



The Silver Lining

... and his wonders in the deep.

August 1995



"Or speak to the earth, and it shall teach thee: and the fishes of the sea shall declare unto thee."

Job 12:8

"Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou has put all things under his feet...and the fish of the sea, and whatsoever passeth through the paths of the seas."
Psalm 8:6,8

"...and his wonders in the deep."

Fifty feet under the sea's surface in the Caribbean Sea are sights most of us will never see. Coral reefs with great French Angelfish (cover) swimming around gives meaning to the Word that God's dominion is above the firmament and in the depths of the sea.

"O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!" (Psalm 8:9).

It does not matter where we look--- we see God's handiwork. We also see His awesome power and judgment.

"And God said, Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place,...and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas." (Genesis 1:9-10).

It is sobering to think that all this beautiful creation shall melt with fervent heat. Those who know the Lord and follow His ways shall be the bride of Christ. Can we possibly conceive in our mind that the Creator of Heaven and earth would be wanting us who are a part of His creation to be the bride of Christ, and minister unto Him for eternity?

God created man for a special purpose when He said,

"...Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." (Genesis 1:26).

Man was made to worship His Creator. Unto the creation called man, God gave intellect to choose right from wrong and breathed into him a living soul. This soul, which is the undestroyable part of us, will make mistakes and sin will come to man.

We are thankful that God has provided a plan of salvation because we all are prone to make mistakes and are born into sin. To escape God's judgment, we must partake of the plan of salvation and repent for our sins. Our heart and soul can be black with sin and our Saviour, through His mercy, will make it clean, pure, and white as snow. We can hardly imagine God's graciousness to us.

When we look at the scene at the bottom of the sea, we must stop, take a breath and glorify the Creator of the universe.

I am told that under the surface of the sea there is no natural sound. The color of the coral is magnified by the natural bright sunlight shining through the clear waters. The color is unique to the various corals, which may have taken hundreds of years to form.

The fish swim in almost total silence to man's ear, but yet God has given them the ability to interact and communicate. They can sense a predator fish and will sound a warning to others. Thus, they help to protect each other from imminent danger.

A very unique invertebrate is the anemone. This sponge-like creature has tentacles that sting the prey, which are then consumed. The clown fish, however, is immune to the sting and by God's direction finds safety by hiding inside the tentacles of the anemone where no predator will venture. Many of the large fish will remain very still with their mouth open and a little fish called the cleaner fish will clean the debris from their mouths.

It is like another world under the sea, but still a part of God's wondrous creation.

Like the little clown fish who finds safety inside the area protected by the anemone, we find protection in the arms of Jesus Christ, our Saviour.

Without faith and the love and direction of God, we would be aimless on earth.

How often we have said, "Thank you for praying for me." We all, young and old, have dreary days that seem almost as if God is nowhere to be found. It is sometimes difficult to remember that God is only a prayer away. It is then that the prayers of the saints lift us up into Jesus' arms or He reaches down to touch our meek and humble life.

We are not worthy of this love, but we are responsible to God for that love.

Just as each little fish contributes to the habitat in the sea, we each contrib-

ute to life above the sea's surface.

There is such a wonderful thing that God has provided us with and it is called fellowship. When one is hurting in our group or church, loved ones will rally around us and give courage.

I am reminded how God provided for Elijah by sending the ravens to feed him in a way so similar to how loved ones will bring a coffee cake or peach cobbler to cheer us up when we are down and out.

I am reminded also how the fish provided a coin for our Lord, and how God made a great fish to swallow Jonah up.

As the fish in the sea or the lilies of the field or even the sparrow, we (God's creation) are cared for by Him. His loving grace is sufficient for everyone, so we can take courage, and look to Him for all our strength.

May God's grace rest on each one so that we can find courage to go on.



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 Robert Walder, Wayne Anliker
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*"The entrance of thy words
giveth light; it giveth under-
standing unto the simple."
(Ps. 119:130)*

July 1995

Light From The Word



Writings based
on God's Word

God's Plan For Family Unity - VII

This seventh part in a series of articles on family unity addresses the issues of clear, reasonable expectations, recognizing the positive side of discipline and our response to our children's unacceptable behavior, such as temper tantrums.

Much has been said about the importance of unity and consistency in training our children. Although it is vital that parents are united and consistent in their approach to training their children, unity and consistency are not enough. Children need to know what is expected of them. Parents must be sure that the expectations that they have for their children are very clearly defined and explained in a way that children can understand them. They cannot know unless they are taught.

The Bible makes it abundantly clear that it is the duty of parents to teach their children the commandments of God, to pass these commandments from generation to generation and to be sure that our children clearly understand the difference between right and wrong. "And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children,..." (Deut. 6:7) "That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born;" (Psalm 78:6). "And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean." (Ezekiel 44:23).

In an age when society is blurring the line between right and wrong and approving many alternate lifestyles that are thoroughly condemned by the Word of God, it is vitally important that God's people always recognize and make the distinction between right and wrong. Our children must understand that it is never right to do wrong and never wrong to do right.

In addition to being clear and consistent, we must be reasonable and realistic in the expectations that we have for our children. An unreasonably harsh taskmaster can cause discouragement. Just as we want and need forbearance from

our Heavenly Father, we need to extend it to our children. "And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven;" (Eph. 6:9). Age, maturity and ability are all factors which should be taken into account. A child should not be punished for what he is unable to do. Overreacting, unrealistic expectations and unreasonable punishment can bring rebellion and defiance.

Be careful in the use of extremes. When we use the words "always", "never", "forever" and others similar to them, there is little room for adjustment if we realize that we have made an error. It is possible to be clear, firm and precise without being extreme.

Sometimes as parents we make the mistake of focusing too much on the negative. While it is appropriate that unacceptable behavior has its consequences, we need to recognize when our children do what is right. Often children are more in need of words of praise and appreciation than words of rebuke. We need to share words of approval for good behavior. "Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it" (Prov. 3:27). If we use rewards for good behavior, caution must be exercised to provide assurance that the technique of reward does not become bribery. How we approach our children in this matter is vitally important. If we use a reward as a way of recognizing and sharing our appreciation for good behavior after the behavior has occurred rather than promising them a reward is they behave during a certain event, it is less likely to become a bribe. Most of the time we should recognize good behavior with words rather than gifts or treats. This also will help keep things in their proper perspective. If children reach the point where they expect a material reward each time they do something well, we may be bribing instead of rewarding. This should cause us to reexamine our approach and make the necessary ad-

justments.

Frequently children learn that they can get what they want by threats or temper tantrums. This may cause parents to yield to their demands or to try to "negotiate" with their children to gain peace or acceptance by the child. We ought not to negotiate in matters of right and wrong. The end result is trouble. "And he gave them their request: but sent leanness into their soul" (Psalm 106:15).

To allow a child to get what he wants by having temper tantrums simply encourages inappropriate behavior in the future. Our response to that kind of behavior should be firm, calm and crystal clear so the child knows that it will not be tolerated. It is very important that we do not become too angry with our children in these situations or we will be guilty of doing the very deed that we are trying to prevent our children from doing. We must confront the situation but we must do it in an acceptable manner. "A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger" (Prov. 15:1). "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him." (Prov. 26:4).

Children often misbehave when they know it will be very difficult or embarrassing for parents to do anything about it, such as in a grocery store or restaurant. If this occurs, it may be necessary to try and find a place that offers reasonable privacy to handle the situation. If there is no place available, it should be dealt with as soon as possible after getting home. It is important that it not be ignored; problems that are ignored tend to grow.

Parents who are clear, consistent and reasonable in their expectations for their children, who provide a good example and who recognize and respond positively to appropriate behavior will do much to help their children learn to do what is right.



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
World Relief

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

World Relief Project at Galilean Home is Completed

After about four months of work and effort by around 170 volunteers, the World Relief approved project at the Galilean Home in Liberty, Kentucky has been completed. Late in June, the keys to a new nursery were given to Jerry and Sandy Tucker, administrators of the home.

A Brief History of the Home

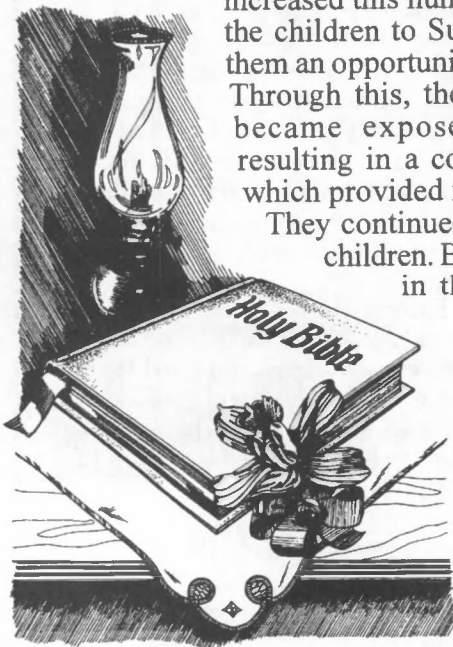
This couple had a deep love for children, although doctors told them it was highly unlikely they would ever have any of their own. In 1969, they adopted their first child, the son of an unmarried mother.

Contrary to their expectations, about a year later, Sandy gave birth to their own daughter. In 1972, they opened their home to two little Indian girls whom they later adopted as their own.

Their daughter now had sisters, but Jeremy, their adopted son, had no brothers. Sandy asked their social worker to seek out a boy, and soon a family of two boys and two girls came into their home.

In about four years, they had become a family of 10, and in February of 1974, the birth of Sandy's second child increased this number to 11. They sent the children to Sunday School to give them an opportunity to learn about God. Through this, the parents themselves became exposed to God's word resulting in a conversion experience which provided faith to proceed.

They continued to take in homeless children. By 1985, fourteen were in their home, and four years later, this number had increased to sixty. They opened their own school in 1985 because of their desire to keep the large, diverse family as far as possible from the influence of the world.



Children From Many Lands

In 1986 they became aware of dire needs of children in Haiti and Central America. They began to make trips into

underdeveloped countries bringing distressed children back with them. In 1988 they named their ministry "The Galilean Home". As of this writing, there are around 70 children in the home, about half of which have been adopted by the Tuckers. Most of these children have mental or physical handicaps, all of them with no home or parents to love them.



How We Became Involved

Several years ago, our brethren in Lexington, KY, about an hour and one-half away, became acquainted with this work. Since then, a number of our brethren have gone there and assisted in various ways. One facet of this work is the care of babies born to women in prison. The program, called "Born Free", takes these newborns and cares for them until the mother is released and able to do it herself, if possible. However, many of these babies remain as a part of the extended family in the Home. Last year, the World Relief Committee approved construction of a large nursery to care for these babies.

Construction of the Nursery

Ground was broken on February 14 for a building equipped to care for around 40 children up to age two. During the construction period, several brothers served as on-site superintendents, providing coordination and supervision as the project advanced. Looking back on their work, our volunteers each feel they themselves really benefited the most.



APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN
World Relief

When our brothers and sisters came and lent their assistance, they were touched by what they saw. The very sight of so many children with such great physical and emotional needs brought tears to nearly every eye. The challenges faced by operating such a large undertaking never seem to end. However, the deep love for children evidenced by the Tuckers and their 51 employees seems to be the catalyst which brings the solutions.

About the New Building

Their new nursery, which they have named "Angel House", provides a vitally needed facility. The Colonial style building, 36 by 96 feet, is built on a sloping site with a walk-out basement which could be finished at a later date.

Ten nursery rooms are each equipped with 4 cribs and one single bed for the nannies who alternate serving 24

hours each day. The babies are cared for in custom designed counters with built-in bath facilities. There also is a small kitchen which serves as a break area and a place to prepare 40 separate formulas which are refrigerated.

The full porch across the front of the building provides a place where the nannies can sit in rocking chairs while they care for the babies. Great care is taken to give the unfortunate little ones as much love as possible. "Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me..." MARK 9:37

Dedication is August 26, 1995

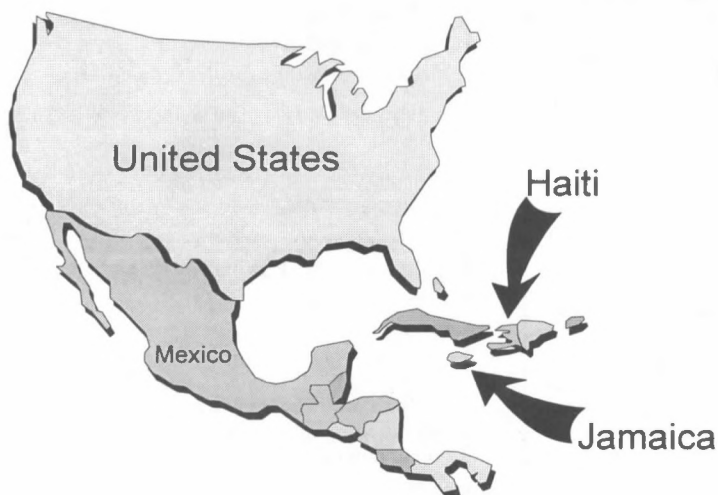
The building is scheduled to be dedicated on Saturday, August 26, and anyone who wishes is encouraged to attend. The World Relief Committee extends its thanks and appreciation to all who supported and took part in this worthwhile and rewarding project.

Caribbean Update

Haiti Coordinators Needed

As in the past years, we are seeking several brothers or couples to serve as coordinators of our work teams in Haiti for several months during the next work season. For information, please contact:

Roger Sauder, Chairman
Caribbean Board
6251 S.W. 5th. St.
Plantation, FL 33317
Phone (305) 584-0947



Work Team Dates

The Caribbean Board has recommended for World Relief Committee consideration and approval the following dates for work teams in Haiti and Jamaica for the literacy program (school buildings) during the coming 1996 winter work season.

Haiti

Jan 12 - 20
Jan 26 - Feb 3
Feb 2 - 10
Feb 16 - 24
Mar 1 - 9



Jamaica

Jan 3 - 11
Mar 8 - 16
May 17-25



Upon approval, details will follow in future *Silver Lining* issues and World Relief bulletin board reports listing all World Relief work projects. Timely information can be obtained from:

Harold Witzig, Caribbean Board
308 N. 2nd St.
Morton, IL 61550
Telephone and Fax (309) 266-6263

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

We're continuing to send used books overseas. Almost daily we receive requests in the mail for Bibles. You may get your books to either of us or Wing or Bluffton World Relief Centers.

Jerry and Arlene Banwart
Box 181 C, 307 W. First St.
Congerville, IL 61729
(309) 448-2416

or

Phil and Gloria Grant
6476 S.R. 111
Antwerp, OH 45813
(419) 258-2197

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN BIBLE DISTRIBUTION

Bibles Distributed By Our Churches

Eleven Years --- August 1983 thru July 1994 --- 286,620

Bibles Distributed --- Twelfth Year

	MONTH	TO DATE
August 1994 --	2,740	2,740
September 1994 --	2,982	5,722
October 1994 --	2,317	8,039
November 1994 --	3,258	11,297
December 1994 --	3,559	14,856
January 1995 --	2,934	17,780
February 1995 --	3,381	21,161
March 1995 --	2,914	24,475
April 1995 --	2,048	26,523
May 1995 --	3,392	29,915
June 1995 --	3,208	33,123

*Note---792 Romanian Bibles and Testaments shipped
770 Romanian Bibles and Testaments, 2nd shipment
234 Romanian Bibles and Testaments, 3rd shipment

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.

**Program Assistant/Direct
Care Provider**

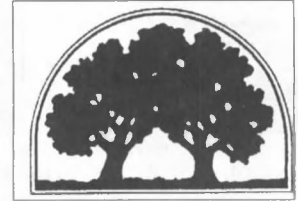
Lakeside Terrace, ICF/MR, in Sabetha, KS is looking for individuals to work as Program Assistants. This job requires one to be responsible for the daily care and implementing instructional programs for our residents.

The mental demands of this job include following directions, organizing time, and communicating with various people. The physical demands include physical strength to lift and position physically disabled adults.

The job requirements include: 1) pre-employment physical, 2) nurse aide or previous experience with handicapped adults or children, 3) being creative, flexible and willing to learn new ideas, 4) being positive and caring, sensitive to others' needs, 5) able to maintain confidentiality.

Lakeside Terrace is a 12 bed home to 5 women and 7 men with developmental disabilities. It is affiliated with the Apostolic Christian Home for the Aged in Sabetha, KS. This home opened in April of 1991. Lakeside Terrace is a home with Christian background and ideals. Any individual interested in applying for a job, please call or write to Sheila Moser, RSD

Lakeside Terrace
1100 Harrison
Sabetha, KS 66534
(913) 284-0005

**ALTERNATE
HOUSEPARENTS
NEEDED**

Houseparents are the very core of our program for the troubled children. Without these committed workers who come from all walks of life, we really have no program and our children have no one to be their mother and father figures.

Alternate Houseparents are key to making our system flow as they give regular childcare staff much needed relief and coordinate many of our maintenance efforts. It is very common for Alternates to eventually take over their own house as Houseparents. We encourage interested, mature couples to consider this rewarding work with children on a staff team of devoted believers.

Please contact one of the brothers listed below for more information about qualifications, training, salaries, and benefits for these positions.

MANAGEMENT POSITION

Gateway Woods has a Child Care Supervisor position that has been open for quite some time. We are looking for a brother to help fill this need. Qualifications include: bachelor's degree in Social Services with two years experience in child care or a master's degree, excellent leadership, organizational, and interpersonal communication skills. Job responsibilities include recruiting, interviewing, training and supervision of child care and maintenance staff. In addition, this brother would serve on our Management Team. The salary range for this position is in the mid 30's.

Tim Sauder - Adm. David Bertsch - Elder
Box 151 11520 Grabill Road
Leo, IN 46765 Grabill, IN 46741
219/627-2159 (office) 219/627-2923
219/627-2606 (home)

GALILEAN HOME PROJECT

Work on the World Relief building project at the Galilean Home in Liberty, KY is now completed. Thanks to the many that participated in this project. Approximately 200 brethren and friends helped with this project. Anyone interested is invited to attend dedication and open house on Saturday, August 26, 1995.

Call Bro. Ken Hodel for more details:
1-309-923-7281 phone
1-309-923-7983 FAX

CASSETTES FROM EUROPE

We still have a supply of the cassette tapes produced in Austria and Hungary containing beloved hymns of our old Heft (Long Book) and Zion's Harp Hymnals.

All profits from the sale of these tapes go to Europe, where the money is distributed among our very needy brethren in the Eastern European countries of East Germany, Hungary, Romania and others.

The Heft or Long Book tapes were recorded by Bro. Josef Farkasch, who is a music professor near Salzburg, Austria. He plays the classical guitar and many other instruments on three tapes of songs from the Long Book. Some include singing.

"Holy Love" and "Blest Be the Tie" tapes recorded in Hungary, feature orchestra and choral renditions of songs from the Zion's Harp and Long Book, as well as many of their Hungarian hymns.

We have received a great response in the sale of these five tapes and wish to thank everyone for their past support.

The Heft (Long Book) tapes include three volumes. Volume I includes songs 1-11, 13-18; Volume II includes songs 12, 19-31; Volume III includes songs 33-48. Each tape costs \$8.00. For shipping costs on orders of 1-5 tapes, add \$.75 extra for each tape. On orders of 6 tapes or more, add only \$.30 extra for each tape. Make checks for Long Book Tape payable to the Long Book Tape Fund.

The two tapes, "Holy Love", a tape of orchestra, and "Blest Be the Tie", which has both orchestra and singing, are available at \$7.00 for each tape. For shipping costs on orders of 1-5 tapes, add \$.75 extra for each tape. On orders of 6 or more tapes, add only \$.30 extra for each tape. Make checks for Hungarian tapes to the person you order from.

Long Book tapes and Hungarian tapes may be ordered from:

Don and Lorna Schrock
100 Forest View Road
Morton, IL 61550
(309) 266-6810

Dennis and Beth Feucht
317 North Third
Morton, IL 61550
(309) 266-9498

OPPORTUNITY TO HELP OUR BRETHREN IN HUNGARY



Beautiful singing of praise to our Lord has been put on 5 tapes by our brethren in Hungary. These new tapes are being offered, with glory and honor given to God, to raise money to publish a new hymn book for worship.

Five 60 min. Tapes Available:

From European Churches

- 1.) Budapest with guests: Dunavecse, Paks, Nagydorog churches
- 2.) Baja and Ersekcsanak churches
- 3.) Oroshaza with guests: Bekescsaba, Bekessamson churches
- 4.) Dunavecse Childrens Chorus
- 5.) Szeged with guests: Hodmezovasarhely churches

"These tapes are made only for glory to God. Our wish that sisters and brothers in the States will listen them also for glory to God."

Bro. Pap Janos

This project is being overseen by Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman along with the Francesville and Detroit churches.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1.) Sis. Doris Kurkowski
3540 Prairie
Berkley, MI 48072
810/544-2707 | 4.) Bro. Dennis Virkler
Rejoice Records
Ringger Ranch Recording
RR 4 Box 217B
Carlock, IL 61725 |
| 2.) Sis. Holly Barton
35502 Woodfield
Farmington Hills, MI 48331
810/489-1164 | 5.) Sis. Peg Schieler
RR 2 Box 50
Roanoke, IL 61561
309/923-7513 |
| 3.) Sis Harriet Orcsik
2670-5 Meadowbrooke Lane
Windsor, ONT, CANADA N8T2Y4
519/945-9964 | 6.) Bro. Roger Ward
RR 2 Box 74a
Francesville, IN 47946
219/567-2687 |

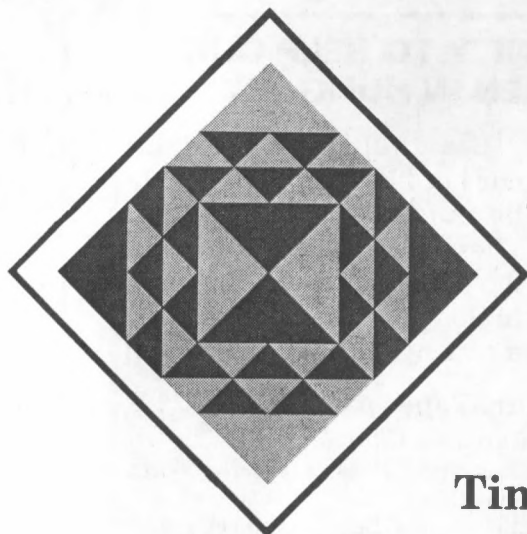
Send Funds With Orders

Silverton, Oregon Church Building Project

The construction phase of our work has been completed and we are holding our Open House on July 22, 1995, and the dedication is scheduled for August 20, 1995.

We wish to invite any who desire, to attend our dedication services. For accommodations, phone Bro. Jim and Sis. Barbara Kuenzi at (503) 873-4853.

Our heartfelt thanks to all who have given so generously of their time and funds for the building project. The new church will seat about 450 in the sanctuary, 225 in the Sunday School, 165 in the dining room, and park about 165 vehicles.



GATEWAY WOODS AUCTION AND SALE

Saturday, August 19, 1995

Timetable of Events

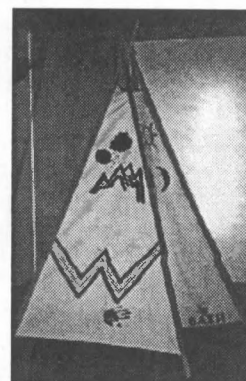
7:30 A.M. Meals
7:30 A.M. Pre-priced Crafts and Bake Sale
8:30 A.M. Gateway Woods Songs and Devotions

9:00 A.M. Quilt Auction
Monet's Broken Star quilt; Violets quilt; baby/crib quilts; comforters; afghans; rag rugs; pillows; handmade dresses and aprons; and many other handmade quilts in several sizes.

Craft Auction
Inlaid table (cedar, walnut, etc.) with side leaves; mini-model of old Leo church; handmade oak silverware chest; 2.5 story dollhouse; wooden rocking horse; teepees; table tent; gazebo birdfeeder; grapevine wreaths; and other high quality craft items!

China, Art and Antique Auction
Collectible plates; paintings; wood carvings; framed cross-stitch and artwork; antique church bench; antique oak furniture; and many other china and antique items.

12:00 Noon Specialty Items Auction
1994 Chevrolet Lumina van; swing set; John Deere LX 176 lawn tractor; 40 children's chairs; W 6 International antique tractor (original condition); 1936 John Deere Model A tractor; Play Station: Blockholder Supreme, Finger Fun Table, and Spaghetti Legs Table; Keebler 500 pedal car; picnic tables; and much, much more!



*All Items Are New Except Our Quality Antiques
MasterCard and Visa are accepted.*

GATEWAY WOODS

Apostolic Christian Children's Home

P. O. Box 151

Leo, IN 46765 (219) 627-2159

GATEWAY WOODS is located ten miles northeast of Fort Wayne on State Road 1 to Leo, one mile east on Leo-Grabill Road to Klopfenstein Road, then north 1/4 mile. Watch for signs.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped said "good-bye" to two longtime residents within two days. Willis Belsley (6/16/95) and Lisa Menold (6/17/95) were called Home to be safe in the arms of Jesus. We are so thankful there is a Heavenly Father who cares for us so completely that He takes us Home to abide with Him. The staff and residents of ACHH were all affected by the illnesses, the waiting and wondering, and finally the passing of both Willis and Lisa. Our sympathy and love goes out to both families.

July was the beginning of individual and small group vacations. Several residents went to camp for a few days or up to a week. Others traveled with adult groups from their day programs. A Six Flags trip is an annual event that many look forward to this July 18 and 19. In July we were also able to swim at the Morton Pool one evening a week.

SEPTEMBER birthdays for all our facilities are as follows: ACHH - Viola Fisher (1); Judy Vicic (3); Marta Graber (9); Mike Culkin (10); Lester Miller (16); Lois Egli (19); Glenn Getz (20); Cindy Sigulas (22); Nancy Theis (25); Marsha Miller (26) and Ethel Borinstein (29). At OAKWOOD - Angie Massner (9) and David Maupin (20). At LINDEN - Janet Schweigert (10); David Taylor (13); Janet Christensen (16); Jim Maupin (24); Brent Rebeck (24) and Doug Steffen (26). At 207 WAGLER - Marlene Esslinger (8).

GATEWAY WOODS APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

Bridget Zollinger

Before I joined the staff at Gate-

way Woods I received a Christmas card from a Houseparent and her first sentence was "The only constant around Gateway Woods is change." Now I realize how true it is. Mike M. left the Schrock's house and Alex and Zachary F. moved in.

Angie G. is welcomed into the girls' house. In August, our girls' house will change into a co-ed house and Bro. Ed and Sis. Deb Graf will be the Houseparents, as Sis. Deb Neuenschwander is planning to move on and Sis. Sandy Leman will become our Education Coordinator. The Graf's and their boys, Ryan and Jason, will be joined by Sis. Bridget Zollinger as the Assistant Houseparent. This now leaves an opening for Alternate Houseparents. Please pray that a couple will be moved to respond to our need and the Lord's call.

Volunteers since our last issue have been Sisters Johanna Fortenbacher (Kitchener, Ontario), Margo Stettner (Bluffton North), Abby Kipfer (Bluffton), Tanessa Leman (Francesville), Holly Beer (Milford), Tonya Wieland (Princeville), and Missy Stratton (Taylor); Bro. Eric and Sis. Rhonda Tonner (Bluffton); Bros. Brian Blume (Wolcott), Tad Baumgartner (Bluffton), Darwin Stahl (Bradford), Clint Endress and Chad Plattner (Princeville), Phillip Kellenberger (Washington), Brandon Rinkenberger (Chicago) and Brian Tanner (Morton). Sis. Janel Frank (Bluffton) is planning to spend four weeks here with us. We are thankful for our volunteers.

Also this month, our counselor, Sis. Denise Duckworth, was married to Bro. Michael Klopfenstein (Leo); and our Summer Program Coordinator, Bro. Dave Kieser, was married to Sis. Jody Knobloch (Princeville, IL). The Klopfenstein's will reside in Leo and the

Kieser's will move to Champaign at the end of the summer.

August 19 is our annual Auction. Auction items have been coming in and things are shaping up. We appreciate the many hands that help sale day and the week before, and encourage you to come. It's a day filled with activity and excitement.

ONTARIO, KITCHENER CANADA

Laura Baxter

"Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power."

Ephesians 3:7

We are thankful for our visiting ministers that have preached the "unsearchable riches of Christ" in the recent past. Thanks to Elder Bros. Ken Sauder (Mansfield, OH) and Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), and Bros. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI), Glenn Riggerbach (Smithville, OH) and Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka, IL). We also appreciate all those that came to visit us along with our ministering brethren.

"As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: they shall not be ashamed, but they shall speak with the enemies in the gate."

Psalms 127:4-5

God has blessed Bro. Jim and Sis. Laura Baxter with a daughter, Leah Ruth. She is welcomed home by Andrew and Hannah. Her grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Kay Siebenthal (Princeville, IL).

We want to extend a welcome to anyone in the area as they travel

this summer to visit with us. Please contact Bro. Wladimir Fortenbacher (519) 699-4133 or Bro. Jim Baxter (519) 699-5081.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX
Ron and Ev Hoerr

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;"

Titus 2:11-12

We all know there is power in prayer (from near and far). Many of us have seen a miracle happen when someone who truly loves the Lord our God, repents of his sins and is converted to a new life in Christ. Facing serious cancer surgery, Jim Laukhuf (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Katherine) did ask the Lord into his heart and is finding a burden lifted.

Likewise, Robin Lemons (Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty) has answered God's knock on her heart's door. May she find a closer walk with the Lord, best for herself and children.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Nate Lehman and Loren Knapp (Tucson, AZ), and Steve Sauder (Tremont, IL).

Welcome to new residents, Keri Hausmann (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Verla, Bradford, IL), Bro. Rudy and Sis. Irene Bertschi to Sun City (from Tucson), and Bro. Jonathan Banwart (Lamar, MO) will worship with us. Jonathan came here for schooling.

Congratulations to Bro. Ed and Sis. Connie Frautschi on the birth of grandchild, Amber Nicole Schlatter, on June 13 (Bro. John and Sis. Stephanie).

Also, Sis. Lucille Richardson has a new grandchild, Ashlyn La-

Nae, born June 30 to Brad and Sis. LuAnn Gramm.

Our sympathy to Bro. Greg and Sis. Denise Gramm on the death of her grandmother.

Our hospital and surgical patients were Sis. Ruth Vaughn, Sis. Martha Elsasser, Sis. Esther Harmon, Bro. Gordon Greenbank, and Jim Laukhuf. Little Jared Wuethrich (Bro. Randy and Sis. Stephanie) has a broken arm, but is coping well. Sis. Josephine Martin suffered a knee injury, and Sis. Ruth Baer is having studies done. As we write this on July 16, our high temperature in Phoenix was 92 degrees, humidity 24.

With life so mixed up, it surely would seem important to let go and LET GOD.

Reach for your Bible and may the Lord give you peace and comfort.

ARIZONA, PRESCOTT

Our cooler climate makes a nice get away---so come worship with us. We appreciated messages from Bros. Loren Knapp and Nate Lehman (Tucson, AZ), Elder Bro. Richard Schupbach and Bro. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ) and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN).

Give us a call at (520) 445-2164 (Smith's) with any questions.

ARIZONA, TUCSON
Lisa Knapp

We recently completed our Vacation Bible School for 1995 and I'm happy to report that it was a big success! We appreciate everyone's hard work and cooperation in making Vacation Bible School a possibility in such a small church. We were able to reach out to some children in the community who wouldn't otherwise have been exposed to such an environ-

ment.

A farewell was held on Sunday, July 16, for Bro. Nate, Sis. Yvonne, Bro. Andy, Steve and Natalie Lehman who will be leaving us to relocate in the Bloomington area. Farewells seem to be all too familiar in the past year, but they don't seem to get any easier. We have to believe this is the Lord's will for the Tucson church and for Bro. Nate and Sis. Yvonne's family. We wish them God's richest blessings as they begin their life in Bloomington. In a small church, everyone had many roles. We thank Bro. Nate, Sis. Yvonne and their children for their years of faithful attendance, service in many offices and support of church activities. Of course, it is their prayers and fellowship that we will miss the most. We hope to have them visit us in the future. God bless you all.

Our temperatures are in the 105 degree area and will be for some time.

Our Sis. Martha Blessman has not worshipped with us for some time and probably won't be able to unless there is dramatic improvement in her hip and leg. She is in our thoughts and prayers.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA
Joy Nenadov

"And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are."
John 17:11

Greetings all!

As Jesus felt a great need to pray for the keeping of His saints in the beautiful prayer, we read, to His Father, how vital and necessary it is for each of us to be in fervent prayer for the preserva-

tion of our precious church and faith. How thankful and grateful we should be that Jesus loved us so much to pray for each of us.

Let us remember to pray for our beloved Elder brothers as they will gather together in Princeville, IL to discuss spiritual matters and concerns of our churches, and then so lovingly share it to the brethren who attend the Brotherhood Conference on August 11. May our gracious Lord indeed be in the midst of them, and those as well, who will listen to the exhortations on the tapes.

Give faithful servants ever,
Who have but one endeavor,
Thy gospel to proclaim;
Who heed Thy Spirit holy,
And strive and labor solely,
O, Lord, to glorify Thy name.

Zion's Harp #207

It's always a blessing from our Lord to grant faithful brethren to visit our congregation. On June 25, visiting ministering Bro. Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN) was in our midst and willingly lent himself to us from God's precious Word. We thank him for this effort of love. Then on July 2, Elder Bro. Janos Sarok (Budapest, Hungary) and his wife, Sis. Marika, were among us, and although he couldn't serve us from the pulpit due to the language barrier, we could see his, as well as his wife's, loyal service to the Lord and us by their Christian love and humility which could be felt through the bond we share in Christ, which surpasses any language barrier. All honor and praise to God!

We welcome Sis. Lori Hackenjos (Bluffton, IN), a traveling nurse, who has come to California for the next several months. She will be working several hours north of us in the Fresno area. We look forward to having her wor-

ship with us, and hope she feels welcome here among us.

"The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen."

I Thess. 5:28

CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Rose Huette

Our visiting ministers this month were Bros. Bill Dotterer (Phoenix, AZ), Fred Witzig (Altadena, CA) and Elder Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena, CA). Elder Bro. Janos Sarok (Budapest, Hungary) was also here visiting family and friends. With Bro. Louis Bikadi interpreting, we were blessed with many good teachings. May our Lord and Saviour richly bless our ministers for their labors of love as they share God's wonderful Word. Also, we appreciate all of our visitors. Come back soon!

Many from our congregation are missing as they are visiting elsewhere. Bro. Tibor and Sis. Pearl Bozzay, along with their daughter, Esther, have gone to visit family and friends both in the Midwest and Hungary. Bro. Victor and Sis. Anna will also be gone for about five weeks as they visit their family across the Midwest. We miss them and pray they will have a blessed visit and return safely to us.

"...The beloved of the Lord shall dwell in safety by him;"

Deuteronomy 33:12

Bro. Leonard Locher had surgery and is now doing much better. Bro. Rory Strahm has been having a rough time. We are so thankful when he is able to be with us for half a day in church. Bro. Bill Minger is still very ill. He's had a number of strokes and we just pray that God's healing hand might touch him and all

those who are sick.

COLORADO, DENVER

Joleen Elder

Greetings!

"And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."

Genesis 2:23-24

May God guide and direct our dear friends, Kevin Braun (Sis. Sharon Braun, Denver; and Herman Braun, Marengo, IL) and Pam Newman (Peter Newman, Aurora, CO; and Susan Newman, Aurora, CO) as they have recently been joined together as husband and wife.

Haste, while yet His grace is offered;
Waste no time in worldly thought;
Now begin your pilgrim journey,
Cleansed from ev'ry stain and spot.

You will find by faith, revealing
Full redemption in His blood;
For each sinner there is healing,
Baptized in this cleansing flood.

Zion's Harp #52

We rejoice with our friend, Kevin Braun (Pam), as he has given his life over to the Lord in repentance. May God grant him grace and strength to start this journey on the narrow path.

"And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves."

I Thess. 5:12-13

We were blessed and privileged to have visiting Elders and ministers with us. They were: Elder Bros. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) and visiting ministers were Bros. Peter Petrovic (San Diego, CO), Garth Steffen (Portland, OR), Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL) and Vernon Wettstein (Congerville, IL). May God bless each of you and your families for traveling the many miles to be with us and for your willingness to be used in the service of the Lord.

On a Saturday night, Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter gave a presentation on the history of the Bible and he also presented information on the different Bible versions. We were encouraged to continue using the King James version. Thank you, Elder Bro. Bill, for so ably exhorting to us on this important topic.

We all have our Gethsemanes
And our daily cross to bear
And we, too, have a Father
We can go to with our care.
A Father who will listen
As He listened to His Son,
And give us strength to carry on
Until life's work is done.

Helen Steiner Rice

Our dear Sis. Kathe Hasty (Bro. Richard) spent a night in the hospital. May the Lord heal her bodily afflictions and continue to grant her grace and strength to bear her cross each day.

We would like to extend our love and sympathy to Elder Bro. Nathan Steffen and his wife, Sis. Marilyn (Elgin, IL), in the passing of his mother, Sis. Rose Steffen. May the Lord comfort you and your family during your time of sorrow.

Sis. Cindy Schmidt (Bro. Rodney) has been given the responsibility of teaching our young children in Sunday School. May

God be with you as you bring forth God's teachings to those young and tender hearts.

CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE Dawn Winans - Peggy Bahler

July 5 was a joyous day for Ron and Sheila Gerber, with the birth of their daughter, Leah Marie. Her grandparents are Bro. Edwin and Sis. Bev Gerber.

"Love of all gifts is the greatest which the spirit does bestow." (Zion's Harp #37). We were happy to hear of the engagement of Bro. Keven Grasso (Anita Grasso) and Sis. Sara Bahler (Sis. Maxine and the late Bro. Lee). They plan to be married on August 20; we wish them the Lord's richest blessings.

Ministering Bro. Tom Luginbuhl (Altadena, CA) and Bro. Neil Ramsier (Bay City, MI) visited in our congregation this month. We appreciate their labor of love and wish them the Lord's blessings.

We have several hospital patients this month. They are Sis. Linda Lanz (Greg), Bro. Dave Galat, Sr. (Sis. Marlene), Sis. Emma Ruch and Cheryl Farnham (Steven). May God be with them and grant them a speedy recovery.

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Leo, Sis. Sherri LaPlante and their family in the passing of Bro. Leo's father.

On June 24, Sis. Ella Marti was called Home to be with the Lord. Our sympathy goes out to her family.

Little Jenna Lea Binkowski was taken home after just 2 1/2 months of innocent life. She leaves her parents, Rob and Janet Binkowski, and her brother, Nicholas. She also leaves her grandparents, Walter and Maureen Binkowski and Bro. Gene and Sis. Ellen Kupferschmid. Our sympathy goes out to her family.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WASHINGTON Henrietta Meyer

"Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord..."

Psalm 127:3

Skyler Zane Fetter arrived June 17. His parents are Bro. Matthew and Sis. Wendy Fetter (Father's Day 1995 will be one his dad will long remember.) Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Betty Fetter (Toledo, OH) and Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene Metzger (Lamont-Gridley, KS).

Summer is here, bringing lots of visitors and blessings of fellowship. Our ministers this month were Bros. Darrel Stoller (Bern, KS), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT), and Elder Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA). We thank these brothers and their wives for ministering to us. Other visitors this month were from Champaign and Eureka, IL; Junction, OH; Lester and Oakville, IA; Detroit, MI; and Remington, IN.

Our prayers are with all who travel to Princeville, IL for the Brotherhood Conference, not only for the Lord's traveling mercy, but to lead, guide and direct all who attend.

Services are held the first, third, and fourth Sundays of the month at Tyson's Westpark Hotel, located about one mile west of the Beltway (I-495) on Route 7. Some from the area meet in the hotel dining room for breakfast at 9:00 a.m. Services are at 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

For more information, assistance, or just to let us know you are in the area, please call Bro. Matt Fetter (703) 860-5749 or Bro. Ken Martin (703) 444-9085.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE **Billie Klopfenstein**

South Florida has been experiencing our usual July thunderstorms with an above average amount of rainfall.

Our hurricane season begins in June as does our rainy season and this year it is bringing flooded streets and homes in some areas.

Sis. Elsie Bolliger had a cataract removed but is able to attend church once again.

Sis. Joyce Banwart also had outpatient surgery but is doing well.

Sis. Shay Nelson is spending a few months in our area. We extend a warm welcome.

Our "Summer Sunday School" is in full swing. Regular teachers get a six week vacation and volunteers take over. The children make crafts along with their Bible lesson. The kids love it!

Many in our congregation are vacationing in various parts of our country and also in Europe. Each week we have a few visitors and always enjoy each person.

Closing thought: The church should always be a warm shelter in a cold world.

FLORIDA, NORTH FT. MYERS **Marvin and Rhea Steffen**

We trust that all are busy with summertime activities. May the truths taught in Vacation Bible Schools bear much fruit in years to come.

Our Elder Bro. Darrell Klopfenstein and his wife, Sis. Billie, traveled to share with us this month. It is always a special joy to us here, and we pray the Lord will richly bless them.

Bro. Vic and Sis. Dottie Beer's granddaughter, Tara Beer, had what could have been a serious automobile accident, and we are so thankful that she is on the mend and doing well.

Our Sis. Kaye Eisenmann is back with us again after illness kept her from meeting with us for a time, and we are thankful for her improved health.

We want to encourage anyone that is considering relocating to Florida, to please consider the Ft. Myers area. We would be delighted to share any information with you that you would seek, such as employment opportunities, housing, etc. and would help any way we could.

May you all have a blessed summer.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA **Vera and Mary Martin**

A blessed day of fellowship at Myaaka State Park was sponsored by the Sunday School at our annual pig roast. We want to thank all who participated in this annual event.

Prayers are still with Sis. Marie Bartoni as she is still having complications with her broken arm and needed to return to the hospital for more surgery.

We want to thank Bro. Jeff Streitmatter (Atlanta, GA) for sharing the Word with us. We look forward with anticipation when our brethren come back home for a visit.

Recently we were reminded of Isaiah 5:13. "Therefore my people have gone into captivity, because they have no knowledge." We have been challenged to share at all cost with those in captivity the secret of eternity with God. **GOD STILL IS WORKING MIRACLES.**

Recently shared by a brother driving past a detention home for boys, the Lord laid upon his heart to take Bibles into them. Looking at the door he saw the locks and a buzzer. Time, being a factor, he felt he would just take two Bibles to the door. Placing his hand on

the door, the door opened. As he walked inside the foyer, no one was in the reception area and he was faced with another door with a sign stating "No one beyond this point without authorization." Through the glass in the door he saw two boys and as he placed his hand on the door, it also opened. The boys indicated they would like a Bible when offered. Revelation 3:20 was shown to them and indicated Jesus speaking those words to them and He is standing at your door. If you open your heart and mind, Jesus will give you a life. If you keep Him out, the devil will kill you.

The brother then saw a class going on and again the Lord told him to go into them. As he opened the door, he asked if anyone here wants a Holy Bible of God. The teacher did not respond. Ten boys said they would like to have a Bible. Of course, he only took four in with him and already had given two away. He gave two Bibles out and again the teacher never said a word. He stated that he would be right back because he had more outside.

This time as he went out the first door, it was locked. The guard had to unlock both doors. The guard left him back in with the rest of the Bibles and he went back into the classroom. Again, there was no response from the teacher as he read Revelation 3:20. He told the boys if they open their heart and their minds to Him, Jesus Christ will come in and give you life; otherwise, if the devil wins he will kill you. A peaceful feeling came into the brother's heart as the boys asked for the Bibles and highlighted the verse.

As the brother was leaving, the Lord spoke to him saying "The big door was locked and I opened the doors for you. I want you to understand, those doors just didn't

open---I was here." What is the situation with your doors? Are you sharing the Word at all cost?

GEORGIA, ATLANTA
Peggy Camp

Once again, our congregation has been blessed with many visitors and we thank each one who took the time to come and worship with us. Visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Erik Givens (Princeville, IL) and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN).

We rejoice with Bro. Jeff and Sis. Lynne Streitmatter III in the birth of their first child, a baby boy. Jeff IV was born June 23. May they always look to God for direction in raising their son.

We are happy to have Bro. Bob and Sis. Jean Knapp (Eureka, IL) assembling with us for a few months. They are residing in Greenville, SC where Bro. Bob is working.

If you are in Atlanta over a weekend, please stop in to worship with us. We meet every Sunday at 10:20 at the Renaissance Hotel. The hotel is located on I-85 at the Riverdale Rd. exit, just South of the airport. Please contact Bro. Linn Stoller (404) 631-4554, Bro. John Brewer (404) 502-8629 or Bro. Don Sellers (404) 381-1395 for further information.

ILLINOIS, BELVIDERE
Millie Jepson

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

Psalm 122:1

"For a day in thy courts is better than a thousand. I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to dwell in the tents of wickedness."

Psalm 84:10

Our congregation has been blessed with the addition of another lovely family. Jerry and Sis. Sandy Darlington with their sons, Joseph, Jacob and Jesse, have moved to our area from Texas and are now worshipping with us. We also welcome the three precious little foster children of Bro. Dean and Sis. Carol Steffen. We have enjoyed watching them grow and develop physically even the short while they have been with the Steffen family. These families, along with all our other families, really need our prayers.

Daren Mueller, son of Bro. Art and Sis. Marlene Mueller, is engaged to Katie Douglas of Clinton, WI and they are planning to be married next year. On July 6, Louis Dipirro, brother of Sis. Lana Schifferer (Bro. Bill), died after a lengthy illness. We pray for God's blessing and direction for Daren and Katie - and God's comfort for Bro. Bill and Sis. Lana.

We thank God for our faithful Elgin ministers, Bros. Bill Gudeman and Gary Anliker, for ministering to us this past month. Bro. Glenn Dill (Sis. Marilyn) from Tremont, IL was our visiting minister in July and challenged us to keep our focus on Christ in these days when there are so many distractions. Whether the congregation is large or small -- the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword. (Hebrews 4:12)

We are thankful for all the visitors during the summer months, and actually all year long. It really encourages us when we see visitors from so many different churches making the Belvidere church a part of their weekend, vacation or reunion. And we are always happy to see our good friends from Elgin. Some Sundays we have a picnic in the park near us and have an afternoon of

fellowship while the children play. All visitors are included when we have our picnics. We pray that the children especially will feel the love of God and see that we have joy in the Lord. Each happiness of yesterday is a memory for tomorrow.

ILLINOIS,
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL
Tudy Schmied - Debbie Grieco

On June 28, the congregation enjoyed hearing from the many young people who spent a week in early June in Kingston, Jamaica at the Caribbean Center for the Deaf. What an experience. They learned what hard labor really meant, made new friends, and realized that they live in a nation that is richly blessed.

On July 5, Bro. Ron Heiniger led a Bible Study which examined the spiritual meaning of Freedom and Liberty.

It's HOT! With temperatures around the country reaching the high 90's and the low 100's we are reminded of how many blessings we enjoy that permit us to be comfortable in our physical life. However, things are different in our spiritual life where we need to be careful not to become too "comfortable", but to keep our love for our Lord and our spiritual light burning hot.

Oh, the joy of seeing two souls joined as one in God's love. On July 2, Bro. Brian Strassheim (Bro. Dale and Sis. Carol) and Sis. Rozalia Bozzay of Chicago (Bro. Miklos and Sis. Aranka, Chicago) were joined in Holy Matrimony. May their lives and home be filled with the love and blessings that only God can provide.

Our congregation shared the sorrow of the death of Bro. Virgil Koehl (Sis. Gladys, Forrest), father of Bro. Jerry Koehl, Sis. Marsha Albritton, and Sis. Mary

Daily, all of the Bloomington church. Amongst the sorrow is the underlying joy that another believer has moved to a Heavenly Home. Praise God!

Sincere thanks goes out to Bro. Lenny Meyer (Chicago, IL) for being with our congregation and participating in Bro. Brian and Sis. Rose's wedding on July 2.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Virgil Koehl wish to thank all for the many expressions of love and sympathy extended to them.

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Brad & Cheryl Kupferschmid

June 25 was a special day for Bro. Gregg Rumbold and Sis. Heather Wieland (Princeville, IL) as they were united as one in the Lord. We pray God's blessings on them as they strive to serve Him together. Parents of the couple are Bro. John and Sis. Elizabeth Wieland (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold.

After a quick trip through the reception line, the Bradford congregation met at the Princeton Park for our annual Sunday School picnic. The Sunday School sang a few praises to our God and we then had our picnic and a wonderful evening of fellowship. We felt the Lord's blessings.

We are so thankful that God provides those who are willing and able to teach our children each Sunday. Sis. Sharon Bruell's term is ended this year. We pray the Lord will be her rewarder for the time and effort that she lovingly put into her duties. Sis. Karen Ringger will be taking her place. We trust that God will give Sis. Karen the grace and wisdom to teach those young and tender hearts of the love of Jesus.

We are so thankful for the visitors this month. Bro. Don Manz

(Junction, OH) and Bro. Andy Klaus (Tokyo, Japan) and their families were among those who came to visit. May God bless them for surrendering self and allowing the Holy Spirit to bring us the Word.

Bro. Don and Sis. Delores Duckworth rejoice with their daughter, Sis. Denise (Leo, IN), as she was joined in Holy Matrimony to Bro. Mike Klopfenstein (Leo, IN) on July 9. We pray that God will bless them as they begin their lives as one. Bro. Mike's parents are Bro. Lynn and Sis. Christine Klopfenstein (Leo, IN).

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN

Samuel and Pamela Furrer

Our congregation was saddened by the death of our dear Ed Scott. Following a period of ill health, Ed passed away on June 29. A retired professor of mathematics at the University of Illinois, Ed and his wife, Jane, have become an important part of our congregation during the many years they have assembled with us. We offer our sincere sympathy to Jane. We shall all miss Ed's gentle demeanor and sincere concern for the well-being of others.

On June 30, about 50 people gathered at Hessel Park for a surprise 25th wedding anniversary picnic for Bro. Dennie and Sis. Cheryl (Schlatter) Mangers. We appreciate Bro. Dennie and Sis. Cheryl and their family very much, and wish them many more years of wedded bliss.

Much of our congregation gathered as our three boys from the Bible Class gave a slide presentation on their mission trip to the Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf in Kingston, Jamaica. Our young men, Neil Banwart (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Charlen), Thomas Fehr (Bro. Bob and Sis. Barb), and Scott Mangers (Bro.

Dennie and Sis. Cheryl), told of their travels and work with many other young people and adults from area churches. As the boys told of their trip, it was obvious that they learned a great deal more than how to build block wall fences and sidewalks. Rather, they built friendships and compassion for some of God's less fortunate children while getting to know themselves and each other a little better. It was really wonderful to see how God's love had worked through these boys as they helped others. "...Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these..., ye have done it unto me." (Matthew 25:40).

Being a small congregation in a university town, we are continually seeing new people come to our church and others moving on due to changes in education or employment. We will miss Bro. Brandon and Sis. Sonia Endress, as they have moved to the Peoria area for new jobs. Our congregation welcomes the addition of Bro. Rick and Sis. Rachel Meyer, who have moved here from Cissna Park. They will be continuing their educations at the University of Illinois and Parkland College. We wish both of these couples God's blessings as they begin new chapters in their lives.

Visiting ministers this past month were Bros. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL), Ken Schneider (Remington, IN), and Tom Stock (Cissna Park, IL). We thank these ministers and their families for coming to visit their relatives here and sharing the Word with us. As many people are making vacation plans this time of year, we send out a special invitation to stop in Champaign for church. With the majority of the student population gone for the summer, we are especially grateful for visitors.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

We have been so blessed by "servants of the church". (Romans 16:1). Bros. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH), Art Baurer (Princeville, IL) and Paul Messner (Winthrop, MN) have given us the Lord's words through His Spirit. Also, in our week of Vacation Bible School we have had creative teachers and supportive parents who made our gutted Sunday School area a memorable experience for exploring five of the attributes of God. Our privileges as adults and Bible Class students extended to listening to five ministering brothers: Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL), meditating on God's holiness; Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), exhorting us about God's power; Bro. Dennis Kaufmann (Bloomington, IL), reminding us of God's faithful protection; Bro. Jon Zeller (Morton, IL), delineating God's justice; and Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), sharing with us as much as he could of God's love. We are humbled by the overwhelming impact of one week, including the children's song program and open house on Sunday, July 16. May all who participated be uplifted. We especially thank God for our children, for their enthusiasm and involvement in songs and activities, worship and wonder about God's qualities, praying that many seeds have been planted to sprout, to grow, and to blossom.

This month has been full of momentous spiritual occasions. Bro. Dan Plattner officially joined our brotherhood after his proving Saturday, June 24, and baptism on Sunday the 25th. The supper which followed was the last to be held in our "old dining room". We, as a church, are blessed by Bro. Dan's conversion and his concen-

tration on spiritual matters. We are thankful and prayerful for him, appreciating his addition to the faith.

In Bloomington on Sunday, July 2, Sis. Rozalia Bozzay (Bro. Miklos and Sis. Aranka) and Bro. Brian Strassheim were joined together in Holy marriage. We rejoice with them and their families.

The Lord asks of us what is best for ourselves and others, but we often find the parting painful. Bro. Tom and Sis. Sue Waldbeser, Drew and Elise, are following the Lord's direction to relocate in Atlanta, GA. We are thrilled for that small church; we feel the empty spaces here, in Sunday School, Bible distribution and Gateway Woods representative. Yet, we know they are being guided, and sometimes church pillars need to be redistributed. Thank you, Tom and Sue, for your love and faithfulness to Him and to us.

In Sunday School, Bro. Ken Rinkenberger has completed his term as teacher and superintendent. Bro. Jeff Leman has been appointed to succeed him as superintendent, and Bro. Dave Kiefer will take Jeff's place as assistant. Bros. Dale Steiner and Scott Wegman will be replacing Bro. Kenny and Bro. Tom Waldbeser, who is leaving. Bro. Kurt Pflederer has been chosen to take Bro. Tom's place as Gateway Woods representative. We have appreciated the efforts of Bro. Ken and Sis. Devon. May the Lord reward them and may He give the mantle to those who have offered themselves in continuing His work among our children.

Sis. Lucille Feller has had successful cataract surgeries. We are thankful for her improved physical perception and always appreciate her spiritual sight, projected to us by her quiet and giving spirit.

Bro. Frank Fisher, our faithful

brother, now rests in the Lord. He was born in Peoria 85 years ago, and, formerly of Eureka, IL was returned there for funeral services. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Gladys; a son, Franklin, of Naperville; and two daughters, Elizabeth (Mrs. Brian) Meyer of Kent, WA, and Jeanne (Mrs. James) Rimmer of Downers Grove. Nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild also mourn him. One sister still lives in Peoria, seven brothers and sisters having died earlier.

"The Frank Fisher family would like to express our love and deep appreciation for the prayers, cards and many acts of kindness shown during Frank's surgery, hospital stay and at his passing. May God bless you richly." The Frank Fisher family

Beyond the sunset, a hand to
guide me
To God, the Father, whom I adore;
His glorious presence, His words
of welcome
Will be my portion on that fair
shore.

Hymns of Zion #172

We extend our sympathy, love and prayers to Sis. Gladys and Frank, Beth, Jeanne, and the family. We are thankful for Bro. Frank's life of faithfulness; yet we are also comforted that he could be gathered into the Lord's storehouse. May the Lord bless his memory for his family, easing their grief by His balm.

The Lord reached out His hand to the very people we might want to turn away from: the lepers, the woman taken in adultery, the Samaritan woman. May we reach out our hands to all people, regardless of the color of their hands, whether or not their hands have age spots or disease, whether or not they even have hands. May our outreach become ever more

like His.

When by the gift of His infinite
grace,
I am accorded in Heaven a place
Just to be there and to look on
His face,
Will thro' the ages be glory..."
Tabernacle #174

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK
Anna Marie Reutter
Joyce Bauer

On Sunday, July 9, we held our annual church picnic at the park in Cissna Park. After a delicious potluck meal, the Sunday School children enjoyed the games and activities planned by their teachers.

This month another of our couples reached the milestone of their 40th anniversary. Bro. Wayne and Sis. Delores Knapp enjoyed a dinner and evening of fellowship with friends and family on June 24. May God bless you and may you have many more years together.

We rejoice with Erica Rudin as she has found peace with God and is ready for baptism. The Lord willing, her testimony and baptism will be the weekend of July 30. Erica is the daughter of Bro. Arlyn and Sis. LaNae Rudin.

Babies are a special blessing from God. Doug and Kara (Drayer) Teske have been blessed with a baby girl, Hannah Nicole. Grandparents are Bill and Judie Drayer (Rankin) and Bob and Lois Teske (Buckley).

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Rod and Sis. Beth Steffen and their family in the death of her father, Bro. August Feucht, of Lester, IA. We are so thankful he was ready to go and could share such thoughts with his family.

Sis. Elsie Ehman suffered a broken wrist in a fall and is now recuperating at home. Bro. Robert

Kellerhals had knee surgery and is recuperating and receiving therapy at the Carl Arbours Home in Champaign. Bro. George Winger spent several days in the hospital but is now able to assemble with us again.

We were blessed with visits from the following ministers this past month: Bros. Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL), Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS), Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Frederick Knapp (Congerville, IL), and our Elder Bro. Dave Wiegand (Champaign, IL).

Note of Thanks:

It's difficult to find words to express the deep comfort and inspiration we felt during the loss of our mother and grandmother. To all our relatives, neighbors and friends, we extend our sincere thank you for all the lovely flowers, memorial contributions, cards, prayers and many thoughtful deeds and acts of kindness extended to us. We are so grateful for the tender loving care that mother received at Parkview Haven and for the many visits, acts of kindness and prayers so generously extended to her. May you be richly blessed in time of need as we have been.

The Anna Hari Family

In Memory of Sis. Anna Hari

Last evening the phone rang
The message was glum
Your Grandma's passed on, son
Her journey is done.

How was her parting?
I pleaded with care
Was someone beside her
to comfort in prayer?

Yes, came the answer
Several were there
We held her hand
And wiped her brow

And said with her a prayer.

We didn't wish to hold her back
Or ask "Oh please, Lord, wait."
For Grandma was so ready
To reach the Eastern Gate.

And then the thought came to me
Rich blessings to afford
For Gram was more than
Grandma
She was a Sister in the Lord!

And this eternal connection
Is the strongest of earthly ties
For though we part for a brief time
We hope to meet on high.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE
Beth Steffen - Arlene Banwart

As God leads His dear children along, we sometimes experience a bittersweet emotion. We rejoice in God's leading together of Sis. Kristi Ifft (Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley, Forrest, IL) and Bro. Lance Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie, Lester, IA). They plan to be united in Holy Matrimony on August 16. Yet we know we will miss Sis. Kristi, as she has been part of our congregation since a child and is now the last of her family to move away from us. Our prayers go with her as she moves to Lester.

Two families were blessed with little daughters as they became parents for the first time. On July 9, Bessyanna Kathleen was born to Bro. Jon and Sis. Andrea Knapp. Grandparents include Bro. Rick and Sis. Kathy Knapp and Bro. Steve and Sis. Anna Marie Stoller (LaCrosse, IN).

Bro. Dale and Sis. Missy Banwart welcomed Heidi Lynn on July 11. Heidi's grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene Banwart and Bro. Irv and Sis. Shirley Furrer (Wolcott, IN). We pray both families will feel God's divine care as they experience parent-

hood.

Our thanks and appreciation go to our visiting ministers this past month: Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), and Bros. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), Tom Hoffman (Roanoke, IL), and Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN). Where else but in our faith can we find this precious love between congregations as we feel free to visit one another. May we always cherish and uphold our heritage. Our prayers and support go with our brothers as they meet at the August Conference.

Beautiful hands, beckoning hands,
Calling the dear ones to heavenly
lands...

Chorus - Gospel Hymns #107

So suddenly again we have lost two dear sisters in faith. Sis. Esther Schrock, wife of our deceased ministering Bro. Joe, was hoping to attend the marriage of her grandson, Bro. Troy, in Bay City, MI but God chose another path for her that weekend. Sis. Esther's loving countenance and encouraging ways will be remembered by us all. An understanding word at the right time often lifted up those brothers and their wives who labored in the ministry. She is survived by one daughter, Sis. Nancy; sons, Bro. Byron (Sis. Mary), Bro. Ken (Sis. Janet); and eleven grandchildren. We also extend our sympathy to Sis. Irene Schrock (Bro. Alvin) as she lost both a sister and sister-in-law when Esther passed away.

Likewise, we feel the loss of Sis. Frances (Geiger) Schumacher who assembled with us many years before residing at the Eureka Home the past few years. She always had a sweet smile for the young and old alike. Our sympathy goes to Frances' children and their families: Melvin Geiger (Springfield, IL), Garrell Geiger

(WI), and Judy Geiger (CA), and stepdaughters, Helen Fischer (Eureka) and Sis. Ruth Schumacher (Morton).

Notes of Thanks:

We thank you for all the kind expressions of sympathy in word, deeds and many prayers for us with the sudden passing of our sister, Sis. Wilma. We look forward to that City where the roses never fade.

"Loved ones gone to be with Jesus,
In their robes of white arrayed,
Now are waiting for our coming
Where the roses never fade."

Gospel Hymns #764

In Love,

*Sis. Verna and Bro. Stan Hodel,
Sis. Jean and Bro. Charles Kupferschmid, Sis. Mary Ann and
Bro. Carlton Beer, Bill and Eunice
Sauder, Sis. Lois and Bro. Duane
Steffen, and our families*

Our thanks to everyone who prayed for me during my hip surgery and the cards, flowers and food given. It was appreciated very much. Also, thanks for the cards sent to us after my sister, Esther, passed away, and for our 55th anniversary cards. We love you all and appreciate our faith in Him.

*Lovingly, Bro. Alvin and Sis.
Irene Schrock*

The family members of Sis. Esther Schrock would like to express their heartfelt thanks to everyone for the prayers, cards and notes, food, flowers, plants, and kind deeds during a difficult time. The comforting words and memories shared were sincerely appreciated. In memory of our dear mother and grandmother we submit the following poem:

I'm Free

Don't grieve for me, for now I'm
free
I'm following the path God laid

for me,
I took His hand when I heard
Him call
I turned my back and left it all.
I could not stay another day
To laugh, to love, to work or pray,
Tasks left undone must stay that
way
I've found that peace at the close
of day.
If my parting has left a void...
Then fill it with remembered joy
A friendship shared, a laugh, a
kiss,
Ah yes, these things I too will
miss.
Be not burdened with times of
sorrow
I wish you the sunshine of
tomorrow.
My life's been full, I've savored
much
Good friends, good times, my
loved one's touch;
Perhaps my time seemed all too
brief
Don't lengthen it now with undue
grief.
Lift up your heart and share with
me
God wanted me now; He set me
free!

Anne Davison - 1974

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

**Renee Anliker
Debbie Sauder**

Our congregation was recently privileged to host the Fort Sam Reunion and enjoy a weekend of blessing and fellowship with many from near and far. Sometimes we tend to take our freedoms for granted and forget what a true blessing it is to meet and greet those of like mind and faith. Included in our many visitors were ministering Bros. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), John Hartman (Fairbury, IL) and Walt Steffen (Milford, IN). May God bless our brothers for their untiring efforts on our behalf.

This past month two loved ones were hospitalized: Ed (Sis. Dorothy) Schifferer and Sis. Gert Kachelmuss. May our prayers on behalf of all who are afflicted help ease their pain and strengthen body and soul.

Sis. Rose (the late Bro. Ezra) Steffen was relieved July 8 of her patient endurance, and can now enjoy that heavenly rest. "How blissful the rest in that city so fair, where, dwelling with Jesus, the soul has no care!" (Hymns of Zion #229). We want to express our deep love and sympathy to her family which remains: Elder Bro. Nathan (Sis. Marilyn), Bro. Garth (Sis. Connie, Portland, OR), Grant (Stuart, Denver, CO), Fredrick (Judy), Anne (William) Carroll (Woodstock, IL), Sis. Lorna (Bro. Don) Schrock (Morton, IL), Eleanor (David) Hanchett (Scottsdale, AZ) and Barbara (William) Phelps.

Several in our congregation have also lost loved ones this month. Bro. Mel (Sis. AdaMae) had an aunt that passed on; Bro. John Feucht bid farewell to a brother; and Carolyn (Chuck) Feucht also experienced parting as her sister was taken from time to the shores of eternity. May God be near unto each one who has been bereaved and as each seat is emptied, may we all realize that someday our seat, too, will be vacant. Let us be ready to joyfully answer our summons without any regrets.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA Dori Blunier

We were reminded recently how fast knowledge is increasing in the world, but how much more important the wisdom of God should be to us. We are required in our occupations to spend much time in learning to adapt to all the rapid changes. May we be wise

enough to spend even more time seeking the counsel and wisdom of God.

On June 25, many of our brethren enjoyed the annual Sunday School picnic. We express our thanks to the teachers who have given of themselves to plant the Word in our children.

We congratulate Bro. Scott and Sis. Elaine Frank on the birth of their son, Harrison Scott, on July 12. Thankful for a new little brother are Emily, Kate, Lainey, and Abram. Grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Elsie Zimmerman and Bro. Ed and Sis. Lea Frank of LaCrosse, IN. We also express our sympathy to Bro. Earl who lost his father, Bro. Louis Zimmerman, of Roanoke, on June 23.

We are glad that Bro. Elton Wiegand (Sis. Loretta) is recovering well from recent hip surgery.

Bro. Frank Fisher (Sis. Gladys) of Chicago died on July 3. Services were held on Friday, July 7, at Eureka for Bro. Frank. We express our sincere sympathy to his family; especially to his wife, Sis. Gladys (Wittmer), formerly of Eureka; his children, Franklin of Naperville, Mrs. Brian (Elizabeth) Meyer of Kent, WA and Mrs. James (Jeanne) Rimmer of Downers Grove; and his sister, Sis. Emma Woerner, of Peoria. We were thankful for the ministry of Bro. Mike Rieker (Peoria, IL) who conducted the funeral service.

We also appreciated the ministry of Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) and Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH) who visited us recently.

Beyond the sunset a hand will
guide me
To God, the Father, whom I adore;
His glorious presence, His words
of welcome,
Will be my portion on that fair
shore.

Hymns of Zion #172

Note of Thanks:

Words cannot express our thanks and appreciation for the comforting words, prayers, cards, and many acts of kindness shown to our family during Bro. Frank's visitation and funeral. Many people were involved with the meals and arrangements. May God bless you richly.

The Frank Fisher family

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY Sally Fehr - Thelma Slagel

Who at my door is standing,
Patiently drawing near,
Entrance within demanding?
Whose is the voice I hear?

Hymns of Zion #81

We rejoice with Lisa Herr (Bro. Gary and Sis. Cindy) as she has heeded the Lord's call to repentance. Kurt and Melissa Slagel (Bro. Ray and Sis. Gladys) have also heard the call to repent and follow Jesus. May God grant all of them grace in their new walk of life.

We were blessed with many visiting ministers this month. They were: Bros. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Dewayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN), Harold Schmidgall (Gridley, IL), Edwin Bahler (Remington, IN), Ben Wiegand (Columbus, OH), and Ralph Garber (Morton, IL). We thank them and may God bless them.

Our prayers will be with our Elder Bro. Art Bahler, as well as the entire Elder body as they assemble for the Brotherhood Conference in Princeville.

Our new Sunday School teachers are: Bro. Don Kaisner (Sis. Leona), Sis. Karen Steffen (Bro. Albert), and Sis. Anna Schmidgall (Bro. Bill). We thank them for teaching God's Word to our pre-

cious children.

Bro. Darren and Sis. Kendra Fehr are first-time parents of a precious little boy, Andrew Scott, who was born June 28. Grandparents are Warren and Sis. Betty Ifft (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Warren and Sis. Shirley Fehr.

A baby girl, Sadie Marie, was born July 11 to Bro. Doug and Sis. Julia Moser. Sadie has a little brother, Walter, to love her. Grandparents are William and Helen Fehr (Forrest, IL) and Bro. Lloyd Moser. We wish these parents God's love and direction in rearing these precious little ones.

Hospital patients this month were: Sis. Arlene Kilgus (Bro. Duane), Sis. Lavina Moser, and Bro. Carlos Meiss (Sis. Jane). We also had several outpatients. May God grant them all a speedy recovery.

Note of Thanks:

Thanks to all the loved ones who donated gifts of food and love, the cards and prayers since my surgery. May God bless each cheerful giver.

Sis. Elsie Bachtold

Reminder: Silver Lining dues are due in August.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

**Marlene Walter
Mary Bachtold**

"...Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me."

I Corinthians 11:24

On Wednesday evening, June 28, we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion. We thank Elder Bros. Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL) and Art Bahler (Fairbury, IL) for assisting our Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker in this solemn service. May we always be

thankful for the price the Saviour paid so that we may have a hope of life eternal.

We appreciate the willingness of Bros. Hartzell Kaisner (Detroit, MI), John Laukhuf (Latty, OH) and Jim Byrd (Roanoke, IL) to share God's Word with us this past month. May God bless them for their encouraging words of faith.

We rejoice with Benjamin Zimmerman (Bro. Paul and Sis. Loretta), Nicholas Roth (Bro. Ken and Sis. Deb), Bethany Wenger (Bro. Ed and Sis. Renee), Erika Schlatter (Sis. Sherri) and Michelle Bachtold (Bro. Herb and Sis. Jan) as they turn their hearts to the Lord in repentance. We pray that God will grant them the needed grace to wholly submit their lives unto Him.

Michael and Tammi Kupferschmid are the happy parents of a new baby girl, Alexis Taylor. She is a sister of Chase and Megan and the granddaughter of Bro. Dean and Sis. Robin Kupferschmid and Larry and Carolyn Carls (Fairbury, IL).

Also welcoming a new daughter are Bro. Eldon and Sis. Stephanie Kaeb. Jenna Marie is a sister to Krystle, Joshua, Kaylee and Kara. Loving grandparents are Bob and Sis. Elaine Mueller and John and Adeline Kaeb (Arrowsmith, IL).

Our hearts were saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Bro. Virgil Koehl. We sympathize with his wife, Sis. Gladys, and his children, Sis. Marsha Albritton, Sis. Mary Daily, and Bro. Jerry, all of the Bloomington congregation, and Bro. Jim and Bro. Joe, both of Forrest. We also extend our sympathy to his brothers and sisters: Sis. Eldora Hoerr (Peoria, IL), Sis. Edith Meiss (Morton, IL), Bro. Clarence, Bro. Leroy, Maurice, Sis. Bernice Cox and Sis. Velda Huette; and his twelve

grandchildren. May the Lord's comforting Spirit fill the emptiness left in their hearts and homes.

Also suffering a loss is Sis. Alma Bolliger and family in the death of her grandson, Edward John, son of Bruce and Lisa Bolliger (Mahomet, IL). May it be a comfort to them to think of him as a special flower in the Master's bouquet.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Barb Brim

"And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee."

Deuteronomy 7:13

This promise made by God through his servant, Moses, so long ago, was conceived out of His love for the Israelite people, His children, and their ancestors of which we, through Jesus Christ His Son, claim heritage. Chosen not for their/our faithfulness, longsuffering, or godliness, but purely out of the enormity of His grace, we rejoice and rest secure in the unwavering truth of His love. Praise His name forever!

Our month was filled with weddings and we are so thankful to see these young couples commit their lives to each other through Jesus Christ and in His name. Such a wonderful assurance of a blessed life together! We were pleased to be witness to these happy unions. Congratulations Sis. Marsha Knapp (Sis. Judy Knapp and Stan Knapp) and Bro. Jedd Rocke (Sis. Connie and Bro. Mark); Sis. Staci Ringger (Sis.

Dixie and Elder Bro. Earl, Gridley, IL) and Bro. Chad Leman (Sis. Dort and Bro. Keith); and Sis. Keri Hohulin (Sis. Joyce and Bro. Wes) and Bro. Josh Beer (Sis. Jan and Bro. Joe) for the example your strength of faith shows us all. May God's love abound in your hearts and lives together.

Many thanks are extended to the visiting ministers who shared in these joyous events and those who unselfishly gave of themselves for our benefit in the Lord. Thank you, Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Sis. Shirley, Morton, IL), Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH), Bro. Jim Plattner (Sis. Marlene, Princeville, IL), Bro. Steve Martin (Sis. Vicki, Eureka, IL), and Bro. Will Schieler (Sis. Sue, Milford, IN), for your generosity of spirit toward us. God bless you all.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY
Perry A. Klopfenstein

In an area newspaper there was an article about a man who photographs weddings. In 25 years he has handled 3,000 weddings. He estimates that 60 percent of these marriages ended in failure. He said, "I can't help but wonder what went wrong."

I know. It's very elementary. When God's laws are ignored or misunderstood, in all facets of life, chaos results. It's true in marriage. From the standpoint of faith, and a humble submissiveness to Christ's divine spirit, husband and wife can prosper and their marriage can endure. I rejoice that our brethren have emphasized such an ideal over the years.

It is heartening to know that the following three couples were united in marriage under the auspices of God's direction, and will attempt by His grace to abide by His marriage commandments.

On June 25, Bro. Curtis Gramm was wed to Sis. Susan Knapp of Taylor, MO. Her parents are Bro. Michael and Sis. Luann Knapp. He is the son of Ann Daughtery, and the late Bro. Willis "Butch" Gramm.

Sis. Stacy Ringger was married to Bro. Chad Leman on July 9. She is the youngest daughter of Elder Bro. Earl and Sis. Dixie Ringger. His parents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Dorothy Leman, Goodfield, IL.

Sunday, July 16, was the wedding date of Bro. Jay Kiefer and Sis. Heidi Maurer. She is the daughter of Bro. J.D. and Sis. Sandy Maurer. He is the son of Bro. Richard, Sr. and Sis. Louise Kiefer. Both sets of parents are from Gridley.

The Gridley congregation extends its heartfelt best wishes to these three couples as they begin their married lives together. May God's laws ever abide in their hearts and make their marriage vows unbreakable!

We extend our sympathies to Bro. Mark Campbell over the July 6 death of his father.

Sis. Ethel Schmidgall was recently hospitalized.

Bro. Perry Klopfenstein, Jr. was treated at the hospital for sunburn injuries resulting in second degree burns. He has recovered.

ILLINOIS, MORTON
Phyllis Farney
Cheryl Wuthrich

Bro. Willis Belsley was called Home on June 16, 1995. He had lived the past 22 years at the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless his two brothers, Bro. Bob and Bro. Ben; his sister, Sis. Lorene Maibach; his faithful nieces and nephews, and his other relatives and many

friends.

Lisa Menold died on June 17 after a short illness. She had lived the past 15 years at the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped. May her loved ones feel His comfort. Surviving are her parents, Bro. Herman and Sis. Oleda Menold; her three brothers, Tom, Greg, and Brad; her five sisters, Sis. Beth Feucht, Susan Chadwick, Carolyn Feucht, Sis. Mary Witzig and Sis. Twyla Schlipf.

Christine Sinn died on June 20 at the Apostolic Christian Restmor. We are thankful that she saw her need of a Saviour and turned to Him in repentance before entering all eternity. May our Heavenly Father comfort and bless her sister, Sis. Katie Sinn, and her other relatives and friends.

Sis. Hannah Strunk was called Home on June 26. She had been a resident of Apostolic Christian Restmor. May God draw close to her two brothers, Bro. William and Alvin; and her three sisters, Sis. Kathryn Rassi, Sis. Florence Strunk, and Sis. Hilda Bauer.

Sis. Leona Leman was called Home on June 27. She had been a resident of the Apostolic Christian Nursing Home in Peoria. May God draw close to and comfort her husband, Bro. Irvin; her son, John; her two daughters, Rachel Neuswanger and Sis. Christine Klopfenstein; her five grandchildren and her other relatives and friends.

Our congregation rejoices in the marriage of Bro. Melvin Baum and Sis. Linda Stuart (Peoria, IL) held on July 16. May God richly bless them and continue to direct them as they seek to serve Him together.

Notes of Thanks:

We wish to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, cards, food

and gifts of love since my surgery.
May our Heavenly Father bless
all who were so kind.

Bro. Eli and Sis. Berti Leman

Dear Ones,

We wish to express our deep appreciation for your kind expressions of love and sympathy during the loss of our Lisa. Thank you for your prayers, cards, and other loving deeds. May God bless each and every one.

Lovingly, Bro. Herman and Sis. Oleda Menold and family

Heaven's Very Special Child

A meeting was held quite far from earth

"It's time again for another birth,"
Said the Angels to the Lord above,
"This special child will need much love."

His progress may seem very slow,
Accomplishments he may not show
And he'll require extra care
From the folks he meets way down there.

He may not run or laugh or play
His thoughts may seem quite far away
In many ways he won't adapt,
And he'll be known as handicapped.

So let's be careful where he's sent
We want his life to be content
Please, Lord, find the parents who
Will do a special job for You.

They will not realize right away
The leading role they're asked to play
But with this child sent from above
Comes stronger faith and richer love.

And soon they'll know the privilege given
In caring for this gift from

Heaven.
Their precious charge, so meek
and mild
Is Heaven's very special child.
Author Unknown

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Cara Nussbaum

Bro. Tim and Sis. Robyn Feucht have another precious baby girl, Cassandra Rene, born on the 4th of July. She joins sisters, Brittany and Larissa, at home. Her grandparents are Bro. Walter Feucht and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Erma Wieland.

Sunday, June 25, was a very special day for Bro. Chris Leman and Sis. Dana Sutter as they were united in Holy Matrimony. Chris is the son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary Leman of Bloomington, IL and Dana is the daughter of Bro. Randy and Sis. Pam Sutter of Morris, MN. We ask God's richest blessings upon them as they begin their journey together.

We want to take this opportunity to thank the ministering brothers who have visited Peoria recently. They are Elder Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL), and Bros. Harold Gramm (Morris, MN), Greg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ), Jaye Rinkenberger (Goodfield, IL), Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) and Andy Moser (Valparaiso, IN). We thank them for their service to the Lord and to us.

We also wish to thank Elder Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL) for assisting Elder Bro. Chuck with the Conference conclusions. We were all reminded to draw closer to God and come apart from the world.

Sunday School is now on summer break and we want to say a big "thank you" to all of the teachers who so diligently give of their time and talents to our children. We especially want to thank those who have finished their terms this

year. They are Sis. Judy Getz, Sis. Michelle Coburn, Bro. Mark Criss and Bro. Dave Obergfel, who has been serving as superintendent. May God bless each of you.

We extend wishes for a complete recovery to Sis. Louise Koehl who was hospitalized recently. May God touch you with His healing hand of mercy.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Joanna Herrmann

"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,"

Ephesians 6:18-19

We look forward to hosting the 1995 Brotherhood Conference here at Princeville. We ask for your prayers, that all may "work together for good." Most importantly, may we continue to pray for our Elders and ministering brethren, that the Spirit may have free course. May God be their rich rewarder for their many labors of love.

We were privileged to have many visiting ministers this past month. We want to thank Elder Bro. Marvin Leman (Bradford, IL), and Bros. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), Ted Hirstein (Morton, IL), Gary Endress and Kenny Dietz (Bradford, IL), Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL), Andrew Klaus (Tokyo, Japan), and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL).

Our love shall not diminish
Nor fade nor wax away;
Bind us till life we finish
And in the grave we lay.

Zion's Harp #137

On June 25, Bro. Gregg Rumbold (Bradford, IL) and Sis. Heather Wieland were joined in Holy Matrimony. Bro. Gregg is the son of Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta Rumbold of Bradford. Sis. Heather is the daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Elizabeth Wieland.

July 2 was the wedding date for Bro. David Kieser and Sis. Jody Knobloch. Bro. David is the son of Sis. Shirley and the late Bro. David. Sis. Jody is the daughter of Bro. Al and Sis. Vicki Hartzler and the late Bro. Ken Knobloch.

"Every good gift and perfect gift is from above."

James 1:17

Brock Allan was born June 25 to Bro. Ron and Sis. Lori Streitmatter. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Diane Streitmatter and Bro. Loris and Sis. Martha Kieser.

Thankful grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Kay Siebenthal. Leah Ruth was born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Laura Baxter of Kitchener, Ontario. Leah was welcomed home by older siblings, Andrew and Hannah.

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. John and Sis. Lillian Elsasser at the passing of their son, Steve Elsasser. We also extend our sympathy to his wife, Lona.

We would like to remember those who have had recent stays in the hospital. May Sis. Mildred Endress and Kathryn Baer feel the healing and comforting hand of our Lord. Kathryn is the mother of Sis. Diane (Bro. Bill) Streitmatter. Our Sis. Anna Stahl was also in the hospital, but has since returned home.

Note of Thanks:

The many acts of kindness, the expressive and comforting cards, the words of encouragement and

most of all, your prayers, have all helped to sustain us during this very sad time in our lives. We believe David really loved and cared for his fellow man and love has certainly been reciprocated to us through all of you. May God bless each of you.

Shirley Kieser and family

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Jana Gastman - Annie Leman

We were thankful to add three more dear souls to our fold and fellowship. Jessica Hodel (Bro. John and Sis. Linda), Kristy Hoffman (Bro. Dick and Sis. Ann), and Ross Wuthrich (Bro. Bill and Sis. Val) were baptized on July 16. May they find the grace to walk a close walk with God and heed His Word.

On June 4, Michelle Gastman and Chris Miller were united in marriage. Parents are John and Sis. Barb Gastman (Roanoke) and Bro. Chris and Sis. Phyllis Miller (Congerville, IL). We wish them God's blessings and nearness in their walk together.

Bro. Matt and Sis. Jana Gastman are thankful for God's blessings in the birth of their first child, Hayley Marie. Hayley was born June 24. Grandparents are Mike Harris (Boca Raton, FL) and Sis. Linda Harris, John and Sis. Barb Gastman, all of Roanoke. May God bless them and grant them grace to teach their children of His ways.

We thank our visiting ministers, Elder Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington, IL) and Bros. Ken Knapp (Taylor, MO) and Ted Witzig (Morton, IL).

We pray for God's continuing blessings for strength and health to our hospital patients this month: Terri Carr (Joe) and Sis. Mary Hoffman (Bro. Rudie).

Bro. Louis Zimmerman passed away on June 23. We extend our

sympathy to his wife, Sis. Fannie, and their children, Bro. Earl (Eureka), Bro. Roy and Don (Gridley), Bill (Dacula, GA), Bro. Bob, Sis. Edith and Sis. Mary, all of Roanoke. May God fill the void in their hearts.

Note of Thanks:

The Louis Zimmerman family wishes to thank everyone for the beautiful cards, prayers, kind expressions of sympathy and gifts of love. God bless you all.

Sis. Fannie Zimmerman

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Barb Dill - Barb Kaeb

"Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein."

Hebrews 13:9

Our thoughts and prayers are with our Elders as they meet and consider the divers and strange doctrines that they are faced with in this day and time in which we find ourself. May God grant each of them His abundant grace to carry out their duties to His honor.

Visiting ministers this past month have been Bro. Lenard Meyer and Bro. Greg Rassi (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Dennis Rassi (Fairbury, IL). We are thankful for their sharing God's Word with us, and pray they and their families will visit us again.

Our hospital patient this past month has been Fred (Ruth) Endress. We are thankful he is home and pray he will continue to improve.

How thankful we are that our Bro. Kent and Sis. Jane Miller have been able to adopt a precious

baby girl, born June 23. They have named her Mikaela Heather. Grandparents are Sis. Phyllis (late Bro. George) Lang and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl Miller.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Sue Ruppert

Denise Romersberger

What is patience? Is it waiting on God for the answer to your request? Or is it enduring a long illness or misfortune? There are numerous other possibilities we could come up with to describe patience in our lives.

The dictionary describes patience as "the quality of enduring without complaint" or "the exercise of sustained perseverance". How many times do we fall into the category of enduring without complaint? If you are like me, it is not as often as it should be. I want resolution to my situation quickly. However, scripture in Romans 12:12, "Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer" should be our model.

Many of our situations are very difficult to deal with, but as the Bible says, we should pray and let God take total control. People watch how we handle tough situations. If we have patience and are content with the situation even though it is far from desirable, people will marvel at the peace we have. You see, it all works together. When God is in control "...all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." (Romans 8:28).

The next time you feel impatient, remember God does love you. He is in control and no matter how much worrying or stewing we do, it will not change the situation.

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

Isaiah 40:31

Guest ministers this month were Bros. Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA), Andy Klaus (Tokyo, Japan), Randy Kellenberger (Kansas City, MO), and Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL). Bro. Rick Plattner (Peoria, IL) presented the topic of "Being content where we are" in our monthly Bible Study. Thank you, brothers! We appreciate all of you and your efforts.

Hospitalized this month was Bro. Matt Steffen, who underwent testing for a problem. We rejoice that late testing showed that the problem resolved itself! The physicians have only seen this type of problem heal spontaneously in a few regarded cases. Surely the prayers of the saints helped a miracle to happen by God's hand!

Also having surgery this month was Sis. Sue Ruppert. She is again home and able to attend church and enjoy fellowship.

Last month we neglected to share the wedding announcement between Bro. Chad Martin (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sharon) and Sis. Brenda Hartter (Bro. Bob and Sis. Chris, Roanoke). We wish them God's richest blessings in this new phase of life for them. The wedding will be held on September 17.

Sunday, July 16, is the date set for our annual Sunday School picnic. This event will also mark the farewell to Bro. Dave and Sis. Karen Wegman and son, Bryce, who are moving to the Chicago area. We wish them God speed and will miss having their fellowship in the Washington congregation.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Jaci Gerber - Brenda Bertsch

"Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?"

1 John 5:5

Pam Agler (Jim) and Trisha Scheumann (Darren) have felt the need to serve our Lord. We wish them much grace as they begin this new journey.

We rejoice with Sis. Sally Ringger (Bro. Alan and Sis. Sheryl) and Bro. Jeremy Frauhiger (Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene, Bluffton North) as they were united in marriage on Sunday, July 2. We wish them the Lord's nearness in their lives together.

We wish to thank visiting minister, Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris, MN), for sharing the Word with us.

May God comfort the hearts of those who have recently lost loved ones. We share our sympathy with Sis. May Strahm in the passing of her sister, Anna Lydy, and to Sis. Evelyn Hackenjosh in the loss of her brother, Bro. Lyle Stoller (Bloomington, IL).

We have had several who spent time in the hospital this month. They are Sis. Ann Frauhiger (Bro. Kris), Sis. Lucinda Steffen, Sis. Meal Baine, Bro. Tom Pfister (Sis. Barb), Sis. Connie Kaehr (Bro. Sam), Sis. Doris Fiechter (Bro. Dale), Bro. Steve Reinhard (Sis. Renee) and Bro. Paul Dotterer (Sis. Phyllis). May God's healing hand be upon them.

The high school Sunday School, along with their teachers, enjoyed the weekend of July 8 and 9 at Christian Endeavor. Our thanks to the Francesville congregation for their time and love extended to our Sunday School.

Bro. Ted and Sis. Rose Pfister welcomed another grandson,

Caleb William, born July 1 to the family of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Leonda Stieglitz (Leo, IN).

Bro. Bill and Sis. Donna Steffen welcomed their first grandchild. Morgan E. Lachele was born on June 30 to Deon and Amy Steffen.

Bro. Doug and Sis. Jill Fiechter along with Janel, Travis and Brent welcomed Shane Andrew to their family on June 12. Grandparents are Bro. Gerald and Sis. Eunice Fiechter and Bro. Stan and Sis. Genny Isch.

Sierra Nicole was born on June 21 to Bro. Ed and Sis. Denise Steffen. Helping to welcome her home is big sister, Sheena. Grandparents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Amelia Heyerly and Sis. Marie Steffen.

July 2 was the date Erika Marie chose to make her appearance and join her loving parents, Bro. Al and Sis. Joli Gerber, and her sister, Anna. Grandparents are Bro. Dezso and Sis. Jolan Vidakozics (Ersekesanad, Hungary) and Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gerber.

We send our best wishes with Bro. Matt and Sis. Cammy Sutter as they make their home in Indianapolis.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON NORTH Susan Harris - Kay Steffen

We thank Bro. Ben Manz (Junction, OH) for visiting us and bringing forth God's Word from the Holy Bible.

We have two friends that have begun their walk with the Lord. They are Rebekah Mounsey (Bro. Rod and Sis. Rosemary) and Kyann Kershner (Bro. Dan and Sis. Jacki). We wish them much grace in the days ahead.

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."

Acts 3:19

We enjoyed an uplifting weekend on July 15 and 16, as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Jeff Towle (Sis. Jodi) and Joe Honegger (Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary). We heard of the importance of prayer so that many more can take advantage of God's wonderful plan of salvation.

On July 2, Bro. Jeremy Frauhiger (Bro. Steve and Sis. Irene) and Sis. Sally Ringger (Bro. Alan and Sis. Sheryl) were united in marriage. May God always bless this holy union.

Tom and Lorie Stoller were blessed with a son, Nathan William, on July 3. Grandparents are Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy Stoller and Richard and Jean Boggs. May God's blessings be with them in raising their new son.

On June 20, Sis. Emma Levy went to be with the Lord. Our sympathy is extended to her brothers, Bro. Ralph Levy of Bremen, and a sister, Sis. Mary (Mayme) Getz of Fort Wayne; also several nieces and nephews.

Our prayers and sympathy are with Bro. Dan and Sis. Jacki Kershner in the passing of Bro. Dan's father, Robert Kershner. May God be a Comforter to both of these families who have lost loved ones.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Max Steffen who has spent time in the hospital this month.

We were privileged to hear the reading of the Memorandum on June 18. It is always good to be reminded of the concerns facing our church and the blessings we share. May we always be prayerful for our Elders as they faithfully lead and guide us.

I am thine, O Lord, I have heard
Thy voice,
And it told Thy love to me.

But I long to rise in the arms of
faith,
And be closer drawn to Thee.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer
blessed Lord,
To the cross where Thou hast died;
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer
blessed Lord;
To Thy precious bleeding side.
Hymns of Zion #170

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE Lily Pelsy

"But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way."

I Corinthians 12:31

We want to thank the following brothers who came to share very inspiring messages for our Vacation Bible School: Elder Bros. Joe Braker (Morton, IL) and Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), and Bros. Lynn Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Kevin Knapp (Bloomington, IL) and Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH). Other ministers who visited us were Bros. James Emch (Phoenix, AZ) and Walt Steffen (Milford, IN). Thank you for being willing servants.

Sis. Elsie Yaggie is thankful to be at home again. We miss our dear Sis. Louise Yaggie, as she is confined to her home with an illness.

Francesville hosted all of the Bible Class students (over 200) from the Indiana churches for Christian Endeavor on July 8-9.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Overmyer are the grandparents of Lanna Marie. She was born to Gerald and Lana Dausch on May 21.

Josiah Michael was given to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Wendy Gutwein on July 14. He required surgery two days later. God is so faithful and has answered many prayers. His siblings are Ryan, Alyssa,

Shawna, Brett, Brooke, Joshua, Amy, and Matthew. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Dona Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Bro. Nate Gutwein.

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death of Steve Elsasser of Metamora, IL. He was the son-in-law of Bro. Bob and Sis. Norma Pflederer and brother-in-law to Bro. Steve and Sis. Linda Gutwein and Bro. Larry and Sis. Darlene Pflederer. Our sympathy and prayers are with the family.

"God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble."
Psalm 46:1

On July 11, Jason Getz (late Bro. Keith and Sis. Doris) was joined as one to Maggie Mann. May God bless them.

INDIANA, INDIANAPOLIS

**Lauretta Schafer
Sandy Lichtle**

During the week of June 19-23, our church held Vacation Bible School. This year we learned the importance of love, honor, respect and commitment within our families. What a blessing to see the children learn of God's love for them.

On July 9, a church picnic was held at a nearby city park. We enjoyed a special afternoon of love and fellowship with one another.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."
Eccles. 3:1

Bro. Troy and Sis. Bonny Reimschisel and their son, Jordan, have moved to Columbus, OH. Bro. Troy is employed with Price Waterhouse as a management consultant. We are thankful to have been a part of their lives here in Indy. We will miss you!

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Matt Ackerman (Morton, IL) to our church. He is a veterinarian and is employed in Greensburg, IN.

Visiting ministers this past month were our Elder Bro. Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN) and Bro. Garry Bucher (Valparaiso, IN). May the Lord richly bless them and their families for their love and faithfulness.

INDIANA, LACROSSE

Judy Gudeman

Our hearts were encouraged this past month to hear of another soul who has turned her heart to the Lord. We rejoice with Michele Norberg (Dave) and keep her in our thoughts and prayers. Michele's parents are Diana and Bob Gudeman.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:...A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;"
Eccles. 3:1,4

Our sympathy goes out to Bro. Harold and Sis. "Sis" Heinold after the death of their daughter, Donna Hall, from Greenwood, IN. Donna is survived by her husband, Steve, and two sons, Bryan and Eric. We also extend sympathy to the family of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Mary Ann (Heinold) Feller. Mary Ann is Donna's aunt.

Thanks to our visiting ministers this past month: Bros. Greg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ) and Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL).

INDIANA, LEO

Ethelyn Schlatter

Wednesday evening, June 28, Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville, IN), Alfred Bahler (Wolcott, IN), and Phillip Stettner

(Bluffton North, IN) were with us. Following the regular service, Elder Bro. Wendell reviewed the process the church and Elder body have pursued to honor the request of Elder Bro. David Bertsch to retire from his duties as Elder. He then transferred the Elder duties to Elder Bro. Phillip Stettner. The Leo church fully supported Elder Bro. Phil and our Deacon, Bro. John Stoller, for future leadership. Bro. David Bertsch closed the meeting with a thankful heart and prayer.

On July 1, we received the news that Bethany Fisher, the six-year-old daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Leanne, was found in the lake, near where she was playing with other children. She was revived to the point of breathing on her own, but was admitted to ICU at Rockford, IL. With much prayer to sustain her parents and for the Lord's will, He restored her to a complete recovery.

Bro. Levi Pfister is able to assemble with us again after having a pacemaker implant.

We share Sis. Chris Klopfenstein's loss in the passing of her mother, Sis. Leona Leman. How timely are the Lord's ways and how gracious He is to His children. Her funeral was only nine days before the wedding of Bro. Mike Klopfenstein (grandson) to Sis. Denise Duckworth on July 9. Then on Monday, Bro. Mike's grandfather, Bro. Lloyd Klopfenstein, who attended the wedding, suffered a stroke and is still hospitalized.

We appreciated the morning message of Bro. Andy Klaus (Tokyo, Japan) on the day of the wedding. We pray for the Lord's blessings on him and Sis. Jana.

Our first topical Bible Study on July 12 was presented by Bro. William Waibel (Bay City, MI). We are always blessed when Bro. Bill visits us.

Bro. Lynn and Sis. Leonda Stieglitz became parents of their sixth child, a boy, Caleb William, on July 1. The grandparents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan Stieglitz and Bro. Ted and Sis. Rose Pfister (Bluffton, IN).

On July 14, Joel and Sally Kaufman were blessed with a baby daughter, Abigail Grace. The Kaufman family are spending their one year furlough from Japan in the Leo area. Abigail's grandpa is Bro. Art Gramm.

We were happy to see Sis. Minerva Stoller back in church and rejoiced in her quick recovery from surgery.

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods."

Psalm 24:1-2

"Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him according to his excellent greatness."

Psalm 150:1-2

INDIANA, MILFORD

**Judy Longcor
Marguerite Hoerr**

With our Milford congregation located close to the many lakes in Northern Indiana, we are blessed during the summer months with unexpected visitors. Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN) spent a Sunday with us recently, accompanied by many of his family members. Bro. Bob Beebe of the South Bend congregation also shared God's Word with us recently.

It was a joy to all of us when Sis. Mary Gerber and Tillie Kasbaum were able to worship with us again. With numerous illnesses

and injuries befalling them, it had been nine months since we'd had them with us in church. We thank God for favoring us with their recovery.

Sis. Melba Hunsberger has been unable to attend church also, because of a badly broken arm. Sis. Melba has always been very active in praying for others when illness or injury strikes. We've tried to reciprocate by bringing her name before the Heavenly Father as she recovers from this injury. Likewise, we're thankful Sis. Dorothy Marti is feeling better again after having back problems. Our congregation is small and absences of loved ones are keenly felt.

Our daughter, Becky Pelath, who lives in Michigan City, IN with her family, is presently undergoing radiation treatments following surgery she had late in May. This is a new experience for our family and it makes us aware of others who have undergone similar circumstances. How it makes us value the prayers which are offered in behalf of our own family members; and how it firms our dedication to respond in kind for others.

Bro. Tom Price and Becky have welcomed another grandchild. Their daughter and son-in-law, Lori and Scott Shepherd, have a little daughter, their first child. She was born June 24 and has been named Elizabeth Sierra. May God bless Lori and Scott and give them wisdom and joy as they raise their little girl. We offer our congratulations to the whole family.

Verena Zimmer, who has been a guest in the home of Bro. Bill and Sis. Judy Longcor, recently returned back to her home in Germany. She became part of us while she was here and many of us feel her absence. We hope she continues to feel the friendships

she established while she was with us all.

INDIANA, SOUTH BEND

Carolyn Frank - Gigi Schafer

We are thankful for God's mercy and protection when ministering Bro. Wayne and Sis. Shirley Lehman from our congregation and ministering Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy Steffen (Milford) escaped serious injury in a car accident when traveling to Lexington, KY for weekend services.

The timely visit of ministering Bro. Garry and Sis. Lois Bucher (Valparaiso, IN) to our congregation was a blessed occasion; we appreciate the Word of God proclaimed in truth and sincerity.

During the week of June 19, the pre-school through junior high Sunday School children met for five evenings of Bible School. The theme focused on Proverbs 8:32 "Now therefore hearken unto me, O ye children: for blessed are they that keep my ways." We thank Sis. Renee Mangold and Sis. Jill Lehman for their efforts in directing the organization of this activity.

In the following week the adult Vacation Bible School was scheduled for two evenings. "Tempted and Tried in Today's World" was the topic of discussion conducted by Bro. Mark Gerber (Bluffton, IN). Bro. Dwight Stoller (Latty, OH) delivered a message on the power of prayer and the significance of placing ourselves in a prayerful position. We are grateful for the messages inspired through the love of our Lord and Saviour, and we thank Bro. Don Lehman for coordinating this event.

On Sunday, July 2, we felt a spiritual renewal through the ministry of Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo, OH) and enjoyed the

presence of visitors from various places. Our dearly beloved Sis. Pauline Laidig observed a special birthday celebration on that Sunday. She enjoyed the fellowship of her family on that occasion and we extend a heartfelt thank you to Jim Laidig, Roger Laidig, Lita Laidig, Karen Sommers, Sis. Sharon Rager, and Linda Smith for their kind hospitality.

Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie) and his family from Junction, OH were welcomed into our assembly on Sunday, July 9. We thank Bro. Don for the Living Manna which nourished our spiritual needs.

On that same Sunday, we were privileged to meet Frantz and Doris Clotaire from Cayes, Haiti. In the evening, a slide presentation was given by Frantz that showed his implementation of agricultural experimentation and demonstration training programs to help the needy in Haiti. We thank the Milford congregation for the use of their Fellowship Hall.

Our appreciation is extended to the Francesville congregation for hosting the Youth Christian Endeavor weekend on July 8 and 9, and a thank you to Bro. Scott and Sis. Gigi Schafer for accompanying our youth.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO
Ken and Cindy Susdorf

What will you do with Jesus?
Neutral you cannot be;
Some day your heart will be
asking,
"What will He do with me?"
Gospel Hymns #373

We just finished our Vacation Bible School. What a blessed week it was! We would like to thank our visiting Bros. for coming and sharing in God's Word. They were: Elder Bro. Earl Ring-

ger (Gridley, IL), and Bros. Brian Huber (Francesville, IN) and Jim Rinkenberger (Bluffton, IN). Also, we want to thank those who came and sang for us. They were Sisters Becky Gerber and Rhonda Fiechter (Bluffton, IN), Bro. Randy and Sis. Mary Lynn Massner (LaCrosse, IN), Sisters Trish and Sandy Gutwein and Sharlin and Rachel Huber (Francesville, IN), the one accord Janet Miller, Sisters Trish Bucher and Marsha Weiss from our congregation, and our Sunday School students as well.

The following Sunday we then had our program and Sunday School picnic. Though the needed rains came, all still seemed to have a wonderful time.

Visiting ministers for the month were Bros. Todd Feller (LaCrosse, IN), Greg Gramm (Phoenix, AZ) and Howard Plattner (Alto, MI). Thank you, Brothers, and may the Lord bless your ministries and families.

We are thankful that Bro. Roy Frieden (Sis. Aldene) is home and is improving. We continue to pray for God's strength for him.

It won't be long and our children will be back in school. For some, it will be just the first time and for others, it will be back to the old routine. We pray also for those who will be leaving for college.

As the Brotherhood Conference will soon be coming up, let's all remember to pray for our Elder Body, that God's Almighty Spirit might be felt heavily.

Until next month (the Lord willing), we bid thee farewell.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Jody Bahler - Sheri Bahler

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

born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;"

Eccles. 3:1-2

We extend much love and sympathy to the families whose loved ones have gone on to meet their reward. Steve Elsasser, a brother-in-law to Bro. Brian and Sis. Lorene Furrer, passed away on July 15. Also passing away was Mary Hoon, the mother of Sis. Nancy Christopher (Wayne) and Sis. Karla Bahler (Bro. Lowell). We pray that God will comfort each one through these difficult times.

We were very grateful to hear of the repentance of another dear soul. Nick Waibel (Bro. Gerry and Sis. Marcia) has decided to turn from the world and walk the narrow way which leads Home. May God go with him each step of the way.

Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman was with us Sunday, June 18. We are always thankful for his willingness to serve us whenever we need him. May God richly bless him.

Note of Thanks:

We wish to thank everyone who remembered us with cards, phone calls, thoughts, and prayers for our 45th wedding anniversary. May God bless each one for your love and kindness shown to us.

Bro. Glenn and Sis. Norma Blume

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Lorna Knapp -
Monica Eisenmann

We rejoice with Bro. Leroy and Sis. Carolyn, Brett, Blake and Heather Wulf as they welcome Hannah Rose into their hearts and home. Also rejoicing are grandparents, Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona Wulf (Lester, IA) and Bro.

Lloyd and Sis. Edith Massner.

Matt Eisenmann (Bro. Paul and Sis. Elaine) and Monica Johnson were united in marriage on July 15. We wish them much happiness as they walk life's pathway. May they look to God for guidance in their new life together.

We plan to have an open house at the newly completed duplexes, located near the church, on Sunday, July 23. "Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it..." (Psalm 127:1).

IOWA, ELGIN
Gloria Frieden

Take and eat, my body do I offer,
As unto the death for you I suffer;
This is a memory of my death and
pain,

Likewise your redemption shall
remain.

Zion's Harp #26

A very blessed day was spent together, on June 26, as we again partook of the bread and wine in remembrance of our Saviour's suffering and death. Our thanks to Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA) for serving us from God's Word and for assisting our Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer with this Holy Sacrament.

On July 11, a precious little bundle arrived to bless the home of Tom and Darla Butikofer. Besides her parents, Sidney Sue is also welcomed by her grandparents, Bro. Al and Sis. LaVerne Butikofer and Paul and Bertha Schuchmann.

Sis. Jan Frieden (Bro. Floyd) recently spent a couple days in the hospital as a surgical patient. We are thankful for God's healing hand upon her.

May we seek God's protection and traveling mercies upon all

those who plan to attend the annual Brotherhood Conference in Princeville. May much wisdom be given to our Elders as they prayerfully seek God's will and direction in guiding the flocks and preserving our precious faith. Satan is very crafty, and we are so weak. Now, as never before, we must bind together and help each other in true Christian love.

Our thanks to the Princeville congregation for hosting the Brotherhood Conference this year. It is a big undertaking. May you be richly blessed.

IOWA, GARDEN GROVE
Laura Funk

Visiting ministers this past month include Bros. Elmer Schmidt (Winthrop, MN), John Steiner (Oakville, IA) and Jim Kaeb (Bern, KS). We thank the Lord for these brothers who so willingly come and serve us and their families who travel with them.

We have had many visitors this summer which are truly a blessing that we enjoy. We certainly appreciate and enjoy the fellowship with each and every one. All are welcome.

IOWA, IOWA CITY
Janette Schulz

Greetings to all! We've had a very busy and very blessed month. Many visitors joined us for worship, including ministering Bro. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN) and his family, and Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA) and his wife, Sis. Kathy. We thank these brothers for so willingly sharing the Word with us. Those of us who have never ministered the Word cannot really know what these brothers experience. May they feel our prayerful support and thankfulness for their labors of

love.

We welcome a new baby to our church family---Amelia Rose, born to Bro. Trent and Sis. Lucy Meiss on July 13. Thankful grandparents are Ed and Sis. Barb Meiss (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Lee and Sis. Janet Kuenzi (Silverton, OR). May God grant Amelia's parents the wisdom to bring her up in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord."

"Ring the bells of Heaven" -- we are so thankful to hear of those here and there who have answered God's call. The new converts don't realize the great joy and uplifting of spirit they bring to the rest of God's family. May God grant each one the grace and humility to dig deep and build a firm foundation; one that will withstand all of life's tests and trials and hold fast until the Lord's return. May we diligently pray for them and for those who linger outside the Gate.

I Stood Outside the Gate

I stood outside the gate, A poor,
wayfaring child;
Within my heart there beat, A
tempest loud and wild;
A fear oppressed my soul, that I
might be too late;
And oh, I trembled sore, And
prayed outside the gate.

Oh, "Mercy!" loud I cried, "Now
give me rest from sin!"
"I will," a voice replied; and Mercy
let me in;
She bound my bleeding wounds,
And soothed my heart opprest;
She washed away my guilt And
gave me peace and rest.
In Mercy's guise I knew The
Saviour long abused,
Who often sought my heart, And
wept when I refused;
Oh! what a blest return For all
my years of sin!
I stood outside the gate, And
Jesus let me in.

*Gospel Hymns #85***IOWA, LESTER****Sue Warner - Cindy Leuthold**

Within the period of one week, we sadly laid to rest two dear brothers of the faith in our little cemetery south of Lester. Bro. Wilhelm Nester, 95, died June 25 after being a resident of Lyon Manor for the past few years. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Elizabeth; one son, Bro. Eugene, and a daughter, Sis. Ruth, along with his five grandchildren. His presence will surely be missed in church for he loved to assemble with us as often as his health allowed him. Bro. Wilhelm was our oldest brother at the time of his death.

On July 2, Bro. August Feucht, 84, passed away after being grievously ill for the last few months. His loss is felt so much by his loving wife, Sis. Martha; and his children, Sis. Sharon Strahm (Sabetha, KS), Sis. Sue Schneider (West Bend, IA), Sis. Joan Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Bro. Roy, Sis. Esther Moser, Tim, Sis. Julie (Lester), and Sis. Beth Steffen (Cissna Park, IL), and their families. Also surviving are his brothers and sisters, Emil, Paul, Bro. Alfred, Bro. Raymond and Sis. Emma Gerber, all of the Lester congregation, as well as Sam (Portland, OR), Bro. John (Elgin, IL), Sis. Martha Wagenbach (Peoria, IL) and Sis. Pauline Schick (Washington, IL). Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to these two dear families as they bear the loss of their loved ones.

Emotions of joy filled our hearts to witness the marriage of Bro. Larry Bahr (Ft. Scott, KS) to Sis. Julie Feucht on July 9. Sis. Julie will be missed by all as the new couple takes up residence in the Ft. Scott area. May God bless their union together.

We appreciate the faithful brethren who are willing to bring forth God's precious Word. Visiting us this past month were: Elder Bro. Charles Sinn (Ft. Scott, KS), Bros. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton, OR), Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), David Sinn (Ft. Scott, KS), Michael Rinkenberger (Congerville, IL), Kevin Banwart (West Bend, IA), and Beirne Messner (Morris, MN). May they as well as their families be richly blessed for their unselfish efforts.

Mitchell Knoblock, son of Bro. Glen and Sis. Joyce Metzger, is out of the hospital now and is slowly recuperating from viral meningitis at his home. We pray he makes a full and complete recovery.

Many prayers have been answered as we have new converts in our midst. Souls seeking the truth are Liza Wulf (Bro. Dale and Sis. Becky), Elizabeth Peasley (Bro. Dave and Sis. Margene), Jon and Tricia Blomgren (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet) and Tami Bajema (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Twyla). May they build solid, firm foundations on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Note of Thanks:

The family of Wilhelm Nester wishes to thank each one who remembered us with cards, gifts, food, thoughts and prayers at the passing of our dear father and grandfather. May God bless you for your love and concern.

IOWA, OAKVILLE**Melody Steiner
Debbie Wagenbach**

We have four births to report this month. Brian and Stacia Tapp became parents of their first child on June 24. Mikayla Deone is also welcomed home by first-time grandparents, Bro. Ervin

and Sis. Teresa Marti. Dave and Phyllis Tapp (Mediapolis) are Mikayla's paternal grandparents.

Briana Louise arrived to bless the home of Bro. Roger and Sis. June Schulz on June 25. Bethany, Mitchel, Betsy, Janae, Wendy and Marie are glad for a new baby sister. Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Schulz and Bro. Phil and Sis. Donna Mogler (Lester, IA) are happy to have a new baby join their family circle.

Benjamin Lee is the third son of Bro. Mark and Sis. Rosemary Larson. He was born on July 7 and is welcomed home by Luke and Caleb. Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Larson and Sis. Mary (late Bro. Lee) Eisenmann (Latty, OH) are Benjamin's grandparents.

Sydney Nicole Gerst was born on July 14 and is the fifth daughter of Bro. Fred and Sis. Susan Gerst. Carl, Rachel, Brenda, Rhiannon and Courtney have a new playmate. Sis. Hilda (late Bro. Carl) Gerst and Bro. Joe and Sis. Ruby Eberhardt (Burlington) welcome Sydney as their new granddaughter.

We are thankful to have these "baby booms" in our congregation. May God grant us all the faith to believe that He will provide for these precious blossoms though the moral decay of our society prevails and becomes worse every day. Let us look to Him for strength to overcome Satan and may we keep our homes Godly homes.

It is so uplifting to welcome new and precious souls into our brotherhood. We are thankful to add Bros. Benjy Weyrick (Fred and Joyce), Mark Schmidgall (Bro. Jon and Sis. Julie) and Carroll Berres (Ruthie) to that number. They gave their testimonies before the church on Saturday, June 24, and their baptisms followed on Sunday. May God bless them as they embark on their life's journey

under His wing. We are thankful that Elder Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest, IL) assisted our Elder Bro. Ed with the duties of the weekend. May God bless him for his willing service. Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) was also with us for the weekend.

Bro. Fred Eberhard (Burlington, IA) spent a Sunday with us recently. We always appreciate the visits from our Burlington ministers.

We rejoice with Sis. Stefanie Marti (Bro. Ervin and Sis. Teresa) and Bro. David Stoller (Bro. Ed and Sis. Patty). Their engagement was announced on July 16. May God lead and direct them as they plan a fall wedding.

IOWA, PULASKI

Carol Wettstein

Our visiting minister this past month was Bro. Dale Frank (Oakville, IA). We thank him and his family for assembling with us.

We want to welcome Bro. Lee and Sis. Patsy Esslinger and family who have moved here from Phoenix, AZ.

Eric Teubel (Carolyn) has spent some time in the hospital, and our prayers are with him as he was diagnosed with diabetes. Eric's name was accidentally omitted last issue for graduating from eighth grade.

Summer will soon be over and the big yellow bus will again swallow our children. May each one as parents put forth the effort to fill our children's minds with God's truths to ready them for the tests and trials that are ahead.

Note of Thanks:

Bro. Albert Wuthrich would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards and visits during the time he was in the hospital and since returning home. May God bless each one.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Lela Banwart - Eunice Fehr

The weekend of July 2 was so uplifting and encouraging to our congregation as three precious souls gave their testimonies and were added to the fold. They were Sis. Nicole Dahlhauser (Bro. Ken and Sis. Ellen), Bro. Shane Metzger (Bro. Harlan and Sis. Shirley) and Bro. Tim Mogler (Bro. Nathan and the late Sis. Lilly). Our visiting Elders here to help our Elder Bro. Wayne Fehr and Bro. Wayne Grimm in this important work were Elder Bros. Ray Sinn (Latty, OH) and Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA). Other ministers lending themselves to share God's Word were Bros. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN), Ron Schambach (Elgin, IL), Dean Messner and Jim Knobloch (Winthrop, MN).

Our hospital patients this month have been Sis. Christine (Sid) Schmidt, surgical; Sis. Elma Mogler, and Kendra Banwart, surgical (Bro. Ken and Sis. Marlene). At this writing, Sis. Christine is still in the hospital for therapy, but Sis. Elma and Kendra are both home and thankful that all are regaining their strength again.

Bro. Neil and Sis. Angela Schmidt are happy and thankful for a healthy baby girl, Portlind Dawn, born on July 12. Big brother, Cody, will be happy for a playmate. Grandparents to help share their love and care for Portlind are Bro. Duane and Sis. Lucille Schmidt, and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Fehr. Great-grandparents also from our congregation are Bro. Silas and Sis. Della Metzger and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Matilda Fehr.

Our sympathy goes out to the family of Bro. Wilhelm Nester (Lester, IA). He will be missed by his wife, Sis. Elizabeth (Metzger),

formerly of West Bend. Family members of our congregation and area are Sisters Marie and Darlene Metzger, Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice Metzger, Bro. Silas and Sis. Della Metzger, Bernard and Alice Metzger, Rosie (Mrs. Wilmer) Metzger. Also, he was the grandfather of Bro. Byron and Sis. Anita (Nester) Fehr.

Sympathy also is extended to Bro. Gary and Sis. Sue Schneider and their family on the death of Sue's father, Bro. August Feucht, from Lester, IA. Our prayer is that God will bless and comfort each one.

On Saturday, June 24, Jami Messner and Marc Banwart were united in marriage by Bro. Wayne Grimm at the Fellowship Center. Their parents are Bro. Bruce and Sis. Audrey Messner and Don and Jane Banwart. May God ever be present in their lives as they now establish a Christian home.

The weekend of July 8 and 9 our Bible Class traveled by bus to the Sabetha, KS congregation. We want to thank the Sabetha Bible Class and their teachers for the wonderful time spent there. They put forth much time and effort. May God bless them.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Andrew and Jana Klaus

I just have come back from spending three weeks in the States. It was nice to get away from the Midwest heat, but not so nice to come back to a lot of rain, which is expected to last for another week or two here in Tokyo.

This time I travelled with a 73-year-old Japanese lady, Sis. Takako Horiuchi, and it was her first time to ever travel abroad. She came back with a much different impression than she had going. Some of us tend to get too comfortable with our own lifestyles and do not think that there

could be something better for us. Well, Sis. Horiuchi was amazed at the love she felt from all of the brothers and sisters in our American churches, and she had never met so many Christians in her life. I hope to write a little about her thoughts and impressions in next month's Silver Lining. She was able to travel all around, getting to more places than she usually does in a year, enjoying herself so much that she didn't care to come back here. She kept it up until the last night, when one of her legs went out. Unfortunately, she ended up having to be wheel-chaired through both airports and is now recuperating at home. She is not sorry that she went, though.

More of us will still be traveling to the States this summer, including our Elder Bro. Akito Inoue. We pray for their safety and blessing in their travels.

KANSAS, BERN
Lori Baumgartner
Donna Edelman

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

We are so thankful to have a soul turning to God in repentance. May God grant His abundant grace and guidance to Marla Stoller (Bro. Arden and Sis. Darlene) as she begins her walk with the Lord.

Bro. Don Braker (Kansas City,

MO) and Bro. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL) have brought God's precious Word to our congregation recently. We're grateful for their labors of love.

Loved ones hospitalized this month were Susan Menold (Bro. Don and Sis. Pat) and Sis. Leola Lehman (Bro. Ed). May the Lord continue to bless them with better health.

We welcome Amy Dawson (Ken and Roma, San Diego, CA) to assemble with our congregation while she is attending Kansas University Medical School.

May God bless Bro. Jeff Schumacher and his wife, Sis. Tina (Leo, IN), for coming and giving us a presentation of Gateway Woods on June 23.

Our thanks and appreciation to the Sabetha Bible Class for inviting Bern along with West Bend, IA for a blessed weekend on July 8 and 9.

As the Brotherhood Conference approaches next month, we pray that our beloved Elders may feel the Holy Spirit's guidance in all their endeavors.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Joleen Sinn

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

Eccles. 3:1

Our dear Sis. Julie (Feucht) Bahr and her family surely experienced trials and joys this month. On July 2, her father took his last breath on this earth and woke up to behold the face of his Heavenly Father, all pain and sorrow erased forever. Our prayers are with all of you, especially Sis. Julie, who is moving to Fort Scott and for her mother, Sis. Martha, who after giving loving care to an ailing husband and getting ready for her

daughter's wedding, is now alone in her home.

Then on July 9, many from the Fort Scott congregation traveled to Lester, IA to share in the joy of this family as Sis. Julie and Bro. Larry Bahr promised to share their lives forever.

Joy and pain; that is what life on this earth is about. Oh, how wonderful it will be to gather together on those Heavenly shores and meet our dear Saviour and those that have gone before, all trials and tears erased. But for now, we must labor on, and as the rest of us go on with life as always, may we remember to hold up those in prayer who do have trials.

We want to thank Bro. Wes Moser (Lester, IA) for ministering to us this month. We hope to see more of Bro. Wes and his family as they come to visit Sis. Julie.

KANSAS, LAMONT-GRIDLEY
Julie Bahr

It's been a special time of fellowship in our assembly with our Sunday School children this past month. This is the first time our church has experienced summer vacation for our Sunday School. With the school year nearly upon us again, time has a way of marching on. The children will soon be returning to both areas of spiritual and academic learning. We want to thank each and every child for the blessed opportunity we've had to spend time assembling together with them. We pray that each one has been encouraged and helped in laying a strong spiritual foundation for the coming new school year.

Our hospitalized patient was Bro. Glen (Lorene) Anliker. Bro. Glen suffered a heart attack and was transferred to Kansas City for recovery. Bro. Glen is in need of our Christian love and prayers. We deeply miss him and his dear

wife assembling with us and pray for his speedy recovery.

KANSAS, SABETHA

Mary Kay Wenger

We ask God's blessings on those who plan to be married or have joined hands as husband and wife. An engagement has been announced by Wayne Grimm (Bro. Rodney and Sis. Arlene) and Carrie Edelman (Gary and Marilyn). Sharon Strahm (Bro. Walter and Sis. Mildred) and Paul A. Mills plan an August 5 wedding.

"We are going down the valley one by one..."

We will miss Bro. Louis Wenger who passed away on June 20. Sincere sympathy to his wife, Sis. Tillye Wenger; his son, LaVon Wenger (Sis. Erma); and daughters, Sis. Linda (Bro. Larry) Bailey, Sis. Rose Ann Knoblock (Bro. Steve) and Mary Lou (Dan) Kellenberger, and families.

We also extend sympathy to the family of Bro. August Feucht of Lester, IA who passed away on July 2. We especially remember his daughter, Sis. Sharon Strahm (Bro. Carl), and family of our congregation. May God provide strength and comfort each day.

Farewell, farewell my morning
dawns,

Farewell my rest I see.

The strife is o'er, my morning
dawns,

The Master calleth me.

Farewell, farewell, farewell, I go
to rest...

Hymns of Zion #194

We've appreciated Elder Bros. John Lehman (Bern, KS) and Eugene Marti (Kansas City, MO), and Bros. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL), Don Braker (Kansas City, MO), and Doyle

Frauhiger (Bluffton North, IN) spending time with us.

May God be near Bro. Phil Metzger who has been hospitalized and now resides at the Apostolic Christian Home.

Slides of Gateway Woods were shown at the West Village apartments. They were informative to all who attended.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was held on June 25. On July 8-9 the Senior Bible Class hosted guests from West Bend, IA. We pray that there remains lasting memories that will bring forth abundant fruit in their lives. During August there will be a brief Sunday School vacation.

We are thankful for the safe return of Rachel Aberle (Bro. John and Sis. Cornelia) from Germany where she was continuing her studies.

We pray for our Elders as they gather for the upcoming Brotherhood Conference in striving to preserve our most precious faith.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Emma Miller

Bro. Milton Bowers underwent surgery on June 28 and has been recuperating at home after a week in the hospital. He is expecting to undergo more surgery on July 17. We are grateful for the technology that God has allowed to be developed for our benefit but we continue to intercede for His mercy and lovingkindness to those who are suffering.

Kathleen Funk (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Sally) left June 12 and returned June 27 from a trip to Europe with the Kansas Music Ambassadors. She played violin in eight concerts. Her travels took her to nine different countries, including: England, France, Switzerland, Austria, and Germany. Kathleen had a wonderful experience and wishes to thank all the

friends and family who helped make the trip possible.

KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON

Doug and Rebecca Germann

Summer has brought many visitors to the Bluegrass State and we appreciate our many visitors. This past month the churches represented here were from Elgin, IL; Lamar, MO; Morton, Bradford, Tremont, Fairbury, IL; Smithville, Junction, OH; and Remington, LaCrosse, Milford and South Bend, IN. Visiting ministers were Bro. Wayne Lehman and his wife, Sis. Shirley (South Bend, IN), and Bro. Walt Steffen and his wife, Sis. Dorothy (Milford, IN). We also were blessed to have Bro. John Hartman and his wife, Sis. Rosemary (Fairbury, IL), to share God's Word.

The fourth of July we enjoyed a church picnic and a singing in the evening around a bonfire at the Lester Huber home. We had several visitors which we are thankful for.

The Sunday School students enjoyed a special Saturday this past month as we canoed down Stoner Creek. We had a picnic and games in the afternoon. A special thanks to everyone who helped with the picnic. While we were on the river, a boat passed our canoe and the man inside said to me, "I can tell that you don't canoe often, cause your sitting on the seat and not on your knees in the bottom of the canoe!" He said that when you got on your knees to paddle it took the "pressure" of canoeing off one's back! I took his advice and found out what a difference I felt. I then thought about the spiritual implications and how much pressure we could also take off our lives if we, too, would get on our knees as we steer our ship of faith down the river of

life.

In the past six weeks we have made two trips back to Cissna Park, IL to say our farewells to loved ones. Little did we realize that when we left the first time to say goodbye to a great aunt that we would be back two weeks later to say farewell to our dear grandmother, Sis. Anna Hari. But how beautiful to think that not only was she our beloved grandmother, but also a sister in faith whose love goes beyond this life and into eternity for which we are thankful.

Once again, we welcome all to visit our Lexington congregation as you travel through. Wednesday evening services are at 7:00 EST and Sunday services at 10:00 and 12:15.

MICHIGAN, ALTO

Jane Grawburg

Vacation Bible School had 45 children in attendance this year! The "Healthy Family" was its theme, and Miriam Nicholiv, who is a student from Russia, taught our children about family life in Russia. As a project, the children were asked to bring some of their Bible story books so Miriam could take them back to Russia with her and translate them into Russian for children over there because those kinds of books are almost non-existent in Russia. Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) came on Wednesday evening and Bro. Ed Bahler (Remington, IN) was with us Saturday night and Sunday to enlighten the rest of us about "Healthy Families". Special thanks to all who made Vacation Bible School so great this year.

Bro. Dan Stoller (Rockville, CT) was with us again for mid-week services. We appreciate it so much when Bro. Dan comes and we thank him for his labors of

love.

The weekend of July 8 and 9, over 275 brothers, sisters and friends gathered to celebrate Alto's 100 years. In honor of the occasion, Sis. Loretta Steffen came up with a timeline of the Alto church which was displayed along with several artifacts from long ago---a few song books, the goblet that was used at our first Communion service, and our original Bible. Also, under the direction of Sis. Luanne Kaeb, a cookbook was produced in honor of this event.

Brethren with us for the weekend include Elder Bros. Ben Maibach (Detroit, MI), Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI), and Ray Sinn (Latty, OH). Other ministering brothers with us were Bros. Tom Schrenk (Athens, AL) and Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH). Thank you to everyone who helped make Alto's Centennial Fellowship Weekend so very special.

We are glad to know that Bro. Matt Steffen (Sis. Deanna) and daughter, Myca, of Pekin, IL are both home (Bro. Matt from Mayo Clinic and little Myca from a local hospital) and are in good health.

A large shed containing farming equipment was lost to fire at Sis. Virginia Schutte's farm. May God's grace and strength help to sustain Sis. Virginia and her family in the days ahead.

We want to thank Elder Bro. Andy and Sis. Roberta Stoller (Smithville, OH) for coming to Alto and sharing Communion with us. We truly appreciate our Lord for sharing with us and we thank Elder Bro. Andy for his labors of love throughout the entire weekend.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Marlene Mosher

Rhonda Knochel

We wish the Lord's grace and

blessings on the new couple who have been joined in Holy Matrimony, Sis. Jennifer Schlatter and Bro. Troy Schrock. They are now one. The mother of the bride is Sis. Sharon Schlatter, and grandparents are Bro. Joe and Sis. Elizabeth Waibel and Bro. Dave and Sis. Margaret Schlatter. Parents of the groom are Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary Schrock, and grandparents are Bro. Charles and Sis. Martha Rinkenberger.

Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Beverly) performed the marriage ceremony. We were also pleased and thankful to have with us Bros. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris, MN), Mike Rinkenberger (Sis. Pat, Congerville, IL), Glenn Riggenbach (Sis. Louise, Smithville, OH), Hartzell Kaisner (Sis. Mary, Detroit, MI), Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI), and Brace Wieland (Sis. Brenda). Bay City was blessed!

Vacation Bible School started June 19 with the hope of blessings from our Lord and prayers of honor to our Lord and hopefully good teachings to our charges for the week. We, as teachers, had great opportunity and even greater responsibility. We were blessed to have with us for this most blessed week: Monday - Bro. Glenn Riggenbach (Sis. Louise, Smithville, OH); Tuesday - Bro. Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Fairbury, IL); Wednesday - Bro. Allen Stoller (Sis. Susan, Bluffton, IN); Thursday - Elder Bro. Joe Stoller (Sis. Emily, Princeville, IL); Friday - Bro. Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon, Francesville, IN). Some special comments that have stayed in my heart from that week were these: GRACE is God's Riches At Christ's Expense. Life is fragile, handle it with prayer.

Our Elder Bro. Andrew Virkler said, "Yesterday is the past, tomorrow is the future, today is the present (our gift)."

Sis. Carol Schlatter (Bro. Jay) and her family of little ones were in a car accident but our Lord was watching over them and they are doing fine.

Bro. Elias Schlatter (Sis. Ella) is back worshipping with us once again but still lives in a rest home.

Bro. Dave Schlatter (Sis. Margaret) has been in the hospital and had to have open heart surgery and is gaining ground. May the Lord protect and bless him and all that are sick in mind and body.

We have been blessed once again to have been able to accept lambs of God into our fold: Bro. Jack and Sis. Debbie Knochel (Bro. Victor and Elinor Knochel), Sis. Cheryl Schmidt (Mike, daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Margaret Schlatter), and Sis. Julie Waibel (Bro. Bill and Sis. Carol). We were blessed to have with us for the testimonies of our loved ones Elder Bro. Ken Sauder (Sis. Sue, Mansfield, OH). Also, we were blessed to have words of wisdom from our beloved retired Elder Bro. Joe Waibel.

We have had a very busy and blessed month in Bay City and hope our Lord might grant us more.

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Lynette Moser

Holly Barton

Our small congregation here in Detroit often becomes even smaller during the summer when many are traveling! However, vacations also bring us visitors, and we have been privileged to have more visiting ministers this month than I can remember in a while! We sincerely enjoyed having with us Bros. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo, IN), Allen Stoller (Bluffton, IN), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton North, IN), Ron Heiniger (Bloomington, IL) Wayne Laubscher (Cissna Park, IL) and Mark Mas-

ters (Mansfield, OH).

We are so happy that a Christian home has been established here in Detroit following the wedding of Bro. Troy Schrock and Sis. Jennifer Schlatter on June 18 in Bay City. Their parents are Bro. Byron and Sis. Mary Schrock (Congerville, IL) and Sis. Sharon Schlatter (Bay City, MI). We warmly welcome Sis. Jennifer to our congregation and wish the Lord's blessings on them both.

Sis. Arlene Belsley is a grandma yet again with the birth of Morgan Lynn to her son and daughter-in-law, Kenneth and Susan (Valrico, FL), on July 8. May God bless their family with wisdom and love!

July 10-14 was a very exciting week as we held Vacation Bible School. The theme of "Bible Heroes" was a practical one with the lack of heroes and role models in society today. VBS only happens as a result of much planning and commitment, and we want to thank all who were involved. We especially appreciated having Bro. Allen Stoller with us the Saturday before to give us a "pre-VBS" presentation. Once again this year, Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Mary Kaisner hosted a picnic for everyone at the conclusion of the week, and the students had a chance to share with us some of what they learned.

We extend sympathy to those who have recently lost loved ones. Bro. Willis Belsley (Morton, IL), brother to Sis. Lorene Maibach (Elder Bro. Ben) and brother-in-law to Sis. Arlene Belsley, has passed away, as has Sis. Hilda Bauer's (Bro. Walt) sister.

We also want to keep Carole Maibach (Bro. Doug) in our thoughts and prayers as she has been hospitalized.

We are always appreciative of those who come to help out with the services at Woodhaven. This

month, Bro. Doug Harmon (Toledo, OH) ministered to the residents. We look forward to the Alto church hosting the September 12 service.

MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS

Perry Virkler

We have been blessed with many visitors traveling through on vacation or visiting our area. We truly appreciate each one and thank them for worshipping with us.

On June 26, the teachers and students enjoyed a picnic and games to end the Sunday School year. Classes will resume September 10.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who are in nursing homes or are unable to assemble with us from week to week. We especially think of Bro. Noah and Sis. Laura Miller and Linus Lienemann. May they ever feel God's nearness and love for them.

We are thankful that God has restored health and strength to Bro. Ray Schmidgall after his recent coronary bypass surgery. He is able to assemble with us once again.

It Takes The Bitter And The Sweet To Make A Life Full and Complete

Life is a mixture

of sunshine and rain,
Laughter and teardrops,
pleasures and pain -

Low tides and high tides,
mountains and plains,

Triumphs, defeats
and losses and gains -

But always in all ways
God's guiding and leading

And He alone knows

the things we're most needing -

And when He sends sorrow

or some dreaded affliction,

Be assured that it comes

with God's kind benediction -

And if we accept it
as a Gift of His love,
We'll be showered with blessings
from our Father above.
Helen Steiner Rice

We rejoice with Bro. Ray and Sis. Millie Schmidgall on the birth of a new grandson. Jack Ray was born to Charles and Cathy Schmidgall on June 26. Big brothers, Marco and Nate, welcome him home, too!

Joe Bednarski (Sis. Ethel) is home from the hospital, recovering from surgery. May he feel our prayers and the Lord's healing power.

Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL) was our visiting minister this month. We truly appreciated his visit and for sharing the Word of God with us.

By now the annual Brotherhood Conference has already been concluded. May God richly bless our dear Elder brothers for all their labors of love in striving to preserve God's Holy church.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

**Linda Schmidgall
Maxine Sauder**

Come to the feast, the Master has prepared.
For there is room for all.
He welcomes you, His glories He will share,
Oh, heed His loving call.
O call them in from lonely highways,
Constrain to come from lanes and byways,
For there is room, for there is room.

Hymns of Zion #129

Our hearts are overwhelmed as we see the Spirit of God move the hearts of men as they kneel at the foot of the Cross. Indeed, lives are being touched, family circles are

being strengthened, and the Body of Christ rejoices with thankfulness. Souls coming forward to take advantage of the shed blood of Jesus include: Kurt Domnick (Bro. Gary and Sis. Velma), Shadow Fehr (Bro. Paul and Sis. Pam), Jonathon Joos (Bro. Harv and Sis. Deb), Brenda Koehl (Bro. Arnold and Sis. Sharon), Byron and Julie Koehl, Quinn and Ryan Messner (Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl), Jon and Gary Nohl (Bro. DeWayne and Sis. Janice), Daniel Schaefer (Bro. Steve and Sis. Pam), Ginny and Kara Wulf (Bro. Davis and Sis. Nancy), Kevin and Kurtis Wulf (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy), Rhonda Wulf (Bro. Jeral and Sis. Linda), and Rosie Zeltwanger (Bro. Dale and Sis. Rachel). We just lift each one up in prayer as they look to Jesus for their salvation. "...and yet there's room."

We welcome Sisters Mindy and Molly Wulf (Bro. Doug and Sis. Joyce) and Sisters Connie and Dawn Koehl (Bro. Arnold and Sis. Sharon) into the fellowship as they have responded to God's call to repentance. May they go forth clad in the armor of the Lord and may the joy of the Lord be their strength.

Among the visiting ministers this month were Elder Bros. Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH), Wayne Fehr (West Bend, IA), Charles Sinn (Fort Scott, KS), and Dennis Warner (Lester, IA). Also visiting were Bros. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH), Gary Hertzler (Sabetha, KS), Brian Huber (Francesville, IN), Merle Hartzler and Art Ingold (Rittman, OH), Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA), Shawn Metzger (Philadelphia, PA), Jon Schmidgall (Oakville, IA), Ken Wuethrich (Indianapolis, IN) and Dale Wulf (Lester, IA). We are grateful to these brethren for preaching the Word.

Bro. Ernest Koehl and Amber

Jones (Bro. Shane and Sis. Ruth) continue to recuperate at home following an auto accident. We are very thankful for God's intervention and His healing hand.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

**Becky Braulick - Jan Messner
Greetings!**

The Church and the World
walked far apart
On the changing shore of time,
The World was singing a giddy song,
And the Church a hymn sublime.
"Come give me your hand," said
the merry World,
"And walk with me the way."
But the good Church hid her
snowy hand,
And solemnly answered "Nay."
"I will not give thee my hand at
all,
And I will not walk with you;
Your way is the way of eternal
death,
And your words are all untrue."
"Nay walk with me a little space,"
Said the World with kindly air.
"The road I walk is a pleasant
road
And the sun shines always there."
*(An excerpt from The Church
and The World)*
Author Unknown

We need, as a Church, to pray that we can hold onto this precious faith so we do not begin walking with the world. We are truly blessed to have this beautiful family of God to surround ourselves with.

On July 1, Amy and Jay Bartels were united in marriage. May God stand by their sides as they join hand and heart. Parents of the couple are Sis. Carol Ann Messner and Allen and Joleen Bartels.

This month our hospital patients were Sis. Rose Alice Howk

(Bro. Roy) and Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Gene). We pray that the Lord will restore health and strength to our dear loved ones.

Bro. Rick and Sis. Brenda Messner and Tyler have now made their home in Watertown, SD. Their new address is: Rick and Brenda Messner, 376 S. Lake Dr., Watertown, SD 57201.

MISSOURI, KANSAS CITY

Joan Fehr - Jamie Marti

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven; A time to be born,..."

Eccles. 3:1-2

On June 30, Ashlyn LaNae was welcomed into the home of Brad and Sis. LuAnn and Alec Gramm. Her grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Nola Gramm (Gridley, IL) and Sis. Lucille Richardson (Phoenix, AZ).

Sharing God's Word with us this month was Bro. Max Reimschisel (Wichita, KS) and Elder Bro. Mark Bahr (Detroit, MI). May God bless them for their labors.

MISSOURI, LAMAR

Carolyn Banwart

Becky Marti

My Lord, an offering do I bring;
My heart I give to Thee.

I gladly give this heart of mine,
Which Thou dost ask of me.

Zion's Harp #163

We enjoyed a blessed weekend July 8 and 9 as we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of four dear souls. We welcome Sisters Carol and Sarah Braker (Bro. Roy and Sis. Judy) and Bro. Leon and Sis. Teresa Luthi into our fellowship. Assist-

ing Elder Bro. Lawrence with these duties were Elder Bros. Art Nohl (Morris, MN) and Ervin Knecht (Eureka, IL). Other visiting ministers were Bros. Al Langhofer (Wichita, KS), Jim Vierling (Eureka, IL), Doug Schock (Pulaski, IA), Doug Grimm (Sabetha, KS), Don Braker (Kansas City, MO) and Steve Martin (Eureka, IL). We appreciate them and all of the many visitors we have enjoyed this past month.

Sis. Janice Frieden and Jack Thiebaud had to spend some time in the hospital. We are thankful they are able to assemble with us again.

Our prayers go with JoAnn Marti as she has enlisted in the Navy and Bro. Jonathan Banwart as he has moved to Phoenix, AZ to further his education.

We rejoice with Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jodi Luthi in the birth of Ryan Chris on July 18. Welcoming him home are Audrey, Jared and Jessica. Grandparents are Bro. Orlan and Sis. Mary Kellenberger (St. Louis, MO) and Bro. Raymond Luthi.

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS

Thadd Walter

"And he saith unto them, Ye shall drink indeed of my cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with..."

Matthew 20:23

The St. Louis congregation has had a special blessing with the addition of a new brother in Christ. We welcome Bro. Peter Schrenk (Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy) into our spiritual family. Peter is the first to be baptized in the new church, and it is our hope and prayer that the Lord will call more souls unto repentance and baptism. Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL) assisted our Elder

Bro. Roy Grimm with the proving and baptism.

"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."

I John 1:7

We have been pleased to see so many visitors during these summer months. Our little church benefits from the fellowship and the strengthening of spiritual ties as families pass through on vacations. The visitors we receive lift our spirits, and we would like to encourage those of you who are passing by, or have never visited before, to stop in and join us if you can.

The Word has been shared with us this past month by ministering Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest, IL), Bro. Neal Widmer (Wolcott, IN), Elder Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor, MO) and Elder Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke, IL). We thank these brothers and their families for assembling with us.

MISSOURI, TAYLOR

Rusty and Amy Adrian

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

Luke 15:10

We rejoice with two souls, Joseph Knochel (Bro. Eric and Sis. Penny) and Jared Sutter (Marcia) who have decided to turn their back on the world and make a new beginning in life through repentance. May they seek out our precious Lord Jesus Christ each day for the help they need in overcoming the world and finding that true joy and peace.

June 25 was a special day for

Bro. Curt Gramm (Ron and Ann Daughtery, Gridley, IL) and Sis. Susan Knapp (Bro. Mike and Sis. Luann) as they were united in Holy Matrimony. Sis. Susan will truly be missed here as they make their home in Gridley, IL. Our thoughts and prayers will be with them as they begin their new life together.

On July 2 our Sunday School gathered together for their annual picnic at the fellowship center. Afterwards, our precious Lord was lifted up by our youth through song.

Those who were in the hospital this past month were Anna Lewis (foster child of Bro. Eric and Sis. Penny Knochel), Sis. Lori Marquart (Bro. Dave) and Sis. Charlotte Hoerr (Bro. Brent). May God's healing hand be upon each one.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Zana Frieden (Dan) who passed away this past month. She was a sister-in-law to Sis. Rose and Sis. Elizabeth Hoerr.

On the weekend of July 8-9 we were blessed with many visitors who came to the Camp Pickett reunion. We want to thank each one for making the effort to come and share their memories together.

Special thanks to our visiting ministers this past month: Elder Bros. Wes Knapp (Goodfield, IL) and Earl Ringger (Gridley, IL), and Bros. Steve Baner (Gridley, IL), Doug Wagenbach (San Diego, CA), Bill Hodel (Roanoke, IL) and Art Baurer (Princeville, IL). Also during the month of July we were blessed to have a Bible Study each Wednesday of the month. We want to thank Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha, KS) for speaking to us on being "A Peculiar People" and Bro. Ron Kipfer (Bluffton, IN) for speaking to us on the "New Age Movement". How thankful we are for faithful brethren who are

willing to give of their time to share God's Word with us. May God bless each one.

**NEW YORK, CROGHAN-
NAUMBERG
Alice Virkler**

"And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up;..."

James 5:15

God has heard our prayers for those among us who have had surgery and suffered affliction in the past month. We miss Sis. Loretta (Bro. Floyd, Sr.) Graves as she is recovering from back surgery and Bro. Niles (Sis. Polly) Farney as he recovers from a stroke. We are glad to have Bro. Lowell (Sis. Celia) Virkler in our assembly following his knee surgery. Sis. Corinne Virkler is now residing at Lewis County Extended Care Facility. May God's healing hand continue to be on each of our loved ones and may He give them continued strength and courage as they continue the recovery processes.

Our Sunday School children enjoyed the church wiener roast held after the school year was completed. It was held at Whitaker Park.

Our visitors who shared God's Word with us in the past month were Elder Bro. Dale and Sis. Judy Eisenmann (Chicago, IL) and Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Nancy Aeschleman (Philadelphia, PA). We thank each of them for visiting us and giving us words of love and encouragement from the Holy Word of God.

God's almighty power was surely shown to us in the past weekend when much of our local area was hit with a severe wind and thunderstorm. Many trees were uprooted and much destruc-

tion can be viewed in Northern New York. It reminds us that God can return at any moment as His power was shown to us in just a few minutes of time. May each of us be ready to meet Him on that other shore if a moment such as this would be our last moment on earth. If we are not ready today, may each one prepare themselves while the door of grace is still open for them.

OHIO, AKRON

Diane Jarrett - Joyce Gasser

Bro. John and Sis. Joyce (Beery) Schamback will have had 25 years of a happy marriage as their Silver Anniversary is August 23. They were blessed with three daughter: Sis. Jennifer, who married Bro. Dan Hartzler; Sis. Jill, who married Bro. Rod Steiner; and Sis. Joanna. They, and Sis. Joanna, and niece, Laurie Beery, have just returned from a trip to Europe touring many countries.

Sis. Louise Graf has returned to her home in the Assisted Living after a short hospital stay.

Sis. Esther Fritz attained the fourscore years, as she was 80 on July 17. Sis. Dora Smith attained the fourscore and ten years, as she was 90 on July 28.

We appreciated our visiting minister, Bro. Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH).

OHIO, COLUMBUS

Nancy Banks

"We must not only prepare for the physical building but also prepare for the spiritual building--so that we can be anchored on the solid rock of Jesus Christ."

This was the kind admonition received from our Elder Bro. Gene Pamer (Akron, OH) during the project initiation service held Wednesday, June 28, at the Co-

lumbus church. As we watched footers being dug and concrete being poured, we fervently pray that our little church will be firmly anchored on that Solid Rock!

We were so thankful for visiting ministers this month. Bro. Earl Beery (Rittman, OH) and Bro. Bill Brake (Sardis, OH) and their families spent time with us and we appreciate their labors of love. We ask that visitors please excuse the makeshift sidewalks, boarded-up doorways and "help yourself" lunches as construction and remodeling processes are now in full swing.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Sandra Manz

We are enjoying a refreshing break from the severe heat wave that spread over our section of the country last week. What a contrast! Likewise, it was a refreshing break from the hectic days of our fast-paced lives to spend quiet time last Saturday evening at church listening to the testimony of Maburn Hale (Sis. Julia). His desire was fulfilled the following morning when he was baptized following a short service. Many of his family members, including his ailing wife, were present to witness this most important step in his life.

Our only visiting minister this month was Bro. Beirne Messner (Morris, MN). We thank him for bringing his family over many miles to spend time with us and share his God-given talent in the ministry.

OHIO, LATTY

Lane Stoller

Kathy Sinn

We were thankful to have the opportunity to listen to testimonies of Bob Graf (Sis. Joan) and Amanda Steffen (Bro. Donn and

Sis. Karen). Then on Sunday, many friends and relatives gathered with us to witness their baptisms. Also gathering with us were several visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City, MI), and Bros. Dave Graf (Akron, OH), Curt Rassi (Tremont, IL), Art Ingold (Rittman, OH), Bob Beebe (South Bend, IN) and Don Manz (Junction, OH).

During the month, Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann Plummer commemorated their 45th wedding anniversary. May God continue to bless their marriage and family circle.

We ask God's nearness and comforting hand for Sis. Roberta and Sis. Emily Stoller in the passing of their brother, Lyle (Sis. Lois), of Bloomington, IL.

Pat and Sis. Wendy Baumle were blessed with another girl, Madeline Claire. Little Maddie will be a welcome playmate for older sister, Taylor. Grandparents are Robert and Sis. Janet Williamson and Bob and Fran Baumle.

The first Sunday in July, Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) ministered unto us. May they continue to preach the truth.

During the month, Bro. Rex Plummer (Sis. Ann) was hospitalized. May God add healing to his body according to His will.

Cody Stoller (Sis. Irma) has graduated from Ohio State veterinarian school. He is currently working in the Rittman, OH area.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Ruby Stoller (Bro. Jud) and her family in the passing of her sister, Louise Taylor. May God be ever near during the coming months.

Sis. Marlene Reinhard (Bro. Dan and Sis. Delores) has moved back to the Latty area and will be assembling with us. We give her a warm welcome to our congregation and young group.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Cari Mann

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

I Thess. 4:13-14

This is the chapter that was read when Mildred Dolce was laid to rest on June 28. It is with prayerful hearts we express our deepest sympathy to her family: Mrs. Bamie (Beverly) Washington, Mrs. Jerry (Claudia) Gadd, Mrs. Greg (Elaine) Yokem and Leonard (Renee) Dolce, and all of their children. She is also survived by several brothers and sisters, Elder Bro. Ken (Sis. Sue) Sauder, Bud Sauder, Bro. Dick (Sis. Caroline) Sauder, and Sis. Peg (Bro. Frank) Graszl, all of Mansfield; Sis. Evie (Bro. Eli) Manz of Junction, OH and Bro. Don (Faye) Sauder of Nashville, TN. She is preceded in death by one brother, Bob, and her husband, Gabe. We pray that all of her loved ones will ever feel God's comforting hand upon them during this time.

"Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more."

I Thess. 4:1

Elder Bro. Lavoyd Moore (Athens, AL) joined us for Mildred's funeral and stayed with us for our mid-week service. When he opened the Bible, he opened to the same chapter that was read in the morning for the funeral, so he

stayed with the beginning verses of the chapter. While he was reading, the thought came to mind of how very appropriate both halves of the chapter were for the times they were used that day. Bro. Lavoyd exhorted us to be more holy even as we read in the verses. We are thankful that he was willing to share the evening with us and pray for God's richest blessings upon him.

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men."

Titus 2:11

The gift of grace is something that is ours for the asking at any time. Chad Keever (Bro. Clair and Sis. Bev) has accepted that gift of grace and has started his walk on the path that leads to his Heavenly Home. Our prayers go with Chad that he may ever find delight in walking the narrow path.

Sis. Martha Enderle has been hospitalized this month for a hip replacement. We pray that, according to God's will, she will soon be feeling better and be able to assemble with us once again.

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; And they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh."

Mark 10:7-8

July 15 marks the day that Ron Beer (Bro. Rex and Sis. Marilyn) and Donna Cotterman became one flesh. May the love they have for each other continue to grow and strengthen during the years they will share together.

It has been extremely hot in this part of the country these last few days. One day as I was walking from the air conditioned office building where I spend most of my

day to my air conditioned car, I had to think of those poor souls whose final destination will be eternal destruction. There will be no air conditioning and I am sure that the heat we feel here on earth will be nothing compared to that heat that will last forever. Let us make the choice now so when the time comes, we will not find it necessary to plead for relief from the heat.

OHIO, RITTMAN

Linda Schar

Marsha Rufener

Meghan Sue Plahuta was born June 8 to Dave and Sue Plahuta. Michelle and Michael and grandmother, Sis. Clara Jenkins, also welcome baby Meghan.

We welcome Cody Stoller and Jeff Lanz (Darlene) back to our area. Cody and Jeff graduated from Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine, and will be practicing in the area. Cody is the son of Sis. Irma Stoller (Latty, OH). Jeff is the son of Bro. Ralph and Sis. Diane Lanz.

We appreciate the labors of Bro. Randy Gasser (Detroit, MI) as he ministered the Good Word to us.

Our prayers are with Bro. Roy Maibach (Sis. Mabel) as he recovers from surgery.

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Lillian Bauman and Fredona Shiffer (Berdean) at the passing of their brother-in-law, Bill Ruttencutter.

Steve Woyat (Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Woyat) and Virginia Luks (Dr. and Mrs. Eric Luks) were united in marriage on June 17. May God bless these loved ones.

The engagement of Bro. Steve Dotterer (Keith and Sis. Linda, Smithville) and Sis. Amy Hartzler (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce) was announced June 25. May they look to the Lord as they begin their life together.

Marty Stoller (Bro. Fred and

Sis. Joyce) and Wendy Meade (Mr. and Mrs. Dale Meade) were united in Holy Matrimony on July 8. May God's blessings be upon them.

OHIO, SARDIS

Renee Miller

Despite a rainy forecast, God provided a beautiful day for the annual New Martinsville, West Virginia service. Ministers visiting for the weekend were Bros. Vic Bauman (Smithville, OH), Gary Brown (Forrest, IL) and Elder Bro. Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH). We enjoyed having all of the many visitors in our area.

We gained two new brothers in faith on July 2. Milan Indermuhle (Elder Bro. Ken and Sis. Linda) and Matt Brake (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mim) willingly gave a testimony of their faith and confessed their desire to serve God forever. Elder Bros. Aaron Steffen (Alto, MI) and Gene Pamer (Akron, OH) and ministering Bro. Ron Palito served during the testimonies, baptisms, and sermons we witnessed throughout the weekend.

Bro. Bob Stoller (Lamar, MO) and his family took time during their vacation to be with us in Sardis. May God bless Bro. Bob for bringing forth the Word while here.

OHIO, SMITHVILLE

Edith Miller

Margaret Blough

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."
Philippians 4:13

We rejoice that Jessica Riggenschach has found peace with God and man through repentance (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Lou). Let's

remember her in our prayers as she awaits baptism.

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the Lord."

Proverbs 18:22

Two engagements were announced this past month: Bro. Steve Dotterer (Keith and Sis. Linda) to Sis. Amy Hartzler (Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce, Rittman); and Bro. Dwaine Beery (Art and Eileen) to Sis. Shelly Riggenbach (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Lou). May God bless and guide them as they plan for their lives together.

Several from our congregation have required medical care recently: Bro. Roger Sauer (Sis. Sue), Kelly Luginbuhl (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rose), Sis. Jane Hartzler (Bro. Ken), and Florence Hanzie. May the Lord return each one to good health.

Bros. Sam Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Wally Ramsier (Mansfield, OH), and Elder Bros. Marvin Lemman (Bradford, IL) and Henry Dotterer (Rittman, OH) each helped to spread the Word among us this past month. We trust the Lord will bless them for their willingness to serve.

OHIO, TOLEDO

Rebecca Beard - Edie Fetter

"For I will restore health unto thee, and I will heal thee of thy wounds, saith the Lord..."

Jeremiah 30:17

We are thankful for the healing power of God. Recent surgical patients have been Bro. Richard Fetter (Sis. Betty) and Bro. Al Weigele (Sis. MaryAnn). We hope for their speedy recovery.

Bro. Rolf and Sis. Verena Kaeppler have recently moved from the Toledo area to Sedona, AZ. We

will miss them but hope they enjoy their new home and fellowship with the Prescott congregation.

We would like to thank Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) and Bro. Fred Domka (Mansfield, OH) for sharing in the ministry with us.

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

I Corinthians 15:58

OREGON, SILVERTON

Peggy Schulz

On Sunday, July 2, we held our first services in our new house of worship. What a blessed day it was for our congregation. We had anticipated that day for so long. Countless hours of volunteer labor have gone into its making, not only from our congregation but from many of our churches across the land. May the Lord richly bless all those who have so freely given of their time, talent and finances to make our new edifice a reality.

We were blessed to have Bro. Gene Lehman (Sis. Verna, Wolcott, IN) with us this past month. May the Lord bless him for lending himself in ministering God's Holy Word to us. We also appreciated Bro. Gene sharing the World Relief slide presentation on Jamaica and Haiti with us. We have so much to be thankful for here in America, where our daily necessities are so abundantly supplied.

We rejoice with Sara Kuenzi (Bro. Myron and Sis. Diane) as she has found peace through a true repentance and looks forward to baptism.

Our heartfelt sympathy and prayers are with Bro. Jim and Sis.

Joan Dietrich and their family in the loss of their dear dad and grandfather, Bro. August Feucht, of Lester, IA. Even though sometimes we have warning that one of our loved ones will soon be departing, it is still hard to say that final farewell. May the Lord comfort your hearts in the days ahead.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with Sis. Jo (Bro. Jason) Kuenzi, as she is in the hospital at this time.

PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

Franz Soni

"For we are made partakers of Christ, if we hold the beginning of our confidence stedfast unto the end:"

Hebrews 3:14

Sis. Florence Grandinette recently moved from Fort Lauderdale to Northwales, PA to live with her daughter. Sis. Florence currently has some health problems and has not yet been able to worship with us in Philadelphia. She will appreciate your prayers and remembrance. Her address is: 309 W. Prospect Ave., Northwales, PA 19457.

We welcome our dear friend, Ann Waibel, into our congregation. Ann has turned her heart to the Lord after many years. May God receive her in His tender love and mercy.

We thank Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL) for sharing God's Word with us this past month. May God richly reward him for his efforts.

We welcome all who are in the area to come worship with us. Services are Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and at 12:30 p.m. and Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. If you need more information, please call Elder

Bro. Edward Aeschleman at (302) 478-7846.

TENNESSEE, NASHVILLE
Gwen Leuthold

Just recently my family and I spent vacation time in South Carolina along the Atlantic Ocean. It never ceased to amaze me that the waves kept crashing into the shoreline all in a sort of perfect rhythm that only God could be controlling. Someone once told me that the rise and fall of the waves can be likened to the mountains and valleys of our lives. May we seek God to lead us through all phases of our lives.

The services scheduled for July 2 and July 16 were not held due to various conflicts. Lord willing, we do plan to have ministers from Morton, IL and Francesville, IN on September 3 and 17, respectively. As we are small in number, if you are passing through the Nashville area, we encourage you to call and join us in our worship services.

We continue to be in need of bricklayers and carpenters to assist in the remodeling work on our kitchen/dining room. Please contact your local Mission Committee member if you are interested in helping.

Contacts in the Nashville area are Bro. Don and Faye Sauder

(615) 373-8928; Bro. Don and Sis. Enid Miller (615) 384-8761; or Sis. Gwen Leuthold (615) 352-3940.

**TEXAS, DALLAS
AND ROUND TOP**
Christine Kaiser
Kim Kaiser

Our dear Bro. Bill Zeltwanger again hosted a blessed weekend at his home in Round Top. On Saturday, June 25, we enjoyed supper with the visiting ministers and their wives: Bro. Glen and Sis. Sally Funk (Wichita, KS) and Bro. Leland and Sis. Mary Plattner (Zapata, TX). Bro. Glen and Bro. Leland preached from God's Word for our two Sunday services. We are thankful for the encouragement, loving support, and guidance each displayed throughout the memorable weekend. May God strengthen and bless our visitors and Bro. Bill.

On July 2, Dallas was blessed to have Bro. Brian and Sis. Wendy Waibel (Champaign, IL) here for church. We were uplifted to hear Bro. Brian instruct our souls and speak about God's love. The ten of us present enjoyed services, fellowship and lunch together. We know that God will reward the efforts of our visitors.

Dallas schedule -- Services are usually held on the first and third Sundays of each month at the

Holiday Inn in DeSoto, TX. Service times are 10:30 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Please contact Bro. Howard and Sis. Dolores Rapp (214) 867-4074 or Bro. Greg and Sis. Christine Kaiser (214) 335-0105 for additional information.

Round Top schedule -- Services for the Houston/Austin area are held at Bro. Bill Zeltwanger's home in Round Top, TX on the last Sunday of each month. Contact Bro. Bill at (409) 249-5102 for schedule confirmation and directions.

TEXAS, ZAPATA
Viola Perdelwitz

He sends his shower of blessing
down

To cheer the plains below;
He makes the grass the
mountains crown
And corn in valleys grow.

Hymns of Zion #283

It had been very dry in Zapata this season. The last week we have had a few showers of rain. We notice blades of grass soon appear after a little rain.

One of the trustees of our church, Bro. Russell Stoller (Latty, OH), and his wife, Sis. Melvane, were in Zapata for a few days. We enjoyed their fellowship.



Silver Threads

What Is The Church?

The church is not:

- An ark for the saving of a select few.
- A ferryboat to take effortless passengers to the shores of Heaven.
- A life insurance company, with no obligation on policy holders except the payment of a small annual premium.
- A social set, welcoming certain people and excluding others from its fellowship.
- A Sunday pleasure club for the providing of pleasant occupation on the day of rest.

The church is:

- A lifeboat for the rescue of sin-wrecked and perishing souls.
- A family, in which love and service are expected from each member to each member.
- An organized community, with constant activities and continual growth and development.
- A company of believers who have found the one way of life and obey the one Lord of life.
- A union of those who love for the benefit of those who suffer.
- A center of social worship, in which the spiritual life of each is helped by the spiritual life of his fellow.
- The representative -- the "body" -- of Jesus Christ on the earth, reflecting His spirit and controlled by His will.

Ephesians 1:22-23 "And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church. Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."

Ephesians 4:12-13 "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:"

Colossians 1:18 "And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence."

I Timothy 3:14-15 "These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

Silver Threads

The Church and the World

The Church and the World walked far apart
On the changing shore of time;
The World was singing a giddy song,
And the Church a hymn sublime.

"Come give me your hand," cried the merry World,
"And walk with me this way,"
But the good Church hid her snowy hand,
And solemnly answered, "Nay,"

"I will not give thee my hand at all
And I will not walk with you;
Your way is the way of eternal death
And your words are all untrue."

"Nay, walk with me but a little space,"
Said the World with a kindly air;
"The road I walk is a pleasant road,
And the sun shines always there,"

"Your way is narrow and thorny and rough
While mine is flowery and smooth;
Your lot is sad with reproach and toil,
But in circles of joy, I move."

"My way, you can see, is a broad, fair one,
And my gate is high and wide;
There is room enough for you and for me,
To travel side by side."

Half shyly, the Church approached the World,
And gave him her hand of snow;
And the false World grasped it and walked along,
Saying in accents low:

"Your dress is too simple to please my taste,
I have gold and pearls to wear;
Rich velvets and silks for your graceful form
And diamonds to deck your hair."

The Church looked down on her plain white robes,
And then at the dazzling World,
And blushed as she saw his handsome lip
With a smile contemptuous, curled.

"I will change my dress for a costlier one,"
Said the Church with a smile of grace;
Then her pure white garments drifted away,
And the World gave in their place

Satins and silks and sealskins rare
And roses and gems and pearls;

And over her forehead fell her bright hair;
Crisped in a thousand curls.

"Your house is too plain," said the proud old World,
"I'll build you one like mine,
With kitchen for feasting and parlor for play,
And furniture never so fine."

So he built her a costly and beautiful house--
Splendid it was to behold;
Her sons and her daughters met frequently there,
Shining in purple and gold.

And fair and festival--frolics untold,
Were held in the place of prayer.
And maidens, bewitching as sirens of old,
With worldly graces rare,

Invented the very cunningest tricks
Untrammelled by Gospel or Laws,
To beguile and amuse and win from the World
Some help for the "righteous cause."

An Angel of mercy flew over the Church,
And whispered, "I know thy sin,"
Then the Church looked sad and anxiously longed
To gather the children in;

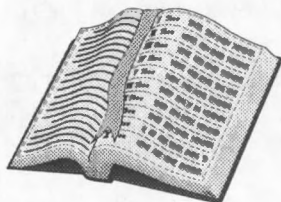
But some were off at the midnight ball,
And some at the euchre or play;
And some were drinking in gay saloons,
As she quietly went her way.

Then the sly World gallantly said to her,
"Your children mean no harm,
Merely indulging in innocent sports";
So she leaned on his proffered arm,

And smiled and chatted and gathered flowers,
As she walked along with the World;
While millions and millions of precious souls
To the horrible pit were hurled!

"Your preachers are all too old and plain,"
Said the gay World with a sneer;
"They frighten my children with dreadful tales,
Which I do not like them to hear."

"They talk of judgment, a coming Lord,
And horrors of endless night;
They warn of a place that should not be
Mentioned to ears polite!"



Silver Threads

"I will send you some of a better stamp,
Modern and brilliant and fast;
Who will show how men may live as they list
And go to Heaven at last."

"The Father is merciful, great and good,
Loving and tender and kind;
Do you think He would take one child to Heaven
and leave another behind?"

"Go train your teachers up to the times,
Adopt the stylish way;
We all want entertainment fine,
And only that will pay."

So she called for pleasing and gay divines,
Gifted and great and learned,
And the plain old men that preached the cross
Were out of their pulpits turned.

Then Mammon came and supported the Church
Renting a prominent pew;
And preaching and singing a floral display,
Proclaimed a period new.

"You give too much to the poor," said the World,
"Far more than you ought to do;
Though the poor need shelter, food and clothes,
Why need it trouble you?"

"And afar to the heathen in foreign lands
Your thoughts need never roam;
The Father of mercies will care for them,
Let Charity begin at home."

"Go take your money and buy rich robes,
And horses and carriages fine;
And pearls and jewels and dainty food,
And the rarest and costliest wine."

"My children they dote on all such things,
And if you their love would win,
You must do as they do and walk in the ways
That they are walking in."

Then the Church her purse-strings tightly held,
And gracefully lowered her head,
And simpered, "I've given too much away,
I will do so, sir, as you said."

So the poor were turned from her door in scorn,
And she heard not the orphans' cry,
And she drew her beautiful robes aside
As the widows went weeping by.

Her mission treasures beggarly pled,
And Jesus' commands were in vain;
While half of the millions for whom He died
Had never heard His name.

And they of the Church and they of the World,
Walked closely hand and heart
And none but the Master who knoweth all,
Could tell the two apart.

Then the Church sat down at her ease and said,
"I am rich and in goods increased;
I have need of nothing and naught to do,
But to laugh and dance and feast."

And the sly World heard her and laughed within
And mockingly said aside,
"The Church has fallen, the beautiful Church,
And her shame is her boast and pride."

Thus her witnessing power, alas! was lost,
And the perilous times came in;
The times of the end, so often foretold,
Of form and pleasure and sin.

Then the angel drew near the mercy seat,
and whispered in sighs her name;
And the saints their anthems of rapture hushed
And covered their heads with shame.

And a voice came down from the hush of Heaven,
From Him that sat on the throne;
"I know thy works and what thou hast said,
And how thou hast not known"

"That thou are poor, and naked and blind,
With pride and ruin enthralled,
The expectant bride of a heavenly Groom
Now the harlot of the World!"

"Thou hast ceased to watch for that blessed hope,
And hast fallen from zeal and grace;
So now, alas! I must
cast thee out,
And blot thy name
from its place."



Silver Threads

Free Water

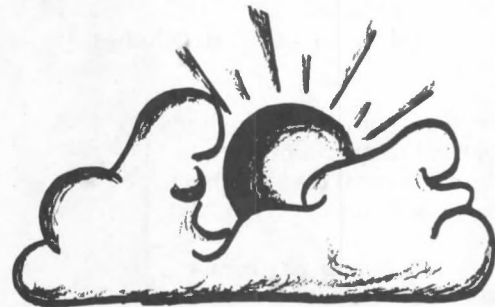
While working in my garden,
When plants are very dry,
I seek by man's contrivance
The moisture to supply.
Perchance by human efforts
Some water is supplied,
The space that man can water
Is neither large nor wide.

When we have cares engrossing
It takes much precious time
To use the hose in watering;
It throws us out of line.
The water from the hydrant
Joined to the main supply
We think about conserving
As days are hot and dry.

The water from the storage
Is not given to us free;
By the reading on the meter
We must pay the proper fee.
If He who governs nature
Does not charge for blessings sent,
Should we not at least be grateful,
Filled with love and kind intent?

Now have you ever pondered
How wonderful, -- the rain!
It falls to earth in volumes
And waters hill and plain.
The reservoirs of water
Held in the clouds so high,
We mortals can not measure,
Nor fathom the supply.

The Father's store is bounteous,
And He provides for all;
For man and beasts and flowers,
He causes rain to fall.
Now man by human wisdom
Does wonders, we agree!
But God gives rain in volume,
And what is more, it's free.



Sincerity

Dear ones, do we appreciate
The privilege to congregate
With brothers, sisters, friends of truth,
Up until now, since days of youth?

Or, do we try excuse to find
To not meet with like faith and mind?
Would we instead our own ways go,
Not to our brethren true love show?

If this indeed is our true state,
Then how would we in God's Word rate,

When we're reminded of therein
Lukewarmness will not Heaven win?

So when we greet with kiss of love
God sees our heart from Heav'n above.
He knows of our sincerity
Or, if we just menpleasers be.

Let's then united onward go
This way that Jesus us did show,
Bound heart to heart and hand in hand
Up to that glorious Heav'nly Land!

"GODLY MOTHERS HAVE INFLUENCE"

Sermon by Bro. Ronald E. Joos

Proverbs 31:10-31 and Mark 7:1-31

Truly, dear ones, God has been near us already, as we could read there in the Old Testament of the virtues that a Christian mother should have. As we did open this Word to the New Testament, we have here before us the verse that contains therein, "Honour thy father and thy mother." (Mark 7:10).

Yes, first of all, we honor God. We honor His Son, Jesus Christ, the one who brought the plan of salvation upon this earth; the one who made that plan of salvation available unto mankind.

Then we honor those who brought us into this world--our father and our mother. We honor those who cared for us as babes, those who brought us to God's house of worship, those who taught us from this Holy Word. How often, as we grow older and as we go upon life's pathway day by day, do we think back to the days of our childhood...the days of our youth?

Yes, there was a time in our life when we wanted to cast off the things which we had been taught. The devil came forth in our lives and he wanted us to try to put into our minds that we wanted to leave behind what we had been taught as children.

But thanks be to our Heavenly Father, and thanks be to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus, that, yes, they brought back into our hearts and minds those teachings. They impressed upon our hearts those teachings from this Word.

Yes, as we grow older these thoughts become more dear by realizing that we have been given the privilege to have Christian fathers and Christian mothers.

It is so easy for us to look out

into the world to see the deterioration of the family, and to see the deterioration of the morals around us. We ask ourselves, "What is happening?" But, dear ones, rather than ask what is happening, it should impress upon each of us more and more the duties we have...the duties that we as Christian people have.

It has been handed to us. The responsibilities now are upon us. Those of us who are parents, and those of us who are raising children in this day and time, it is upon us to carry on.

Yes, this is Mother's Day and we should speak probably more directly to the mothers, to those who bring those dear children into this world. Maybe you care for those dear children a little more when they are in those young and tender years. Yes, it is important! We are not saying that it is all up to the mothers because the fathers must be there also.

We want to speak to the dear mothers in this morning hour to encourage them onward and forward to take this Word in hand...to read in His Word and to truly pass that Word on. Pass it on, dear mothers, as you have been taught and you have been given the privilege, you must carry it out.

We speak again of those mothers out in the world. Do we look at them with criticism? No. We look at them and feel sorry for them. They were not given these teachings. They did not have it handed down, many of them. Yes, I am sure there are some out there that were taught in the right way and had forsaken it. Those, likewise, we feel sorry for because there was something that hap-

pened there and that communication was broken between them and their God.

But for those of us who are in the household of faith, those dear Christian mothers, hold that banner high. Stand up for what you have been taught. Stand up for what the teachings are in this Holy Word. You are going to be rewarded on this earth and in Heaven above. The reward is going to be yours, and the joys are going to be yours.

Any example that comes forth, the words that are spoken, the kindness that is shown to those dear little ones, the love that is shown there is going to spring forth day by day. As those little ones grow to adulthood, it is going to then be passed on to them.

But your job and your duties are not yet fulfilled until Jesus comes to call you Home. Yes, for the mothers here that have raised their children and they now have grandchildren, the duties are still there. But yet you can look back and you can see the rewards and joys of your efforts as your children grow to the age of accountability, or have grown and are now passing it on to their own children.

Isn't it beautiful the way God has set it up and the way God has ordained it? Yes, the world today is trying to change that. That is why it is so important that we stay so close to these teachings by realizing what we have been given. It would be easy to let that old devil come in and cause us to fail and fall short and to cast off these teachings. It takes an extra effort and it takes prayer and it takes meditation upon God's Word. But the rewards are great, if we are willing to spend the time and to

Continued next page...

Sermon continued...

take the time to apply those teachings to our lives.

Yes, as we speak to the mothers, we speak to the fathers also. It is important for each of us to carry onward and forward.

I want to read again from the twenty-fifth verse in Proverbs thirty-one, "Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness." (Proverbs 31:25-27). Such important teachings! Strength and honour are her clothing and she shall rejoice in time to come. Strength and honour! Where does that strength and honour come from? From God. As we have said, there is going to be a rejoicing.

"She openeth her mouth with wisdom..." Where does the wisdom come from? Not of man, but of God. "...and in her tongue is the law of kindness." (Proverbs 31:26). So very important. So very, very important in the life of a Christian mother. Kindness.

Those little ones are going to look up and they look there for an example. When they see that kindness, whether it is in an expression or whether it is in words or whether it is in our deeds and our actions, they are going to see it. It is going to be a reflection to them...a reflection from Jesus Christ through the dear mothers to those dear children.

"She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness." (Proverbs 31:27). Is that a problem in this day and time, dear ones? Staying there at home where the children are and being there when the children are needing a parent, when the children are needing someone to look up to, someone to talk to, to get encouragement upon life's

pathway. She looketh well to the ways of her household.

Then it speaks of idleness, "...eateth not the bread of idleness." (Proverbs 31:27). Maybe another problem area in this day and time is idleness. We have many conveniences and many comforts in this life. God has blessed us abundantly in this manner. What do we do with our time? Are we too busy going here and going there enjoying the pleasures of this life? Do we forsake the needs of those dear children?

"Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her." (Proverbs 31:28). Her children arise up, and call her blessed. Now for those of us who are children, those of us who still have our mothers with us, those of us who have grown to adulthood, and I think we speak to each one here in this morning hour, who yet have our mothers with us in this life, do we give honor to our mothers? Do we give that Godly honor to our mothers? Do we encourage them, we as children, encourage our mothers?

Those who have gone on before and have done the work that God has asked them to do, do we sufficiently honor our mothers?

We should day by day, whenever we see them, whenever we are around them, whenever we visit with them, let us show forth those Christian virtues in our life.

Let us thank our dear mothers. Let us encourage them upon life's pathway. They have days, also, when they might become burdened or downcast for one reason or another. That is when it is the duty of the children to lift them up...to encourage them onward and forward...to strengthen them through Jesus.

"...her husband also, and he praiseth her." (Proverbs 31:28). Now it is time we speak to the

husbands...those of us who have dear wives, Christian wives...who labor so diligently for our Lord and for our children. Do we give due recognition to our wives? Or are there days when we expect more out of them than what feasibly they are able to give? When they put in a hard day with the children or when they put in a hard day in the home working, laboring for our needs and for the needs of our children, do we give proper credit where the credit is due?

Do we praise our God that He has given us a wife to mother our children, to care for them, and to look after them? Or do we just take it for granted? Let us give much thought to this. Let us take this thought with us and let us apply it more fully. I think each of us in our own life take too much for granted in this day and time.

If we can look at these blessings that God has given us and we can realize where these blessings come from, we can be thankful and we can use those blessings according to God's will.

"Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all. Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised." (Proverbs 31:29-30). How beautiful that verse is...verse thirty! "Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain." Let us remember that!

"But a woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised." (Proverbs 31:30). A woman that feareth the Lord, that is when the praise is going to come in...the praise from God and His precious Son and the praise from the Christian people around you. That praise is not going to come to cause pride, but that praise is going to come to cause encouragement and strengthening of the spirit to carry on what we have

Silver Threads

Lord Teach Me

Lord teach me, is my humble plea,
To live a better life,
By praying more on bended knee,
And not cause so much strife.

Lord teach me, I do simply ask,
To smile all the day.
And do the world a helping task,
No matter what they say.

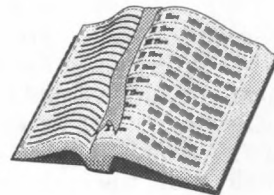
Lord teach me, for I want to learn,
To be a better light.
And for the lost, have more concern,
To help them from their night.

Lord teach me, if Thou only can,
To listen to Thy word.
And learn more of salvation's plan,
Then live what I have heard.

Lord teach me, I still need to know,
To be Thy closest friend.
And give Thee back what I do owe,
My life until the end.

Lord, I'm asking Thee to teach me,
And if Thou wonders why?
It's so that I can live with Thee,
Forever, by and by.

*Submitted by a brother from the Latty, OH
congregation*



been given.

"Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates." (Proverbs 31:31). Let her own works praise her in the gates. So important is her own works. That speaks very loud and clear if we give that the proper thought. God has given us the ability and He has given us the blessings. Are we going to apply that in a proper manner? Are we going to be directed from the Holy Spirit in raising our children?

Dear mothers, it is so important

in this day and time in which we live that you realize the full extent of your duties and your obligations. First to God, then to your dear children. It has been given to you. It has been handed to you freely from Heaven, and it is up to you to pass it on.

Do not let it go by the wayside just because of the day and time we live in, but to pass it on to those dear children with the help of your helpmate and with the help of our Almighty God and with the directions from our Lord and Saviour, Jesus.

May each of us remember that this day is the Lord's Day and Mother's Day. May each of us remember our mothers to honor them. May each mother here remember their duties and their obligations in the sight of God and Jesus.

As we read there in the Book of Mark, time does not allow us to spend much time there. But let us remember that verse, "Honour thy father and thy mother." (Mark 7:10).





REMEMBERING

Our Spiritual Heritage

During the more than a century and a half of our church's existence, our spiritual leaders have always wisely and unmistakably focused major attention on the Lord Jesus Christ. To its credit, the church has not put any primary focus on Samuel H. Froehlich, the man God raised up to lead a spiritual revival, and to subsequently re-establish a church on the foundation of Scriptures.

Brother Froehlich, like all of us, was human. He, like us, had his strengths and weaknesses. To the extent that he became humble and surrendered before God, he was able to overcome human frailty and to eventually fulfill the will of God. Our objective in "Remembering" has been to focus on what God did through Brother Froehlich, rather than on what he personally was able to "accomplish".

Brother Froehlich was born on July 4, 1803, in Brugg, Switzerland to Samuel Heinrich and Gottlieben Berger Froehlich. He was the sixth and youngest child of this union. In following a family tradition of that era, he was chosen by his parents to study for the ministry.

During the years of preaching and founding churches, he received no salary for his work. This was the case during his 25 years or so of active ministry. Rather, he lived frugally off the annual stipends from his wife's family who were above moderate means. This allowed him to devote full time to the establishment and nurturing of congregations. He wrote and traveled widely.

His parents, Samuel and Gottlieben, were bitterly opposed to their son's leaving the state church. Also, his five siblings opposed his views, although later his sister, Catherine, joined his group.

Samuel Froehlich was married to Susette Brunschweiler on August 26,

1836. She was his faithful wife of 20 years until he passed away in 1857; and she willingly endured all the joys and often severe sorrows associated with his church work.

How they met is an interesting story. One evening after dark about a dozen believers gathered quietly on the shore of a lake in Switzerland in the Canton Aargau. They met in secret to avoid state authorities. Singing, prayer and a sermon by Brother Froehlich followed. During the prayer two young women who were out for an evening walk heard him. They stopped and peered at the group from behind some bushes.

Froehlich then began to speak about the Holy Spirit and the believer's mission here on earth. One of the young girls, Susette Brunschweiler, was deeply touched by the mellow, earnest tone of his voice, and the stirring message of his words. Eventually, Samuel Froehlich met her family and explained his views. As a result of his spiritual influence, Susette, her elder brothers and sisters, and several people in her parents' factory, were converted to the new faith.

Susette Brunschweiler was born in 1803 in Hauptwil, the daughter of Johann Joachim Brunschweiler, a well-to-do factory owner. The union of Samuel and Susette Froehlich bore three children. Theophanie, the first-born, died on July 3, 1841, at age 2 1/2. Her father, having been deported to France, was not permitted to attend her funeral—a grievous sorrow for the family. Eugenie Salome was born on January 12, 1840, and died in 1917. She never married. A son, Samuel Gershom, was born on April 12, 1842. He had 21 children, from two successive wives.

One of Samuel Froehlich's biggest trials was the state's failure to initially

recognize his marriage to Susette Brunschweiler despite their being married by church ministers in the Evangelical Baptist Church (our faith's name in Switzerland). The state would not recognize any marriage solemnized outside the state church. Because Samuel Froehlich was already a marked man for having formed a new church denomination, the state harassed him unmercifully because his wedding took place outside the realm of the state church. He and his wife suffered terribly for it.

At one point Froehlich was deported, and his children placed in an orphanage. State authorities were harsh and abusive. Karoly Eotvos, in *The Nazarenes*, describes this tragic incident of the Froehlich family being dispersed:

"The officials of the state went to his house. Froehlich was given an hour to make preparation for his exile. Then he was seized, and pushed out of the house. Two strong prison guards, one on each side of him, guided him as far as the frontier in the direction of Strasbourg.

His wife and children were weeping beside him. One of them was still a babe in arms just having a sound sleep on her mother's breast. They simply wrenched the baby off her breast and carried all the children away as if they had been motherless and fatherless."

Froehlich's marriage, while always valid in the eyes of God, was finally sanctioned at the Strasbourg City Hall under the Napoleonic Code of Law.

By Bro. Perry A. Klopfenstein

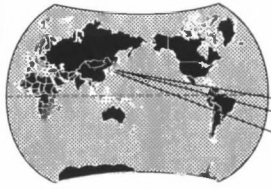
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The Importance of Heritage

The Light Of Hope

From Across The Ocean

希望の光



"The Selfishness of Selflessness"

Elder Bro. Willis Ehnle, Shioda, Japan

Before I was baptized, my Elder, Brother Schupert, talked to me about being dead to sin. I remember him saying that, in the physical sense, it is not good to bury someone while that person is still alive, and likewise, in the spiritual sense, it is not good to bury a person in the waters of baptism until that former person is dead. Romans 6:4 reads, "Therefore, we are buried with him (Christ) by baptism into death."

I understand that this death is to render us dead to sin and dead to self. One of the ministers in my Princeville church at that time told me that "I" should no longer be the center of my life but that "Christ" was to become the center of my life. This translates into selflessness. What the child of God wants and thinks is no longer to be the criteria for living. Bringing glory to God is to be the criteria; we are out of the picture. Anything is to be all right with us so long as it is not against the Bible, nor

against God, Christ, or the Holy Spirit.

This involves a struggle for the children of God because we are still in the body. Nevertheless, we may reason that we must make the sacrifice in order to please God; give up this pleasure and that pleasure, pray and read the Bible every day, as well as attend all meetings at our church, in order to be loyal and to please God.

So far, our theology is intact, the cost is great but it's worth it. Jesus did teach us to count the cost. Luke 14:28 reads "For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first and counteth the cost...?" He didn't want anyone to start serving Him and then quit.

In spite of all this talk about sacrifice and giving up things in order to serve the true Creator God, in reviewing my own life I get the feeling that, in my repentance and conversion, I was motivated by selfishness to repent and to try to get rid of self and to

be dead to sin. I wanted to go to Heaven instead of to Hell and although that brings glory to God, my real concern was not God's glory but my own situation after this earthly life is ended.

Jesus also taught, "He that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." (Matthew 10:39). This teaching that a child of God should lose his or her life for Jesus' sake certainly includes a state of selflessness where we don't throw our weight around about what we think or want. Once again, we must be out of the picture except to say that we want God's will to be done, and if necessary, would die a physical death for that purpose.

I didn't know it but I'm beginning to realize that if we, by God's grace, can attain to a state of selflessness, the intangible and tangible benefits are so great that we will probably begin to feel guilty and selfish about accepting it all.

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