation. We were saddened by the unexpected calling of two dear husbands from time to the portals of eternity. On August 22, Roger Sauder, 54, was attending a company picnic and suddenly was taken from this life. He leaves his wife, Sis. Gertrude (Schambach) Sauder; a daughter, Sis. Debbie; and a son, Wayne, both at home; also a sister, Sis. Dolores Reinhard (Bro. Dan, South Lyons, MI).

The following morning, August 23, Henry Schock, 73, arose from a night's rest and was planning to take a walk, and quickly came to the bounds of life. He leaves his wife, Verona (Kellenberger) Schock; three daughters, Judith Cross (Michael, Phoenix, AZ), Bonnie Eigel (Jay,

Hinsdale) and Jaclyn Sult (Paul, Matthews, NC); five grandchildren; two brothers, Bro. Richard Schock (Sis. Lyla) and Bro. Frank Schock (Sis. Lois), both of Elgin.

We share sympathy with these two dear families and do hold them up before our heavenly Father who can pour in that healing balm. "Jesus knows thy sorrow, Knows thine every care; Knows thy deep contrition, Hears thy feeblest prayers;" Hymns of Zion #74.

The same weekend the Londoners Soldier Reunion was hosted here by Bro. Albert and Sis. Dorothy Schambach and brought joy and precious fellowship. Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Croghan-Naumburg, NY) and Bros. Elmer Witzig and Harold Schmidgall, both of Gridley, IL, shared the Word and added to the joy of the day.

Also this past month we were grateful for comforting words by Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Jesse Beer (Milford, IN), also the inspirational messages brought to us by Bros. Tom Leman (Denver, CO) and Willis Wiegand (Goodfield, IL).

August 26 brought joy to our beloved ones, Bro. Dan Moser of here and Sis. Anne Rinkenberger (Cissna Park, IL) as they became one-in-the-Lord. We welcome you, Sis. Anne, to our congregation. May there be many blessings in store. Their parents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Libbie Ann Moser, and Sis. Velma and the late Elder Bro. Steve Rinkenberger.

We are mindful of the Wewetzer family as they mourn the loss of their sister, Eileen Schock (San Francisco, CA), 63. Likewise, our thoughts are with Sis. Marge Wewetzer (Bro. Bill) in the loss of her mother, Lucille Seeburg.

A daughter, Kelli Lynn, was born September 2, and brought much joy to Margie and Brian Johnson. Also rejoicing are grandparents, Elvis and Gail Kellenberger and Elmer and Bev Johnson (Ashland, WI).

Sis. Esther Wewetzer and Bro. Bill Kinsinger (Sis. Sandy) spent time in the hospital. Surgical patients have been Bro. Ed Schambach (Sis. Jenny) and John Weiss (Lisa). May God bless with healing powers.

Thank You Notes: To our dearly beloved brethren and friends:

Words fail us to adequately express the overwhelming unworthiness and gratitude we feel in our hearts towards each one of you. "Thank you" seems so small for the outpour of love, prayers and gifts we have been the recipients of, but we know in our confidence our heavenly Father will richly reward as only He can do. We sincerely covet your continued prayerful support in the days to come.

The Roger Sauder Family
 The Henry Schock family wishes to thank you for your prayers and kindness during our bereavement.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA
Kathy Leman

"I'm not looking for signs and wonders anymore. I'm just listening for the sound of the trump." This was spoken by one of our many visiting brethren in the ministry this past month -- Elder Bros. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan), Ed Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and Ronald Nelson (Kiowa, KS) and Bros. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Wes Knapp (Goodfield), Merrill Laukhuf (Latty, OH), Vic Bauman (Smithville, OH), Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Lawrence Luthi (Lamar, MO) and Dale Wulf (Lester, IA). May God richly bless each one for being willing to be His servant and bringing forth the Word in truth.

Our dear Bro. Lawrence Zimmerman was able to lay down his cross and enter into that heavenly rest August 11. Our sympathy goes out to his dear wife, Sis. Clara; his son, Bro. Leland; daughter, Sis. Carol Zobrist (Bro. Gene); one brother, Bro. Walter, all of Eureka; six sisters, Sisters Elizabeth and Dorothy Zimmerman, Evelyn Gudeman (Bro. Don) and Sis. Gladys Schmidgall (Bro. Sam), all of Eureka, Sis. Alma Baum (Minneapolis, MN) and Margaret Kercher (Colorado).

Also, our sympathy goes out to Bro. Leland and Sis. Laurene Zimmerman in the sudden passing of their brother-in-law, Bro. Roger Sauder of the Elgin, IL, congregation.

Dear ones who have been in the

hospital this past month were Sisters Edna Martin, Marie Aeschleman, Lula Fehr, Viola Schlupp and Frances Schumacher. We pray that God will be near them in their times of affliction and heal and bless as He sees best.

Our best wishes go to Elizabeth Wettstein and Carl Rothgeb as they recently exchanged wedding vows. Their parents are Sis. Madelyn Rothgeb and the Marvin Wettsteins.

Gary Wettstein and Kim Troy were married recently. Parents are Bro. Art and Sis. Donna Wettstein. May God bless these dear couples as they walk this earthly path of life together.

We are thankful that there are souls that have turned their backs to the world and heeded their Saviour's call. We look forward to hearing the testimonies of Matthew Zimmerman (Bro. Leland and Sis. Laurene), Keith Blunier (Bro. Sam and Sis. Elizabeth) and Becky Martin (Bro. Lester and Sis. Ruth). May many more come to the foot of the cross while there is yet grace.

We have gathered together the past four Wednesday evenings to hear the conclusions of the brotherhood conference. How encouraged we have been to hear the exhortations and admonitions from our dear elder brothers. They are the watchmen on the wall, sounding the warning to us all. May He grant us much grace to be true and faithful unto the end. Heaven is our goal!

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Jean Bachtold - Crystal Fehr

No chart or compass have the birds
That migrate ev'ry year;
They know they will be shown the
way -

They feel no doubt or fear.
Can we not be as filled with faith -
Our minds as free from doubt?
Can we not trust in God above
To point our pathway out?

Anonymous

This is the season when migratory birds are winging their way toward warmer climes. Let's put our faith in Him. "I like to watch the swallow turn its face to the ocean and set fearlessly over the waters.

If I had no other proof of lands beyond the sea, the instinct of the swallow would satisfy me." F. W. Boreham

We are always thankful for visiting ministers who so willingly share the Word of Life with us: Elder Bros. Wayne Anliker, Perry Zimmerman, and Bros. Earl Gerber (all of Forrest), Greg Rassi (Chicago) and Ralph Garber (Morton).

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

II Timothy 4:2

Bro. Dale Stoller has been called to minister the precious Word of Life. Our prayerful support is with Bro. Dale and his helpmate, Sis. Sandy, as this new responsibility has been laid on him.

May God provide strength and grace to Sis. Dorothy Steffen in her afflictions.

We extend sympathy to Bro. Herbert Fehr in the passing of his brother, John. Jesus knows our sorrows, knows our every need.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Sherri Kelson
Sandra Schneider**

Now the field is ripe for harvest
Let us then all garner in;
For if we should stand here idle,
Who would bring the sheaves of
grain?

Hasten gladly to the labor,
Consecrate to God your heart.
Say this day unto your Saviour,
"Lord, I'll gladly do my part."

Hymns of Zion #46

As the fields are again ready for harvest, are we ready for the day of harvest when our Lord God calls unto us?

Bros. Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka) and Jim Plattner (Princeville) visited our congregation this month. We thank them for being willing to serve us.

Our congregation was saddened at the death of Ed Plattner who passed away August 24. We extend sympathy to his dear wife, Sis. Mary Ann, and children, Sis. Marlene Lau

(Chicago), Bro. Jim (Princeville), John, Sis. Mary Masters and Joe (all of Bloomington). May God comfort their hearts.

Bro. Alan and Sis. Marcia Gerber have been blessed with a son, Timothy Alan. Andrew, Jessica, Aaron and Rochelle welcome a little brother. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Kathryn Fehr (Fairbury) and Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber.

Several loved ones have needed to spend time in the hospital. May Sis. Jenny Adams (Sis. Sharon), Bro. Joe Wiegand (Sis. Pauline), Tom Schlatter and Julie Shambrook (Mark) feel God's nearness.

He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth understanding.

Proverbs 15:32

The past four Wednesday evenings we have been listening to the tapes of the conference. Truly our elder brethren were inspired by the Holy Spirit. Let us hear and understand.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Trish Gerber

Bro. Larry and Sis. Betty Bauman are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Lisa, to Bro. James Knapp (Congerville). James is the son of Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda Knapp (Taylor, MO). We rejoice with these families and at God's work.

Thanks to Bros. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Ed Fritz (Washington, IL) for ministering God's Word to us.

Our prayers have been with Bro. Eli Hohulin during his stay in the hospital.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Perry A. Klopfenstein

A pilgrimage with God ended September 4, when Sis. Leah Ringger, 99, passed away peacefully after a year of failing health. She sought the Lord early in life at age 15 and by His grace lived for Him for 84 years. She missed her 100th birthday by two months.

Sis. Leah personified the Bible's ideal of a godly woman. Clothed with humility, reflective of a meek and quiet spirit and ever-dutiful to her husband and children, she lived in devotion to Christ and His beloved church.

She married Bro. Barney Ringger February 8, 1920 and they lived happily for 47 years until his death January 3, 1967. Bro. Barney and Sis. Leah found one of life's greatest successes in witnessing the conversion and baptism of all their seven children.

Surviving Sis. Leah are: Sis. Betty Herrmann (Princeville), Sisters Viola and Lillian, Bros. Edwin, Raymond, Alvin and Fred, all of our Gridley congregation. A brother, Bro. Alph Welk (Peoria), and three sisters, Sis. Lillian Schrock, Sis. Esther Welk and Sis. Clara Welk (Peoria).

(Note: The Leah Ringger family wishes to thank everyone for their support and deeds of kindness during the illness and death of our loved one.)

On September 6, the Sunday school teachers, ministers and their spouses met for their annual supper in the fellowship hall. The guest speaker was Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke), who gave a charge to all the teachers for the upcoming term.

A special part of Bro. Don's comments included nine things a father would do over in raising his precious children. It was taken from an article he had read and was entitled, "If I Could Do It Over":

(1) I would love my wife more in front of my children.

(2) I would laugh with my children more -- at our mistakes and our joys.

(3) I would listen more, even to the littlest child.

(4) I would be more honest about my own weaknesses, never pretending perfection.

(5) I would pray differently for my family -- instead of focusing on their shortcomings, I'd focus on mine.

(6) I would do more things together with my children.

(7) I would encourage them more and bestow more praise.

(8) I would pay more attention to little things, like deeds and words of thoughtfulness.

(9) I would share God more intimately with my family. Every ordinary thing that happened in every ordinary day I would use to direct them to God.

These were indeed wise comments and re-enforced the seriousness of teaching our children and nurturing them in the ways of God.

ILLINOIS, MORTON
Phyllis Farney - Cheryl
Wuthrich

We wish to thank all the brothers that visited us and brought God's Word to us throughout the past month. They were Elder Bros. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) and Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Bros. Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL), Walt Steffen (Milford, IN), Will Schieler (Milford, IN) and Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN). May God richly bless them and their families for serving us.

The funeral of Harley Foster was held August 31. May God comfort and bless his wife, Anna; his son, Tom; his daughter, Dellora Wesemann; his grandchildren; his two sisters, Levia Summers and Frances Reeves; and other family members and friends.

Ralph Meyering was also called into all eternity September 2. May God put His loving arms of comfort around his daughter, Sis. Christie Zeller; his son, Lenard; his 5 grandsons; his 3 sisters; and all those who knew and loved him.

Our congregation rejoiced at the news of the engagement of our Sis. Marlene Milazzo to Bro. Richard Seidel (Princeville, IL). We wish them God's abundant blessings as they become one in holy matrimony.

Sis. Wilma (Steiner) and Bro. Al Wiedman recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married in Peoria, IL, August 20, 1940. Their children are Jean Egli, Steve, Bill and Jay.

We experienced a wonderful weekend of fellowship and praising God through song when the Milford, IN, choir visited our congregation. Many new friends were made and old acquaintances renewed. We are so thankful for our heritage of exchanging visits with our churches throughout the land.

Sis. Karen Kaiser wishes to thank all for the prayers, cards, notes and gifts of love while in the hospital and since she is home. May God bless all who were so kind.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Jim David

The Peoria church extends a warm welcome to Bro. Gordon and Sis. Katherine Gerber, and their daughters, Karyn (age 7) and Sonya (age 5). The Gerbers recently moved to Peoria from Lafayette, IN. Bro. Gordon works at Caterpillar's Mossville Plant, and Sis. Katherine works part time at the Fondulac Library in East Peoria. We are pleased to have the Gerber family worship with us in Peoria.

Two other new additions to our congregation are of a much younger age. On August 5, Kelsi Margaret was born to Chuck and Joann Haefli. Kelsi's grandparents are Mel and Margaret Getz and Dick and Sis. Gladys Haefli (all of Peoria, IL). Also, a new baby daughter, Ashley Rose, was born to Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Christ September 10. Ashley's grandparents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Doris Christ (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Donald and Sis. Viola Messner (Peoria, IL). It is always a joy to hear of the birth of a baby, for "children are a heritage of the Lord." (Psalms 127:3).

"There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." (Luke 15:10) On September 2 we witnessed the baptism of Bob Leman. We welcome our new brother-in-faith, and as the angels in heaven rejoice, we also rejoice that Bro. Bob has surrendered his life to God.

We regret we neglected to report the May 12 wedding of Tim Schmidgall (Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy Schmidgall, Peoria, IL) and Angie Hamann (Jerry and Norma Hamann). We wish the Lord's blessings upon their marriage.

Visiting ministers to Peoria this past month were Elder Bro. Walter Anliker (Eureka, IL), Bro. Floyd Schmidgall (Morris, MN) and Bro. Robert Meyer (Bluffton North, IN). We sincerely appreciated hearing these brothers bring to us the Word of God.

Hospital patients this month include Sis. Louise Mueller, Karen Meister, Sis. Martha Schneider and Bro. Noah Herman (Tucson, AZ), who had open heart surgery in Peoria. We pray that the Lord will manifest His healing powers on these dear ones, so they may assemble with us again soon.

Sis. Ellen Siebenthal and Sis. Martha Wagenbach have just returned home from the hospital. Sis. Ellen says, "A special thank you to everyone for their prayers, cards and expressions of love and concern for me while I was in the hospital, and since returning home. May God bless each of you and be with you all." Sis. Martha writes, "I wish to thank everyone for prayers, cards and expressions of love and concern for me while in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless each of you." Sis. Martha also submits the following poem by Helen Steiner Rice:

PRAYERS ARE THE STAIRS TO GOD

Prayers are the stairs we must
climb every day.
If we would reach God, there is no
other way.
For we learn to know God when
we meet Him in prayer,
And ask Him to lighten our
burden of care.
So start in the morning, and
though the way's steep,
Climb ever upward, 'till your eyes
close in sleep.
For prayers are the stairs that
lead to the Lord.
And to meet Him in prayer is the
climber's reward.

It has been said that a person reveals their true character by how they conduct themselves when they think no one is looking. Are we ever mindful of our words and actions, even when we are not being observed by others? A most convicting passage of Scripture is Luke 12:2-3, where our Lord Jesus Christ says, "For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known. Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the

ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops." If we do anything in secret, let it not be something of which we may later be ashamed. Rather, let us follow Christ's instructions to give alms and offer up prayers to God, "and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly." (Matthew 6:6).

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Martha Jane Siebenthal

We were privileged this month to have Bros. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Jim Vierling (Eureka), Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), and Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) minister God's Word to us. May God bless these dear brothers and their families.

Two more souls have turned their back on the world and are seeking the Lord in repentance. Our new converts are Darin Bluier (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce) and Carole Streitmatter (Bros. Bill and Sis. Diane). We wish them God's grace.

We rejoice with Bro. Richard Seidel and Sis. Marlene Milazzo (Morton) on their engagement September 9. May the Lord bless them as they walk this path of life together and may God grant unto them many days of happiness.

August 25 was the wedding day of Tim Wagenbach and Tricia Martin (Tremont). Parents of this couple are Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Elaine Wagenbach and Bro. Dean and Sis. Judy Martin.

Kaitlin Marie was born August 15 to first-time parents, Todd and Laurie Martin. Happy grandparents are Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Donna Martin. Bro. Steve and Sis. Lois Leuthold welcome into their home Aubrey Lynn born September 2. Alyssa is happy for a little sister. Happy grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Shirley Leutold and Sis. Barbara Dill (Tremont). Congratulations to Bro. Walter and Sis. Doris Christ on their new grandchild born to Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Christ (Peoria). May the Lord bless these dear families as they rear their children.

On Friday evening, August 3, an all-church Bible study was given by Bro. John Hartman (Fairbury) on "The Grace of God". We thank Bro. John and may God bless him and his

dear wife on taking time out of their busy schedule to share this topic with us.

September 15 was an all-church potluck and a slide presentation of the Children's Home at Leo given by our Sis. Cindy Baurer. May God bless the loved ones who came with her and who work with these children. Two vans came from the home.

We have devoted four Wednesday evenings to listen to the conference tapes. It is a blessing to hear our dear elders speak of their love and concern for our beloved faith and the welfare of our church.

Loved ones who have spent time in the hospital are Bro. George Kieser (surgery), Sis. Grace Streitmatter, Sis. Cathy Stahl, Sis. Elizabeth Wieland, Jamie Gray (appendectomy), Jacob Menold and Bro. Rueben Feucht. May the Lord heal and restore health as He sees best. Let us remember to pray for our loved ones who are suffering bodily affliction.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene) in the passing of his father, Bro. Ed Plattner (Fairbury); Sis. Beulah Ehnle (Bro. Dave) the passing of her sister, Sis. Verle Funk (Garden Grove); Sis. Betty Herrmann (Bro. Eugene) in the passing of her mother, Sis. Leah Ringger (Gridley); and to Sis. Grace Streitmatter in the death of her sister.

THANK YOU NOTE: The family of Bro. Dale Dapper wishes to express their heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the many prayers, gift of love, food, cards and kind expressions of sympathy shown to them at the passing of Bro. Dale. We sincerely appreciate all you have done in our behalf. May God richly bless each of you.

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE Cathy Hohulin - Sandy Leman

After two years of less than perfect growing seasons, we are blessed this year with a bountiful harvest. Perhaps it takes times of receiving less than we hope for to help us realize our dependence upon God and to appreciate His abundant blessings.

We rejoice that more souls are turning to the Lord in repentance.

Kathy Bradle (Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary), Kim Braker (Bro. Harland and Sis. Martha), Brad Hartter (Bro. Bob and Sis. Chris), Bart Hodel (Bro. Dave and Sis. Maxine) and Bev Luginbuhl (Scott), are all making a new beginning. We with them God's rich blessings in their walk with the Lord.

We were blessed to hear visiting ministers Elder Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford, IN), Bro. Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Rick Plattner (Peoria). Bro. Doyle also conducted a topical Bible study Saturday evening, September 15. It was good to be reminded of our responsibilities to share the Word and be good witnesses to others in spite of the peer pressure we sometimes feel to be silent and hide our lights. We thank all these brothers for sharing the Word of God with us and ask God to bless their efforts and add the increase.

Hospital patients the past month were Sis. Margaret Beer, Sis. Angela Rassi (Bro. Joe), Beth Fischer (Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Clara) and Bro. Rudie Hoffman (Sis. Mary). We pray for God's healing power in each of them.

Bro. Brent and Sis. Marge Hodel have a little boy, Chris, staying with them. Nathan and Sara welcome their foster brother into their home.

September 8 was the wedding date of two couples from Roanoke. Phil Sauder and Kathy Martino are one couple. Their parents are Bro. John and Sis. Esther Sauder and Mark and Ruth Ann Martino. The other couple is Nathan Fehr and Christine Herbst. Their parents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Helen Fehr and Roger and Sandy Herbst. We wish God's blessings to each couple as they begin their life together.

ILLINOIS, TREMONT
Carolyn Bolliger
Marsha Koch

We would like to thank Elder Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg, NY) and Bros. Roy Ehnle (Bradford) and Trent Meiss (Iowa City, IA). May God grant them grace and strength to keep preaching according to His will.

Bro. Andy Aberle, Sis. Evelyn

(Bro. Richard) Sauder and Sis. Doris (Bro. Robert) Baer were our surgery patients this month. Our prayers are that each one can be restored to good health. Also Bro. Walt Aberle had not been with us for awhile but we are thankful he is well and assembling again.

Bro. Ron (Bro. Si and late Sis. Louise) Wagenbach and Sis. Elizabeth (Aaron and Iris) Goschwind were married August 26. Also Trish (Bro. Dean and Sis. Judy) Martin and Tim (Bro. Laurence and Sis. Elaine, Princeville) Wagenbach were united in marriage August 25. We wish these couples God's blessings in their lives.

Our congratulations go to Sis. Minnie Sauder on the birth of her great-granddaughter, Megan Elizabeth Leff, born July 27. Megan's parents are Diana and Michael (St. Joseph, IL).

Our hearts go out to Harold and Eunice Rowell as they were called to their son, Ken's (Anchorage, AK), bedside because he is so seriously ill.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON
Carol Schick

We wish to thank Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron, OH) for ministering to us on Sunday Sept. 2nd. We appreciated his effort and fellowship.

Hospital patients this past month were Bradley Ricketts (Bro. Jon and Sis. Cheryl), Sis. Edna Simon, and Sis. Sue Ruppert. God has answered or prayers for these loved ones as they have returned home and are worshipping with us again. (Bradley worships with us in his own special way - he sings right along with his dad and I'm sure it pleases the Lord even if his song book is held upside-down.)

As this newsletter is being written we are in the middle of listening to the Elder Brother's Conference tapes. What a blessing it was, for those who were not able to attend the conference, to have the opportunity to hear the tapes.

With Halloween season approaching, I was curious to learn just how such a ridiculous holiday got started. The World Book Encyclopedia says that there are several possibilities for the origin of the

tradition in the United States. One comes from the Celtic festival honoring Samhain, the Celtic lord of death, and another to honor Pomona the Roman goddess of fruit and trees. In approximately the year 800 AD the church established All Saints Day on November 1 so the people could continue a festival they had celebrated before Christianity came about. However, many people kept the pagan customs along with the new holiday. Many early American settlers came from Celtic regions and brought various customs with them but because of the strict religious beliefs of other settlers, these customs did not become popular until around 1800 AD at which time large numbers of immigrants arrived from Ireland and Scotland and introduced their Halloween customs. May we as Christians pray for one another as we each strive to cope with this holiday in our own way. And may we help or children not to get caught up in the ghoulish gore of the season but look to the season of harvest blessings and Thanksgiving.

THANK YOU: Many thanks for your prayers, visits and gifts while at the hospital and then at home. May God bless all of you for your love. Sis. Edna Mae Simon.

REMINDER: October is Silver Lining collection month for Washington.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON
Shari Fiechter - Gwen Kipfer

When you travel down life's highway,
 With an extra heavy load,
 When you come upon a byway,
 That's a deeply pitted road,
 Don't hesitate to walk on through,
 Let faith become a stepping stone,
 Remember God is there with you,
 You never travel all alone.

By Alice Joyce Davidson

We pray that God will walk along the sides of our new converts, Lonny Grube and Gary and Sharon Barger, as they make a new beginning in Christ Jesus.

This month we were fortunate to add four souls into the fold as we were witnesses to their testimonies

and baptisms. Among there were Bro. Scott Shady, Bro. Nick Gerber, Bro. Jon Leyse and Sis. Kristi Schwartz. Helping make this weekend possible were visiting ministers Elder Bro. Phil Stettner, Bro. Bob Meyer and Bro. Nile Bucher (Bluffton North). Also visiting the Bluffton congregation this month was Bro. Denny Kauffman (Bloomington-Normal, IL). We appreciate the efforts made to come visit and share God's wonderful Word with us.

We feel privileged to announce two engagements to you. Bro. Cris Stucky (Bro. Steve and Sis. Carol) and Sis. Becky Pertel (Cathy Pertel) have felt this is God's will for them to be united in marriage. Also Bro. Todd Baller (Bro. Steve and Sis. Sue) and Sis. Shelly Tonner are looking forward to a December wedding.

Many new arrivals from heaven were delivered to us this month. Bro. Larry and Sis. Sharon Stoller were blessed with a very unique little bundle. Breanna Marie was born March 30, in Korea, and came to live with the Stoller's August 29. Welcoming Breanna with open arms are brothers, Adam and Landon. Also rejoicing with this new addition are grandparents, Bro. Ray and Sis. Flossie Stoller and Richard and Phyllis Greene. Bro. Jeff and Sis. Karen Isch became parents of a son, Jason Lynn, born August 22. Older brother, Kevin, will be helpful in taking care of his new little brother. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Carolyn Isch and Walter Jr. and Joyce Neuenschwander. Trevor John was born to Todd and Teresa Steffen August 26. Trevor joins a big brother, Anthony. Grandparents, John and Sis. Etta Steffen, rejoice upon the arrival of their second grandson. The coming of Josiah John August 28, brought much excitement and joy to the home of Bro. Brad and Sis. Shawn Gerber. Josiah is fortunate to have an older brother, Abraham. Grandparents are Bro. Leon and Sis. Mary Kay Gerber. Bro. Roger and Sis. Tara Steffen are so proud of their first child, Matthew Jay. Matthew was born August 29. We are happy for grandparents, Bro. Marv and Sis. Della Steffen and Bro. Ted and Elaine

Liechty. Matthew Allen was born September 6 to parents, Bro. Sam and Sis. Connie Kaehr. Older brother, Daniel, is excited to have a new playmate. Proud grandparents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Dorothy Gerber and Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jeannie Baumgartner.

As God has promised to walk with us on the mountain top, so he has promised to walk with us in the valley. Hospitalized this month were Bro. Brent Tonner, Wendy Neuenschwander (Bro. Dee and Sis. Laura), Sis. Sylvia Hackenjoes, Bro. Oscar Bertsch (Sis. Sylvia), Michael Reinhard (Bro. John and Sis. Pam), Kayla Kipfer (Bro. Troy and Sis. Brenda), Bro. Ray Heyerly (Sis. Amelia) and Trent Earney (Bro. Todd and Sis. Teresa). We pray that it will be a great comfort to know that they never have to walk alone. Not only do they have the ever-presence of God, but also the love and support of many families and close friends. This become evident in the lives of Bro. Derryl and Sis. Peggy Aschliman. Following is an expression of their thankfulness. "We are truly humbled by the outpouring of love, prayers, cards and gifts we have received and felt from so many of you during the death of our beloved son, Byron. Thank you seems so inadequate. May God richly bless each of you." (From Bro. Derryl and Sis. Peggy Aschliman and family, Bro. Mildred and Sis. Alice Aschliman and Bro. Lester and Sis. Rosemary Gerber).

Our condolences also go to the family of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary Raber upon the death of Bruce's father, Earl Raber. Earl passed away September 18, at the age of 68.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Terri Mueller - Lora Kieser

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

Matthew 28:19

On September 16, our congregation rejoiced with the baptism of four precious souls. Our new brother and sisters are Bro. Jason and Sis. Mandy Troxel, Sis. Shauna Betz

(Steve) and Sis. Jill Middaugh (Mark). We wish them much grace and happiness in their new lives in Christ. We also thank Elder Bro. Ed Schwartz (Bluffton) who came to share this occasion with us and welcome him back anytime.

On September 9, Bro. Todd Baller (Bro. Steve and Sue) and Sis. Shelly Tonner (Bro. Gary and Sis. Diann) announced their engagement. "Love of all gifts is the greatest, which the Spirit does bestow." Zion's Harp #37.

August 11 was the wedding date for Shawn Culp (Bro. Mick and Sis. Coleen) and Beverly Gase (Tom and Dusty). Also united September 15 was Shelly Hamilton (Bro. Glen and Sis. Lee Reinhard) and William Barry Scott (Vera Scott and the late William Scott). We wish both couples God's blessings and much happiness in their new lives together.

We wish to extend congratulations to Bro. Walter and Sis. Joyce Neuenschwander in the birth of their grandson, Jason Lynn, born August 22 to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Karen Isch (Bluffton). Paternal grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Carolyn Isch (Bluffton). Also rejoicing at this time are Bro. Brad and Sis. Shawn Gerber over the birth of Josiah John, born August 28. Congratulations go out to grandparents, Bro. Leon and Sis. Mary Kay Gerber (Bluffton).

Our heart goes out to Sis. Josephine Meyer who recently has felt the loss of her beloved husband. Joe passed away September 18 at the age of 85. He had been living at the Christian Care Retirement Community. Our sympathy is extended to their children: Sis. Delores Heyerly (Bro. Simon), Bro. John Meyer (Sis. Carolyn) and Bro. Vernon Meyer (Sis. Carol). He is also survived by a sister, Sis. Ida (Bro. Ray) Gerber; 9 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Bev Huber

"Therefore shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave unto his wife; and they shall be one flesh." Genesis 2:24. Kristine Westphal (Bro. Karl) and James Conley (Claude and Glenda Conley) were married September 1. We wish them God's richest blessings.

We're thankful Bro. Randal Wuethrich (Sis. Stephanie) was spared in a recent farm accident and is recovering nicely.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL) and Bro. Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN). We appreciate them sharing with us.

Words fail me, when I had my 80th birthday, I received so many lovely cards from all you dear ones. I say many, many thanks. May God bless you all.

Bro. Eli Anliker

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

Miriam Gudeman

The weather has been absolutely beautiful here in Indy for the past couple of weeks, since fall has opened its doors. The Lord blessed us with sunshine for our Sunday school picnic which was held September 23 at the Broad Ripple Park. Fun and fellowship were enjoyed by all.

We appreciate all of our college students and enjoyed being with them the weekend of September 15 and 16. We want to encourage them to come and visit us often. We always receive such blessings when we get together.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH), Bro. Ed Alt (Cissna Park, IL), Bro. Jack Bollier (Leo), Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) and Bro. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington-Normal, IL). May God richly bless our ministering brothers for their unending devotion to His work.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Mary Lynn Massner

"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;"

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 2

On September 4, a new baby boy, Jackson Henry, was born to Sis. LuAnn and Bro. Tom Troxel. He is being enjoyed by big brothers, Rudy, Ned and Joshua. His Grandpa, Bro. Phil Troxel, lived long enough to see his new grandson and smile

upon him. Then Saturday, September 15, Bro. Phil quietly slipped away in his sleep. Our sympathies and love are extended to his wife, Sis. Mary, and his children, Sis. Barb, Bro. Ed, Sis. Marcia, Fay, Bro. Tom, Norma, Mary Ann, Becky, their spouses, and his many grandchildren. We are grateful to the Lord that Bro. Phil was able to spend his last days at home where he'd been so lovingly cared for by Sis. Mary. In heaven we know Bro. Phil will no longer have a wheelchair and struggle to communicate. May he sing with the angels! We will miss him.

Our Sunday school has started again and we pray that our teachers may be given the wisdom they need to teach the children entrusted to them. May all our children learn of the glory, majesty and love of our great God and His Son Jesus. We thank our new teachers, Bro. Ed Troxel, Bro. Don Nuest, Bro. Randy Massner and Sis. Evie Heinold for taking on this responsibility. Special thanks to our outgoing teachers for giving their time these past few years.

INDIANA, LEO

Doug Kellenberger

October can be a time of beauty or goblins depending upon our outlook. That outlook depends upon the thoughts behind it. Jesus' Word put it this way, whatever you have a lot of in your heart, will come out. And whatever you think in your heart, you will be.

If God's way of looking at things is important to us, our concern should be, what thoughts are at the center of my heart?

One thing that Jesus doesn't want there is fear. Fear binds us (Romans 8:15). Fear of one another entraps us (Proverbs 29:25). Fear immobilizes us. Fear frightens us into striking out (Acts 6:8-14).

It is disconcerting to know how many of our decisions are actually influenced by fear. That's why we're not victorious. That's why we're anxious and distressed instead of rejoicing in the Lord's beauty. Jesus didn't give us that kind of fear (II Timothy 1:7). He gave us something more powerful that will cast it

out (I John 4:18). He will deliver us (Romans 7:24-25).

We thank our visiting ministers for serving us: Bros. Glenn Riggenschach (Smithville, OH), Tom Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI).

Sis. Dorothy Norr has returned from the hospital. She needs our concern and prayer.

A boy was born, Andre David, to Bro. Tim and Sis. Jenny Sauder. We're probably not as thrilled as they are, but we're still happy for them, nonetheless. God bless this boy!

We rejoice in the announcement of the engagement for marriage of Bro. Lester Stoller and Sis. Judy Luginbuhl. Bro. Lester's parents are Bro. Ernest and Sis. Dean Stoller (Leo) and Sis. Judy's parents are Bro. Rudy and Sis. Evelyn Luginbuhl (Rockville, CT). We wish them much happiness and the Lord's blessing.

INDIANA, MILFORD

Paula Haab - Gwen Steffen

Once again love was shown to the Milford congregation by Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan) and Bros. Ted Witzig (Morton, IL) and Steve Ringger (Bluffton North) and their families as they came to minister to us this past month. Surely it must thrill Jesus' heart to have such willing, dedicated servants.

Having spent some time in the hospital this past month are Bro. John Lehman, Sr. and Sis. Esther Welty. We are thankful both are back home and able to worship with us again.

On September 18 our dear Sis. Priscilla Haab was called home after 85 years of life, the last 4½ of which were spent at Lakeland Loving Care Nursing Home in Milford. We rejoice she is now with the Lord, yet we extend our sympathy to her family, especially her sister, Sis. Laura Kammerer (Leesburg) and three brothers, Bro. Jesse (Milford), Bro. Roy (Bluffton North) and Harley (New Paris).

We also wish to extend our love and sympathy to Sis. Aldine Reimschisel whose son-in-law, Jim Losure, passed away. Jim and Phyllis have lovingly cared for their

mother in their home for the past few years. Jim was such a joyful person to be around and will surely be missed in their family circle.

We are grateful for the weekend ministering Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeton, IL) and his family spent with us. On Saturday evening, Bro. Jim spoke to us on the past history and the present situation of Israel. As the world focuses on the unrest in the Middle East, we were reminded to keep our focus upon the Lord (Luke 21:28).

Our thoughts and prayers are with the men now serving our country in the Middle East. Especially close to our hearts is Todd Beer, son of Bernie and Peg Beer, and grandson of Bro. Theo and Sis. Naomi Beer. I'm sure a letter of encouragement and cheer would be most welcomed by Todd. His address is: Capt. Todd Beer, 305 AREFW Deployed, 307726412 APO, New York, NY 09852.

Another milestone will soon be here for our retired Elder Bro. Theo Beer and his dear wife, Sis. Naomi, for on October 25 they will be celebrating their 65th wedding anniversary. We appreciate the love and encouragement they continue to supply our congregation. For those wishing to remember them on this special occasion, their mailing address is, Route 2, Box 90, Milford, IN 46542.

INDIANA, REMINGTON Amelia Schini

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

It was so good on Sunday, August 26 to see many young Bible Class students in church from Morton and Washington, IL, and our neighbors, Wolcott. They had come Saturday afternoon and were hosted by our Bible Class. We thank all of you teachers for all your efforts in your part in "training up" these young people. It was an enjoyable weekend for all. Rumors has it most would like to do it again.

The weekend of September 9, a number from the handicapped home

from Morton, IL, and their chaperons, spent here at Remington. This has become a yearly event. We do enjoy having them and can tell they enjoy the visit.

That same Sunday, Elder Bro. Andy Virkler and his wife, Maxine, were here. Their son, Bro. Stanley, lives here. Welcome, Bro. Andy, as often as you can come.

This is the time of the year when the birds have taken to the air to fly south. I especially miss the Purple Martins who left some time ago. But we had some "different" birds on Friday evening, September 7, namely, the Zapata, Texas, Snow Birds. There was a "flock" of around 35 brothers and sisters who came from various churches in Iowa, Kansas and Illinois. They came to our fellowship hall enroute to Bluffton to their reunion. A dinner was held there, a time of fellowship and also a singing. Each couple was assigned to a different home where they could "nest" down for the night. All left before noon on Saturday Bluffton bound. We surely did enjoy their visit. It is so wonderful to have these "injections" from time to time to renew and encourage us in our faith. Isn't God good to us?

Sunday, September 16, we enjoyed a visit from Bro. Elmer Witzig and wife and other family members all from Gridley, IL. We appreciate all visitors and say "thank you" and come again.

We are happy to report two new babies. Timothy John Virkler was born September 7 to Bro. Stanley and Sis. Beth (Bahler) Virkler. His brothers, Paul, Nathan and Joel and sisters, Rachel and Ruth, have lots of love for him. Grandparents are Bro. Andy and Sis. Maxine Virkler (Bay City, MI) and Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois Bahler from here.

Bro. Bruce and Sis. Jody (Getz) Waibel are first-time parents to Mark Allen, born Sunday, September 16. His happy grandparents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Doris Getz (Francisville, IN) and Bro. Harold and Sis. Arleta Waibel from here.

These are two very fortunate babies as we know their parents will "train them up in the way they should go". May God bless them in this tremendous responsibility.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Anna Marie Stoller

God has promised a beautiful place, heaven, for any who desire to put forth the effort to attain perfect peace and love. A dear elder brother recently reflected on the atmosphere of this heavenly dwelling. He stated that we tend to forget that we should be striving for perfection in life. Although God is very loving and merciful, He expects us to earnestly strive for perfection. Should we expect mercy for willful disobedience and neglect?

Labor Day weekend brought Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton) and many visitors from various congregations into our midst. Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) was our guest minister one Wednesday evening.

Bro. Dwight Stoller and family (Latty, OH) were recent visitors. They were guests of Bob and Sis. Joan Graf who announced on that Sunday that they will be moving to the Latty congregation. Bob has found employment in the Fort Wayne area. Our loss is Latty's gain, and our congregation supports this dear family as they make the transition.

Fellowship weekend was held September 8 and 9. Each family, or individual, from our congregation had the opportunity to invite a guest. Saturday evening, a singing was uplifting at the church, and on Sunday we enjoyed a potluck dinner at the church after services. Enhancing this Sabbath Day was the unexpected, though welcome, visit of ministering Bro. John Rowell (Burlington, IA) and a number of his family.

Mingling with the joys of Fellowship Weekend was the great concern that filled the hearts of the congregation to discover that Bro. Wayne Lehman was absent from the assembly. He awoke Sunday morning unable to see from his left eye. Bro. Gene Huber, visiting the Lehman's for the weekend, took Bro. Wayne to the hospital. Bro. Wayne's wife, Sis. Shirley, tearfully related to us at church where our dear brother was and expressed the fear that he had lost his eyesight. Many prayers arose on his behalf during the day, and before the services were over we received the sad news that Bro. Wayne's eyesight in the

left eye was indeed gone -- he had suddenly become blind. Hope is very slim that sight will ever be restored to Bro. Wayne in this eye, however, we are thankful he is adjusting well to his affliction and is able to read the Word of God. "Would you be willing to give your eyesight that another might see?" Bro. Robert Beebe presented all of us this challenge.

Sis. Helen Eisenmann has moved to her new home in Bremen and is gradually making adjustments to her new environment.

Kirsten Lightner, daughter of Peter and Sis. Nerys Lightner, has become mother of baby Joseph. Sis. Nerys has an abundance of love to give her first grandchild.

Singing worshipful praises to God was our way of extending wishes for God's blessings to Bro. Bill and Sis. Stacey Feller who were married August 19, in Milford. This singing shower was held September 5, at the church.

Recently a brother spoke on the willingness of each of us to accept God's plan for our lives. His comments caused me to reflect on the experiences and emotions of those dark days, 25 years ago, September 20, 1965, when God allowed the course of life to change abruptly for my husband's family. His dad, Bro. Lowell Stoller, age 47, met instant death in a truck accident, not only ceasing his duties as husband and father, but as a minister of the Word of God. "The righteous man perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come." Isaiah 57:1. As we contemplate our future and the goals we have set, may each of us remember that it is most important to plan to serve God, to have our ultimate goal be that of perfect peace in heaven.

"We wept -- 'twas nature wept -- but faith,
That cannot live by ghost or wraith,
In that far world so fair and bright
Beholds you in refulgent light.

We miss you here, yet faith rejoices
That you have joined those
heavenly voices;
Nature sees the body dead,

But faith beholds the spirit fled,
Nature stops at Jordan's tide,
But faith beholds the other side.

So you are gone: now life seems
black,
And shall we ask to have you back?
Back -- and leave the Spirit's
brightness?
Back -- and leave your robes of
whiteness?
Back -- and leave the Rock who
feeds you?
Back -- from springs to which he
leads you?
Back -- and leave your heavenly
Father?
Back -- to earth and sin?

No: rather,
We would resign to solitude,
We would not ask you if we could,
But patient wait our risen Lord
Till nature cuts this silver cord;
And He who fashions all things new
Shall bring our spirit home to you.

Author Unknown

INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Marie Heinold - Cindy Susdorf

Greetings of love from Northwest Indiana. Our college students this year are as follows: Sisters Stacy Miller, Kelly Thomas and Karen Susdorf (Purdue North Central); Sis. Sheryl, Deb and Jim Bucher, Michael Zeltwanger, Kris and Joe Kimerer (Purdue Univ.); Lance Bucher (Indiana Univ.). We pray for each one as they live and learn in this beautiful time in their lives.

Many of us felt a special blessing in attending the Gateway Woods Sale August 18. It was a time of fellowship, working together and helping a worthy cause. The recent visit to Valpo of houseparent, Sis. Liz Martin, her girls, and volunteers, Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth Gramm, was also appreciated.

A blessed evening of singing was enjoyed at the Bro. Mike Thomas home August 25. On September 9 the church picnic marked the transition to a new Sunday school year. Each teacher told of class studies and awards were given. We are thankful to our heavenly Father for the cooperation and loving concern given by each helper this past year.

If you had a bank that credited

your account each morning with \$86,400, carried over no balance from day to day, allowed you to keep no cash in your account, and every evening canceled the amount you had failed to use during the day . . . What would you do? Draw out every cent, of course!

Well, you have such a bank, and its name is "TIME". Every morning it credits you with 86,400 seconds. Every night it writes off, as lost, whatever of this you have failed to invest for a good purpose. It carries over no balances. It allows no overdrafts. Each day it opens a new account with you. Each night it burns the records of the day. If you fail to use the day's deposits, the loss is yours. There is no drawing against the tomorrow. You must live in the present on today's deposits. Invest it so as to get from it the utmost in health, happiness and success.

Quarry Observer

INDIANA, WEST LAFAYETTE PURDUE UNIVERSITY Camille Vogt

"Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man and he will increase in learning. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."
Proverbs 9:9-10

We would like to welcome all of the new students in our area. The students starting college are: Sis. Marcy Bahler (Wolcott), Eric Culp (Bluffton), Sis. Missy Furrer (Wolcott), Christin Heinold (LaCrosse), Chris Huber (Francesville), convert Mike Klopfenstein (Leo), Elaina Lehman (Remington), Derek Leman (Francesville), Bro. Ben Masten (Francesville), Mindy Neihouser (Francesville), Judy Waibel (Remington), Shirley Waibel (Remington), and Troy Wireman (Francesville). We also have one transfer student, Tracey Putt (Francesville). Also relocating in our area are two couples; Bro. Jeff and Sis. Sue Neihouser and Bro. Dale and Sis. Amy Ringger.

We are very thankful to be able to worship our Lord together every other Thursday. The visiting min-

sters who have come to share the Word of God with us are: Bro. Christ Huber (Francesville), Bro. Gary Tonner (Bluffton) and Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL). We also would like to thank ministering Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington) for assisting in the organization of the new student orientation dinner and our Purdue services.

We want to invite anyone to join us in worship on every other Thursday evening. The services for the remainder of 1990 will be held October 25, November 8 and 15, and December 6. Under God's direction, a new fellowship hall is under construction. We are presently conducting services in the Emmanuel Bible Church's facility; however, following the completion of our new fellowship hall, we will be meeting at our new location. The Emmanuel Bible Church is on Soldiers Home Road, and we begin our services at 7:30 p.m. E.S.T.

We are Purdue ask for your continued prayers throughout this academic year.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Lorna Knapp - Lynell Blume

We want to welcome Bro. Troy Oberlander back home. He has found employment in Lafayette, for which we are thankful.

We are also thankful for the privilege we have been afforded to listen to the elder conference tapes. May we all be inspired with a new resolve to walk more closely with our God and prayerfully support these faithful brothers who watch for our souls.

IOWA, BURLINGTON

Carolyn Wulf - Deyona Massner

We were thankful to have Bros. Dale Frank, John Steiner and Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA) speak the truth to our Burlington congregation this past month. May the Lord bless their labors of love.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to Sis. Arlene and Sis. Phyllis Siegle and also to Richard and Thelma Siegle in the loss of their mother, Sis. Lena Siegle. May the Lord provide comfort and grace that they may continue on, and may they

each be blessed for their dedication in helping and supporting their dear mother in the recent years.

In Memory:

Remember Mother

Despise not your mother when
she is old;
She's dearer by far than wealth
untold.
She nurtured you kindly, right
from your birth,
And watched o'er you carefully in
sorrow, in mirth.

She'll not be here to see you grow
old,
For God will have called her back
to His fold.
So show her affection and your
love re-state
By visits and by letters -- before
it's too late.

As we listen to the tapes of the conference conclusions, we are reminded of the efforts and love our dear elders have given for the sake of the church and its preservation. May the Lord abundantly bless and encourage them as they continue to sound the warning and deal with the troubles and divisions that overwhelm our churches today. May they always feel our prayers and support.

Card of thanks: We want to express our very deep thanks and appreciation to everyone who so kindly extended to us love and remembered us with prayers, cards and letters of sympathy in the loss of our dear mother. God bless you all.

Richard and Thelma Siegle
Arlene and Phyllis Siegle

IOWA, ELGIN

Gloria Frieden

Due to recent flooding, of the Turkey River, several homes in this town were evacuated in a relatively short time. How quickly one moves to protect their earthly possessions and yet so slow to do what is needful to protect the soul from hell.

It has been inspiring and uplifting to listen to the conference tapes. The different topics concerning God's

purpose for and benefits of the earthly church were all interesting. May it help to motivate us on to greater faithfulness.

Hospital patients this past month have been George Pulfer, Sis. Beulah Butikofer (Bro. Bert) and Sis. Adeline Lehman (all medical) and Sis. Elizabeth Moore (surgical).

Sis. Elizabeth would like to thank all who remembered her with cards and gifts and prayers after her surgery in July and again in September.

I must walk thro' the Valley and
Shadow
but I'll journey in a loving Saviors
care;
He has said He will never, never
leave me,
With His staff He will comfort me
there.

Gospel Hymns #341

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE Dawn Moser

"God saw the road was getting
rough.
The hills were hard to climb.
He gently closed her loving eyes,
And whispered, "Peace be thine."
Her weary hours, her days of
pain,
Her wakeful nights are past.
A loved one has gone forever.
She has found sweet rest at last."

This is the verse that the children of Sis. Verle put in her memorial card and it fits so perfectly. Sis. Verle was in great pain and distress her last few weeks with us. We all longed with her that the Lord would just take her home. At one point, she told her sisters she was "tired of the battle." Although we have grief and an empty seat now, we rejoice that she is, "Forever with the Lord." Sis. Verle died Sunday, September 2, and her funeral was here Wednesday, September 5. She is buried in the Garden Grove Cemetery next to her husband, Bro. Bill Funk. For those of you who might not know, Bro. Bill and Sis. Verle moved here 23 years ago and attended the Pulaske, IA, church. Sometime later, maybe 4 years, they got permission from the elders to begin having

services in their home. From there it progressed to where we are now - a beautiful church and services on Sundays and Wednesdays with over 50 in attendance most Sundays. The Sunday after Sis. Verle's funeral, we were exhorted by Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) to carry on where the baton has been handed to us. The race is now ours. We need your prayers. We are a young church with the average adult age of 37, but hopefully and prayerfully we can "carry on."

Sis. Verle is survived by her mother, Sis. Bertha Moser (Eureka, IL); her six children, Sis. Rachel Smith (Bro. Gene), Bro. Tony Funk (Sis. Eileen), Sis. Willa Clark (Don), Bro. Brad Funk, April Parmer (Buck) and David Funk (Ly-Lee) and her foster son, Jon Augustine, all of whom attend church here; her four sisters, Sisters Beulah Ehnle (Bro. Dave, Princeville, IL), Ruth Gramm (Bro. Art, Leo, IN), Marvel Knobloch (Bro. Bob, Morton, IL) and Jeanie Haerr (Bro. Ray, Bloomington, IL); her two brothers, Bro. Rod Moser (Sis. Naomi, Taylor, MO) and Arnie Moser (Colleen, Greenville, NC); 18 grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Bill; father, Bro. Philip Moser and two brothers.

We would like to thank the ministers who offered words of comfort, hope, peace and joy at Sis. Verle's funeral. They are Elder Bros. Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Bros. Russell Wuthrich (Pulaski, IA) and Harold Gramm (Morris, MN). We would also like to thank our other visiting ministers: Bro. Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), Kent Heimer (Taylor, MO), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL) and Pat Zaugg (West Bend, IA). A special thanks to all the visitors that came with them or on their own. Each one of you is special to us and we appreciate your support.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! A special thank-you to our visitors this month, including ministering Bros. Steve Martin (Eureka, IL), Mike Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), and Bruce

Leman (Roanoke, IL). We appreciate the willing sacrifices they and their families make to serve our needs.

As autumn approaches and preparations for harvest begin, let us make sure we are ready for the Great Harvest Day, whether it be when the Lord returns or when He calls us as an individual Home.

BE YE ALSO READY

Are you ready, are you ready for the coming of the Lord?
Are you living as He bids you in His word?

Are you walking in the light?
Is your hope of heaven bright?
Could you welcome Him tonight?
Are You Ready?

Are you waiting, are you waiting for the coming of the King?
Have you bundles of the golden grain to bring?

Can you lay at Jesus' feet
And gather sheaves of wheat?
There your blessed Lord to greet?
Are You Ready?

Have you risen, have you risen from the heavy midnight sleep?
Have you risen from your slumber long and deep?

Are your garments wash'd from sin,
Are you cleansed and pure within?
Are you read for the King?
Are You Ready?

Therefore be ye also ready,
Therefore be ye also ready,
For in such an hour,
Such an hour as ye think not,
The Son of Man cometh.

Gospel Hymns 290

IOWA, OAKVILLE
Debbie Wagenbach
Melody Steiner

Bro. Keith and Sis. Tonya Lanz are rejoicing in the birth of their son, Benjamin Keith. Big sisters Heidi, Kelli and Renee are also really enjoying their new little brother.

We surely want to extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Sisters Arlene and Phyllis Siegle, Richard and Thelma Siegle and family in the passing of their dear

mother, Sis. Lena Siegle. We also rejoice though that Sis. Lena has finally reached her reward after struggling with the afflictions of the body in recent years.

NOTE OF THANKS: We want to express our very deep thanks and appreciation to everyone who so kindly extended to us love and remembered us with prayers, cards and letters of sympathy in the loss of our dear mother. God bless you all.

Richard & Thelma Siegle
Arlene & Phyllis Siegle

In Memory of Sister Lena:

MOTHER

For the tireless efforts that you spent,
To keep us wholesome and content;

For our courage when our skies weren't blue,
And a smile so much a part of you;

For your patience with the tedious tasks,
And the questions that a small child asks;

For your stories we so loved to hear,
And the million memories we hold so dear;

For the love that's never failed a day,
May God bless you, Mother, in every way.

We want to thank Bro. Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Bro. Harvey Grimm (Bern, KS) for ministering to us this month. May the Lord ever be near to them and their families.

NOTE OF THANKS: We can't express the joy, and good fortune to live to a "Golden Anniversary". We did not expect to reach that goal. We thank our many friends for making those two days filled with such beautiful memories. You all have been so good to us during trying times, good and bad.

We want to thank you all for sharing our day and the nice things done for us including your cards, flowers, prayers, etc. It was unbelievable. God bless you all!

Bro. Floyd and Sis. Louise Rowell

IOWA, WEST BEND**Phyllis Banwart - Mary Gerber**

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle (Shioda, Japan) was with us for mid-week services this past month. We appreciate his willingness to preach the gospel. Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO) lent himself in the service of the Lord on our behalf on a Sunday. We thank these brothers for their labors.

We extend congratulations to Dave and Cheryl Morrow on the birth of Austin Taylor, August 31. To help care for their brother are Carla and Jordan, also grandparents, Bro. Harley and Sis. Adele Bruellman and Robert and Bea Morrow (Fort Dodge). We wish them God's blessings.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Sam Mogler, 90 (Sis. Tillie). Funeral services were held August 16. He is survived by 13 children, Sis. Arlene Esslinger (Bro. Martin, Bern, KS), Berniece Erickson, Hardy, IA), Robert (Eagle Grove, IA), Duane (Whittemore, IA), Jeanette Montgomery (Sabetha, KS), Kenneth (Dakota City, NB), Mildred Bonstetter (West Bend), Calvin (Humboldt, IA), Bro. Art (Sis. Eula, West Bend), Ruth Kerber (Cylinder, IA). Also surviving are 63 grandchildren, 42 great-grandchildren, one brother, Paul Mogler (Rittman, OH) and one sister, Sis. Anna Schmidt (West Bend).

Recent hospital patients were Sis. Esther Banwart (Bro. Walter), Mona Haverman (Don), Leslie Schneider (Louis and Joni) and Lee Kellenberger (Joel and Teresa). Our prayers are that all will soon be home again.

A reception for Bro. Ted and Sis. Kelly Schmidt (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn and Bro. Marlyn and Sis. Lois Messner, Winthrop, MN) was held September 15. May they feel God's presence as they begin their life as one in the Lord.

We wish our many converts much grace and strength from the Lord. We are thankful for each one who has turned their back on the world.

JAPAN, SHIODA
Renee Bauer

"In the beginning God created

the heaven and the earth . . ."

Genesis 1:1

For most of us these verses are quite familiar. We are able to believe in God as our Creator without too many struggles or questions. But how does one convey the truth and meaning of that belief to those who from childhood have been taught that man evolved?

With strong, yet simple faith, our kindergarten students told their grandparents the Biblical story of creation during our Grandparent's Day program September 14. We pray that God's Spirit will have opened their hearts to consider truth from God's Word.

Several ladies from our Shioda church, including Sis. Lois Ehnle, Sis. Chizue Furuya, Yukue Ishikawa, Hikoji Noyawa (Sis. Eiko's mother) and Sis. Haruko Saigusa, were recently able to spend several days traveling together.

They went by train to Osaka to visit a flower exposition which is held in Japan once every 30 years. This exposition is held to teach the beauty of nature and flowers. There are many pavilions sponsored by different companies displaying flowers and plants from all over the world.

This wonderful opportunity for enrichment about God's creation also lended itself to a special time of fellowship for these ladies. God provides.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Frank and Kathy Sauder

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord." Psalm 122:1. We rejoice and are uplifted that recently church attendance has increased, as several have become regular attenders. We pray that God will show us where He would use us to encourage the growth of their faith. May our joy over these precious ones worshipping with us be not just out of motives for a larger church or increased fellowship, but out of a sincere love and burden for their undying souls.

Fred and Julia Hess were our special visitors toward the end of August. As Fred has visited our congregation before, it was wonder-

ful to have him return again, this time with his new wife. We hope it won't be long before business brings them our way once again.

Elder Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie Inoue warmly welcomed a group of young people to their home recently for a wiener roast. These periodic gatherings have been well-attended. May the Lord bless the friendships that are forming and especially, the spiritual message that goes out at each meeting.

KANSAS, BERN
Lori Baumgartner
Kathy Strahm

As Fall approaches we recognize the signs of the seasons. Our children are returning to their daily classrooms for one, we pray for God's protecting hand over each of them. We also see harvest activities and recognize ripened fields of grain and this so often brings to mind the words of Jesus in St. John 4:35 . . ."behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest." We surely want to watch and be ready when the Lord of Harvest returns to gather His own.

Our Bern Sunday school students have once again resumed their Sunday morning classes after a break during the month of August. May each of the teaching Brothers and Sisters feel God's spirit as they strive to instruct the young souls in their care of the ways of the Lord; may each student be attentive and respectful of the House of God.

Labor Day weekend our congregation enjoyed the fellowship of quite a number of visitors, among whom were the Sunday school students invited for the Kansas Youth Fellowship. We trust the students enjoyed their time together and went home remembering some of the points brought out to them by ministering Bro. Jay Rinkenberger (Goodfield), and Bro. Howard Plattner (Wichita) that they could reflect back as they go about their activities in the days and weeks that follow.

We appreciated having Bro. Jay and Bro. Howard with us as we did each of the ministering brothers who lent themselves on our behalf.

Also serving us were Bro. Glen Funk (Garden Grove), and Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha).

Elder Bro. Eugene Marti (Kansas City) was with us as he assisted Bro. John in the testimonies of our new Brother and Sister in Christ, Nathan and Marlene Edelman, and also at their baptisms on Sunday. As Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marlene go on in their lives may God ever give them the grace and zeal to live for Him. We also wish God's much-needed grace for Katrina Walter who has made a beginning in repentance. It is the prayer of each of us, along with her parents Bro. Chuck and Sis. Karen Walter (Silverton), that she will build her foundation on Christ the Rock.

Bro. Craig Plattner and Sis. Raelynn Stahl were united in marriage August 19 in Chicago. On August 31 a reception was held here for them as each of us was able to extend to them our best wishes for God's blessings throughout the years of their married life, which they are beginning in Chicago. Parents are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Waneta Plattner, and Bro. Norman and Sis. Gloria Stahl (Chicago, IL).

Sis. Lillian Koehl (Zapata, TX) has been a hospital patient here as a result of a fall while visiting in our area. She is now dismissed but is still here as she continues to recuperate. Bro. Reuben Moser also spent some time in the hospital and is back at home doing better. Sis. Julia Metzger (Bro. Wilhelm) is a hospital patient after suffering a stroke. May God heal and restore each one according to His plan. Young Cara Hartter (Bro. Neil and Sis. Evelyn) seems as bouncy as ever after her stay in the hospital for an emergency appendectomy. We're thankful God has made the young so resilient.

Our congregation has begun assembling along with the Sabetha congregation Friday evening to hear the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference. May each of us take to heart the warnings and words of wisdom.

Bro. Pete Esslinger was laid to rest September 15 after some time of declining health as a resident of the Home. Even though his family can rejoice his earthly struggles are over, sympathy is extended to his

wife, Sis. Esther; his sons, Bro. Vernon (Sis. Lillian), Bro. Martin (Sis. Arlene), Waymer (Pauline); and his daughters, Sis. Adele (Bro. Harley Bruellman, West Bend), Esther (John Scott, Topeka), and Sis. Erma (Bro. Bill Gerber, Lester). We appreciate Bro. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, KS) taking part in Bro. Pete's memorial service.

We're sorry we omitted the birth of Gessica Ann Renyer who was born July 17th. Her parents are Greg and Sister Carol Renyer. Grandparents are Brother Joe and Sister Lila Rokey; and George and Clela Renyer.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Vola Young - Judy Kraft

"Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28 How thankful we are that our heavenly father can provide a source of inner strength and help that is sufficient to sustain us in our distresses. Sympathy is extended to Bro. Albert Edelman and family over the recent death of his brother, Edward Edelman.

Our thanks to ministering Bro. Michael Rinkenberger and family of Congerville, IL, for sharing a Sunday with us in worship and fellowship.

KANSAS,

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Michelle Braker

We began this semester with our traditional potluck picnic at a nearby park. It was such a blessing to gather with friends and relatives of like mind and faith. We appreciate those who made the effort to come and fellowship with us.

We are thankful to have some new faces with us this semester including -- Ken Beyer (Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen, Sabetha), Jason Burnham (Bro. Max, Lamont), Brent Emch (Bro. Bill and Sis. Susan, Lamont), Annie Reimschisel (Bro. Max and Sis. Judy, Wichita), Brian Rokey (Bro. Allen and Sis. Glenda, Bern), and Ted Strahm (Bro. Wilfred and Sis. Verona, Bern). David Edelman (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marlene) will also be in Manhattan with

us attending a Vocational Technical School. This semester we have twenty-one members and friends in Manhattan.

On every other Wednesday night, we are thankful to have our ministers come to campus and preach the true and holy Word. The alternate Wednesday nights, we gather to listen to a tape of our ministering brethren in one of our apartments. We welcome anyone to come and worship with us.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr - Darcy Kisting

"At the close of the day, When you kneel to pray, Will you remember me? I need help every day, That is why I pray, Will you remember me? When you pray, will you pray for me, for I need His love and his care. When you pray will you pray for me, will you whisper my name in your prayer? When I pray I will pray for you for you need Him and His care, When I pray, I will pray for you, I will whisper your name in my prayer."

I do not believe there has been a time when we need each other's prayers as we do now. Satan is undermining everything he can get his evil hands on: our love for each other is waxing colder and colder: our Christian faith and our Christian marriages. We think, oh, it can't happen to us! Then we hear of a divorce or separation and we can't understand what possibly could have happened. Are we becoming so self-centered that we forget the fervent prayer that brought two Christians together in the first place? When we decide we can handle things on our own, that's when Satan enters and everything begins to fall apart. No marriage can survive in unity without God as its center and two people who are willing to give 100% to God and to each other.

Then there's our love for each other and our Christian faith. We had the blessed privilege of having Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Richard Aberle (Altadena, CA) and their families lend themselves to minister to us on two separate Sundays this past month. We

were so uplifted and renewed, and I later had to think that maybe we would feel like that more often if we came to church Spiritually prepared by prayer rather than searching the sermons and picking them apart to discover mistakes. We have wonderful God-given ministers of God's Word. Let's pray for them to give them every ounce of encouragement we can!

Do we pray for our sick? Bro. Tom Farney and Sis. Matilda Schupbach were hospital patients. Kathy Miner and Sis. Elizabeth Diel are still undergoing treatments and many others are ill or discouraged. Where are our love and prayers for these loved ones? We marvel at the miracles of healing in the Bible, spiritual as well as body. Well, we can have that same power through prayer if we just use it. We're fighting an adversary who is out to destroy us, and everything we hold dear. Let's not get lazy on the prayer end, and with God's help preserve our love for one another, our Christian faith and our Christian homes.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Kay Ohlson, who passed away this month. May the Lord's presence be with her family.

KANSAS, LAMONT

Mary Isch

It is again time for our young folks to return to school. Brent Emch (Bro. Bill and Sis. Susan) will be attending Kansas State University in Manhattan. Sis. Jody Isch (Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane) is attending E.S.U. in Emporia. Julia Anliker (Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorean) is attending nursing school in Kansas City, MO.

We are happy to report that Martha Hughes is home after being confined to the hospital for seven weeks. We wish her God's healing hand upon her as she recuperates from total knee replacement surgery.

May we always be mindful of those who are not able to assemble with us.

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in

their affliction and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Sharon Strahm - Beth Hartter

As a new session of Sunday school begins, the first lessons we share with the little children are of God's creation. Among us today we see the miracles of new beginnings and the reminder of who is the author and creator of life itself. On August 20, Julie Ann Grimm was born to the happy parents, Bro. Kevin and Sis. Nita Grimm. Rejoicing with them are the grandparents, Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lois Grimm and Otto and Eleanor Baer (Princeville, IL).

We continue to pray for our Elder Bro. Sam Huber who has had recent surgery. May our great Physician manifest His powers in Bro. Sam's life, that strength can be restored and he will again be able to assemble with us and minister from God's Word.

It was necessary that Ellsworth Dobson have another foot surgery and we just hope this will be a success and healing will follow. Our prayers are with you, Ellsworth.

The Sabetha junior and senior Bible Classes enjoyed Labor Day week-end spent with the Bern Sunday School. A special thank-you to all who planned and labored to make this time of good fellowship possible.

Lafe Bailey (Bro. Larry and Sis. Linda) has announced his engagement to Debbie Bauer of our area. Also making wedding plans are Christie Meyer (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Florence) and Jerry Meek. We wish for these loved ones true happiness and God's continued blessings as they plan their futures together.

Eldon and Lana (Wenger) Kaster were united in marriage on September 8. Lana's parents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta Wenger. May God always be a welcome guest in their home as they walk through life together.

Those who were among us to minister from God's Word in the past month were Bros. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Vernon Schwab (Wolcott, IN), and Elder

Bro. John Lehman (Bern, KS). We were reminded of what a desperate situation it would be if we could not have a hope of a life hereafter. May we never challenge God, but rather strive for holiness and remember that "if we are not humble, we may stumble".

Our thoughts of sympathy go to Sis. Evelyn Wysong as she has recently lost her brother Stephen Stuart of Elkhart, IN. We know that God alone is our true source of comfort and He can wrap His arms around us when we feel distressed and lonely. We trust that Sis. Evelyn will feel this love of God.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Our Sunday school students who attended the Labor Day weekend fellowship hosted by the Bern Sunday school want to express their thanks for a memorable weekend. A first-time participant at the event was Teresa Gallegos, an exchange student from Chihuahua, Mexico, who is living with the Bro. Max Reimschisel family.

A pre-nuptial shower was held August 25 for Lynette Nelson and Mark Reimschisel (Bro. Max and Sis. Judy). Lynette and Mark plan to be married October 7 in Hinkley, Minnesota. They will then establish their home in the Chicago area. May God bless their union and undertaking.

Bro. Al and Sis. Judy Langhofer helped their son, Bob, move to Olin Mills, Maryland, where he has accepted employment.

As our students return to school to continue their education, so we in Wichita will resume our Bible study with a ten-week series on Jonah and Nahum.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Denise Oesch - Michelle Oesch

This past month we have been listening to the tapes of the brotherhood conference. We were admonished in some things, but that is good for us. Most of all, though, we were encouraged to continue to keep ourselves "a peculiar people" and not be swayed by those things of this world that would harm our faith.

We are truly blessed to have such caring shepherds and may we each pray for the grace to not be led astray.

Recently, with the Lord's guidance, new Sunday school teachers were put in for those whose terms were completed. Bro. Wally Gerst (Sis. Donna), Bro. Ted Steffen (Sis. Sandy), Sis. Deanna Steffen (Bro. Matthew) and Sis. Michelle Oesch (Bro. Tom) were chosen to teach our children. Bro. Ed Sanders (Sis. Julie) and Sis. Renee Steffen were chosen as substitutes. We pray for the Lord's guidance and help as they teach our little ones of His precious love.

Those teachers whose terms were completed are: Sis. Luanne Kaeb (Bro. Curt), Sis. Jill Steffen, Bro. Duane Schrenk (Sis. Kathy) and Bro. Kurt Heimer (Sis. Sue). We pray a special blessing for each for their time and their willingness to be shining lights and examples for our children.

Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Elouise Blough, along with their family, wish to thank each one who expressed their love and concern after Sis. Elouise's heart attack. Whether it was a meal prepared, a card sent, or a loving prayer offered, it was so appreciated. May God bless you every one.

Our prayers are with Bro. Curt Kaeb as he recently lost part of three of his fingers in a machine accident.

Bro. Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH) visited Alto this past month, along with his wife, Sis. Helen, and we ask the Lord's blessings for Bro. Wally and thank him for sharing the Word with us. I want to apologize for neglecting to thank Bros. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH), Trent Meese (Iowa City, IA) and Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN) who traveled to Alto some months back and so willingly gave of their time in bringing God's Word to us. May you each be richly blessed.

Just a thought to leave you with from a book by Thyra Ferre Bjorn. "People who have found the secret of praying are happy, smiling people. There is a light in their eyes that reflects the glow that is in their souls. Happiness cannot be hidden. It is a light that shines in the darkness."

Reminder: October is the month for Silver Lining dues.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Peggy Waibel

September has been fairly uneventful here in Bay City. The farmers are struggling to get crops in between rain showers, but the crops, for the most part, look pretty good this year. God is richly blessing each one of us, once again.

Sis. Marian Knochel and Sis. Della Erisman were hospitalized this month. They both seem to be healing well under God's mighty touch. We pray that God will continue to be with them in the weeks ahead and touch their lives with His strength.

The Sunday school conducted their annual Sunday school picnic. It was a day of fellowship, fun and worship. To see the little children singing to Jesus was the most beautiful part of the picnic. It made us realize just how precious our faith is, and just how worthy the Lord is to be praised.

Bro. Don Gudeman (LaCrosse, IN) visited us this month. We want to thank Bro. Don for his willingness to be used in God's service. May God richly bless him and keep him.

With Thanksgiving right around the corner, I would like to remind each one to support the men over in Saudi Arabia. These men will not be able to spend the holidays with their families, because they will be serving our country and us. The men in Operation Desert Shield need our support in both letters and prayers. Let's remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:40 . . .

"And the King shall answer and say unto them, verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

MICHIGAN, DETROIT Sue Gasser

Detroit hosted the Michigan Sunday schools September 15 and 16. We were thankful to have Bro. Gary Tonner (Bluffton, IN) with us for that weekend sharing His Word

with us and with the youth visiting us.

We are always thankful when God can work in people's lives and call them unto Himself. Our prayers are with Bill and Trudy Schmidt as they seek to answer God's call and submit their hearts to Him. God grant you grace to discern His will and follow His leading.

Knowing that children are a gift of God, we rejoice with Craig and Pat Baran in the birth of their first child, Kristi Lyn, August 28. Happy grandparents are Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Wilma Ramsier (Rittman, OH) and Mr. and Mrs. John Baran (Garden City, MI). Bro. Kaywin and Sis. Karen Martin welcome a new granddaughter into their hearts, Sheryl Cay Huber, born to Bro. Ryan and Sis. Terri (Fort Lauderdale, FL).

Austin Feller (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marcia) was a surgery patient this month. We're thankful he's home again.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Bro. Pat and Sis. Jeanne Allen in the passing of Pat's father, Raymond Allen, after a lengthy illness. Funeral services were held September 4. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Margaret, and the whole family.

Bro. Joe and Sis. Martha Szilagyi shared their 50th wedding anniversary August 31. God continue to bless your lives together as you serve Him.

We thank Bro. Kurt Heimer (Alto, MI) for sharing God's Word with us September 11 at Woodhaven. Toledo, OH, will host services there November 6 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Kathryn Schmidgall Marcy Schmidgall

As the new term for Sunday school begins, we want to remember our teachers and students in prayer. May God give them wisdom and understanding as they teach our precious children.

We are always thankful for visiting ministers who so willingly share God's Word with us. This month Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO) and Elder Bro. Walter

Anliker (Eureka, IL) were with us. May God richly bless them.

On August 26, many of us attended the wedding in Winthrop, of Sis. Kelly (Bro. Marlyn and Sis. Lois Messner) and Bro. Ted Schmidt (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn Schmidt, West Bend, IA). May they feel God's presence as they begin their new lives together.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Debra Joos - Christa Sauder

We rejoice that there are souls who have answered the Lord's call and are seeking the Lord in repentance. Our new converts are Shelly Nohl (Bro. David and Sis. Eileen), Lois Schmidgall (Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine), Chris Koehl (Bro. Eddie and Sis. Lois), Ben Moser (Bro. Carl and Sis. Norene), Jenell Schaefer (Bro. Herman and Sis. Eva Jean), Jeni Schmidgall (Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila) and Doug and Dawn Moser. May each one experience the grace of God in full measure as they turn from the pleasures of sin and seek a new life in Jesus Christ.

We have enjoyed many visitors this past month. May God's blessings rest upon the labors of those brothers who ministered the Word to us. Our visiting ministers have been Bro. Dean Messner (Winthrop, MN), Bro. Gene Metzger (Lester, IA), Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester, IA), Bro. Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Bro. Jim Knobloch (Elgin, IA), Elder Bro. Dennis Wraner (Lester, IA) and Bro. Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN).

We enjoyed a blessed day August 19 as many gathered to witness the wedding vows of Sis. Jill Koehl and Bro. Jeff Steiner (Tremont, IL). We wish them God's blessings in their married life.

Children are a blessing and sweet newborn babies are so precious. Bro. Stan and Sis. Pam Wulf welcome their first son, Matthew William. Heidi is his big sister. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona Wulf (Lester, IA) and Cliff and Sis. Barb Edelman (Sabetha, KS).

Little John Wayne was born to Bro. Guy and Sis. Lynette Koehl. His sisters and brothers are Hannah, Michael and Paul. Grandparents are Bro. Eddie and Sis. Lois

Koehl and Wilbert and Ruth Spohr. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Guy and Sis. Lynette and their family as their baby has been transferred to Minneapolis for special medical care.

Other hospital patients this month have been Ashley Fehr (Bro. Gary and Sis. Sandy), Bro. Ferd Tohm, Karen Moser (Lowell), Jonah Koehl and Bro. Paul Fehr, Jr. (Sis. Pam). May the Lord comfort and strengthen each one with bodily afflictions.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Georgia Messner

Kim Messner

Sis. Kelly Messner and Bro. Ted Schmidt, both of Minneapolis, were united in marriage August 26. Parents are Bro. Marlyn and Sis. Lois Messner (Winthrop, MN) and Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn Schmidt (West Bend, IA). We wish them God's blessings as they start their life together.

Visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Bros. Clifford Grimm, Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA), Dale Frank (Oakville, IA), Don Miller and Ken Lawson (Minneapolis, MN). We want to thank these dear brothers for their deeds of kindness in bringing forth the Word.

The past month we have had the opportunity to listen to the conference tapes. It is really humbling to listen to the tapes and realize all the time and effort that these brothers have put in.

Surgical patients for the month were Colleen Waugh (Bro. Roy and Sis. RoseAlice Howk) and Sis. Marilyn Messner (Bill). Both are recovering nicely.

We had a blessed weekend of fellowship at our annual pork chop supper. We want to thank Bro. Alhai Moser (Morris, MN) for sharing the Word with us.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Carole Kellenberger

There are many opportunities for education in the large Kansas City metropolitan area, and we are so thankful to have students assem-

bling with us. We welcome Regina Edelman (Clemons and Sis. Margery, Sabetha, KS) who is attending Johnson County Community College. Sis. Camille Strahm (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Claudia, Bern, KS) is student teaching in the Blue Valley School District. A number of our families live in that district and are very happy to have Sis. Camille.

Our older Sunday school students enjoyed a weekend of fellowship with the Bern, KS, congregation, September 1 and 2. We thank Bro. Don and Sis. Carol Wales for traveling with the students and thank all those at Bern for their efforts in hosting the large group of students from surrounding churches. That same weekend several of our single members enjoyed gathering at Sabetha.

We are so thankful for the safe arrival of Samantha Jo, born to Fred and Charmaine Patton August 31. Jane Patton is the happy grandmother, and Bro. Joe and Sis. Wilma (Bahr) Farney are proud great-grandparents. "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven . . . And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me." St. Matthew 18:3,5.

What a privilege we have had to listen to the tapes from the brotherhood conference. "If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained." I Timothy 4:6

An all-church Sunday school picnic was enjoyed at a lovely park September 9. As the new term begins we pray that God will bless the teachers and students with much wisdom and new understanding. As her term expires, we extend our thanks and appreciation to Sis. Janice Lehman for teaching the past three years.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Janel Kellenberger

Becky Marti

We appreciated the visit of Elder Bro. Gene and Sis. Mary Marti (Kansas City, MO) this past month.

We thank him for his willingness to be used to minister God's Word to us and then to share their slides and experiences from their trip to Eastern Europe earlier this summer.

Bro. Jerry and Sis. Carol Braker have been entrusted with a precious baby. Jesse Wade, born Aug. 20, was welcomed home by Mindy, Darin, and Evan. Happy grandparents are Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara Huber (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Raymond and Sis. LuEtta Braker.

Hazel Kibler is hospitalized at this time. We trust that she can feel God's comfort and healing hand and the prayers of all of us who love her.

We express our sympathy to Walter Cordill in the death of his sister, Sis. Ella Banwart of West Bend, IA. Her family will miss her presence here on Earth, but surely she has attained the Heavenly reward that she longed for.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Mark Leman

Ministering brothers who helped spread the Word in St. Louis this month were Bros. Harvey Heiniger (Burlington, IA), Fred Knapp (Congerville, IL) and Kenny Knapp (Taylor, MO).

Construction of the church here has begun and at the time of this writing the basement walls have been completed. We are presently meeting at the Ben Franklin Motel at 10:15 every Sunday and, of course, we encourage visitors to worship with us.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Ruthie Hoerr

The Fall season and the cooler weather remind us that harvest season is here. The farmers and the gardeners are looking forward to gathering in their crops. One wonders "is God looking forward to gathering in His harvest also? Are we bringing forth the fruit He wants? Will He find us ready and watching and ripe for harvest? Will He be coming soon?"

Labor Day weekend, Bro. Curt and Sis. Sue Heimer and their family were home and Bro. Curt ministered to us for his first time. It is

wonderful know the Lord continues to provide power through His Spirit.

The next weekend we again were inspired when the Goodfield choir was here, bringing us ministries in person and song. Goodfield's Elder Bro. Bob Grimm and Bro. Jay Rinkenberger ministered to us from the pulpit. It was a wonderful weekend of God's love and fellowship.

We were happy to hear of the engagement of Bro. James Knapp, Congerville; son of Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda Knapp from here, to Sis. Lisa Bauman of Goodfield. We wish them God's blessings.

Bro. William Cottrell was readmitted to the hospital for treatment of infection and for therapy and is still hospitalized at this time. His loving, caring wife and family covet your support in prayer.

The Perry Yackley family experienced a traumatic event when their hay barn burned. Thankfully no one was injured.

Our heart and sympathy went out to Sis. Verle Funk's family when she passed away this month. Her brother, Rod Moser, is from our congregation and many here knew and loved her. "Blessed is the man whose strength is in Thee . . ." Psalm 84:5.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN/NAUMBURG

Alice Virkler

During the past month we have seen changes in our congregation. We have experienced the birth of a baby, the death of an aged sister, the beginning of kindergarten for several of our Sunday school children, and the beginning of college for others.

Bro. Andy and Sis. Becky Virkler welcomed their first daughter, Laura Marie, on August 22. Joseph and Philip are happy for a little sister and a new playmate. Grandparents are Sis. Charlotte Virkler and Bro. Albert and Sis. Betty Banwart of West Bend, Iowa. We were happy to have grandma and grandpa Banwart spend about three weeks with their family.

Sis. Pearl Lehman was called from this life suddenly September 13 at the age of 94. She was a resident of the East Road Adult Home

and unable to assemble with us for several years. Her cheerful smile will be missed by us when we go to visit the East Road Home each month for services. Our sympathy is extended to her sisters-in-law, Sis. Amelia Belle Virkler and Noreen Virkler, and her many nieces and nephews. Services were conducted by Elder Bro. Robert Beyer and Bro. Duane Farney.

We are glad to report that Roy Sturtze and Bro. Lowell Virkler have been back at church following open heart and knee surgery. Shela Virkler was a surgical patient last week and we hope she will have a complete recovery and assemble with us again soon. We feel our many prayers have been answered as these loved ones have regained strength and good health again.

We welcome Sheila Schamback, daughter of Bro. Gary and Sis. Karen (Rockville, CT), into our assembly. She has begun her college studies at SUNY College in Potsdam and will be with us on some weekends.

The past two weeks we have been privileged to hear the tapes of the Brotherhood conference held in Cissna Park. May each of us have listened attentively and may we follow the advice and warnings which are so lovingly given by our dear Elder Brothers. We pray that our church will grow in faith and love to do the will of God. We each have a work to do and may we willingly fulfill this work of service to God and our fellow man each day of our lives.

OHIO, AKRON

Joyce Gasser

"When the minstrel played, the hand of the Lord came upon him." II Kings 3:15. Elisha requested a minstrel to play for Elisha to get the Word from the Lord for the Kings of Israel, Judah, and Edom who were going to fight the Moabites for their rebellion. Elisha then told them to make a valley full of ditches, and without wind or rain, they would be filled with water for them and their beasts to drink, and they shall smite them and "mar every good piece of land with stones." vs. 19 As we were in this area, we saw a lot of stones. In 1868, a missionary found a re-

markable stone, measuring about 4' x 2' x 1'. It has become known as the Moabite Stone because engraved on it is the record of this war of the King of Moab and their god Chemosh, with Israel, and of other names of places and persons mentioned in the Bible. There was a rivalry for the possession of this ancient engraved stone, and in their dispute they broke it, but from the fragments, they took impressions, and it is kept in the Louvre in Paris. Moab's god was Chamosh, and they were defeated in this war; but Israel believed in the living God who gave them a miracle to help them to victory. We're thankful that God is the same today and can help us to victories.

Sue Stoller, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Millard Stoller of Latty is enrolled at Akron University, and we welcome Sue to assemble with us. Sue has taken the Lord Jesus to be her personal Saviour.

Sis. Juliet Graf underwent surgery and is at the Home recuperating. We are thankful she got along well. She wishes to thank everyone for remembering her so thoughtfully while she was in the hospital and while convalescing.

Andy Leidal had cataract surgery and we are thankful he is able to come to church again. Charlotte Kaufman slipped and got a broken wrist and bones in her hand, which needed pins. We pray for it to mend speedily.

Bro. Ernest Graf will be having his "four score" birthday, as November 6 he will be 80 years old. Bro. Ernest had served in the ministry for 41 years. Earlier this year he and his loving wife, Sis. Louise, moved into a new retirement unit near the nursing home. They have been a blessing to our congregation as well as to many other people, and we rejoice that we still enjoy their fellowship.

OHIO, COLUMBUS John Grimm

We are thankful that God has called faithful brothers to serve in the ministry. Our visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bros. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI) and

Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH). May God bless them for their labor of love.

OHIO, JUNCTION Laurie Schlatter

We wish to thank ministering Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita) for his services this past month. We do appreciate the time and effort made on our behalf.

Soon the holiday season will be upon us. There will be busy days with preparations, shopping and family gatherings. Let us always remember to turn first to Him above all.

Before us is a future all unknown,
A path untrod,
Beside us a friend well loved and
known --
That friend is God.
Author Unknown

OHIO, LATTY

Rhonda Stoller - Kathy Sinn

We are sorry we omitted the birth of Arthur Alan to Bro. Craig and Sis. Ruth Stoller. He was welcomed home by Neil, Trent, Ross, Blane, Rustin, Joy, Esther, and Vickie. Happy grandparents are Bro. Russel and Sis. Melvane Stoller and Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen Klopfenstein.

Teresa Stoller (Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvane) and Matt Kuhn (Hobart and Mary) were united in marriage on September 1st. We pray for God's guiding hand for this new couple.

During the past month we were blessed with these visiting ministers: Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford), Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman), Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield), Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington), And Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Bluffton North). May the Lord bless these brothers in this time and much more in eternity.

The engagement of David Keysor (Bro. George and Sis. Sharon) to Elaine Greutman (Ken and Delores) has been announced. The couple plans to be married on June 29, 1991. May the Lord guide this couple as they plan their future.

Our congregation rejoices for Sue Stoller (Bro. Millard and Sis. Irma) as she starts her repentance. May

the Lord strengthen her as He converts her life. "The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." 2 Peter 3:9

During the past month, those who were hospitalized include Sis. Ann Plummer (Bro. Rex), Bro. Dave Stoller (Sis. Irene), Bro. Gale Stoller (Sis. Janet), Sis. Rosa Laukhuf and Sis. Esther Stoller (Ken). We pray for God's healing hand for these souls.

Congratulations to Bro. Glenn and Sis. Ede Stoller for their 40th wedding anniversary. The Lord has surely blessed this couple for their faithfulness.

OHIO, MANSFIELD Linda Morrison

"O Praise the Lord, all ye nations: praise him, all ye people. For his merciful kindness is great toward us: and the truth of the Lord endureth for ever. Praise ye the Lord." (Psalms 117). We have so many reasons to praise the Lord.

On August 19, Amanda Leigh Gabor was born to Scott and Lori. Ashley is pleased to have a little sister. Bro. Dale and Sis. Donna Gabor are the supportive grandparents. On August 26 Nathan Thomas joined the family of Bro. Mark and Sis. Jeannine Masters. Elizabeth, Deanna, Aaron and Corbin are delighted with their new brother. Bro. Jim and Sis. Clara Zimmer rejoice to have another grandson. Elder Bro. Ken and Sis. Sue also rejoice with the birth of their grandson, Abraham Amos, to Mark and Diane Sauder September 15. Veronica is happy to have a little brother to play with.

We praise the Lord for His abundant mercy to our loved ones needing hospital care. Sis. Hermine Beer required surgery; Sis. Alice (Bro. Frank) Graszl was again able to assemble with us after a stay in the hospital.

Archie Tucker, son of Dan and Sis. Barb Tucker, suffered a broken ankle in a fall at home. He seems to be getting along and getting around. "Oh, God is good, God is good to me!"
Bro. Richard (Sis. Mabel) Banks,

Sis. Catherene Morrison and Sis. Katheryn Armstrong have been confined to their homes due to illness. We know and trust that God's merciful kindness will continue to bless them.

We are thankful Bro. Kevin Steffen (Elgin, IL) and his family visited us. We appreciated his efforts to bring God's Word in truth and spirit.

We extend our sympathies to Bro. Dave and Sis. Jolene Sinn. Sis. Jolene's father, Bro. Carl Kipfer (Bluffton, IN) passed away recently. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." (Psalms 116:15)

Many gathered to rejoice with Bro. Harry and Sis. Mary Mae Bocka on their 50th anniversary. Bro. Robert and Sis. Kathyrn Beer celebrated their 58th anniversary by serving lunch at church.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Diane Gasser - Lois Maibach

Several from our congregation have experienced pain and sickness to varying degrees. We need to remember in prayer; Roger Maibach (Cindy), Sis. Martha Jane Riggenbach (Vernon), Bro. Vern Lanz (Sis. Deanna), Sis. Martha Beery, Sis. Marian Steiner (Willard), Bro. Albert Gasser (Sis. Lucille), Tanya Zierau (Bro. Heinz) and Vicki Hupp (Michael).

Bro. Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) ministered to us recently. We appreciate the efforts of our ministering brothers.

Four babies have recently been born to those of our congregation. First-time parents are Craig and Patricia Baran who welcomed their daughter, Kristi Lynn. Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Wilma Ramsier and Mr. and Mrs. John Baran (Garden City, MI) are grandparents.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Janice Gasser are parents of another boy, Daniel John. Daniel's older brother, Greg, welcomes him at home. Grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Hope Gasser and Bro. John and Sis. Joan Hartzler.

Welcoming their second child, Kristina Pauline, are Bro. Dave and Sis. Leann Rufener. Older brother, Luke, and grandparents, Bro. El-

ton and Sis. Velma Rufener and Bro. Roland and Sis. Melva Messner (Winthrop, MN) rejoice with the newborn.

Scott Michael joined the family of Bro. Vern and Sis. Deanna Lanz. His sister, Julie, and grandparents, Bro. Elton and Sis. Velma Rufener and Dick and Sis. Freida Lanz (Rockville, CT) welcome the little boy.

August 11 Jeff Lanz and Darlene Reminder were united in marriage. Parents are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Diane Lanz and Mr. and Mrs. James Reminder.

Bryan Keiper (Bro. Reinhard and Sis. Betty) and Kim Martin were married September 1. As each couple begins their lives together, may they be blessed and guided by God.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Edward Saylor who passed away. His brother, Bro. Bill Saylor (Sis. Norma) and mother, Sis. Esther Saylor, survive among other relatives. We are thankful Edward could seek the Lord in his last days.

Our congregation has been listening to the conference tapes. May we continually look toward our heavenly goal.

OHIO, SARDIS

Paula Figel

"Now wash me and I shall be whiter than snow." This was the desire of Bridget Zollinger, Dana Indermuhle and Robert Figel as we heard their testimonies Saturday evening, September 8. The following day they were welcomed into the fold as our brother and sister-in-the-Lord. Their parents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Terry Zollinger, Bro. Ken and Sis. Linda Indermuhle and Bro. John and Sis. Paula Figel. We wish them the Lord's grace and blessings throughout life. We thank Elder Bro. Eugene Pamer (Akron) and Elder Bro. Ken Sauder (Mansfield) for carrying out their duties. We also want to thank Bro. Art Ingold (Rittman), Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville) and Bro. Uriel Gehring (Leo, IN). May God bless each one for being with us and ministering God's Word to us.

We are now listening to the tapes during midweek services and are thankful for the admonitions, in-

struction and encouragement from the elder brothers.

The Lord has surely given us a bountiful harvest this year. We appreciate so much that as of this writing four souls have been taken into His fold and two others are seeking His pardon and peace. Each and every soul is precious in His sight. Our prayer would be that He would not grow weary of our pleading and think us unthankful but continue to call and draw unto His glorious truth those who stand just outside the door.

We have several new students away from home this fall in schools of higher learning. May God be near each one and help them to walk pleasing unto him.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Stephanie Luginbuhl Kim Stoller

We experienced a blessed weekend September 15 and 16 as four souls were added to the flock. We rejoice with Sisters Melody Beery (Dean), Margaret Bough (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lorene), Jennifer Beery (Bro. Norman and Sis. Audrey) and Cyndi Blough (Sis. Janette and Ben) who gave their testimonies and were baptized.

We were also blessed to have several visiting ministers this month. Elder Bros. Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH) and Gene Pamer (Akron, OH) and Bros. Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL), Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) and Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) shared the Word of God with us.

Several in our congregation have experienced afflictions of the body but we are thankful to report that all have experienced God's healing power. They are Sis. Bonnie Maibach (Bro. Dean), Sis. Terri Luginbuhl (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rose), Bro. Bob Stoller (Sis. Eileen), Nancy Jordan (Doug) and Christopher Gerrman (Bro. Doug and Sis. Rebecca). May God bless them with continued health.

We pray for God's blessings on Bro. Dean and Sis. Bonnie Maibach as they have just been given the responsibility of caring for a foster child, Michael, age 22 months. May God give all parents the grace to

raise these little blessings according to His will.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Josephine Rehlau
Frances Laidig

"I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth . . ."

St. Luke 15:7

It brought joy to our congregation to hear that Joy Beard (Bro. Ed and Sis. Dee) has found peace with God and man and is looking forward to baptism.

We thank Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City, MI) for having midweek services with us.

Sandra Breitwieser and Derrick Rawson were married September 8. May God's blessings be with Sandra and Derrick as they walk life's pathway together. Sandra's parents are Bro. John and Sis. Karen Breitwieser.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held September 16. We enjoyed having as our guests the Mansfield, OH, Sunday school and members of their congregation. Even though we did not have the most desirable weather, Christian fellowship is a wonderful privilege which we can enjoy.

OREGON, PORTLAND
Anne Rumbold

O how welcome is the Sabbath,
Joyous Day for all the ransomed!
Day of peace and day of rest,
Consecrated to God's blest.

Zion's Harp #126, vs. 1

We enjoyed a blessed day, Sunday, September 16, with a visiting minister present from Akron, OH, Bro. Ron Palitto and his wife, Sis. Lynell. We appreciate and thank him for his efforts to share with us the Word of Life. He was inspired to read II Corinthians 10 (verse 12 seemed to stand out):

"For we dare not make ourselves of the number, or compare ourselves with some that commend themselves: but they measuring themselves by themselves, and compar-

ing themselves among themselves, are not wise."

We wish to welcome Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol Kaufman and children, Philip and Sam, to the Northwest.

OREGON, SILVERTON
Rosa Lee Kuenzi

After years of planning and frustrating waiting, Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan and family are finally getting settled at their place on Howell Prairie Road. May they feel the Lord's nearness and blessings as they each make the adjustments of a new neighborhood and new schools for the children.

A hearty welcome to Cindy Metzger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Chris) who has moved here from Lester, IA. Best wishes to Cindy as she begins her school year at Chemeketa Community College in Salem.

Bro. Paul Dettwyler has been in the Salem Memorial Hospital for over a week recovering from abdominal surgery. Sis. Esther said this morning that his condition is improving and that he would like to thank everyone who has been so kind to remember him with cards, flowers and prayers. We pray that God's abundant grace will continue to suffice for Bro. Paul and that he will soon be coming home.

Our visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Charles Hemmer (Peoria, IL) and Bro. Ron Palitto (Akron, OH). We do appreciate these brothers for including the Northwest churches in their traveling plans. May the Lord richly reward them for their labors of love and their courage to clearly teach the true Word of God.

**PENNSYLVANIA,
PENNSYLVANIA**
Franz Soni

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Philippians 4:13

We hosted visitors from many churches Labor Day weekend. Saturday, September 1, we had a church supper and a singing and on Sunday after services we again had a

church supper. It is a blessing for us when we are able to share with those of like mind and faith.

Sis. Ruth Dapper wishes to thank everyone who shared with her the many prayers, gifts, food, flowers, memorials and words of comfort and encouragement during the passing of her beloved and loving husband, Dale.

We thank Bro. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS) and Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) for sharing God's Word with us. May God richly bless them and their families for their efforts.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE
Don Sauder

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell. We at Nashville felt God's love and your prayers as we assembled for the first time to praise and honor our holy God and His Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

A total of 18 gather together, "including the children" from Nashville, Athens, AL, Junction, OH, and Peoria, IL to praise and glorify our heavenly Father.

Our Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore opened our morning service by telling us that the service was only a start, only God knows where it will end. His second reading was from the first chapter of the Acts. He preached on the importance of verse 8 and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. We pray this includes Nashville, TN.

Following a lunch, we were again lifted as Bro. Don Manz (Junction, OH) willingly spoke God's Word to us.

The Lord Jesus in Acts 20:35 said it is more blessed to give than to receive. Our visitor surely must have felt good as they departed Nashville. May the Lord bless you for your support as we say thanks and invite you to visit us again.

Our plans if it is God's will, to again hold services October 14. Morning services will again start at 10:30 a.m.

Again brothers, we ask you to continue to pray for us. Support us as God directs you. You are always

welcome and encouraged to come and worship with us.

Faye and my phone number is 615-373-8928. The address is 2059 Timberwood Dr., Nashville, TN, 37215.

**TEXAS, DALLAS/HOUSTON
Brad and Cindy Eisenmann**

Services in Dallas are normally held on the first and third Sunday of the month. September was unusual. The first Sunday services were canceled due to the Labor Day holiday. The third Sunday service was moved to Houston to accommodate our communion service held there. Our hearts were drawn together as we joined in a "common union" and remembered the suffering of our Savior. Elder Bro. Eugene and Sis. Mary Marti (Kansas City, MO) and Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary Plattner (Zapata, TX) were with us for our communion and Sunday worship services. Our thanks to these brothers who so willingly are spent in the Lord's vineyard.

Bro. Howard and Sis. Delores Rapp are the local area contact for Dallas at (214) 867-4074. We welcome all to worship with us at the Holiday Inn - Desoto, TX.

The first Houston-area service was held August 26 with Bro. Lee Plattner ministering. We were thankful to have eleven adults and two children in attendance. Services are held in Houston on the last Sunday of each month beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn - Southwest Freeway. Please feel free to contact Bro. Brad and Sis. Cindy Eisenmann at (713) 265-2216 regarding Houston services. All are welcome.

**TEXAS, ZAPATA
Viola Perdelwitz**

Our visiting minister this month was Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann from the Chicago, IL, church. We appreciate Bro. Dale and his wife, Sis. Judy's, visit.

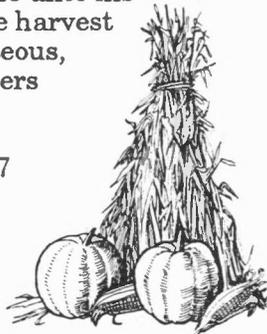
A hospital patient this month was Sis. Lillian Koehl at Sabetha, KS.

We enjoyed a special blessing at the Zapata reunion at Bluffton, IN.

We want to thank all the people that made us feel so welcome.

"Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few;"

Matthew 9:37



Sermon . . .

(Continued from Page 36)

destinations - heaven or hell. They have one similarity . . . they both begin with "h" and the second letter is "e". Dear ones, that is where the similarity stops. From there on, there is contrast for heaven or hell. Hell is where the worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched.

But in heaven, dear ones, are those who have gone on before us . . . those that finished the race. . . those that have laid down their armour and crossed that valley and shadow of death. For them, there is a crown awaiting them. Dear ones, it is how we finish the race that is going to determine our destiny. We need to make a good beginning, but, dear ones, it is our standing with Jesus Christ when we breathe our last. Tomorrow may never come for some of us, or if the Lord should return.

But today, dear ones, we have the opportunity to serve Him and to serve Him with all of our heart. Even as we were reminded in that first reading, that we should keep His commandments and His statutes altogether, not just some of them.

We think of the rich man that came to Jesus. He asked Him, "What must I do to be saved? All those commandments have I kept to this day." It was a notable thing, dear ones, and it was tremendous. Probably not too many of us could give an answer like that man gave.

But the Lord said, "One thing thou lackest: go and sell all that thou hast and deliver it to the poor and come follow Me." (See Mark 10:21). We read where he hung his head and he left in sorrow. His heart

hung on his riches. There is where his heart hung, dear ones. He couldn't do that. We don't know what happened; we don't know how his end was. Hopefully maybe he did do that, but we don't know.

But the Lord says, "How hard it is for the rich to enter into the kingdom of heaven." (See Mark 10:23). Dear ones, what is our heart set on today? Is it set on the Word and His commandments and His statutes altogether? Or are we trying to serve two masters? Dear ones, we can't serve two masters. We serve one or the other. We can't serve the Lord on the Lord's day, and the rest of the week do as we please.

We are going to be brought into judgment for everything. We can read in Ecclesiastes, "Go out, young man, and do that which seemeth good to thee, but remember this, for everything you will be brought into judgment." (See Ecclesiastes 11:9).

Dear ones, if Christ would come today and we would stand before His judgment seat today, how would we fare? Would we welcome Him? Would we be ready? Would we say, "Lord, I have kept Thy commandments . . . I have kept the faith . . . I have walked the narrow way?" Or are we trying to satisfy the flesh and the carnal desires in all that Satan would have to offer us? Of ourself, it is impossible.

We read this example where this man brought this son to be healed and His disciples came and asked why they couldn't cast him out. Jesus said, "This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting." Mark 9:29. We have a wonderful, beautiful lesson here of this man. When the Lord asked this man, "How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child. And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us. Jesus said unto him, if thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." Mark 9:21:23.

Friends, may this be an encouragement unto you. All things are possible to him that believeth! Of ourself, we cannot do it. We could not serve Christ another day if it wouldn't be for His help, His strength and His grace!

If we would just believe, He will be with us. He will share abundantly, pressed down, running over! That is the goodness and the mercy of God!

But we were reminded in our first reading of the severity of God is we do not keep those commandments and statutes.

"If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." Mark 9:23.

This man came back with a beautiful answer. "And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief." Mark 9:24. Don't we all feel that way? We believe but we just pray that the Lord will help us in our unbelief. We just can't grasp everything. We just pray that the Lord will help us and that He might be compassionate with us and that we would just give our all.

"And he came to Capernaum: and being in the house he asked them, What was it that ye disputed among yourselves by the way? But they held their peace: for by the way they had disputed among themselves, who should be the greatest. And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, the same shall be last of all, and servant of all. And he took a child, and set him in the midst of them: and when he had taken him in his arms, he said unto them, Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me." Mark 9:33-37.

Christ had so many beautiful teachings that he gave. We are reminded here that if we don't receive Him, we can't receive the Father. There is where we just need to have faith, even as a little child. We took our children and read those Bible stories when they were little and they didn't question that at all. They believed it with all their hearts. They didn't doubt or challenge. They didn't say, "Prove it."

We are living in a society today where they want everything proved. Dear ones, with Christ, all we have to do is believe, be humble, be faithful, and believe as a little child!

I heard a saying once that if we have to believe before we can have

faith, we will never have faith. Because believing is a reward of faith, and how true! If we can have faith, we can believe. But if we are going to have to believe before we can have faith, we will never have faith. Because believing is the reward of faith.

"And John answered him, saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbad him, because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man which shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is on our part." Mark 9:38-40.

Beloved, we have all work to do. "For he that is not against us is on our part." Mark 9:40. May it be, dear ones, that we be on the Lord's part . . . that we are willing to take a stand . . . that we are willing at whatever cost, whatever persecution, whatever ridicule it might be, we would be willing to take a stand for Jesus Christ and Him crucified, and that we would be faithful because there are only two ways.

Where will we be one million years from now? Dear ones, eternity is time without end. Everything that we can touch, and even our life has an end. But eternity is time without end. Can't we just grasp, dear ones, the importance of being faithful? Is it really asking too much when we think of what Christ has done for us?

We spoke of Abraham earlier and how God tried Abraham's faith. I think Abraham was around one hundred years old when this son, who was promised, was finally given. No doubt Abraham just cherished that little boy. Finally God came one day and said, "Abraham, I want you to offer your son as a sacrifice." We don't read where Abraham questioned God once. We read that he got up and saddled his ass and they took fire and wood and some servants. I believe they rode for three days before they ever saw the mountain where he was supposed to offer his son.

Then Abraham told his servants to stay that Abraham and Isaac were going to go make a sacrifice. Then they started out for Mount Moriah, and can't you just wonder

what was going through Abraham's mind? Can't you just wonder what was going through Isaac's mind? Finally Isaac couldn't hold it back any longer, and said, "Father, here is the fire and here is the wood, but where is the sacrifice?" Isaac knew how Abraham served God, and that for a sacrifice, blood had to be required. They had no sacrifice.

Faithful Abraham said, "God will provide." God did provide, dear ones, but Abraham had to go to the point that his son was laid upon the altar and the knife was drawn when God called him, "Abraham, Abraham, do not touch your son." There in the thicket was that ram. (See Genesis 22:1-13).

Dear ones, when it comes to Christ, there in the Garden of Gethsemane, He took His disciples, Peter, James and John, and told them to watch and to pray. The Lord, as He walked up the mountain, told them that His heart was heavy. He was sorrowful for He knew that was in that cup. He knew what His mission was. Then He prayed so fervently that His sweat was as drops of blood falling to the ground. "If it could be possible, that this cup might be removed from Me," He said, "nevertheless not My will be done, but Thine be done." (See Mark 14:36).

He thought of you and He thought of myself . . . poor lost sinners. Dear ones, we can't see the seriousness of sin. There in the Garden, it would have been such a small matter for God to have looked the other way, or to pass it off. But sin had to be dealt with. For that ransom, blood had to be shed and Christ had to drink that cup.

God had to see His Son in that anguish. We can read in Psalms that God saw the travail of His soul and He was satisfied. That is what it took dear ones, to pay the price. He saw the travail of His soul and He was satisfied.

Is it really asking too much to give Him our all and to be one hundred percent, totally dedicated in His service? Where will we be in one million years from now?

A PROMISE: "The blessings of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it."

Proverbs 10:22

FEB 02602 LK
CHARLES WALDER
PO BOX 96
EAST LYNN
IL 60932

SERMON BY BRO. DONALD GUDEMAN OF LACROSSE, IN

Blessings Unlimited For Obedience Deuteronomy 28:1-28 and Mark 9:14-50

We have some beautiful teachings here this morning and we really wouldn't expect anything else, would we, when we think that these are the very words that Christ Himself spoke? We are so thankful today that we live in the post-Christ era. We have the Word.

We think of those patriarchs of old. We think of Abraham there in the land of the Chaldeans. God saw that man . . . a man living among heathen people and God saw that in his heart was the desire to serve God Almighty. God called him out and said, "I want you to leave this land and thy brethren and I will take you to another land and I will make of you a great nation." (See Genesis 12:1, 2).

We can see that God looks, and He knows every one of us. It is an individual basis, dear ones, with Jesus Christ. The Word tells us He even knows how many hairs we have on our head. That is how well Christ knows us. He knows us individually. He knows just exactly what kind of week we have just had. He knows whether we have come to church this morning because we might be afraid what someone might think if we don't go; or if we have come with a desire to be refreshed, to be renewed, and to be reminded of the love of God.

We were reminded so vividly in this first reading, "And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently" dear ones, this is the Word of God, "if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe and to do," not only to observe, but to do! "all his com-

mandments which I command thee this day, that the Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth." Deuteronomy 28:1.

He went on and told them that their bodies would be blessed, their land would be blessed, their fields would be blessed, their baskets, their gardens, everything would be blessed. Their enemies would come in one way and flee seven ways. His blessings were innumerable! We read fourteen verses here of all the blessings that God would shower on His people if they would just be obedient . . . if they would just keep His commandments and His statutes! Those blessings would be innumerable!

But the fifteenth verse begins, "But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee." Deuteronomy 28:15. From the sixteenth verse to the sixty-eighth -- to the end of the chapter -- God reminded them of the curses.

We can see the severity of God. We can see the mercy and the goodness of God in the first part of this chapter. But, dear ones, in the remainder of the chapter, we are reminded of the severity of God if we do not keep His commandments . . . if we do not keep His statutes . . . if we do not walk the narrow way. The Word tells us steep and thorny is the way. But, dear ones, let us look beyond.

Where is that steep and thorny

path going to lead us?

It is going to lead us to life eternal!

We were reminded here in the last portion of this chapter, "If thy foot offend thee, cut it off." "If thy hand offend thee . . . if thy eye offend thee . . ." (See Mark 9:45, 43, 47). This is a spiritual teaching here, dear ones, this is an analogy. We are of the body of Christ and that is why discipline is so important. If we error . . . if we fall and if it is severe enough, we have to be dealt with so that the church might be preserved . . . that the whole church would not have to be cast into hell.

There were three examples given here and everyone ended up, "If it better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." Mark 9:43, 44.

There is a song that goes, "Where will you be one million years from now? Will you be happy? Will you be singing?" Dear ones, we think of just since Christ, almost two thousand years ago, and we think of Lazarus and the rich man. For almost two thousand years, Lazarus has been in Abraham's bosom. The rich man is in hell in torment and he still has not had a drop of water to cool his tongue. He is still there where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched for almost two thousand years. Where will he be in a million years?

Dear ones, it is sobering. The Word tells that there are only two
(Continued on Page 34)