For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever.

– 1 Peter 1:24-25
To Our Readers

To our esteemed brothers, sisters and friends throughout the land, thanks for many encouraging words and helpful suggestions you sent us about the new Silver Lining design. (At the time of this writing, comments are still coming in, so we have not had time to evaluate them all.)

We appreciate your continued input and involvement as we strive to make this publication an even greater benefit to the brotherhood.

Cover Photos Needed

In this issue, we are introducing another way you can directly help. If you have a high resolution digital photograph that you think might look good on the front or back cover of a future Silver Lining, please send it to photos@acsilverlining.org for consideration. When you do, please indicate where the photo was taken and what it is depicting. If you have a Bible verse or hymn stanza in mind that fits the photo, please let us know that as well.

We hope you enjoy this issue. May the grace and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

– Silver Lining Counseling Elders

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Front cover: rural Eureka, IL. Back cover: rural Washburn, IL.
The Faithful Church has a Heart for the Lost

“He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.” (Matthew 12:30)

Who is the Faithful Church? What is meant by the term, “heart”? Who are the lost?

According to the Word, the faithful are those who continue in an endeavor through both good times and difficult times. Jesus encouraged His disciples by letting them know that they were, “they which have continued with me in my temptations.” (Luke 22:28) “Continuing with Jesus” means that we consistently co-operate with Him in His obedience to the Father. It was in this obedience that Jesus overcame the world. John tells us, “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.” (1 John 5:3-4). We understand that obedience to the Lord’s commandments is the essence of the Faithful Church.

The Lord taught His disciples that, “a good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.” (Matthew 12:35) In contrast, He condemned the unbelieving of His people saying, “For this people’s heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.” (Matthew 13:15) From these teachings of Jesus, we understand that the heart is the seat of truth in our being – it indicates who we really are. Moreover, Jesus clearly teaches that actions are indicators of what is in the heart. The word translated as “lost” in the New Testament carries a much greater significance than a lost set of keys or some other object. It is steeped in a sense of perishing and death similar to how a doctor might feel that he has “lost” a patient who died despite the physician’s best effort. It is a condition that seems incurable. The greatness of God is that He is able to bring life out of death. Even when we might consider someone to be hopelessly lost, Jesus offers life. The parable of the prodigal son is just one example that Jesus used to communicate this to His disciples. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry. (Luke 15:24)

The very purpose of Jesus coming to this world is to seek and save the lost. For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost. (Luke 19:10)

It seems self-evident that the purpose of Jesus ought to be the purpose of the church. However, like so much of life in the spirit, fulfilling this purpose is possible only when it comes from the heart. In fact, according to the words of Jesus, the heart will reveal itself - bringing forth limitless charity from a good heart and horrifying indifference from an evil heart. A heart that has not been transformed by Jesus cannot care about the perishing, and in stark contrast, a heart that has been reborn through Jesus cannot be indifferent.

This concept of indifference is the heart of Jesus’ message to the Pharisees. As they witnessed Him delivering men, women, and children from the power of evil spirits, they accused Jesus of doing so by the power of Beelzebub (Satan). The profound indifference they exhibited toward those who had been delivered from bondage is astonishing. As eyewitnesses of humanly impossible miracles, they could only see the threat to their way of life and were uncaring and indifferent to the shattered chains of wickedness. Perhaps that is why Jesus’ reply to them was, “He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.” (Matthew 12:30)

Jesus did not condemn those who were actively opposing all that was good - perhaps because it is obvious

— Continued on pg. 56
I bring you the greetings of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior and our Shepherd. I’m thankful, as we heard, that we can meet the Father here. As we came in a little bit before some of you, in the hall many of you assured us you were praying. I appreciate that so very much. As the people just kept coming in, it warms our hearts that there is an interest in this great gospel message of grace and salvation. The people are willing to come together with a common interest that we’d like to go to heaven, and we’d like to be an encouragement one to another to that end. So may God bless you for your prayers and your desire of heart.

I want to assure everybody I have no agenda today except we love the Lord, and we’ll just see what He has for us as we open the Word and trust in Him. I’ll just have to tell you a little bit as we speak of trusting in the Lord. It’s been a long time now since I was put in the ministry back in 1977. My way of making a living had been a school teacher. At one point that summer, I told my mom, “You know, Mom, it just seems like that song, ‘Tis so Sweet to Trust in Jesus (Hymns of Zion #147) is written wrong.” I really knew it wasn’t, of course, but we were supposed to make lesson plans, come prepared and so forth. You know how it says they that wait on the Lord shall be renewed in strength (Isaiah 40:31). We found over the years about the faithfulness of God, and I know you’ve experienced that too.

What do we make of these words? There’s a God up in heaven. He looks down upon this gathering and upon all the gatherings of people who are gathered together in His name. He knows our hearts. He knows our thoughts. He knows our makeup. We could extend that to the way the hymn writer said it. He said: Jesus knows our sorrows. He knows our every care. He knows our deep contrition. He hears our burdened prayer. Tenderly He leads us in His own sweet way out into the glories of a brighter day. (Jesus Knows Thy Sorrow, Hymns of Zion #74). And to that we look forward to. He knows about our troubles. He knows about those things that burden our hearts. He knows about all those misunderstandings that come between us. He knows about the interpretations that we have concerning the faith, concerning the walk of life which a Christian should have. He knows all about the devil.

My thoughts go back now to a little song that we used to hear as children. It says: My mommy told me something that a little boy should know. It’s all about the devil, and I’ve learned to hate him so. She said he causes trouble when he enters into the room, and so on. That’s about what I remember of it. God has called us, and He has taken us into His tender loving arms. He wants us as His children. He wants us to be blessed. He counsels us, and He teaches us how we can be blessed.

We read in the Old Testament about the reign of King Hezekiah. There’s just a tremendous hope that comes as we consider Hezekiah. We read about kings. It just comes right down to whether they took the strength of God and did that which was right or whether they followed the course of nature and did that which is evil in the sight of the Lord.

We can talk about all kinds of fuzzy things, gray areas. We know there are a lot of circumstances in life. We know that we serve an understanding God who knows about our hearts and knows what motivates us and makes us move. He knows where our desires are. He knows what’s important to us, and He listens to our conversations. He listens to what our heart is full of and what comes out of our mouths.

When Hezekiah was twenty-five years old, it was his turn to be the king. There were many people in that kingdom who would not be the king. By far the most of them would not be, but it was up to Hezekiah to do that job. He reigned a while. It tells us here personal things about his mother – things that don’t mean so much to
us because we didn’t know His mom. We do know our mother, and we know our dad. We know about this heritage of faith, and what people have invested for us.

Some have been influenced for gain. I read just not too long about a young man who was a senior in high school. His dad was tremendously interested in basketball. He did all those things: put a basketball in this boy’s hands at a very, very young age. He helped to coach him. He sent him to camps all across the country and so forth. That must have been a treasure with them. That’s the way the fruit seemed to be. We thought about these things – as it says in 1 Corinthians 13, when I was a child, I thought as a child, I did as a child, but by the grace of God, it says when I became a man, I put away childish things. There were nobler things.

I remember as a high school student there were all kinds of peer pressure about things that seemed to be so important. There were people that were particularly good students – I wasn’t that. There were people that were particularly good athletics – I wasn’t that. There were people that were particularly good with how things work, how they could repair things, keep them running, and so forth – I wasn’t good at that. There were probably thoughts of envy or jealously or whatever and a desire to be more acceptable.

That probably was the beginning of the work of the Holy Spirit, no doubt. We’ll certainly give God the credit we desire to. It came to me in just a little way. I don’t remember the words, but something like this thought was planted in my heart: you probably have a much better opportunity to go to heaven than some of these people do. I didn’t start repenting at that time, but God was beginning to work His work in me. It was a comfort. These things that were important to my parents and those things that were important to my grandparents could someday be shared with me, and I took comfort in that.

We’re so thankful that there are many people who are born into a family where God is important, where God is loved, where God is a priority, where they put their faith in Him in good times and hard times. We’re also so very thankful for those people who have a different background and somewhere along the way they become acquainted with this good God of ours, Almighty and Divine. They, too, have this opportunity to come at the first hour of the day or sometime later on and take this opportunity to become a child of God. We have a couple sisters back home who tell us from time to time they wish they would have been raised Apostolic. They probably think they missed out on something, but just the privilege – ’tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, just to take Him at His word, to have His nearness and His presence, and then to have the privilege to be associated with His people.

In this discussion about what we put our confidence in, we could put our confidence in that I have this set of parents or whatever it is. God in His Word gives us the assurance that we must individually have a faith in God through the Lord Jesus Christ. He tells us we shouldn’t be putting our faith in how often or what time we wash our hands or that kind of thing. He says these things you should have done, but not let the other things undone, the nobler things of justice and mercy and so forth (St. Matthew 23:23).

There’s discussion about that, and it comes to a point in one of Paul’s writings when they began to wonder, well then, what advantage does the Jew have? (Romans 3:1) What advantage is it to have the background of and a witness of those around who are doing what is right in the sight of God? We’re assured that we should not cast the benefits of God away. He says, much in every way, for unto them are committed the oracles of God (Romans 3:2) – the teachings of God, how God works, how God helps people, how God helps people when they are in their Sunday clothes, and how God helps then when they are in their work clothes. God helps them when they are in the valleys, and God helps them when they are on a mountain. Then we come back to Jesus knows our sorrows

— Continued on pg. 54
In every society, people have learned to adapt to the resources available to provide the essential building blocks for everyday life. Inadequate access to the basics of nutrition, water, clothing, and shelter limit the possibilities of fruitful and productive living.

Fortunately for many of us, these essentials of life have been adequate. In stark contrast, Eastern European Nazarean brethren have in the past often faced dire needs as the ravages of war, Communism, and failed economies have swept over them. Even today, many elderly brethren, those destitute and infirm, continue to struggle with basic necessities. As World Relief programs provide assistance and funding, many Nazareans are also responding to opportunities to serve their fellow brethren.

**Water of life**

For many Nazarean brethren in rural villages in Ukraine and Romania, indoor plumbing is slowly replacing the rope-and-bucket shallow well as a water source. For many others, however, this ancient technology remains the only source of cold, sweet water.

When Sis. Stefania in her mid-80’s, living in the foothills of southwest Ukraine, could no longer climb the hill from her home to the communal well at the village crossroads to carry water back home, fellow brethren used assistance funding to construct a well near her home. From her own lips, “Words cannot express my gratitude toward those who have helped make this possible. This is the first time in my life to have water so close to home. Thanks be to God and you for this great deed of love toward me.”

This brings to mind Christ’s reminder to the woman at the well in Samaria that they who partake of His water of life will never thirst again, but that water will spring up within them into everlasting life.

**Packaged provisions**

As the Nazarean church population in Romania age and dwindle, the request in the Lord’s prayer, “Give us this day our daily bread...” takes on more specific meaning. In younger days of better health, they managed large garden plots, small farms, and animal projects for meat and dairy products. Timeless methods of preservation and storage allowed them to be largely self-sufficient.

Today, however, many faithful brethren in their later years depend heavily upon monthly food packages assembled by believers in Romania. The food packages contain staples such as flour, noodles, sugar, oil, canned goods, and basic hygiene items. These are often purchased in quantity at discount prices, while others are donated by relief agencies across Europe. On a monthly basis, Romanian brethren assemble and deliver packages to small congregations based upon needs determined by local church leadership. The food package program is funded by World Relief.

**Clothed with humility**

Among our Nazarean brethren in Ukraine, this scriptural directive takes on personal dimensions as sisters from the Ostrita congregation volunteer their time and talents toward sewing clothing tailor-made for individuals and families. Despite a more balanced, growing church population in Ukraine, the need for affordable clothing is...
Located on the Caribbean coast is the tropical country of Jamaica, where tourists flock to the beaches and open air markets. Away from the exclusive resorts is a different and stark reality… where the majority of Jamaicans, in extreme poverty, struggle to live, go to school, and feed their families.

History
In the late 1970’s, brothers from the Apostolic Christian Church traveled to Jamaica and witnessed the need for spiritual and material assistance, such as school and medical supplies and basic food staples. Upon returning to the U.S., these brothers began collecting and shipping supplies using paper barrels. These shipments continued until the late 1980’s, when a sea container was filled with material aid and shipped each year. Presently, World Relief ships two sea containers from the Goodfield Distribution Center, one in the Spring and one in the Fall, to aid a hospital, several children’s homes, infirmaries and an elementary school.

The message of salvation
In addition to the material aid sent in each container, World Relief supplies Egermeir’s Bible Story Books, large print Bibles, and pocket New Testaments. These books have been requested by church leaders in the Mile Gully area to distribute to the surrounding communities as they continue to grow and flourish in their love for God. World Relief also distributes large print Bibles to the Trelawny, Manchester, and St. James infirmaries (below).

Infirmaries
An infirmary in Jamaica is a home where the elderly and mentally handicapped individuals reside. Many of the residents do not have families able or willing to help provide them with care and support. Government funding is limited and barely covers basic food and medical care. Sometimes there is not enough for either. Sea containers sent from World Relief provide rice, dried red beans, rice pilaf, and cooking oil, which are the essential ingredients of a typical meal.

Laundry soap, bleach, and cleaning supplies are also sent in bulk, allowing the caretakers of these homes to use the government funds on other essentials. Providing clean bedding and clothing for approximately 60-100 residents is an ongoing battle due to the lack of reliable electricity and hot water.

Water for sterilizing sheets and soiled clothing is heated in a large barrel over an open fire, and the clothes and bedding are run through the washing machine, which is only supplied with cold water for a final rinse. Several washing machines have been sent in the last containers, but because of the continual use, the requests for new machines are ongoing.

During the annual visits with the caretakers and staff at the infirmaries, the WR Jamaica Committee has been touched by the tremendous faith shown by their trust that the Lord will provide. In addition, when the brethren at the Goodfield Distribution Center are searching for items to fill a specific need, for example baby diapers, adult diapers, bleach, toilet paper, paper towels, etc., a truckload is donated, and the items are available to be

— Continued on pg. 57
Discernment in Using Technology

Part one in a series of six

When considering technology use, Christ’s teaching in Matthew 10:16 is profound: “Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves.” We encourage each one to use careful discernment regarding the need for and use of the Internet or other communication technologies. While the Internet can be both useful and helpful, totally inappropriate material also can be accessed as well. If good judgment and restraint are not exercised, temptations to access evil materials could lead to spiritual shipwreck. Ephesians 5:8-13 provides us with excellent guidance on the discernment of these matters: “For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them. For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret. But all things that are reproved are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light.”

Where sound reasoning exists for the use of the Internet or other technology, this use should always be treated with prayerful discretion and moderation. All of the information that is available on the Internet is not created equally. Some of it is very accurate and helpful, while other materials range from being merely inaccurate to utterly deceptive. We are naïve to believe that because something is available online, it is true and accurate. Frankly, anybody can publish anything they want on the Internet; true or false, good or evil.

Proper discernment needs to be applied to using Internet filtering software. If the filtering parameters are set too tightly, nothing will be allowed through, even websites that are clearly harmless. However, if the filtering parameters are set too broadly, everything, even including what is impure, will be allowed to appear. Using biblical principles and spiritual discernment will help you filter and sort out information that is good from that which is harmful and needs to be rejected.

Below, and in the remaining articles in this series, are some principles to consider when evaluating information on the Internet. Obviously, some sites carry very low risk (such as checking your local weather forecast at www.weather.com); however, we must not become lax or careless when “surfing” the web. One can go from harmless and helpful sites to sinful and deceptive sites in a matter of just a few mouse clicks.

Discernment Principle #1: Use self-examination in the light of God’s Word to help us gain a proper perspective on our use of technology.

Biblical Foundation:

2 Corinthians 13:5: “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith, prove your own selves…”

1 Corinthians 11:31: “For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.”

The application of this principle might include the following questions:

- Would I view this site if Jesus was sitting right next to me?
- Would I be embarrassed if others knew I was visiting this site because of the site’s questionable nature?
- Is what I am viewing edifying (promoting spiritual growth)?
- Am I allowing impurity into my life?

The whole idea of self-examination encompasses the necessary attributes of accountability, honesty, and humility. Unless we can be humble enough to recognize our own vulnerabilities and weaknesses and be honest enough to admit them, we will likely have difficulty examining ourselves effectively. Of course, self-examination does us little good if we don’t act upon our findings. The Word makes it very clear that we need to prove and judge ourselves with the intent of making the necessary changes in our lives and habits to be conformed to God’s instructions.
When we go through the questions listed, we need to also consider the opposite scenario. For instance, the question asks us if we would view a particular site if Jesus was next to us, but we should also ask ourselves if we would view such a site if we thought no one could see us or would find out. The answer to that question will determine how effective our self-examination has been, and whether we need to work on our self-discipline.

**Discernment Principle #2: Knowing God’s Word and maturing in our walk with Him will give us a better ability to discern.**

**Biblical Foundation:**

*Hebrews 5:12-14:* “For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.”

The application of this principle might include the following questions:

- Am I growing spiritually?
- Am I spending adequate time in the Word of God and in prayer?
- Am I seeking and listening to the Holy Spirit’s guidance?

Once again the concept of self-examination comes through in this principle. Unless we are prepared to look at our own motives and desires honestly, we will likely be unable to accurately answer these questions. Obviously, these questions are very subjective in nature and are so by design. We are called upon to exercise discernment using Scripture as our guide. However, we all have our own perspective of what it means to grow spiritually or how much time in God’s Word is adequate. Nevertheless, the more time we spend in the Word, the more we know and understand it. This will help us to grow and mature in our Christian walk, thereby increasing our ability to discern between good and evil.

Please visit our website at www.accounseling.org/technology for the document “Guidance on Using Technology” and additional information.

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**A Moment**

*That the triumphing of the wicked is short,*

*and the joy of the hypocrite but for a moment? (Job 20:5)*

*The lip of truth shall be established forever,*

*but a lying tongue is but for a moment. (Proverbs 12:19)*

*For his anger endureth but a moment;*  

*in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night,*  

*but joy cometh in the morning. (Psalm 30:5)*

*In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment,*  

*but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee,*  

*saith the LORD thy Redeemer. (Isaiah 54:8)*

*For our light affliction, which is but for a moment,*  

*worketh for us a far more exceeding and*  

*eternal weight of glory. (2 Corinthians 4:17)*

*For ye know neither the day nor the hour*  

*wherein the Son of man cometh. (Matthew 25:13)*
Congregation Updates

Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped
www.achh.org

“Now be strong, saith the Lord; … and work: for I am with you, saith the Lord of hosts: according to the word that I covenanted with you … so my spirit remaineth among you; fear ye not. … In this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts.” Haggai 2:4-9

How encouraging are these promises of old as we trust God to continue to make His presence felt among us and give peace in our homes. As He has done in the past, we trust Him in the future to lead the way as we open more homes and remodel the Oakwood home. When we feel His presence, we are motivated to work and serve according to His purposes.

Our residents go through life changes, such as moves or job changes or loss of loved ones, and we are called to support them and pray for them. Many times we see the Hand of God opening doors and answering prayers in ways beyond human understanding and we are grateful. A staff person said recently, “These people show me how to be more grateful – even if they have a hard time, they smile and sing and show us how to live. I always leave work refreshed and encouraged!”

We celebrated our freedom as Americans with two large gatherings – many Timber Ridge residents watched the fireworks display from outside the north end of their home and the group home residents, staff and families had a “front row” seat from the lawn of Linden Estate. Beautiful summer days have given opportunity for many to enjoy walks, bike rides, outdoor band concerts, camping outings, and day trips to various places in the area.

Gateway Woods Apostolic Christian Children’s Home
Justin & Kirsten Wiegand, Alternate Houseparents

There are some unique things that are revealed when working within the Gateway Woods’ Residential Program. In our time at Gateway, since coming in March a year ago, here are a few of the many things that we have learned:

1. Change really does happen here…

Residents progress through a number of scored phases at Gateway that begin with “acceptance” and end with “making the right choice” and “giving back.” Most residents arrive far from having a giving attitude or getting through entire days without marked disrespect or not cooperating. Yet, most leave doing these things consistently. That may not be a surprise for everyone, but it was to us. We were encouraged to see the positive social and moral growth of many residents. But that is not really what we came for. This leads to our second point.

2. Heart change is up to God…

This was no surprise, but our time here bolstered this truth. We can lead with the Gospel, teach the Gospel, pray the Gospel, but God’s Spirit alone changes hearts. His work does not always look the way we picture it either. Sometimes we may even miss it. But, a repentant heart is known by its fruit over time and praise God He does work. Many do not come to know Him as far as we can see, but some do and ALL hear.

3. We need to keep first things first, and covet your prayers to do so…

There are many pressures and flare-ups to process through while houseparenting, but the main thing is the need to thoroughly communicate the Gospel. We all have wicked hearts and Christ died to redeem and save us from them. Presenting this is the fuel to persevere, and even relish houseparenting.

4. Many of the kids that enter Gateway are from largely unreached and unchurched groups within our cities and towns…

Various counties within the state of Indiana place the majority of kids at Gateway. Most of these kids are from unchurched and unreached subcultures of our society. The gang culture, for example, is not one to magnify Christ. Many residents come from this. Praise God we can partner in ministry to those who have not heard!

5. We have nothing to boast in
personally save Christ and Him crucified…
Sometimes it is good to be reminded, but for the grace of God, we are the same sinner as the kids we are able to work with. Praise God for His marvelous gift.

Please keep Gateway Woods in your prayers. We covet them as we rely on God to bring true heart change through the work at Gateway Woods.

News:
Our 37th Annual Auction is August 3. We are very thankful for all the great donations and wonderful support we receive from all who attended, prayed for, and contributed to this great event for our on-going work with at-risk children. Look for more news in the this issue of The Silver Lining and the next issue of The Gate Post.

We are always sad to see all of our volunteers leave after the Auction is finished. We are so grateful to those that gave their time and talents to help us better serve children and families. We would like to say a special thanks to Bro. Derek Steffen, Bro. Phil Fischer and Sis. Emily Wiegand for serving as our summer staff this year.

We welcomed one new resident this past month, and continue to have a full campus. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve more children and families, but it also is stressful for everyone involved. We are thankful for your prayers, especially for the houseparents and teachers.

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

You are an important advocate to help us spread the word about God’s work at Gateway Woods. Please continue to lift us up in prayer, check our website www.gatewaywoods.org and our Facebook page at facebook.com/gatewaywoods often for updates, and make sure that you are on our mailing list. If you would like be added to our mailing list, please contact us at 888.443.4283 or send an email to info@gatewaywoods.org. Finally, if you would like to receive a monthly email detailing how the work at Gateway Woods is bringing help and healing to those in need, please consider joining our Restoring Hope email list. Check our website or email ross.feller@gatewaywoods.org.

Apostolic Christian Preschool Athens, AL
Susan Koch

July 2013 has come and gone. The weather has been unseasonably cool this month (mid-upper 80’s). The students have been swimming each week and enjoying sprinkler days and picnic lunches once a month. We are excited to see some new students show up at preschool as the school year approaches, but it is also hard to see our graduates leave as they prepare for kindergarten.

The Lord has called a few ladies down to volunteer for a time at the preschool this summer. The purpose of the volunteer program is to acquaint people with the preschool and help us do some maintenance and other tasks that just don’t seem to get done. These ladies were Sis. Heather Mangold (Rockville, CT) and her daughter, Alison; Sis. Jessica Robinson (Bloomington, IL); Sis. Whitney Grimm and Sis. Olivia Baumgartner (Sabetha/Bern, KS); Sis. Kathy Schlatter and Marilyn Brecher (Chicago, IL). Thank you SO much, ladies, for your loving support of the preschool! The volunteers did things like substitute teaching for a classroom, preparing bulletin boards, laminating, coloring, making homemade crayons, and, of course, playing with the students. If you are interested in volunteering at the preschool (anytime), please contact me at acpreschool@att.net or 309.202.4897.
Congregation Updates

Alabama, Athens
Roger and Becky Roberts

For Vacation Bible School, we were once again able to meet the Atlanta congregation for a weekend of blessed fellowship. The theme this year was “Wanted for Christ”. We studied the life of Moses and how he was wanted by God. We likewise are wanted in the service for God. As Moses had to go to the backside of the desert to meet with God, we also have to go to the backside of the desert in our lives to hear God. Sometimes it is willingly and sometimes God takes us there so we can be useful instruments in His service. We were also reminded that VBS stands for Victory Because of Salvation. Ministering to us during this weekend of fellowship were Elder Bro. Jeff (Sis. Lynne) Streitmatter (Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Ryan (Sis. Joy) Hoerr (Princeville, IL).

We appreciate the labors of love that the Indianapolis Bible Class was able to do for our little church. Thank you for the painting, maintenance, and Vacation Bible School that y’all did for the preschool. We are grateful to Bro. Joe Sprunger (Indianapolis, IN) for preaching God’s Word while they were here.

Sis. Corine Thomas is pleased with the birth of a great-grand baby. Aria Gail Lewis was born Brad and Morgan Lewis. We pray that they will raise her to know the Lord.

A guest apartment is available in

the Fellowship Hall across from the church. Reservations can be made by contacting Sis. Susan Koch (309) 202-4897 or Sis. Kalla Knobloch (309) 231-1755.

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

Arizona, Phoenix
Heather Hinrichsen

The summer months in Phoenix tend to be sparse as families take vacations and travel to see family and friends. We pray for safe travels, blessed times and look forward to having a full church again.

We also remember those in our congregation that have asked for prayer: Bro. Howard Maurer (Sis. Eileen), Bob Rebec, Bro. Jerry and Sis. Cathy Emch, Bro. Ed Frautsch, Ruth Finley, Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith Freed, Bro. Kenny Schmidgall, Sis. LouAnn Klopfenstein (Bro. Dave), Dakota Thorpe, Bro. Jim Beres (Sis. Lois), Bro. Jacob Hoerr (Sis. Wanda), Sis. Bertha Miller, Bro. Rudy Bertschi, Bro. Robert Baum (Sis. Christine), and Bro. James and Sis. Gina Emch and family.

Arizona, Prescott
Denise Steidinger

I apologize for not having articles the past several months from Prescott. This article is covering May, June and July.

We are thankful for the ministering brothers who came to preach God’s Word: Bros. Doug Wagenbach (Sis. Lillian, San Diego), Dan Moser (Sis. Anne, Elgin, IL), Seth Gerber (Magdelena), Herb Knochel (Sis. Laurie, Phoenix), Jon Kokanovich (Sis. Nancy, Phoenix), Nate Lehman (Yvonne, Denver), Keith Hinrichsen (Sis. Tammy, Phoenix), Dana Indermuhle (Sis. Joy, Sardis), James Fehr (Sis. Brenda, Tremont) and Ed Strahm (Sis. Ramona, Bern).

We extend a warm welcome to Bro. Jeff and Sis. Carrie Rocke and their children: Kaia and Remington (from Taylor), Sis. Megan Kieser (from Taylor) and Jared and Jenny Haas (from Tremont) who have moved to Prescott at the end of May. They all live on a 10 acre property to start Redemption Hill Ranch, an outreach ministry to provide a safe and positive experience for children and families to learn about the saving hope of Jesus Christ in an authentic western environment.

On June 5, Bro. Stan Schambach was put into the ministry. We continue to lift him and Sis. Norma up in prayer in their new role in our congregation.

VBS this year was held in June with the theme “How Great Thou Art.”

We have had a couple of huge wildfires here recently. The first
one was directly across the road from our house and the ranch property. Several families from our congregation who live to the north were evacuated. The second wildfire was in a smaller town, Yarnell, and Prescott lost 19 firefighters from the Granite Mountain Hot Shots, when the wind turned suddenly and they were unable to escape. Most of these men were in their 20’s with young children. It is a huge and devastating loss, but it has been a great blessing to see our community come together in prayer and service, ministering to the hurting, and helping these families in so many ways. Please pray for their families and people that have lost their homes.

Arizona, Tucson
Lisa Knapp

We completed our Vacation Bible School for 2013. Our theme was Philippians 4:8, “Think on These Things”. We thank each person for their efforts and labors of love in making our 3 days a huge success. A special thanks to Bro. Chris and Sis. Sara Hattan as it was their last official duty of their 3-year term in Sunday School. Thank you for all your hard work!

We are enjoying a little summertime lull, short, but enjoyable nonetheless. Our monsoon storms have started, but are doing more teasing than raining!

California, Altadena

With great joy, we celebrated the marriage of Sis. Suzy Klotzle (Bro. Tom, Sis. Jody, Altadena) to Bro. Ben Dill (Bro. Dewayne, Sis. LaRae, Minneapolis) on June 23, 2013. Our prayers go with this young couple for all good things and that they will grow ever stronger together in the Lord. The marriage ceremony was performed by Bro. Dewayne Dill and Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle.

Morning services were given by Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke) and Bro. Al Schambach (Sis. Sarah, Remington).

Our prayers go with those who have suffered illness. We covet prayers for Marian Hecker (Dick) who is undergoing health problems at this time. We also continue in prayer for Bro. Bob Crockett in his recent surgery.

California, San Diego
Janelle Brewer

Recently we were blessed by the visit of Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Washington, IL). We appreciate him making the effort to come and break the bread of life. We thank all the visitors that have assembled with us over the past month!

“And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.”
St. John 6:35

After spending a month in Hungary visiting family and friends, we were happy to welcome Bro. Dennis and Sis. Joy Fulop and their family back to San Diego! We are thankful God provided this opportunity for them and brought them back safely.

We are prayerful for Sis. Brittney Wagenbach as she is living in Indiana for the summer. We miss her presence here, but trust that God is using her there.

Bro. Rory Strahm continues to struggle with health-related issues. We lift him up in prayer, having faith that God will provide for him.

Canada, Kitchener, Ontario
Johanna Fortenbacher

Bro. Mark Bahr was here to share Communion. It was also the last Communion we had with the Leman family here. Bro. Chad and Sis. Kim and their children: Milan, Paul, Maria, Audrey and Ellie moved away to Fairbury IL. Our church was blessed to have them with us for 8.5 years. Now we are left without a home minister, but we will trust that God has promised that he will be with us here and will continue to be with the Leman family.

We had a special weekend with Bro. Mark & Sis. Bev Bahr, as well as Bro. Duane & Sis. Bonnie Rocke and their children from Minneapolis. They came to have a Bible Study on “Walking Together in
a Small Church” where we had open discussion and sharing. We all felt encouraged with the study. For myself, I was reminded to focus on walking together here in unity, which is in Jesus Christ, rather than focus on the comfort of walking with a huge crowd of believers.

“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.” Rom 8:1

Because we don’t have a home minister now, we had many visiting ministers this month. They were Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen Farney (Croghan-Namburg), who also were here for our Sunday school picnic; Bro. James and Sis. Brenda Fehr (Tremont); and Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie Walder from Smithville.

**Connecticut, Rockville**

**Lauren Gottier**

**Sheila Gerber**

“O grant me now thy grace that I with true devotion, may ever by Thee stand, though stormy be life’s ocean. And with thy blessing, Lord, may I in faith remain, and to that kingdom come where peace shall ever reign.”

*Zion’s Harp # 43*

We were blessed to hear the testimony and witness the baptism of Sis. Courtney Wheeler (Bro. Burt and Sis. Cherinne). We wish her the Lord’s nearness in her walk with Him toward that kingdom.

Summer often brings many visitors to New England. We have been blessed to have a number of visiting ministers including: Bro. Wayne Hartzler (Sis. Camille, Rittman, OH), Bro. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA) , Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH), Bro. Philip Schulz (Sis. Kelly, Burlington, IA), and Bro. Jason Dotterer (Sis. Lynn, Forrest, IL).

We are thankful for the birth of two baby boys. Dawsyn David was born to Shawn and Heather McKeon. He is welcomed by siblings: Lydia, Rustin, and Sawyer; and grandparents, Bro. Greg and Sis. Linda Lanz. Logan David was born to Alan and Katie Hoffman. He joins sister, Madilyn, and grandparents, Bro. Steve and Sis. Joan Hoffman.

Our thoughts and prayers are extended to Ronald Tredor, as his brother recently passed away, and to Sis. Elsa Champ who was hospitalized this month.

**District of Columbia, Washington**

**Henrietta Meyer**

Our caretakers for June were retired Elder Bro. Ron and Sis. Nancy Schambach (Elgin, IL.) Our caretaker schedule is booked for 2013. We are currently taking reservations for 2014. If you feel led to support one of our small churches, this would be a wonderful way to do so. If you are interested and are free to spend 3-4 weeks in the DC area, please contact Sis. Doreen Steffen at dkgstef@ngmail.com or 302-540-6574.

Our ministers this month were Bro. Jeff Gerber (Sis. Carol, Rockville, CT), Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Sis. Mary Ann, Fairbury, IL), Bro. Ron Shambach (Sis. Nancy, Elgin, IL), Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL) and Bro. Todd Graf (Sis. Lydia, Akron, OH). Other visitors this month were from Fairbury, Bradford, and Chicago. IL; Lester, IA; Francesville, IN; and Sardis & Akron, OH. We are truly grateful for the ministers and families that travel, sometimes great distances to be with us.

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

**Florida, Ft. Lauderdale**  
**Renee Mangold**

We were blessed to have visiting ministers Bro. Craig Martin (Sis. Terri, Princeville, IL) and Bro. Jesse Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie, Detroit, MI) share God’s Word this past month. We pray the Lord will reward them for their service.

Summer is definitely here and we are back to our summer numbers. We enjoy and welcome visitors any time of the year.

“For thus the LORD said to me: I will quietly look from my dwelling like clear heat in sunshine, like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest.” Isaiah 18:4

**Florida, Sarasota**  
**Kim Ott**

“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 fullness of Christ.” Ephesians 4:12-13

Our VBS this year centered on the theme of the four pillars of our church: present the Gospel, nurture the believer, preserve sound doctrine, and serve mankind. By studying examples in the Bible about people who displayed these purposes and discussing the importance of each concept, the Sunday School students were better able to understand the mission of our church. All of the efforts that went into every aspect of this special time together were much appreciated.

**Florida, North Ft. Myers**  
**Victor Beer**

No one is doubting now that we live in a tropical zone, with grass, shrubs, flowers and everything that is green just booming with growth. The above-average rainfall has made ponds everywhere, full and running over. However, this has not hindered plans to have the ground-breaking of our new church building at Estero on Sunday, August 25. This is in Lee County. Plans are to eventually name the area Estero. The majority of our church family lives within 10 miles of the new location.

**Georgia, Atlanta**

Over our warm summer months, we have been blessed with ministers who traveled south and brought God’s Word. We want to thank Bro. Vince Pfister (Bluffton, IN) and Bro. Nick Waibel (Francesville, IN) and their families for giving of themselves to serve and minister to us!

We rejoice with our Heavenly Father, as He looks down upon Naomi Steidinger (Bro. Philip and Sis. Lana), who has started repenting! How beautiful to watch the Lord gently lead and guide her. Our love and prayers are with you, Naomi, as you walk with Jesus!

The time has come to say goodbye to some dear members of our Atlanta congregation. For over six years, Bro. Larry and Sis. Melinda, Nikki, Jasmine, and Cassie Gramm, have traveled from their home in North Carolina to attend church in Atlanta every Sunday. As they relocate to Milford, IN, we will miss their faithful support, willingness to serve, and sweet friendship deeply! Our prayers go with your family, as we remember fondly the memories we shared over the past six years. How thankful we are to know that all the way our Savior leads us, cheering this winding path we tread! We love your family!

One summer Saturday afternoon, we gathered at a lakeside for our annual potluck day at “Camp’s Cabin”, hosted by Chris and Sis. Peggy Camp. It was a lovely day of fellowship enjoying the water and the delicious potluck dinner. Every year this day is anticipated and enjoyed by all! We want to thank the Camp family for their thoughtfulness to open their lake house to us faithfully every year!

On the weekend of June 30, we gathered for a joyful time of the testimonies and baptisms of four souls. Sheree Waldbeser (Bro. Tom and Sis. Sue), Hannah Lindberg (Bro. Rich and Sis. Julie), Hailey West (Bro.
Brad and Sis. Stephanie) and Cody West (Bro. Brad and Sis. Stephanie). Elder Bro. Jeff Streitmatter (Sarasota, FL) came to join Elder Bro. Tom Waldbeser in this wonderful work of welcoming new souls into the family of God!

While it is hard for us to watch Bro. Drew Waldbeser move away, we rejoice with him as he follows the Lord’s leading for his future! Recently, he has moved to Bloomington, IN area to attend graduate school at Indiana University. His new home church will be Indianapolis, IN. Our thoughts, prayers, and support go with you, Bro. Drew! We also celebrated with Sis. Elise Waldbeser as she graduated from high school and has aspirations to become a nurse. We are excited to watch the Lord work in the lives of these two young people.

Our Athens/Atlanta VBS family weekend theme this year was “Wanted by God.” We were encouraged and challenged under the teaching of Elder Bro. Tom Waldbeser, Elder Bro. Jeff Streitmatter (Sarasota), Bro. Ryan Hoerr (Princeville, IL) and Bro. Kerwin Edelman (Athens, AL). Throughout the weekend, we learned much about Moses, and how He was wanted by God to guide the children of Israel into the promised land. It was so neat to study how the Lord directed his life, especially how his first 40 years in the wilderness as a shepherd was a time that the Lord really used.

Bro. Ted Witzig Jr. (Morton, IL) recently presented a topic to us from the Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services. We gathered one Saturday evening to study “Keys of Effective Family Relationships”. It was an encouraging and challenging time of learning ways to grow relationally in our biological family, extended family, and church family. Thank you, Bro. Ted, for giving of your time to share this topic!

Illinois, Belvidere
Doreen Moser  
Shayla Steffen

Bro. Bill and Sis. Lana Schifferer were saddened, but yet rejoicing as Bill’s mother, Sis. Dorothy Schifferer (Elgin, IL), passed from this life here on earth.

“Blessed are those that mourn; for they shall be comforted.”

This is our prayer and desire for them, that they will be comforted in this loss of a loved one.

Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton, IL) was willing to be a servant as he relied on the Spirit to preach the Word. We thank him.

“Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled.”

This is our prayer and desire for all that heard the Word, that we were hungry and thirsty for the words which were spoken, that we had a desire to be encouraged and chastised.

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

Matthew 5:16

Whether we have passed on and those around us remember our life, or whether we preach the Word on a Sunday and people listen, or whether we are noticed in our neighborhood and judged; let us let our light shine.

Illinois, Bloomington-Normal
Gina Hodel  
Terri Huber

Acts 2:38 “Repent, and be baptized everyone of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

Our congregation is thankful to have many coming to Christ in repentance. They are Kyler Stork, Reid Gramm, Jordan Schwartz, Brandon Cargill, Abram Schumacher, Jake Masters, Courtney Masters, Clint Edelman, Travor Lehman, Haley Lehman, and Brad Hays. On July 6-7, Sis. Abbey Schieler, Bro. Chris Aranda, and Bro. Blair Smith were able to testify what the Lord has done in their lives and be baptized. We pray for all these souls as they begin a new walk with the Lord and that the Holy Spirit will continue to lead each of them.

Our love and sympathy go out to Sis. Tami Masters (Bro. Ron) as her
mother, Anita Lynnel Builta Allen, passed away. Ashley (Robert) Black, and Tiffany and Alayna Masters are her grandchildren. Our sympathy also extends to Sis. Carolyn Fischer as her mother, Sis. Wilma Fischer, from Roanoke passed away. May these families feel God’s peace during this difficult time.


Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev) from Detroit, MI, Bro. Tim Wiegand (Sis. Christa,) from Leo, IN, Bro. Ted Witzig, Sr. (Sis. Cindy) and Bro. Ted Hirstein (Sis. Joyce) from Morton, IL. We thank each of them for serving and the preaching the good news of Jesus Christ.

**Illinois, Bradford**

**Roseann Stahl**

**Sandi Joos**

“O come, let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.” Psalm 95:1

Our Sunday School children brought forth songs of praise at our annual Sunday School picnic.

“I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.” Psalm 139:14

The birth of a child is a miracle. Bro. Adam and Sis. Brittany Endress, along with big sister, Kylie, welcomed a little girl, Sierra Mae. Grandparents are Bro. Larry and Sis. Becky Endress and Bro. David and Sis. Crystal Streitmatter (Princeville, IL).

Bro. Brandon and Sis. Sarah Gudeman are rejoicing in the birth of their son, Micah Paul. Grandparents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Teresa Gudeman and Bro. Loren and Sis. Anne Gerber (Rockville, CT).

Sis. Janna Baer welcomed a new granddaughter, Heidi Danielle. Heidi’s parents are Bro. Kerry and Sis. Kelly Baer (Tremont, IL).

The Word was brought forth this month by our ministers and a couple of visiting ministers. We were thankful to have Bro. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville/Mediapolis, IA) and Bro. Nelson Beer (Sis. Minnie, Milford, IN).

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;” Ephesians 6:18

Bro. Kenny Dietz (Sis. Mardell) and Bro. Jordan Elsasser (late Sis. Sharon) are recovering from joint replacements. Our prayers also continue to be with Sis. Charlene Dietz as she is at Mayo Clinic in Rochester for a stem cell transplant.

**Illinois, Champaign**

**Sarah Drake**

Summers are relatively quiet around Champaign-Urbana, so this summer we are using some of our Wednesday nights to have Bible studies and picnics. As a congregation, we have been going through the “Who Jesus Is” Bible study books.

On June 23, we enjoyed a picnic in honor of our alumni—former college students and church family members who have moved on to other geographical locations. Many of our alumni were generous supporters of our recent remodeling project. The picnic was a simple way to say “thank you” for their generosity.

We appreciate everyone who passes through Champaign-Urbana and supports our congregation for a time.

Our Sunday School picnic on June 30 marked the end of another Sunday School year. We offer thanks to our outgoing teachers, Bro. Joe Gerber and Sis. Margie Heintz, and also our returning teachers, for your service to our Sunday School students.
Greetings from Chicago. We thank Bros. Don Manz, (Junction, OH) and Roger Aberle, (Sabetha, KS), for ministering to us this past month.

Sisters Judy Snyder and Lois Metzger had some major health concerns. We pray they may feel God’s nearness and strength as they go through physical suffering. Also recovering from surgery and treatments are Sis. Ella Mae Stoller, Sandra Art, and Janet Eckel. May we bond together as a church family and support each other.

Sisters Rebekah Hoffman of Roanoke, IL and Zoe Koehl of Forrest, IL are in Chicago for summer internships. We welcome them and are always happy to have new faces with us.

It was with joy in our hearts that we heard Sierra Steffen has found peace in her heart with God. This gift is priceless – beyond measure! Sierra is the daughter of Bro. Kim and Sis. Diane.

Our Annual Vacation Bible School took place June 17-20 and was a blessing to students of all ages! Our theme was “We the Body of Christ.” We learned how the body is used to show us our relationship with other members of the Church and with Christ. Each night we studied a different aspect of our physical bodies, and how it related to the Spiritual Body, the Church. Our program was as follows:

Monday, June 17 – Bro. Art Mueller, Belvidere, IL
“…With All Thy Strength…” (Skeleton & Muscles)

Tuesday, June 18 – Bro. Erik Givens, Princeville, IL
“…With All Thy Heart and With All Thy Soul…” (Heart & Inward Parts)

Wednesday, June 19 – Bro. Dave Obergfel, Peoria, IL
“…With All Thy Mind…” (Mind & Emotions)

Thursday, June 20 – Bro. Loren Schrenk, St. Louis, MO
“…And Thy Neighbour As Thyself.” (Senses, Hands, & Feet)

We sincerely thank each of these ministers for making room for Chicago VBS this year and studying and sharing on our behalf. May God bless you. We also thank each one who came and participated in any way. To God be the glory.

It is interesting how the smallest of tasks can be used to teach spiritual lessons. I have an electric toothbrush that cleans quite thoroughly. A blinking light signals to show me when to move to a different area of my mouth in order to get 2½ minutes of complete cleaning. If the brush detects I am pushing too hard and possibly damaging my teeth and gums a specific warning light shines and I can adjust as needed. Recently, I noticed that my thumb had been covering the warning light. I have no idea how long I’ve been holding the brush in such a way that the warning light has been covered.

This small occurrence brought to mind the spiritual “warning lights” that God uses to keep us on track as we make our way through the current of daily life. You and I know what these are, and He tailors them to each specifically as He knows exactly what we need to keep us safe and in His will. But, what if I “cover up” that signal? How? Perhaps slacking in prayer, “running out of time” to read the Bible, scheduling events during Sunday services, filling my eyes and ears with ungodly material. The list goes on……you can fill it in.

The Bible encourages us to stay faithful to our relationship with our Father:

“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:6&7

“I will bless the Lord, who hath given me counsel…” Psalm 16:7

“Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.” John 14:23

Last, a quote from Corrie ten Boom: “Don’t pray when you feel like it. Have an appointment with the Lord
and keep it. A man is powerful on his knees.”

**Illinois, Cissna Park**

*Janie Waldbeser*

*Tina Walder*

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Larry and Sis. Jeanie Kaufmann on the loss of Sis. Jeanie’s mother, Sis. Helen Belsley (Eureka, IL).

We rejoice with two new souls who have turned their backs to sin and Satan. Bro. Aaron Kaeb (Bro. Hartzel and Sis. Denise) and Sis. Heidi Waldbeser (Bro. Mark and Sis. Janie) gave their testimonies and were baptized the weekend of July 6 and 7. We are thankful Elder Bro. Tom Waldbeser (Atlanta, GA) came to share in this work, as well as ministering Bros. Ned Bahler (Fairbury, IL) and Les Kaeb (Francesville, IN).

Bro. Paul Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) also came to share the Word of God. We appreciate the words God gave him to speak.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Judy Maul rejoice in the birth of a new grandson. Kendall was born to Bro. Lee and Sis. Alicia Fehr (West Bend, IA). What a blessing these little ones are!

Our congregation had our annual Sunday School picnic July 14. We truly enjoyed this evening of fellowship. May we continually be mindful of the example we leave for our dear children, so they may see Christ in us.

We continue to lift up John Alt, as he continues to need medical attention. May he look to God for his strength as he struggles to recover.

“Be ye patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh. Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: the judge standeth before the door.”

James 5: 8-9

**Illinois, Congerville**

*Erica Steffen*

“Thus united, and in concord, let us walk the path of life…”

*Zion’s Harp #237*

Bro. Ryan Schrock and Sis. Christy Gress (Tremont) were made one in the Lord. We wish them God’s richest blessings as they begin their married life together. Bro. Ken and Sis. Janet Schrock and Bro. Cloyce and Sister Carol (Detroit) happily welcome the new couple into their homes.

“Love of all, gifts is the greatest…”

*Zion’s Harp #37*

It has been a blessing to see more souls feel God’s direction to marry, as we have had several engagements this month. Our Sis. Abby Hartman became engaged to Bro. Nate Bauman (Goodfield). Their parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Lisa Hartman and Bro. Andy and Sis. Rita Bauman (Goodfield). Also, Bro. Evan Zimmerman is engaged to Sis. Elisabeth Leman (Roanoke). Their parents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Kathy Zimmerman and Dennis and Sis. Karen Leman (Roanoke). May God bless and grow their love as they prepare for marriage.

“Jesus loves the little children…”

*Children’s Harp #20*

A little blessing was safely delivered to Bro. Kurt and Sis. Julie Schrock. Kylie Ann is welcomed by siblings: Josiah, Gabriel & Corbin. Joyful grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Janet Schrock and Bro. Fred and Sis. Maryellen Zimmerman.

“Lord speak to me, that I may speak…”

*Hymns of Zion #208*

Many visiting ministers have willingly labored in the Word for our congregation this month, including: Bro. Ron Palitto (Sis. Lynell, Akron, OH), Bro. Arlen Leman (Sis. Denise, Forrest), Bro. Matt Feucht (Sis. Jennifer, Roanoke), Bro. Tom Lanz (Sis. Mary, Oakville, IA), Bro. Tom Leman (Denver, CO), and Bro. John Baumgartner (Sis. Lori, Bern KS). We appreciate their willingness to be used by God and may they be blessed.

**Illinois, Elgin**

*Amy Gasser*

We appreciated Elder Bro. John Jackson (Bay City, MI) coming to assist Bro. David with three testimonies and baptisms on June 29-30 for Anthony Eason (Bro. George and Sis. Carole), Nathan Moser (Bro. Dan and Sis. Anne), and Angela Steffen (Elder Bro. David and Sis. Linda). Bro. Neil Ramseyer (Bay City,
MI) and Bro. Nathan Walder (Cissna Park, IL) were also on the pulpit on Sunday.

On July 6-7, Abbey Schieler (Bro. Eric and Sis. Nancy) gave her testimony and was baptized in Bloomington, IL, where she is attending school.

Our sincere thanks also to the other visiting ministers in the past month, including Elder Bro. Bruce Endress (Bradford, IL), Bro. Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Bro. Brad Gudeman (Bradford, IL), and Bro. Dean Steffen (Belvidere, IL).

We were saddened to hear of the sudden passing of Sis. Dorothy Schifferer. Her funeral was on July 6. Her children by marriage are: Mary (Kenneth) LaBuy of Hot Springs, AK; Bro. Bill (Sis. Lana) Schifferer, Ken (Darlene) Schifferer, Glenn (Shirley) Schifferer, all of Marengo, IL; her brother, Warren (Kay) of Woodstock, IL; 18 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Bro. Don Stettner was a recent hospital patient.

Gage Harris was born on June 20 to Nick and Niki Pilotte and joins big sister, Viola. His grandparents are Mike and Sis. Nancy Scott (Wolcott, IN) and Duane and Roberta Pilotte, also of northern Indiana.

On July 2, Keith and Emily Schambach welcomed a son, Corgan Andrew. His sisters are Kaleigh and Brielle. His grandparents are Bro. Ron and Sis. Edie Bollier (Indianapolis, IN) and Bro. Les and Sis. Alison Schambach.

**Illinois, Eureka**

**Debra Blunier**

**Linda Rocke**

Our brothers and sisters are so dear to us that we feel we are part of one family, and “rejoice with them who do rejoice and weep with them that weep.” Romans 12:15


We offer our prayers and sympathy to the families that lost two dear sisters recently. The funeral of Sis. Helen Belsley (Bro. Bill, dec.) was July 6. Yet another July funeral will be for her sister, Sis. Madalyn Cawley (Dallas, dec.), who passed away July 15.

Appreciating the ministers who willingly serve us, we thank Bros. Dan Koch (Sis. Julie, Tremont, IL), Randy Beer (Sis. Debra, Milford, IN) and Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park, IL) for sharing the Word this month.

Sis. Ann Leman, Sis. Millie Prather, and Bro. Brent Blunier face serious health issues and would appreciate your prayers.

**Note of Thanks:**

I would like to sincerely thank all who supported me and my family during my hospitalization and since returning home. Your prayers, cards, gifts, and food have been overwhelming and humbling. May God richly bless you all for your love and kindness. Your least sister in faith, Charlene (Bro. Bob) Schumacher

**Illinois, Fairbury**

**Angela Herr**

**Janelle Stoller**

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord…” Psalm 127:3

Brendal James joined the family circle of Bro. Denver, Sis. Sharon, and Cayden Rassi on June 29. Bro. Dennis and Sis. Diane Rassi (Austin, TX), Bro. Morris Kaeb, and Chuck and Brenda Mueller are his grandparents.

Bro. Troy and Sis. Rebecca Steffen welcomed their first-born, Tyler Henry, on July 10. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Henry and Sis. Lola Steffen and Sis. Cindy Herr.

We welcome Bro. Chad and Sis. Kim Leman and their children: Milan, Paul, Maria, Audrey, and Ellie, who have moved back to Fairbury from Kitchener, ON. We are thankful to have them assembling with us and we wish them God’s blessings as they settle into a new home and a new church family.
Our annual Sunday School Picnic was held on June 30, which marks the end of the Sunday School term. We would like to thank Bro. Matt Knapp (Sis. Dana), Bro. Randall Fehr (Sis. Janis), and Sis. Martha Fehr for their years of service in our Sunday School and pray that God will bless them for their labors of love. We give our support to Sis. Beth Steffen (Corey) who has been called to teach our children in Sunday School.

We rejoice with Sis. Brianna Rinkenberger (Doug and Beth), Bro. Eric Bahler (Bro. Neil and Sis. Tami), and Sis. Katie Schaffer (Lynn and Becky) and welcome them as our new brother and sisters-in-faith! We heard their testimonies and witnessed their baptisms the weekend of July 13 and 14. Our prayers are with them as they continue their walk with the Lord. We thank Elder Bros. Wayne Grimm (West Bend, IA), Tom Stock (Cissna Park, IL), and Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL) for assisting our Elder Bro. Rick Plattner in this work.

Other visiting ministers serving our congregation this month were Bros. Dennis Rassi (Austin, TX), Dan Moser (Elgin, IL), Nathan Walder (Cissna Park, IL), and Steve Baner (Gridley, IL). We thank each of these brothers for sharing God’s Word and pray that He will richly bless them.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Dawn Steidinger (Bro. Randy) in the loss of her brother, Doug Aberle, who was killed in a car accident on July 21. May God comfort them as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

**Illinois, Forrest**

**Lisa Aberle**

**Molly Zimmerman**

We welcome Bro. Ben and Sis. Stephanie Gunther and Bro. Thane Schaffer (Bro. Eric and Sis. Michelle) as our new brothers and sister in Christ. Elder Bros. Rick Platter (Fairbury, IL) and Andy Stoller (Smithville, OH) were present to help with this event. Also, Bro. David Eisenmann (Champaign, IL) was another visiting minister. We’re thankful for ministers willing to speak the Word.

We also welcome Shannon Gudeman to our congregation from Bradford, IL.


Congratulations to Brooke Kupferschmid (Bro. Todd and Kim) and Brendon Woodridge (Erik and Brenda Snyder, Grove City, PA) who are looking forward to a September wedding.

Bro. Larry Bachman (Sis. Donna), Judaea Henry (Bro. Buck and Sis. Taunia), Maurice Koehl (Carol), Sis. Alisa Ricketts (Bro. Allen), Bro. Richard Steffen (Sis. Lou Ida), and Sis. Lynelle Steidinger (Bro. Colin) all spent some time in the hospital this month.

**Illinois, Goodfield**

**Melissa Rokey**

**Kayla Wiegard**

“Gone is all my debt of sin, A great change is bro’t within, …”

*Gospel Hymns #393*

We are very thankful to announce that Max Hinrichsen (Bro. Mike & Sis. Gerri) has heard the call from God and has come by faith with a broken & repentant heart. Please pray for him and encourage him at this most important time of his life. There is joy in Heaven over one sinner that repents.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Ashley Schieler were blessed with the birth of their daughter, Brynley Kay on July 15. She has two older brothers, Braden and Trey. Her grandparents are Bro. Brian and Sis. Teresa Schieler and Bro. Keith and Sis. Nadine Edelman (Eureka, IL).

We are happy to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of our Bro. Nate Bauman (Bro. Andy & Sis. Rita) to Sis. Abby Hartman (Bro. Bob & Sis. Lisa) from
Congregation Updates

Congerville. We wish them God’s richest blessings as they take this step in faith.

We offer our best wishes and congratulations to Emily Hinrichsen and Derek Vollmer on their June 22 wedding. Their parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Gerri Hinrichsen and Bret and Yolanda Vollmer of Congerville.

…"The Lord our God will we serve, and his voice will we obey."
Joshua 24:24

The father-son camp-out that was a huge success on June 28 and 29. There was a great turnout and a lot of blessings. Thanks for the efforts that were put forth by many.

The Sunday School picnic was Sunday, June 30. We enjoyed the fellowship time and watching the children play together. We appreciate and support the Sunday School teachers and their efforts.

The Bible Class, teachers and some parents spent a week serving on a mission trip to Jamaica. We are thankful they were blessed with a safe trip and made many lasting memories.

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

Bro. Morrie (Sis. Kathy) Zimmerman’s nephew, Courtney Zimmerman passed away from a brain tumor on June 27. He was 38 years old and lived in Pekin. Please keep Bro. Morrie & Sis. Kathy and their family in your prayers.

Mike (Sis. Leigh) Bowen’s sister, Barb Karcher from Washington, passed away on Saturday, June 29. Please remember Mike & Sis. Leigh and their family in prayer.

Bro. Daniel Wiegand (Sis. Verla) continues to struggle with serious health issues. Please pray for him & Sis. Verla.

JoAnna Hinrichsen had open heart surgery for valve replacement. She had this surgery done years ago at a young age and it needed to be done again. We are thankful her surgery went well. Please remember her in prayer.

We are also thankful that Sis. Carolyn (Bro. Don) Ott’s lung tumor surgery went well. Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn would like to thank everyone for their prayers and support.

We want to thank Bro.Tim Wiegand (Sis. Christa, Leo, IN) and Bro. Keith Hinrichsen (Sis. Tammy, Phoenix, AZ) for being used by God in their ministry this past month.

Illinois, Gridley
Perry Klopfenstein

I had occasion to attend a soldier reunion at Oakville, IA. On Saturday night, each former soldier gave a description of their individual duties during their time of their Army service many years ago. Over and over, it came across that this two-year term of duty was a time of being “away from home.” The next afternoon, at the end of the worship service, the minister reminded the listeners that, indeed, we all are “away from home” in our spiritual quest; that is, from our heavenly home. As believers, we often long for our eternal home.

Sis. Anna Marie Reutter was hospitalized with a blood clot, and also a heart condition. She is now being cared for at the Roanoke home. Bro. Roger Funk had back surgery. Sis. Rosie Gramm was treated for a heart issue. Bro. Bill Romersberger had heart surgery, and is now able to attend church.

We offer our sympathies to Sis. Elaine Stoller over the loss of her mother, Sis. Betty Nussbaum of Forrest.

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Glenn Funk (Wichita, KS), Ed Fritz (Washington), and Dave Eisenmann (Champaign). We are thankful to God for their labors.

Our church voted to pursue a remodeling project. A building committee will soon be established.

I read recently in the book of Psalms, Chapter 68, verse 6, where it is mentioned that the rebellious dwell in a “dry land.” Surely, the offerings of this present world and its vanity are not of value to the believer. Indeed, worldly things have a dryness that cannot fill our inner thirst.

Note of Thanks:

Our sincere thanks to each one that remembered us with cards
and gifts, and especially prayer throughout the past few months. May God reward each kindness shown. Sincerely, Bro. Don and Sis. Sandy Schnieder.

**Illinois, Morton**

**Annette Tanner**

**Julie Bahr**

Praise God that we never lose our worth or our value to God! We found ourselves reaffirmed in God’s precious forgiveness as we listened to the testimonies and witnessed the baptisms of Bro. Eric Clark (son of Angie Krantz); Sis. Jacey Schick (daughter Bro. Keith Schick and Sis. Janice); and Sis. Maddy Sollberger (daughter of Sis. Elaine Sollberger and late Fred Sollberger).

Our visiting ministers of the Gospel to our Morton Church are welcome and appreciated. Our gratitude goes to Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie, Gridley) and Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Washington).

Our sympathy is extended to our Sis. Diana Kaiser (Bro. Bob) in the loss of her dear mother, Sis. Helen Belsley of Eureka. Other survivors experiencing her loss are Sis. Jeannie Kaufmann, Sis. Betsy Schrenk, and Sharon Leroy.

We want to express our love and sympathy with the family in the passing of Rhonda Pullen. Rhonda’s parents are Ron and Pat Pullen of Peoria.


We have again had many in our Morton church who are facing uncertainties with health and also with serious accident issues. May our prayers ascend to our Father on their behalf that each one will feel valued, uplifted and encouraged.

**Illinois, Peoria**

**Pam Fritzenmeier**

We are delighted to report that five families have been blessed with precious babies. Bro. David and Sis. Stephanie Sceggel adopted Israel John, born May 30. Grandparents are Bro. Mark and Sis. Judy Sceggel, and Bro. Dana and Sis. Martha Kay Regier (Princeville). Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Bere Aupperle (Magdalena) welcomed Camila Faith May 31. Denny and Cindy Aupperle are her grandparents. Bro. Ben and Sis. Heidi Hartter, Kyler, Macy, and Isaiah are thrilled to welcome Hudson Jude, born June 11, to their family. His grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Chris Hartter (Roanoke) and the late Bro. George and Sis. Ruth Huthmann. Bro. Joel and Sis. Mindy Stickling (Champaign) welcomed Leo Robert June 17. Grandparents include Bro. Mark and Sis. Marcia Campbell (Gridley) and Chris and Sis. Marsha Stickling. Also on June 17, Bro. Wayne and Sis. Carol Klopfenstein became grandparents a second time, with the birth of Chelise Renae to Bro. Morgan and Sis. Kyra Langhofer. Big brother, Emerson, and paternal grandparents, Bro. Erik and Sis. Cynthia Langhofer (Phoenix), also welcome her.

Bro. Brad (Sis. Sandy) Baurer (Tucson) spent Sunday, June 23, with us. We thank him for his willingness to speak the Word.

Our annual Sunday school picnic was held at the Fellowship Hall June 30. It is a beautiful setting for the children (and grown-ups) to experience great food, games, and fellowship.

Cathy Waddell has made known her desire to become a member of our church. We pray for her as she follows God’s will for her life.

Bro. Merle (Sis. Mary) Weyeneth’s father, Bro. Melvin (Roanoke) passed away July 10. We extend our prayers and sympathy to their family.

Please remember our church families serving far from home: Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family, and Sis. Kelsey Klopfenstein (Haiti); and Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Bere Aupperle, Bro. Zach and Sis. Daniela Knobloch, and Bro. Jason Grassi (Magdalena). We have enjoyed seeing some of them this summer as they come home on furlough.

**Illinois, Princeville**

**Gloria White**

**Renee Herrmann**

We thank our visiting minister, Bro. Kevin Fehr (West Bend, IA), for sharing the Word of life. May God richly bless him and his family.

God has blessed Bro. David and Sis. Crystal Herrmann with another granddaughter. Sierra Mae, was born to Bro. Adam and Sis. Brittany Endress (Bradford, IL) on June 28. Bro. Rick and Sis. Joyce Rumbold have another grandchild, Brett Andrew, born to Ethan and Kate. Raymond and Joan Rumbold are the great-grandparents.

Our life here on earth is but for a season. We are reminded of this when loved ones are taken out of this life. Our deep sympathy goes to Bro. Dana (Sis. Martha Kay) Regier and family for the loss of his father, Richard Regier. May they feel God’s comfort and love.

Bro. Raymond (Sis. Betty) Wagenbach is our hospital patient this month. Let’s be prayerful with those that have infirmities of the body.

July 7 was the last Sunday Sis. Clara Marie Gerber worshipped with us. She plans to move to Eureka. We will miss her, but wish her God’s continued presence in her walk with Him.

We are happy to welcome Bro. Paul and Sis. Marie Sauder to our Princeville church family. They have moved to our area. It is a blessing to know the love of God and that His Spirit will be with us no matter where we are.

Bro. Lyle and Sis. Betty Stahl have been blessed with 50 years of married life on July 7. May they continue to walk hand in hand with each other and with God.

**Illinois, Roanoke**

**Jamie Hodel**

**Barb Schwind**

*James 1:17: “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights...”*

We have again been blessed with the birth of babies. On June 11, Hudson Jude was born to Bro. Ben & Sis. Heidi Hartter (Peoria). Jude’s grandparents are Bro. Bob & Sis. Chris Hartter. Older brothers and sister are: Kyler, Macy, and Isaiah. On June 24, Lucy Elizabeth Maher was born to Bro. Cody & Sis. Maggie (Bloomington). Grandparents of Lucy are Bro. Rich & Sis. Dawn Huber (Fairbury) and Bro. Dan & Sis. Kim Maher. July 1 was the birth date of Smith Owen Shuck, born to Bro. Robey & Sis. Angie. Smith is welcomed home by older brother, Abel, and sister, Molly. Smith’s grandparents are Bro. Brad & Sis. Patty Hodel and Les & Dianne Shuck (Palmyra, MO).

June 30 was our Bible Class Senior Breakfast & Sunday School picnic.

On July 7, the marriage engagement of Sis. Elisabeth Leman (Dennis & Sis. Karen) and Bro. Evan Zimmerman (Bro. Ben & Sis. Kathy) of Congerville was made known.

We were thankful for visiting ministers who shared the Word. On June 23, Bro. Matt Oesch (Alto) was with us. On July 7, Bro. Jeff Leman (Bluffton North) was our visiting minister.

We rejoice with those in our congregation who have begun their walk with the Lord. We praise God for His work in the lives of Kristen Schwind (Bro. Dennis & Sis. Rita), Andrew Fehr (John & Jane), Andy & Rebekah Wettstein, and Rachel Sauder (Bro. Frank & Sis. Kathy.)

Andrew Mangold (Bro. Matt & Sis. Jennifer) left to begin his training to serve our country in the military on June 17.

June 22 was the wedding day of Jon Schwind (Bro. Dave & Sis. Barb) and Jessi Rosecrans (Bill & Janet) of Brimfield.

Our love and prayers are with...
those in our congregation who have said goodbye to loved ones here on earth. Sis. Wilma Fischer passed away on July 9. Her survivors include her children: Mel (Marty) of Roanoke, Sis. Carolynn of Bloomington, Wayne (Darlene) of Roanoke, Harvey (Kathy) of Benson, & Larry (Pam) of Gridley. She is also survived by a sister, Sis. Laura Wenger (Fairbury), and grandchildren.

Bro. Melvin Weyeneth went to be with the Lord on July 10. His survivors are his wife: Sis. Leona; two sons: Bro. Merle (Sis. Mary) of Peoria and Keith of Morton. He also leaves behind two sisters: Sis. Marilyn Roth & Sis. Dorothy (Bro. John) Hoerr of Peoria, as well as a sister-in-law, Sarena Weyeneth of Roanoke, and grandsons.

Sis. Edna Roth died on July 14. She leaves behind her husband: Bro. Harold; two daughters: Joyce (Charlie) Klees of East Peoria, and Sis. Eileen (Bro. Kirk) Stoller of Latty; three sons: Gary (Sharon) of Johnston, IA, Don (Bev) of Manzanillo Colima, MX, and Bro. Dennis Roth. She is also survived by a sister, Sis. Helen Brown, and a sister in law, Sis. Mary Farney, and her grandchildren.

**Illinois, Tremont**

*Teresa Rowell*

*Janice Sauder*

Tremont was again blessed by the visits of several ministers: Bros. Dale Zeltwanger (Morris North, MN), Jim Butikofer (Iowa City, IA), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Matthew Steffen (Princeville, IL), and Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA). May God reward them for their labors of love.

We welcome two new sisters in the Lord. Sis. Laura Sauder (Bro. Jim and Sis. Rachel) and Sis. Heidi Sauder (Bro. Dave and Sis. Joanna) both testified to a new life in Jesus Christ, and were baptized on July 14. May they continue to grow in grace and faith.

Congratulations to Brad and Lori Koch, as they were married June 29, 2013. Their parents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Diane Koch and Jim and Sandy Barry. May God bless their future!

Bro. Kerry and Sis. Kelly Baer are happy to welcome another daughter, Heidi Danielle. Heidi’s siblings: Samuel, Allison, Lila, and grandparents, Bro. Dave and Sis. June Koch are enjoying her also.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Eunice (Bro. David) Beutel and Sis. Carol (Bro. Alvin) Beutel at the death of their sisters, Sis. Helen Belsley and Sis. Madeline Cawley (both of Eureka, IL). May God comfort their hearts.

We pray for God’s strengthening hand and healing for dear ones who have had surgeries and ongoing treatments for their health problems. We are especially praying for successful surgeries and a good recovery for Jon (Nichole) Zimmerman following his car accident.

As we face the reality of our life, may we say as Job of old: “But he knoweth the way that I take; when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.” Job 23:10

**Illinois, Washington**

*Marlene Prather*

*Jodi Fehr*

We want to thank the ministers who came to share God’s word with us this month. Bro. Matt Gerber (Sis. Ruth, Ixtlan, MX), Bro. Steve Stiegelitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN), Bro. Greg Stiegelitz (Sis. Lisa, Indianapolis, IN), Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI), Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Sis. Bonnie, Mediapolis, IA), Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL) was here for our monthly Bible Study.

We rejoice with Galen Rocke and Alyssa Scott, as they were married on June 22. Their parents are Bro. Kevin and Sis. Janine Rocke of Washington and Mark and Andrea Scott of Eureka, IL. Ben Koch and Kyra Johnson were married on June 29. Their parents are Chris Johnson and the late Sis. Barb Johnson and Bro. Justin and Sis. Marsha Koch of Washington. May God bless these dear couples as they start their life together.

We also rejoice with Jenna Schick (Bro. Scott and Sis. Dawn), as she announced her engagement to Brad Simmons. May God bless them as they continue to plan for their
On June 23, Ryan and Kelly Eigsti were blessed with a bundle of joy. Kylie Mae was also welcomed home by Colby and grandparents, Bro. Larry and Sis. Marilyn Leman.

Our Sunday School is taking their summer break. We had a beautiful day on July 7 to gather for our annual Sunday School picnic. It was enjoyed by all. We want to thank our teachers for their labor of love in the past year.

Sis. Betty Klaus had had some health issues. We will continue to keep her in our prayers.

Suzie Fiechter
Kim Meyer

“\textit{The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.}” Psalm 34:18

Jeremy Valentine, Samantha Brickley, Taylor Pulver (Bro. Chris and Sis. Kara), and Olivia Macklin (Bro. Ron and Sis. LaNae) are seeking the Lord in repentance. We, along with the angels, are rejoicing and pray that they will surrender all to Him.

Our dear Sis. Gladys Lantz has won the victory and entered Heaven’s gate. Her family includes Sis. Rose (Bro. Ted) Pfister, John (Sue) Lantz, Bro. Dan Jr. (Sis. Charlene) Lantz, Bro. Jim (Sis. Kathy) Lantz, Mary Lantz, and Steve Lantz. We extend our loving sympathy to the family of Bro. John Neuenschwander. They are: his wife, Sis. Irene, and children, Randy and Judy Neuenschwander, Mike and Candy Neuenschwander, Bro. Jeff and Sis. Linda McAfee, and Joe and Amy Neuenschwander.

Prayers continue for Bryan Aschliman (Bro. Skip and Sis. Connie), Bro. Charles Zorio, Bro. Roger (Sis. Carol) Compton, and Bro. Jack (Sis. Diane) Schwartz. May the Lord continue to give them renewed strength for each day as they face health concerns.

Sis. Laura Ridge, who has worshipped with us for the past 3 years, has felt God calling her to move closer to her family in southern Indiana. We will miss her faithful attendance and sweet spirit. She plans to attend our Indianapolis and West Lafayette churches, but we hope she will visit us often!

Our young brothers hosted a Junior High Boy’s Camp the weekend of July 12-14. It’s always an action-filled weekend with the blessing of closer relationships with each other and with the Lord.

We thank our ministering Bros. Seth Gerber (Magdalena) and Jerry (Sis. Linda) Isch for traveling to be with us. Also, Bro. Bill (Sis. Mary) Masters (Ft. Myers) brought us the Word and taught us of the ministry of New Beginnings, with which our Florida brethren are involved. May God reward them for their self-sacrifice and faithful service!

God has led together Bro. Jon Fraughiger of Milford and Sis. Emily Steiner of Winthrop. Bro. Jon grew up here in Bluffton and his parents are Bro. Lynn and Sis. Jenny Fraughiger. May God bless this special time in their lives.

I love to report new babies. What special gifts from the hand of God! Bro. Krent and Sis. Amber and Alaya Reinhard welcome home little Blakely Mae. Her grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Maureen Reinhard (Bluffton North) and Scott and Sis. Rita DeHoff. Blakely’s great grandparents are Bro. Harry and Sis. Lois Gerber and Bro. Wendell and Sis. Wanda Gerber (Bluffton North). Bro. Derryl and Sis. Peg Aschliman lovingly embrace a new grandson, Isaiah Martin, born to Bro. Matt and Sis. Tiffany Drayer of Bluffton North. His big sisters are Hannah, Naomi, Stacy and Tabitha. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Lois Drayer (Bluffton North) are the paternal grandparents and Bro. Lester and Sis. Rosemary Gerber are the great grandparents. These precious souls have a rich spiritual heritage that we pray will nurture and guide them through their lives and into eternity.

Amy Moser
Jessie Longenberger

The Body of Christ with one mind and one heart will make for won souls.
Our dear Sis. Gladys Lantz (Bluffton) went to be with her Lord on June 20. She is the mother of Bro. John (Sue) Lantz and Bro. Dan, Jr. (Sis. Charlene) Lantz.

We appreciate Bro. Vic (Sis. Brenda) Bauman of Smithville for sharing the Gospel message on June 30. We are thankful that they could join us in worship.

We rejoice with several families who have new additions this month. Bro. Jesse and Sis. Janelle Frauhiger added another daughter to their family. Ann Lorraine was born on June 24. She joins Drew, Kylie, Emma, Tess and Molly at home. Grandparents are Bro. Steve (Sis. Irene) Frauhiger and Bro. Keith (Sis. Kay) Steffen.

Bro. Matt and Sis. Tiffany Drayer added a son. Isaiah Martin was born on July 8. He joins sisters Hannah, Naomi, Stacy and Tabitha at home. Grandparents are Bro. Derryl (Sis. Peggy) Aschliman (Bluffton) and Bro. Jerry (Sis. Lois) Drayer.

Blakely Mae was also born on July 8 to Bro. Krent and Sis. Amber Reinhard. She joins sister Alaya. Grandparents are Bro. Roger (Sis. Maureen) Reinhard and Bro. Scott (Sis. Rita) DeHoff (Bluffton).

Indiana, Francesville

Jacki Huber

Mildred Clauss

Psalm 116:15 “Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.”

Our dear Brother Eugene Huber (the late Sis. Mildred Huber) went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday July 17, 2013. We will miss him—his loving spirit, words of wisdom and inspiring prayers. We extend our loving sympathy to his family. Eugene’s children are Bro. Gene Huber (Sis. Barb) of Winamac, IN, Rod (Mary) Huber of Valparaiso, IN, Sis. Sandee Price of Sarasota, FL, Bro. Chris (Sis. Sharon) of Francesville, IN, Sis. Peggy Huber of Kouts, IN, Bro. John (Sis. Bev) of Motezuma, IN, and Sis. Wanda (Bro. Jake) Hoerr of Phoenix, AZ. His surviving siblings are Bro. Lester Huber (Sis. Glendoris) of Francesville, IN and Sis. Viola Schlatter of Paulding, OH.

Hospital patients this past month have been Sis. Diane Clevenger and Nadine Yaggie. Many prayers have been prayed on these dear loved ones’ behalf. We know God is faithful to hear and answer!

On a recent Saturday, quite a few from our congregation were blessed to attend a seminar on mentoring held at the Fellowship Center. Bro. Jeremiah Psinas from Morton, IL shared with us on this day. Those of us who attended appreciate so much the time Jeremiah took to share. We came away having learned valuable teachings.

Vacation Bible School in Francesville was held the last full week of June. Visiting ministers during the week were Bro. Steve Frauhiger (Sis. Irene) of Bluffton North, IN, Elder Bro. Earl Ringger (Sis. Dixie) of Gridley, IL, Bro. Ted Hirstein (Sis. Joyce) of Morton, IL, and Bro. Matthew Oesch (Sis. Shelli), Alto, MI. It was a blessed, Spirit-filled week. We extend our thanks to these brothers for sharing.

Indiana, Indianapolis

Katy Frantz

Gail Bradford

In the past month, attendance has been small as families take the summer months to relax on vacations. Indy had the opportunity July 14 to host Bluffton’s Junior High boys. Thirteen young men and their teachers attended that day.

Bro. Chad Hoerr (Sis. Heather) continues to teach on Revelation every two weeks. The Bible Study is a wonderful reminder to remain hot in our zeal to know and make known the return of our Lord! He said in Revelation 22:12, “Behold, I come quickly.”

Our church hosted a farewell for Bro. Makoto and Sis. Anna Inoue on July 21. Our prayer is that they may have a firm faith in Christ’s calling for them in Japan. We will miss the servant hearts they brought into our church and their two-year-old daughter, Ayana.

On July 28, Sis. Leah Baumgartner, Bro. Lance Schwab and Sis. Ashley Creigh publicly declared their new life in Christ through testimonies and baptism. It has been a blessing to see them seek to know Christ and serve Him with a sincere heart.

Indiana, Lacrosse

Julie Rocke

Meagan Frank

“Our love shall not diminish, nor fade nor wane away. “

Zion’s Harp #137

Our hearts were encouraged and inspired by the testimony of another dear soul who has sought the Lord in repentance and found peace and joy within her heart. Sis. Kaleigh Schneider (Bro. Calvin and Sis. Jeannie) was added to the fold the weekend of July 13-15. Elder Bro. Dan Kilgus (Sis. Jenna, Remington, IN), Bro. Mike Thomas (Sis. Claudia, Valparaiso, IN) and Bro. Virg Metzger (Sis. Mary, Chicago, IL) each shared part of the weekend. We thank them for their labors.

In the midst of joy, we have a heaviness of heart as another family has taken employment elsewhere and will be moving from our congregation. Bro. Ben and Sis. Kendra, Lucy, Maria, Laura and Amber Stoller have moved to Latty, OH. They have been a part of the LaCrosse congregation for 12 years. We cherish the friendship and fellowship that we have shared with them. Also, Bro. Jackson Troxel has finished college and has taken employment in the Indianapolis area. We look forward to seeing his smiling face when he comes “home” to visit. As summer draws to a close, we also will be bidding farewell and good-bye to two young men who have had internships in our area and have been a part of our congregation for a couple of months. We have enjoyed the fellowship and added blessings of the presence of both Bro. Philip Zimmerman (Forrest, IL) and Derek Anliker (Belvidere, IL). While we will miss each of these loved ones greatly, we do wish them God’s richest blessings and we rejoice in His work in their lives as well.

We want to thank our other visiting ministers this month: Bros. Marshall Heinold (Sis. Jan, Ixtlan, MX) and Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris North, MN). May God grant them grace and strength to continue to preach the truth where ever they may go.

We welcome with thankful hearts two new babies this month. Bro. David and Sis. Betsy Virkler have been blessed with a first-born son, Drew Aaron, who arrived on June 26. His grandparents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene Dettwyler (Silverton, OR) and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gayle Virkler (Congerville, IL). We also rejoice in the birth of Alyse Nichole Frank, born to Chris and Amy Frank. Big brother, Cole, welcomes her home along with her loving grandparents, Elder Bro. Curt and Sis. Lyla Frank and Lisa Holiday of LaCrosse.

We are prayerful for our elders as they gather together for a few days and for all the brethren that will be preparing, traveling and gathering at the conference in August. May each of you be blessed with grace abounding, fullness of joy and peace in your hearts such that our love for each other as brothers and sisters of our precious Lord Jesus will not diminish.

Indiana, Leo

Kirby Reutter

Here in Leo, we’re currently in the eye of the perfect storm (i.e., the Gateway Auction). For many of us at Gateway, this means there is too much happening right now to take the time to write about it. However, the prospect of the next Gateway Auction on the horizon has caused me to reflect on what it means to be an Apostolic Christian in the Midwest.

I have to admit, when we first
moved to the midwest 3.5 years ago, introductions were rather awkward for my wife and me. We especially dreaded the following question, “What church are you from?” This is usually how I fumbled my best attempt at a response, “Well I was born and raised and baptized in Rockville, but I lived in Ixtlan for two years, where my wife is from. Yes, I’m the brother that married a Mexican sister. But then, we lived and worshipped in Morelia for six months. You didn’t know there was an Apostolic gathering in Morelia? Don’t you read the Silver Lining? But then, we also lived and worshipped with the beloved Morris brethren—twice. But then, we also spent 5.5 years in Vermont, where we worshipped at both Clarendon and Norwich. You didn’t know we had a church in Vermont? Don’t you read the Silver Lining? But now that I work at Gateway (I’m not sure what I do there—I just know that’s where I work), Leo is our home church. But since we live in Ohio, we also like to occasionally attend Wednesday evening services at Junction and Latty. But sometimes we also like to attend the Sunday morning Spanish Bible study in Milford.” Usually the glazed look was my cue to end the conversation there and move on.

Just as a random side note, is it wrong to drink deeply from the wells of the entire denomination? Does the Bible really call us to pit brother against brother, church against church, and leader against leader? Or much rather, does the Bible call us to seek the lost and edify the believer—no matter WHERE we have been called to worship? The Apostle Paul had two words for sectarianism within the Body: carnal and childish (1 Corinthians 3:1-3).

Anyway, when my wife first moved to the United States, she said to me, “Bro. Kirby, why do you want to visit all of these churches? You’re just going to meet all of these people in heaven anyway!” But now that we live in the Midwest—and now that there are finally some Spanish-speakers in the church (mostly gracias to Bro. Marshall and Sis. Jan)—my wife now says things like this, “Bro. Kirby, when can we visit Milford to see Sis. Norma? Or La Crosse to see Sis. Rosario? Or West Lafayette to see Sis. Claudia? Or Gridley to see Sis. Maria? Or Cissna Park to see Sis. Sylvia? Or Silverton to see Sis. Laura? Or Kitchener to see Sis. Marissa? And when are we going to finally visit the Spanish Bible study in Denver?”

Actually, there is one thing I remember that happened this month. Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand came to visit us from Philadelphia. (I don’t remember the date, but I do remember the sermon). In the afternoon service, Bro. Ben repeatedly compared the Body of Christ to a marching band, and repeatedly encouraged us to march in sync with the Master. While I appreciated the imagery, little did Bro. Ben know that he actually induced a traumatic flashback of my own high school experiences with marching band (one of many adolescent humiliations). I will never forget the day that the band instructor walked up to me in the middle of a practice and said to me, “Kirby, don’t even play—just try to march right!”

What if everyone was as uncoordinated and disjointed as I am? Is that really an example with which to aspire? How would that work for a local congregation? Or a residential treatment facility? Or an international denomination? How are we doing in our march to Zion? When my family gets together, our churches of origin span from Ixtlan to Kitchener to Rockville (among others). If a Mexican, Canadian, and stubborn (former) Yankee can all get along, can’t the rest of us also figure out a way? Instead of constantly reacting and over-reacting to each other’s mistakes (which there will never be a shortage of on this side of eternity), wouldn’t we all be better off “just” following the Master a little bit closer?

Note of Thanks:

Here is a fantastic example of the Body of Christ marching in sync with the Master.

“Dear Church Family: Thank you for your love and support during Zach’s three-year journey with cancer and his death. The prayers, cards,
gifts, acts of service, and kind words have been beyond our expectations. All you have done for us is a true testimony of Christ working through His Church Body. We press on knowing that your love and prayers continue. In Christ, Jenny, Zion & Moriah Bertsch and Mike & Carmon Bertsch and family”

Now that I have been in the Midwest for 3.5 years, I find it easier to simply say that I am from Leo. However, this is a shortcut for Leo, plus Rockville, plus Ixtlan, plus Norwich, plus Clarendon. Not to mention every other Apostolic church we have visited in the past, and hope to visit in the future. So in short, greetings from Leo! And see you at the auction.

**Indiana, Milford**

**Janie Price**

**Jodi Beer**

What a joy to hear the engagement of Bro. John Frauhiger (Bro. Lynn & Sis. Jenny) to Sis. Emily Steiner (Bro. Glen & Sis. Rachel) from Winthrop, MN. We look forward to their wedding on September 29. May God be with them as they travel life’s journey hand in hand.

Our annual Sunday School picnic is always a blessed evening. We thank our teachers who give of their time to influence the next generation. May God’s love encourage you to continue in His service.

**Indiana, Remington**

**Jenni Honegger**

**Marcella Tyler**

One June 23, we rejoiced greatly with Bro. Mark Waibel (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Jody) and Sis. Anna Bahler (Bro. Tim and Sis. Lynette) as they were united in marriage and became one in the Lord. We are thankful that the Lord was faithful in His guidance in their lives. We pray that He will increase their love for each other and for Him as they begin this new walk as husband and wife.

We had several visiting ministers attend the wedding. Bro. Marshall Heinold (Sis. Jan) from Ixtlan, MX, Bro. Darren Plattner (Sis. Sue) from Champaign, IL, and Bro. Ryan Schock (Sis. Melanie) from Bloomfield, IA all shared the day. On a different Sunday, Bro. Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam) from Latty, OH was also a visiting minister. We are thankful to each one for sharing the Word and pray a blessing on each one and their families.

We ask your prayers for Bro. Dan Reinhard (Sis. Delores) after his recent surgery. We pray that he will know God’s healing and strength as he recovers.

Bro. Stuart Kilgus (Elder Bro. Dan and Sis. Jenna) was home for a short period of time after taking an extended trip in Haiti. He now plans to serve there again for another extended stay. We pray that God will bless Bro. Stuart’s efforts, as well as the Haitian people that he travels to serve.

At the end of June we had our annual Sunday School picnic. Once again it was a fun event for the whole church. The children were excited to say their memory verses, sing their songs, receive their gifts, and be promoted to the next class, while the church was edified and encouraged to see the seeds of the Word being sown in the next generation.

This is also the time of year that our outgoing teachers end their term and the incoming teachers begin theirs. We are thankful to each one that served in the past year. It surely is a labor of love. We must remember to pray for and support our Sunday School teachers as well as the students.

As we look forward to the brotherhood conference in August,
we want to again remember to pray for our elder body. We must earnestly lift them up to the Lord for His guidance, help and strength, if we expect them to be able to lead us along His path. May God bless them for their many sacrifices (both seen and unseen) on our behalf.

Indiana, South Bend
Joshua Martinez

“We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.” Psalm 78:4

The theme of this year’s South Bend Vacation Bible School was Romans 8:28. Our children learned through the story of Moses that even when bad things happen to us, God is still in control and can be trusted. May the Lord bless the teachers, parents and grandparents who lovingly shared their time and effort to inspire our precious next generation.

We are thankful for a new convert, Kelcie Lehman (Bro. Don and Sis. Jill), who has made the choice to place her trust in our Savior’s promises. May the Grace of our Lord be poured out on Kelcie abundantly.

We appreciate the visiting ministers and their families who served and blessed us this month: Bro. Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL), Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI), Bro. Randy Beer (Sis. Debra, Milford, IN), and Bro. Jeff Bahler (Sis. Heidi, Wolcott, IN).

Bro. Bob Beebe travelled to Haiti this month. We pray for Bro. Bob’s safe return and for the ministry at Hospital Lumiere.

“Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place.” 2 Corinthians 2:14

Indiana, Valparaiso
Marguerite Hoerr
Sherry Meiss

We want to express our thanks to Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla from Chicago), who assisted Bro. Mike Thomas one Sunday this month. We’re always grateful to ministers who are willing to share God’s Word. Our new ministering Bro. Chad Huber (Sis. Pam, Francesville) receives our thanks also for assisting Bro. Mike one Sunday. We ask God to bless both of these brothers for their love and for their sharing hearts.

As I write this news, I think of those in our church family who have been ill, and have been hospitalized. Our dear friend, Dave Kotzer, whom we love so much, has had two surgeries within the past month. We were so thankful to have him back in church today. Our prayers have been answered because he told me today that he got good news, and he looked as if he felt quite well.

Dale Meiss, another most-loved friend, has been hospitalized with an infection and has been quite ill. He’s now home, but has to make daily trips back to the hospital for treatments. He, too, has been in our prayers and we will continue until we also hear that he has good news to share. The report from Sis. Sherry today is that he is gradually feeling better. We are so grateful for both of them.

We’ve also been so concerned for Sis. Lois Bucher, wife of our ministering Bro. Garry. She had heart surgery in Indianapolis. She told me how blest they feel for the care and concern given by John Isch, long-time friend and former heart surgeon, who directed them to the right doctor. Both Sherry & Garry have also been surrounded by loving family during this time. This past week, she had to be hospitalized again, but is back home once more and doing better.

All three of the above folks are such an important part of our Valpo church. We have been with them in love and prayers. How thankful we are to God for His mercies.

We had welcome visitors from Princeville, IL this month and enjoyed them very much: Bro. Roger and Sis. Darlene Herrmann and two of their family, Sis. Larissa and Garrett. Also accompanying them was Trishana Josephs, who teaches in Montego Bay, Jamaica. I sat behind Sis. Darlene, her daughter and Trishana this morning and was mesmerized by observing Sis. Darlene “sign” Bro. Garry’s sermon.
to Trishana. It made me concentrate more fully on the words coming from the pulpit as I realized how Darlene had to concentrate on those words to relay them with her hands to Trishana. It was a beautiful thing to see and enriched the services for me. One never knows what blessings we will receive when we step into the doors of our loved little Valpo church. I was able to meet this interesting family during the lunch hour and being able to do this blessed me still more.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Carol Bucher had all of their children visit them this month. It was a joy to see the smaller grandchildren cuddle up to their Grandma during our services. We know how much it meant to them to have their family visit, because summertime brings family to visit us, too. Bob and I have been so blest to have various members come to see us this past month. Since we moved to this area, it seems as if we have seen more of our family which means so much. When we invite local family members to see them, it warms our hearts to see the love between them as they meet each other. The older we get the more we realize that love comes in many forms. It touches our hearts and reminds us of God’s love which always blesses our hearts.

Always remember that we welcome visitors in Valpo. We want you to remember that we are 2⅜ miles south of U. S. 30 on IN S.R. 49. We will be blest by your presence, too.

**Indiana, West Lafayette**

**Katie Widmer**

God is so good, and it is exciting to see His hand working to bring lives together. We are so happy to have two recent wedding announcements.

Congratulations to Bro. Clayton Walder (son of Bro. Russ and Sis. Darlene from West Lafayette) on his engagement to Sis. Abbey Schieler (daughter of Bro. Eric and Sis. Nancy from Elgin).

Also a huge congratulation to a very recent Purdue alum, Bro. Jackson Troxel (Lacrosse), as he and Sis. Paige Meyer (Bluffton) were just engaged.

We rejoice with both couples and all of the families as they experience this exciting new change in life!

**Indiana, Wolcott**

**Michelle Earney**

**Beckie Lehman**

We are thankful for another month that has quickly gone by. We have had many families that traveled across the states on vacations. We are thankful that everyone has been safe.

Kent and Jordan Bahler welcomed Eli Harrison to their family on July 16. Grandparents are Sis. Elaine Bahler, Steve and Brenda Bahler, and David and Cora Bailey. Great Grandparents are Bro. Alfred and Sis. Frances Bahler.

**Iowa, Bloomfield**

**Teresa Schock**

We have again been blessed with visiting ministers. Bro. Dave Marquart (Sis. Lori, Taylor) and Bro. Ted Witzig, Jr. (Sis. Donna, Morton) were with us this month. It was a blessing to have them.

We are saddened to have one of our young families move. Bro. Seth and Sis. Brenda Harter with their children, Shadrach and Tarren, have felt directed to attend our Burlington church. Our loss is their gain. Their last Sunday here was June 30, which was our Sunday School picnic. It is a special picnic with the kids in each class doing crafts, games, etc. It was enjoyed by all.

**Iowa, Burlington**

**Marilyn Anderson**

**Monica Eisenmann**

We have had many blessings this past month. On June 23, we welcomed three new brothers into our church family. They are Andrew Schulz (Bro. Gary & Sis. Melody) and Joseph and Daniel Steiner (Bro. Mike & Sis. Ivy).

We are thankful and happy to welcome Bro. Seth & Sis. Brenda (Schulz) Harter and family to our Burlington congregation. Bro. Seth is employed in the area.

We also welcomed several visiting ministers for the baptism weekend.
and at other times this past month. They were: Elder Bros. Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL), Bruce Endress (Bradford, IL), and Jon Schmidgall (Oakville-Mediapolis, IA). Other guests ministers were Bros. Glen Steiner (Winthrop, MN), Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Dale Frank and Tom Lanz (Oakville-Mediapolis, IA). May God richly bless them for their efforts.

Iowa, Elgin

Maria Rocke

We rejoice with Brad and Laura Schneider as they had a healthy baby boy, Keyten Lee, on July 7. We wish them God’s blessings as they now travel the road of parenthood. Bro. Charles and Sis. Sue Schneider, Carol Molitor and Robert Molitor (Lester, IA) are his grandparents.

Ministering Bro. Brandon Emch (Sis. Maria, Kansas City, MO) and his family were with us on July 7. May God bless Bro. Brandon for his labors from the pulpit.

We’ve enjoyed having a couple extra brothers in our congregation this summer. Bro. Steven Schock (Ames, IA) has been working in the area, and Bro. Doug Schupbach (Gridley, IL) has spent his summer break from school in Elgin. We will miss them both as they will be heading back to their respective churches soon.

Iowa, Garden Grove

Laura Funk

We have enjoyed many visitors this past month. Being used as God’s messenger was Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL). Our congregation appreciates the willingness of these brothers to bring God’s Word.

We welcome all to visit. Garden Grove is on the way to everywhere!!

Iowa, Iowa City

Diana Butikofer

We are planning to have our annual College Student Welcome picnic following afternoon services on Sunday, September 15. This is to welcome all our area college students to the Iowa City congregation. If you or someone you know will be attending a college in our area this fall, please call Sis. Connie Gerst at (319) 846-2348 with your contact information and to RSVP for the picnic.

Iowa, Lester

Audrey Metzger

Joyce Moser

“And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.” Eccl. 4:12

What a blessing to be able to have those we can count on help us withstand the onslaught of the enemy!

Our Bro. Jeff Popkes (Sis. Eleanor) was married to our Sis. Tara Kellenberger (Bro. Dennis & Sis. Shirley) on June 30. God’s plan in providing them as helpmates to each other seems so perfect. We wish them God’s blessing & direction in their lives together.

Sunday, July 7, was the day that our Sis. Laura Knobloch (Bro. Myron & Sis. Beth) became the wife of Bro. Aaron Kaeb (Bro. Curt & Sis. Luanne) from Alto, MI. We will miss Sis. Laura’s cheerful face and disposition in Lester, but know she will be a blessing to the Alto congregation.

We congratulate Austin Knobloch (Bro. Denis & Sis. Jackie) on his engagement to Abbie Colson.

Two of our converts, Tyler Metzger (grandson of Bro. Art & Sis. Kristy) and LaChelle Moser (Bro. Brad & Sis. Gloria), feel the “peace that passeth understanding”. We rejoice with them and look forward to hearing their testimonies and witnessing their baptisms.

We are thankful that souls are still seeking the door of salvation. Lynelle Mogler (Bro. Rodney & Sis. Lois), Tyler Moser (Bro. Brad & Sis. Gloria), and Chad Knoblock (Bro. Troy & Sis. Donna) have each begun an earnest repentance. We rejoice with them and their families!

We thank the following brothers for bringing God’s teachings to us in the past month: Bro. Kevin Wulf (Morris, MN), Bro. Larry Bahr (Ft. Scott, KS), Bro. Ron Jones (Portland, OR), Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Bro. Kent Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Dennis Rassi (Austin, TX), Bro. Ned Stoller (Alto, MI) and Bro. Mark Schmidgall.
(Oakville-Mediapolis, IA). We can feel edified each time God’s Word goes forth!

Hospital patients this past month include: Bro. Kevin Knapp (Sis. Cari), Sis. Mardi Leuthold (Bro. Larry), and Nicole Meyer (Bro. Merlin & Sis. Marilyn). We pray for God’s healing touch, and hope each of these loved ones will soon be fully recovered. We also covet prayers for our Bro. Perry Mogler and his family, in his ongoing battle with cancer.

We welcome Bro. David & Sis. Margene Peasley back “home” to Lester after several years with the LaCrosse, IN congregation.

**Iowa, Oakville**

**Sharla Wiegand**

The first wedding in our new church building was held July 7. Bro. Josh Lanz (Bro. Ron and Sis. Timna) and Sis. Karrie Wagenbach (Bro. Jerry, Jr. and Sis. Bonnie) exchanged vows before a cloud of witnesses. It was a privilege to have plenty of space for a large crowd. We wish the couple God’s abundant blessings. Elder Bro. Rick Plattner (Fairbury, IL) and Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Wolcott, IN) were visiting ministers for the special occasion.

Bro. Dale Wulf (Lester, IA) shared the pulpit on June 30. May God bless him for bringing forth the Word.

Veterans in our congregation hosted their Fort Sam reunion on July 14. Visiting ministers were Bros. Floyd Graves (Croghan-Naumberg, NY), Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) and Nelson Beer (Milford, IN).

**Iowa, West Bend**

**Yvonne Bruellman**

**Becky Virkler**

June 23 was the wedding date of Derek Wirtz and Allie Kleespies. Parents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Wirtz and Bill and Marilee Kleespies. May God bless this union of hearts.

Several of our students and parents traveled to Magdalena, MX this month. Again, God blessed them with safe travels and precious memories.

Needing hospitalization for medical reasons were: Amy Van Wyhe (Mike), Sis. Joyce Banwart, Dexter Knobloch (Bro. Denton and Sis. Rose) and Bro. Ervin Banwart. May our all-knowing and gracious God continue to be near our hospital patients, along with many who receive medical attention in the doctor’s office and ER.

We are thankful for the safe arrival of little Brin Avery. Parents are Mike and Amy Van Wyhe along with her siblings: Kaden, Macy and Josie. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Wirtz and Gary and Karen VanWyhe.

Bro. Dale Moore (Sis. Cheryl, Elgin, IA) and Bro. Glen Steiner (Sis. Rachel, Winthrop, MN) ministered to us this month. May God bless them for their sincere efforts.

**Japan, Tokyo**

**Marie Inoue**

The hot and humid days of summer are here after our rainy season has finished. This weather is not so comfortable, but they say that that’s what it takes to make the delicious peaches and other fruits.

The lightening flashed and thunder roared as we gathered for our Sunday School outing. We thought there would be no chance for outside games, but the Lord saw our need and soon the weather calmed down and the heavy rain stopped and a nice time was had by all. We look forward to September when the class resumes again.

We held a “farewell” on June 30 for our dear Sis. Manuela Denes, who has spent the last two years as the librarian at the Canadian International School. We miss her personality and fine addition to our fellowship. We wish her well as she returns to her family and church family in Windsor and Detroit.

We lift up our Bro. Yoshio Yamazaki in prayer as he is hospitalized at this time for a light stroke. He may be transferred to a rehab hospital in the future. We hope he can make a good recovery.

Our visiting ministers this month were our dear Bros. Elder Mark Bahr (Detroit) and Akihiro Ito.
(Sis. Carrie, Shioda). We thank God for the inspired Word they shared. May we all heed the guidance given in love, as we were encouraged to a closer walk with our Lord.

Kansas, Bern
Jill Meyer
Rita Menold

“And how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!”
Romans 10:15

We are thankful for the many visiting ministers we have had this past month. They include: Bro. Bob Dotterer (Sis. Laura, Sardis), Bro. Todd Sinn (Sis. Janet, Latty), Bro. Tim Lehman (Sis. Amber, Taylor), Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction) and Bro. Troy Leyse (Sis. Kelly, Bluffton). May God bless you for your service in bringing forth the Gospel!

Our prayers have been with Bro. Steve Harter, who has been a medical patient in the last month. How grateful we are that God is the true Healer!

It was a blessing to gather as a church family for our annual Sunday School picnic on July 7. We appreciate the many efforts of our Sunday School teachers and the eagerness of the students. We pray each seed sown in tender hearts will bring forth fruit in its time.

Kansas, Fort Scott
Teresa Bahr

A World Relief tool trailer is in Fort Scott at this time to be used in home repairs for families in our community who are in need, since a hail storm on April 7, 2013. Along with our local brothers, sisters, friends and children; brothers came from Bern, Sabetha, and Kansas City on July 13, 2013 to assist re-roofing a home. We certainly thank all those who gave of their time toward this worthwhile project.

Bro. Justin Moser (Sis. Robin, Altadena, CA) and family were here visiting family. He was used to minister the Word.

We’ve had three of our loved ones in the hospital: Sis. Jan Boge (Bro. Bill), Bro. Don Banwart (Sis. Aleta), and Talya Banwart (Bro. Tyler and Sis. Tina).

Kansas, Kiowa
Janice Bahr
Jenny Stewart

“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”
Romans 5:1-2

We are so thankful that Staci Stewart (Bro. Kelly and Sis. Jenny) has found peace with God and man. We rejoice with her and look forward to hearing her testimony of faith in the near future.

Our congregation had the privilege to hold services this month at the Kiowa Manor. It is always a blessing to share God’s Word and sing his praises.

Our door is always open to visitors traveling through for vacation. We welcome any travelers to worship with us. You are a blessing to our small congregation.

Kansas, Lamont-Gridley
Sarah Somerhalder

As a nation, we celebrated Independence Day. Let us be thankful for the faith of our fathers and our religious freedom in America.

Our church was blessed with many visitors the last two months and we appreciated each one.

Sunday school will resume the first week of August. We want to thank the teachers for instructing our precious youth.

Kansas, Sabetha
Dawn Strahm
Sally Strahm

“The earth is the Lord’s, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.” Psalm 24:1

Jarod Harter (Bro. David and Sis. Beth), Jacob Rees (Jason and Sis. Lynn) and Leah Metzger (Bro. Jared and Sis. Carla) have answered the call of God and are beginning a walk of repentance with Him. Our prayers are with them and their families.

We were blessed to hear the
provings and witness the baptisms of Bro. Andrew Hartter (Bro. James and Sis. Sandy) and Bro. Daniel Hartter (Bro. Tim and Sis. Charleen). We thank our Elder Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane, Silverton, OR) and Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS) for being with us that weekend.

Sis. Sharlyn Huber (late Bro. Gordon Huber) welcomes a granddaughter, Parry Amelia, into her family circle. Tyler and Whitney Huber of Tabernash, CO are Parry’s parents.


May God be with them as they raise little Charlie.

The visiting ministers this past month were Bro. Ron Isch (Sis. Jane, Lamont-Gridley, KS), Elder Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane, Silverton, OR) and Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City, MO). May God bless each one of you for your labors of love.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Bro. Frank Hertzel who passed from this life on July 7. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Ruth Hertzel, and children Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzel (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS), David Hertzel (Camille, Baldwin City, KS), Karen Heiniger (Cedric, Sabetha, KS) and Kristy Schweitzer (Brian, Morrill, KS). Bro. Frank will be missed by many in our congregation. May God wrap His loving arms around this family.

Matt and Ashley Kaufman were married June 14. We wish them God’s blessings. Matt’s parents are Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol Kaufman.

Our single group hosted company the weekend of June 15 & 16. We were thankful for all the visitors.

The annual Family Potluck Picnic was held July 12. We enjoyed the evening of singing and fellowship. The same evening a farewell was held for Bro. Korbin and Sis. Marla Beyer and family as they are moving to Champaign, IL. We will miss them but we wish them God’s blessing in their move.

“Come follow me the Saviour spake, All in my way abiding! Deny yourselves the world forsake; Obey my call and guiding! O hear my cross whate’er betide; Take my example for your guide! Then let us follow our dear Lord, Bearing the cross appointed, And bravely clinging to His Word, In suffering be undaunted. He who shall bear the battle’s strain, The crown of life shall there obtain.” Christ, Our Intercessor, Zion’s Harp #57

Note: If you know of anyone visiting in the Omaha, NE/Lincoln, NE area with church connections, contact Bro. Keith and Sis. Carol Kaufman at (785) 285-1394.

Mexico, Ixtlán

Matt Gerber

The second annual Mexican fellowship weekend was held in Ixtlan the last weekend of June. The purpose of the weekend was to promote spiritual fellowship and a sense of brotherhood among the Apostolic Christian congregations in Mexico. This is in line with efforts approved several years ago by the elder bodies from the Apostolic Christian Church of America and the Apostolic Christian Church (Nazarean) to allow the congregations in Mexico to freely visit and mutually support one another in efforts to spread the Gospel*. This is a great blessing for the Mexican churches because we are few and small, and there is much encouragement in fellowship with others who share the same faith and doctrine.

A large group from Barra Vieja made the 12-hour trip, and visitors from the sister congregations in Tecate, Baja California and San Jose, Sonora drove more than 30 hours to participate. Elder Bro. Mike Leman and Tecate elder Bro. Jose Cervantes attended.

Some of the spiritual themes emphasized during the gathering were: serving others as Christ served; Ephesians 4—our high calling and...
building one another up in unity; and forgiveness. Everyone was blessed by the spiritual discussion, teaching, singing, and interaction between congregations that are separated by great distances but united by a likeminded faith. This event was made possible by financial support from the Mission Committee to help cover travel expenses, and by local believers who opened their homes to host our guests.

On July 2 teachers, students, parents, and community representatives gathered for the year-end program at school. The children sang hymns and recited poems, reflecting the focus on Christ that should always be front and center in our education. We give God the thanks and credit for the work accomplished this year.

*Anyone who would like to know more about this initiative should feel free to contact Elder Bro. Mike Leman.

**Michigan, Bay City**

*Sarah Knochel*

*Janelle Ramseyer*

Our prayers have been with Bro. Merle Wieland (Sis. Elaine) as he spent time in the hospital recently. Our prayers are with him for a speedy recovery.

We were blessed to have Bro. Dave Steffen (Sis. Linda, Elgin, IL) and his family in our area for the July 4 weekend. We are thankful he was willing to minister the Word.

It is very refreshing to see the Lord working in the heart of dear ones from our congregation. It is an added blessing when these loved ones are announced as having peace with God and man. Shawn Curtis was announced recently and we are looking forward to his baptism weekend.

> “Lord, I am fondly, earnestly longing Into Thy holy likeness to grow; Thirsting for more and deeper communion,
> Yearning Thy love more fully to know. Open the wells of grace and salvation, Pour the rich streams deep into my heart;
> Cleanse and refine my thought and affection, Seal me and make me pure as Thou art.” Hymns of Zion, #171

**Michigan, Detroit**

*Krista Wieland*

If we knew our life was going to end in a week, would we do anything different in our remaining time on earth? Would we ask forgiveness from someone we have hurt? Would we forgive someone who has hurt us instead of waiting until they apologize? Is there something hidden in our life that we would confess to someone and repent for? Who would we visit or call just to say, “I love you”? Would we spend a little more time with our kids? Would we hug them a little more and criticize them a little less? What about spouses? Would we put their needs ahead of our own and pray for desire to serve them in a way that blesses them? Would we sponsor a child that has so little? Would we talk less and listen more to others? Would we take more time with the elderly? Is there someone we have wanted to talk to about salvation, but just haven’t “had time” yet? Would we humbly pray for help when we are dealing with someone we disagree with? Would we talk about the things God has done for us more than our challenges? The list could go on and on, but it is sure convicting to me. I couldn’t help but notice that these questions are all about our relationships, with one another and with Christ. How are the relationships in our life? In the end, aren’t people and Jesus what really matters? Let’s ask for help from the Holy Spirit to live every day as if it were our last.

> “Draw nigh to God and he will draw nigh to you”. James 4:8

We are thankful and prayerful for convert, Bonnie Jermo, who has answered the call of the Savior to turn her life over to Him. We support and want to encourage her in her new walk of faith.

Our congregation was blessed this month in sharing Communion together. We want to thank Elder Bro. Paul (Sis. Jan) Messner from Winthrop, MN who travelled a long distance to share in this beautiful occasion, when we could remember...
Congregation Updates

our Savior’s great love and sacrifice for us. Bro. Paul also stayed for Sunday services to share the Word.

We want to thank Alto’s Bro. Howard (Sis. Kristen) Plattner for coming as a guest minister to Livonia and preach at Woodhaven to the residents.

Our congregation was greatly blessed by the 40+ young members who came from Bluffton, Bluffton North, Leo, Toledo, Bay City, LaCrosse, Akron, Mansfield, Smithville and Canada for the Independence Day weekend Young Group Invite, which focused on being a witness for Christ. Their enthusiasm, singing, fellowship and love was a huge blessing to our congregation. The group also wrapped 400 Bibles for the Peoria Church to mail to prisoners, knotted 14 comforters for World Relief distribution and packaged 150 health kits for missions in Mexico. It is encouraging to see our future church so focused on helping others, both spiritually and physically.

Luke Knochel and Juliann Bermudez were married this month. We wish this special couple God’s nearness and blessings as they begin this new and exciting part of their life. Parents of the couple are Bro. Dana and Sis. Beth Knochel from our church, and Bill and Ann Ostlund from Livonia, MI.

We had our annual Woodhaven Choir Benefit this month. There were visitors from numerous churches and all enjoyed a meal and then a choral program. We thank Sis. Judy Aberle for coordinating the meal and Bro. Kurt Munsel from Bay City who used his culinary talents in the preparation of the meat for the meal. We also want to say a big thanks to the choir who praised God with beautiful songs that blessed both them and those who listened. It was a wonderful evening for everyone who was present.

Bro. Milan Germaine had surgery and is currently at home recovering. Our prayers are with him. We look forward to seeing him again in church soon.

Carson Frank, young son of Bro. Lucas and Sis. Crystal Frank, has had some recent kidney-related issues. Our prayers are with the family and with the doctors for wisdom about the best course of action for his medical issue.

Our Elder Bro. Mark Bahr is currently in Japan with our churches there. Our prayers are with the Japan congregations as well as Mark’s safe travels.

We had a wonderful week of Vacation Bible School with a focus on Ephesians 6: Putting on the Whole Armor of God. In addition to the teaching, skits, crafts and activities, the junior high and high school classes volunteered at Detroit Gleaners Food Bank Distribution Center and the younger classes sang the songs they learned to the residents at Woodhaven. The kids also packed school kits that were then sent onto Bluffton for distribution. The willingness by our church family to be generous with their time and talents made the week a success. The kids learned lessons and made memories that will stay with them for a long time. We had a great team of people contributing their efforts. All of it was appreciated! May God bless each of you for furthering His kingdom! We also want to give a special thank you to Bro. Matt Oesch his wife, Sis. Shelli, and their young children who came from Alto on Wednesday night to share a Spirit-inspired message on being equipped with the Armor of God as we go into the daily spiritual battle.

We sincerely thank the Sunday School teachers who have completed their rotation. We wish to ask God’s blessings on our new teachers: Sis. Trudy Schmidt and Bro. Brian Blume.

Our church warmly welcomes Bro. Al and Sis. Maryann Weigele who will be moving here from Rittman, OH.

Minnesota, Minneapolis
Brenda Messner
Betty Rassi Lindwall

We wish God’s blessings for two couples who were joined in marriage. Bro. Ben Dill (Bro. Dewayne and Sis. LaRae) and Sis. Suzy Klotzle (Elder
Bro. Tom and Sis. Jody of Altadena, CA) were married in CA on June 23. Drew Messner (Todd and Sis. Renee) and Erin Kangas were married on June 21.

“What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.” Matthew 19:6

Our love and sympathy go out to Bro. Matt (Sis. Marti) Saurer whose father, Bro. Roger, passed away in Smithville, OH.

Visiting ministers are a special blessing of our denomination. Bro. Scott (Sis. Gigi) Schafer from South Bend, IN ministered to us this past month. May God richly bless him for bringing us His Word.

We had a blessed week of Vacation Bible School with the theme of the “Greatest Commandment” from Mark 12. One evening, one of our high schoolers dressed in a tux to play the part of Job. He told the participants that whenever one of them sinned, he would have to sacrifice some of the candy, that was piled high in a wheelbarrow, on the fire. The kids were wide-eyed and objected loudly when the candy was burned. We are so thankful for Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who willingly became the sacrifice for our sins.

Minnesota, Morris
Amy Ekren
Heidi Pfaffmann

We were blessed to have many visiting ministers this month: Bros. Robert Dotterer (Sis. Laura, Sardis, OH), Scott Schaefer (Sis. Gigi, South Bend, IN), Dan Moser (Sis. Anne, Elgin, IL), Ned Bahler (Sis. Anna Fairbury, IL), Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville, IL), Lynn Stieglitz (Sis. Leonda, Leo, IN) and David Eisenmann (Sis. Jackie, Champaign, IL).

In June, we celebrated Father’s Day and remember not only our earthly fathers, but our Father up in Heaven.

We also had the privilege of fellowshipping with brothers and sisters from the Fairbury area, who made their journey to Minnesota via bus! What a blessing for our congregation.

Easton Hacker and Chris Moser were hospitalized this month. Let’s remember to thank Him for our daily health and strength.

Reed Kampmeier and Jenna Moser were recently joined in marriage. Parents are Jon and Lori Moser. May they look to Him as they walk down this path of life together.

Bro. Paul and Sis. Marie Sauder and family have departed Minnesota for Illinois. We are thankful for the time they spent here and pray for God’s blessings as they make their new home. They will be missed!

“Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above... When we asunder part it gives us inward pain; but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.”

Hymns of Zion #156, vs. 1, 4

Minnesota, Winthrop
Lindsay Schmidt
Julie Schmidt

“My country ’tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrim’s pride,
From ev’ry mountain side
Let freedom ring!”

Tabernacle Hymns #351

July 4th is the day our country celebrates Independence Day from the ruling of an oppressive country. As we celebrated our country’s freedom, let us be thankful to our forefather’s that fought for our freedom to worship our God. Let us also be thankful that through God we have a freedom and independence that only His children can understand. Freedom from our sins, which we have obtained through the blood of our Lord and Savior, and the independence we have from Satan and his oppression.

“And these words, which I command you this day, shall be in thine heart: and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children...” Deuteronomy 6:6-7

As another Sunday School year ended, so did the teaching terms for Sis. Heather Steiner, Sis. Becky Braulick (Marlyn), Bro. David Messner (Sis. Bethany). We want
Congregation Updates

to thank them for their years of service and give support to newly-elected teachers: Bro. David Messner (Sis. Bethany), Sis. Joleen Elder (Bro. John) and substitute teacher, Sis. Victoria Stoll (Bro. Ed & Sis. Ginny). We would also like to give support to this year’s Sunday School superintendent, Bro. Nick Schmidt (Sis. Julie). The duty of Silver Lining has also been given to Sis. Lindsay Schmidt (Bro. Verl & Sis. Jamie) and Sis. Julie Schmidt (Bro. Nick).

“Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”

Genesis 2:24

We rejoice with Sis. Emily Steiner (Bro. Glen & Sis. Rachel) and Bro. John Frauhiger of Milford, IN (Bro. Lynn & Sis. Jenny, Bluffton, IN) in their engagement. Our thoughts and prayers are with them as they make their wedding plans.

“The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him.”

Psalm 28:7

Our church has had a nice flow of visitors this summer. Thanks to each of you who shared in our fellowship. Special thanks to Bro. Ryan and Sis. Joy Hoerr (Princeville) for sharing God’s Word during our monthly rotation.

Missouri, Lamar

Venetta Banwart

“There shall be a man that leaves his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.”

Zion’s Harp #200

“We were privileged to partake of Holy Communion this month. Thanks Elder Bros. Doug Schock (Bloomfield, IA) and Curt Frank (La Crosse, IN) for their service. We would also like to thank our other visiting ministers this month for feeding us from God’s Holy and living Word: Bro. Lenard Meyer (Sis. Charlotte, Chicago, IL), Bro. Dean Messner (Sis. Wanda, Winthrop, MN), Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL), Retired Elder Bro. Don Braker (Sis. Eileen, Kansas City, MO). May God bless each one. We thank our many visitors this month. It is an encouragement to us to see faithful brethren worship with us.

We are thankful that Elder Doug Schock (Sis. Clara) is designated to be our counseling elder. May God bless him as he takes the responsibility of shepherding us here at Lamar. We rejoice with grandparents, Bro. Gene and Sis. Linda, as they welcome their granddaughter, Talya Jade Hany. Parents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Andrea Hany (Rockville, CT). May the Lord bless each of them.

Missouri, St. Louis

Kary Mangers

“Our church has had a nice flow of visitors this summer. Thanks to each of you who shared in our fellowship. Special thanks to Bro. Ryan and Sis. Joy Hoerr (Princeville) for sharing God’s Word during our monthly rotation.

Missouri, Taylor

Marcia Sutter

“Then shall the righteous also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger and took thee in? or naked and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you Inasmuch as ye have done it to the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”

Matthew 25:37-40

Week after week, faithful brothers and sisters from our congregation go the Palmyra, MO jail. Our church appreciates it, and also, God sees the work that is being done there. It is our sincere hope that the inmates will find their salvation and turn their lives around. Those that minister to the prisoners come away feeling God’s blessings.

Our dear Sis. Phyllis Knapp
(Bro. Kenny) is now home from the nursing home and progressing as expected. We are glad she is able to come and worship with us the past couple weeks. Bro. Steve Sutter (Sis. Deb) was hospitalized at St. John’s Hospital in Springfield, IL for a heart procedure and is recuperating now at home. Both families covet our continued prayers for them in this recovery process.

It was so uplifting to watch the children come to Vacation Bible School with such expectations and enthusiasm. Our theme was “Standing Strong in the Battle for Truth”. The High School students put on nightly skits. All the children learned about putting on the whole armor of God. Each person that participated, including the teachers, were so blessed to be a part of this learning process.

During July, our church has a themed Adult Bible Study on Wednesday evenings. On July 3, Bro. Brad (Sis. Karen) Metz from Bloomington-Normal came and did a Bible Study on “Who is the Holy Spirit”. His wife and small children were unable to come, so he drove all the way here and back by himself. On July 10, Bro. Jeff (Sis. Margo) Waibel came by himself from Leo, IN to talk about the “Indwelling and Filling of the Holy Spirit”. On July 17, Bro. Mark (Sis. Sally) spoke to us about “the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives”. We are blessed to have brothers that are willing to come a distance to teach us about God’s Holy Word as Jesus taught His disciples.

Bro. Jay (Sis. Jane) Luthi from Lamont, KS ministered to us on July 7. He and his family met other family members here at Taylor. We are glad that families meet here and bring us visiting ministers.

We again celebrated our nation’s independence and our freedoms including worshiping as we are led. So many soldiers have given their lives so that we can worship God without fear of persecution. Our prayer is that the people living in the USA will continue to serve God and turn from their sins. May God bless this land of America.

Ohio, Akron
Erika Gal
Congratulations and best wishes to Bro. David Henico and Sis. Michelle Hrubik. They were united in the Lord on June 9. We trust they will feel God’s grace and nearness as they begin their walk of life together.

We wish to thank Bro. Andy Stoller (Smithville) and Bro. Bob Riggenbach (Rittman) for laboring on our behalf. We pray that God will bless them both. Bro. Andy was with us to help Bro. Dave with the testimonies of Bro. Jason and Sis. Ruth Andras and Bro. Michael Andras. We are happy to welcome them into our fellowship.

Ohio, Junction
Vicki Boroff
We were thankful to have several visiting ministers this month: Bros. Tim Ramsier (Sis. Joni, Rittman), Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis), and Don Steidl (Sis. Nan, Akron).

Those needing prayers for medical reasons recently have included Bro. Ralph Schlatter (Sis. Sheila) and Sis. Linda Lord (Charles).

On June 25, Abrie joined her sister, Emma. Pleased parents are Mark and Tiffany Hurd. Grandparents are Bro. Pete and Sis. Helen Hurd, Larry Wright and Brenda Kindell. On June 20, Cooper joined his siblings, Remington and
Kimber. Parents are Bro. Rex and Sis. Vicki Boroff. Grandparents are Pauline Boroff, and Wilbur and Dianne Klopfenstein.

Ohio, Latty
Carmen Stoller
Mindy Stoller

We were thankful that Sis. Beth and Sis. Rebekah Klopfenstein (Bro. Lee and Sis. Desma, Haiti) were able to come home recently and be baptized into the body of Christ. May God richly bless them and continue to guide them. We miss the Klopfenstein family and continue to keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they work for the Lord in Haiti!

We wish to thank our many visiting ministers this past month. They include Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Sis. Ronda, Bluffton, IN), Bro. Craig Stickling (Sis. Jacqueline, Peoria, IL), Bro. Vic Bauman (Sis. Brenda, Smithville, OH), and Bro. Doug Harmon (Sis. Lanna, Toledo, OH). We were so thankful to sit together in heavenly places with them! May God be their rich rewarder.

We thank the Lord for the safe arrival of three precious babies this month! Jace Dennis joined Derek and Sis. Kim Miller on June 24. He was welcomed home by Anna, Brady, and Brenan. Grandparents include Bro. Ray and Sis. Carol Stoller and Dennis and Jan Miller. Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Alexis Stoller welcomed Eden Kaye into their family on June 27. She was welcomed by Faith and Sophia at home. Grandparents include Bro. Rod and Sis. LeAnn Stoller and Bro. Randy and Sis. Sue Gasser (Detroit, MI). July 19 was the birthday of Jayde Renee Sinn, born to Bro. Thad and Sis. Kara Sinn. Tylan welcomes her at home. Thankful grandparents include Bro. Todd and Sis. Janet Sinn and Bro. Doug and Sis. Judy Kraft (Lamont-Gridley, KS). May these parents feel God’s grace and guidance as they raise their families in Him. What a blessing to see growth in the church!

Genesis 2:18 “And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.”

God has been gracious in providing help meets for three of our loved ones this month. Gabe Stoller (Bro. Mark, dec. and Sis. Shirley) was given in marriage to Kristi Hill (Bro. Michael and Sis. Deloris, Mansfield, OH). Lauren Offerle (Terry and Patty) was united with Roy Salisbury (Roger and Becky). Kurt Plummer (Bro. Rick and Sis. Denise) married Sarah Zeigler (Dale and Joni Zeigler). May these couples be blessed in their new walks of life and feel God’s continued nearness.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Sis. Edna Roth (Bro. Harold) from Roanoke. She was the mother of Sis. Eileen (Bro. Kirk) Stoller. May the family feel God’s peace and comfort at this time as we continue to lift them up in prayer.

Ohio, Mansfield
Elizabeth Walter

Our thoughts and prayers go out to our Sis. Becky Vent (Richard) and Bro. John Miller (Sis. Lillian), who both spent time in the hospital this month. We are thankful that Bro. Larry Bocka has moved from the hospital to Heartland Nursing Home to continue his recovery.

A beautiful afternoon was enjoyed by all during our annual Sunday School Picnic. The children were engaged in a variety of games and activities, followed by a potluck and singing for everyone. We thank all those who made the effort to contribute to this blessed time of fellowship.

We thank Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Sis. Sharon, Cissna Park, IL) for visiting and sharing God’s Word.

Another wonderful weekend of fellowship was experienced through the hosting of our 41st Annual Ohio-Michigan Youth Day. The theme for the weekend was “What is Truth?”. May all those who worked to host, and those who made the effort to participate, feel God’s truth enlighten their lives. We thank our visiting ministers Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction, OH) and Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH), for being willing to bring the Word to both the church and the
Youth Fellowship Day.

“He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he.” Deut. 32:4

Ohio, Rittman
Anna Bauman
Julia Gasser

“Faith and hope and love adorn Heart and life of all true Christians; With these must each child of God Be endowed in full submission. All who wish to serve God truly Must show forth these virtues fully.” Faith, Hope, and Love, Zion’s Harp #78

Our faith was increased by hearing the Word brought forth this month. Visiting ministers were: Elder Bro. Lynn Fiechter (Bluffton, IN), Bros. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), Gary Maibach (Smithville, OH), and Dana Nieman (Remington, IN).

Ian Timothy was born to Tim and Danisa Burke on July 6. Excited siblings are Kellan and Henry. Ian’s grandparents are Pat and Jill Burke of Westlake, OH and Bro. Ralph and Sis. Diane Lanz.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Joy Gardner rejoiced in the safe arrival of Link Raiden on June 20. He was welcomed home by siblings, Kora and Cray. Thankful grandparents are Bonnie Gardner and Bro. Arthur and Sis. Bonnie Ingold.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have been recently hospitalized. They are Bro. Stan (Sis. Margie) Winkler, Jeannette (Ron) Woyar, Bro. Henry Dotterer, Jeriah Riggenbach (Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorie), and Sis. Beverly (Bro. Glen) Rufener. May God grant each one a quick recovery.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Joann (Bro. Ron) Christian in the recent passing of her brother, Bro. Roger (Sis. Sue) Saurer. We are comforted by the hope of seeing our dear loved one in Heaven someday.

Ohio, Sardis
Faith Beard

“My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you…” Galatians 4:20

Can there be any greater calling to a parent as this? To teach and nurture those children whom God has entrusted in our care in such a way that Christ may be formed in them as they grow? Even though this is a lifetime responsibility, it can be both a joyful and fulfilling work. Another dear child was born to Bro. Joel and Sis. Heidi Beard on April 24 as Rachel Lanae entered their family. She was eagerly welcomed by siblings: Loren, Katie, Luke, Leah, Raelynn and Carson; and grandparents: Bro. Ed and Sis. Dee Beard and Greg and Jill Stoller.

We give our thanks to Bro. Matthew and Sis. Bridget Rassi (Chicago, IL) and Bro. Tim and Sis. Joni Ramsier (Rittman, OH) as they preached the Gospel during recent visits. May God bless their travels and their efforts.

We always enjoy our yearly Sunday School picnic as a time when we, as a church, can interact with the children on more of their level. Speaking to us that evening about the Sower and the Seed was Bro. David Hartter (Sis. Beth, Sabetha, KS). We so appreciate his efforts on behalf of our children, and also as much the next day, when he preached the Word during our Sunday service.

“Seeds of goodness we are sowing In the hearts of man today. Bless it Lord, that it may prosper, And bear fruit for harvest day. Children come the grain to gather, While the morning sun doth shine; And ere long, beloved brethren, It will be your harvest time.” Hymns of Zion #46

Ohio, Smithville
Sara Crist
Kara Stoller

Congratulations to Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue Steiner on the birth of a new granddaughter, Avery Lincoln, born 6/17 to Steven & Alyson Steiner. Avery joins a big sister, Caleigh.

We are so thankful that once again we can report that two souls have seen their need for repentence and have surrendered at the foot of the cross. Courtney Gasser is the daughter of Bro. Ben and Sis.
Sharon, and Wesley Beer is the son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Tamara of Mansfield. Every day we are one day closer to Christ’s return and it is our desire that all would come to repentance and trust in Jesus Christ as their Savior.

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.” John 5:24

Hospitalized this month were Bro. George Schuster (Sis. Carol) and Nathan Berry (son of Bro. Dwayne and Sis. Shelly Beery). We lift up these dear ones to our Heavenly Father, for the Great Physician to bring healing as He wills.

We bid a sad, yet hopeful, earthly farewell to two beloved members of our church this past month. Our prayers, sympathy and love go out to Sis. Sue Saurer in the passing of her dear husband, Bro. Roger. We also pray that God will comfort the family of Sis. Laura Oplinger as she has finished her earthly race.

Sharing the Word with us this month was Bro. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield) and Bro. Wayne Hartzler (Sis. Camille, Rittman). We are always thankful for our visiting ministers and your willingness to be used and teach us from God’s unchanging truth.

**Ohio, Toledo**

**Deanna Manz**  
**Jenny Manz**

We have enjoyed many visitors this month. We are especially grateful to Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction) for preaching the Word of truth. May the Lord bless him for his willingness to serve.

Dave and Sis. Connie Sancairnt are thrilled to welcome another grandson to their family. Camdyn Nickolas joined the family of Nick, Andrea, McKenna and Addyson Sancairnt on June 25.

The month of June was unusually rainy in Toledo. We were grateful for a break in the rain as we enjoyed a beautiful day at the park for our annual Sunday School Picnic. We appreciated the visiting families who joined us for the day, and trust our children will grow up treasuring the friendships they are making.

We extend our prayers and sympathy to Sis. Janet and Heidi Kipfer and Sis. Joyce Rehklau in the passing of their brother-in-law, Bro. Roger Saurer (Sis. Sue, Smithville). May the Lord grant comfort and peace to all those grieving the loss of loved ones.

**Oregon, Portland**

**Kelsey Walker**

**Ann Kuenzi**

We were blessed with a number of visitors as well as visiting ministers this month, including Bro. Curt Walter (Sis. Elizabeth) from Mansfield, OH, Bro. Ron Jones (Sis. Liz) and Bro. Wayne Fehr (Sis. Kathy) from Portland, OR, Bro Don Manz (Sis. Connie) from Junction, OH and Bro. Merlin Meyer (Sis. Marilyn) from Lester, IA.

Bro. Loren and Sis. Marlene Dettwyler are excited to add another grandson to their family. Bro. David and Sis. Betsy Virkler (LaCrosse, IN) have added baby, Drew, to their home. We wish them God’s blessings in raising this child.

June 28-30 was our Bible Class Weekend. Bro. Matthew and Sis. Deanna Steffen (Princeville, IL) were invited here to spend time with and encourage the students. We...
appreciated his ministering to all of us on Sunday.

We have two converts who have begun their repentance and now express that they have peace with God and man. Brianna Zollinger (Bro. Jim and Sis. Tresa) and Tressa Sinn (Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie) are looking forward to giving their testimonies and to baptism.

It is wonderful to see Sis. Becky Von Flue, once again, with us in church. She still has a long recovery ahead of her, but we are encouraged to see her. Sis. Verla Hari has recently moved to Harmony House, a memory care facility. She seems to be settling in there and adapting to the change. We were sorry that Nicole Meyer (Bro. Merlin and Sis. Marilyn, Lester, IA) was injured and broken her leg during her visit here. We hope she continues to heal and will not suffer any long-lasting effects from her injury.

Recently, Laura Bolliger passed away. She is the aunt of Bro. Terry Kuenzi (Sis. Ann), Bro. Nick Kuenzi (Sis. Mary), Bro. Myron Kuenzi (Sis. Diane), Bro. Art Kuenzi (Sis. Mary Beth), Bro. Jason Kuenzi (Sis. Jo), Bro. Nathan Kuenzi (Sis. Sarah), Bro. Harvey Kuenzi (Sis. Jennifer) and Sis. Marianne Kraft (Bro. Richard), all of Silverton. We wish to extend our sympathy to them.

**Pennsylvania, Philadelphia**

**Laura Isch**

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

It is a blessing to feel the love that flows from heart to heart when we fellowship with brothers and sisters in faith. It is a special blessing when we have visitors to share in the fellowship. We especially appreciate ministering Bros. Jason Dotterer (Forrest) and John Hartman (Fairbury) for coming and sharing the Word. May God richly bless all our visitors for making the effort to come and see us!

We are also very thankful to have Bro. Adam and Sis. Jami Luginbuhl and their children: Simon, Reigan and Evan, back with us! We have missed them while they were in Nashville, TN for a time.

**Tennessee, Nashville**

**Mike and Monica Fritz**

We have been greatly encouraged by the Living Word brought to us by our recent visiting ministers: Bros. Erik Givens (Sis. Deb, Princeville), Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth, Wolcott), Dan Stoller (Sis. Deb, Remington), and Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction). We have also been blessed by the fellowship of those visiting from Gridley and Princeville, IL; Bluffton, Remington, and Wolcott, IN; Lester, IA: Alto, MI; and Akron, Columbus, Junction, and Rittman, OH.

If you are traveling to or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. The following churches are scheduled for services in the near future: Morton (8/25), Goodfield (9/1), Detroit (9/8), Alto (9/15), Tremont (9/22), and Peoria (9/29). If you plan to worship with us, please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Often we gather on Saturday evenings for fellowship. All are heartily welcome. Contacts are Bro. Don and Sis. Faye Sauder (615) 373-8928; and Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz (615) 866-5543, fritzmb.family@gmail.com.

**Texas, Austin**

**Serenity and Jasmine Ringger**

Our love and prayers go with Destini Rassi (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Diane) as she moves to Sedona, AZ. May she look to God for guidance and comfort.

Congratulations to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Diane Rassi on their new grandson. Brendal James was born to Bro. Denver and Sis. Sharon Rassi (Fairbury, IL) on June 29. We are thankful for all of God’s blessings, including children.

Ministering Bros. Ed Sauder (Sis. Bonnie, Roanoke, IL), John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville, IA), Earl Beery (Sis. Suzie, Rittman, OH), and Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX) came to give of themselves and preach the Word. We were also thankful to
have visitors from Bluffton, Bluffton North, and Fairbury.

The following is the minister schedule for September: (1) Peoria, IL, (8) Morton, IL, (22) Latty, OH.

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

**Texas, Dallas-Fort Worth**

“And Jesus looking upon them saith, with men it is impossible, but not with God; for with God all things are possible.” Mark 10:27

Nothing is out of reach, nothing is impossible. We need God’s thoughts to become our thoughts and that only happens when we spend time with Him and listen.

Services are being held generally the second Sunday of each month at the Holiday Inn Express, 4450 W. John Carpenter Freeway, Irving TX. Please call ahead to verify. Leland & Mary Plattner 956-265-0351 or Dennis & Diane Rassi 512-321-2345

**Zapata, Texas**

*Mary Plattner*

We have appreciated our visitors this summer. Anyone coming to South Texas is most welcome to stop in Zapata. We continue to alternate with the assembly in McAllen, so anyone coming is encouraged to call us prior to coming to make certain where services are being held. Leland & Mary Plattner 956-265-0351

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**Grace Greater Than Our Sin**

*Author: Julia H. Johnston, 1849-1919*

*Acts 15:11*

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt, Yonder on Calvary’s mount outpoured, There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

Sin and despair like the sea waves cold, Threaten the soul with infinite loss; Grace that is greater, yes, grace untold, Points to the Refuge, the mighty cross.

Dark is the stain that we cannot hide, What can avail to wash it away? Look! there is flowing a crimson tide; Whiter than snow you may be today.

Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, Freely bestowed on all who believe; You that are longing to see His face, Will you this moment His grace receive?

*Refrain:*

Grace, grace, God’s grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within; Grace, grace, God’s grace, Grace that is greater than all our sin.
Light from the Word

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Independent Living Units Available
at The Apostolic Christian Home of Eureka

A limited number of duplex (1,000 sq. ft) and condo (800 sq. ft.) units are now available on the Eureka Home campus. These living options are great for seniors who enjoy good fellowship and the independence of community living without having to worry about any maintenance issues on their home or grounds. Many amenities are included.

For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact the Eureka Home today at 309-467-2311.

Important Notice to Americans Crossing the Canadian Border by Land

All adults will need just ONE of the following documents:
- Regular U.S. passport
- U.S. passport card
- Enhanced driver’s license
- Any Trusted Traveler Program (for example, Nexus card)

U.S. citizens under the age of 16 (or under the age of 19 if traveling with a school, religious, or other youth group) may present a birth certificate, Consular Report of Birth Abroad, or a naturalization certificate. Birth certificates can be original, photocopy, or certified copy.

Bible Distribution
Sharing the Word in Love

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

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

To order, contact:
Apostolic Christian Church
Bible Distribution
P.O. Box 30
Bluffton, IN 46714
Ph/Fax: (260) 824-5587
bibledist@adamswells.co
Development Director Needed - Gateway Woods

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mark Maibach</th>
<th>Lynn Stieglitz</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business Manager</td>
<td>Counseling Elder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO Box 151</td>
<td>15417 Doty Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leo, IN 46765</td>
<td>New Haven, IN 46774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>888.443.4283</td>
<td>Cell: 260.466.6712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:mark.maibach@gatewaywoods.org">mark.maibach@gatewaywoods.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lynnstieg@gmail.com">lynnstieg@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Foster Care Program Manager Needed - Gateway Woods

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ed Graf</th>
<th>Lynn Stieglitz</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential Program Manager</td>
<td>Counseling Elder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO Box 125</td>
<td>15417 Doty Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leo, IN 46765</td>
<td>New Haven, IN 46774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>888.443.4283</td>
<td>Cell: 260.466.6712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:ed.graf@gatewaywoods.org">ed.graf@gatewaywoods.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:lynnstieg@gmail.com">lynnstieg@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
English Teacher Needed in Ixtlan, Mexico

The Ixtlan church has started a private elementary school that presently teaches first through fourth grades, with plans to add a fifth grade in August 2013 and a sixth grade the following year. We are looking for a replacement English teacher who is available to begin teaching in late March 2013. Classes continue through July 5 and begin again in mid-August for the 2013-2014 school year.

If you are a graduating college senior who would like to apply for the position, but cannot come down until after graduation in May or until the beginning of next school year, we would be open to that possibility. We also would consider applicants to just finish out the 2012-2013 school year.

Qualifications:
- Member in good standing of the Apostolic Christian Church.
- A degree in Education and/ or TESOL is preferred but not required.
- Ability to communicate in the Spanish language.
- Enjoys being with and working with children.
- Willing to be sent by the AC Mission Committee and to work together as a missionary team in Ixtlan.

Counselling Elder for Ixtlan: Mike Leman

Please contact:
Grant and Hannah Herrmann
Current English Teacher
grantandhannah11@gmail.com

Matt Gerber
School Administrator
magerbe@gmail.com

Qualifications:
- Member in good standing of the Apostolic Christian Church.
- A degree in Education and/ or TESOL is preferred but not required.
- Ability to communicate in the Spanish language.
- Enjoys being with and working with children.
- Willing to be sent by the AC Mission Committee and to work together as a missionary team in Ixtlan.

Counselling Elder for Ixtlan: Mike Leman

Please contact:
Grant and Hannah Herrmann
Current English Teacher
grantandhannah11@gmail.com

Matt Gerber
School Administrator
magerbe@gmail.com

Christian Guesthouse and Worship Services in Rochester, MN

Accommodations for Mayo Clinic outpatients and families:
Three bedrooms with private baths, laundry, kitchen and family room area.

Sunday Service: (held monthly at guesthouse residence) 10:00 AM and 12:30 PM
For schedule, see: www.acmission.org/minister-rotation
For information and reservations, contact caretakers:
Bro. Mark and Sis. Sandy Stork
4733 Birdie Lane NW
Rochester, MN 55901
(507) 288-0072

Mid-week Service: (held on 3rd Wednesday in Rochester area)
For information, contact:
Bro. Jim and Sis. Deb Tilbury
(507) 281-2875
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To sponsor a student fill out this form and send to the office. A student will be assigned to you and you will be sent further information.

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☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss

Spouse ________________________

Address _______________________

City ____________St ___ Zip _____

Home Ph ______________________

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☐ Haiti ☐ Guatemala

☐ Mexico ☐ Jamaica

☐ Zambia ☐ Wherever needed

If possible I would prefer:

☐ Boy – Age _________

☐ Girl – Age _________

☐ No Preference

Cost: $25.00/month
For details: www.acworldrelief.org

Send to:
ACWR Child Sponsorship
PO Box 36
Morton, IL 61550
Phone: 309-266-6080
Fax: 309-266-5281
E-mail: childsponsorship@acwr.org

World Relief Informational Meetings

Opportunities to Serve One Another

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

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

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

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

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

Also, Thursday before the conference in August, there are presentations scheduled by the church holding the conference.

For more information, go to the World Relief web site (www.acworldrelief.org) and check under Informational Meetings.

Next meetings
Before Conference:
Fairbury, IL Fellowship Hall
August 8, 2013
1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Eastern Meeting:
Latty, OH
November 9, 2013
8:00 am - 4:00 pm
### Mexico

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Magdalena Construction | Jun 8-15 | Benj Knapp  
|  |  | Washington Bible Class  
|  |  | 309-208-7450  
|  |  | benjknapp@homewayhomes.com |
| Magdalena Construction | Jun 25-Jul 1 | Duane Metzger  
|  |  | 515-887-2661  
|  |  | drmetzger.89.live.com |
| Juarez Medical | Sep 18-25 | Cheryl Herrmann  
|  |  | cherrmann@frontier.com |
| Magdalena Construction | Nov 2-9 | Vance Snook  
|  |  | 503-580-3419  
|  |  | vanceliz56@gmail.com |
| Magdalena Construction | Nov 23-30 | Rod Schmidt  
|  |  | 303-774-7913  
|  |  | rschmidt@acosta.com |

### Location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Jan 4-11 | Karl Edelman  
|  | 815-657-7385  
|  | karledelman@cawi.org |
| Jan 11-18 | Steve Kaeb  
|  | 217-781-4709  
|  | kaebbsb@myfrontiermail.com |
| Feb 8-15 | Brian Mogler  
|  | 712-479-0043  
|  | bmogler@alliancecom.net |
| Feb 15-22 | Jon Baner  
|  | 309-532-9435  
|  | jon.baner@watershedfoods.com |
| Mar 8-15 | Caleb Hoerr  
|  | ISU  
|  | 309-370-3153  
|  | calebhoerr@me.com |
| Mar 22-29 | Mike Fiechter  
|  | Bluffton/BN Senior Class  
|  | 260-597-7330  
|  | mfiechter@onlyinternet.net |
| Jul 19-26 | Rick Kaisner  
|  | 847-942-1174  
|  | rick@kaisner.org |

**Questions?**  
Contact Mike Fiechter  
mfiechter@onlyinternet.net  
260-597-7330
### Haiti Construction Work Teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Year 2013</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Oct 19-26</td>
<td>Daryl Luginbuhl</td>
<td><a href="mailto:darylluginbuhl@gmail.com">darylluginbuhl@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Nov 2-9</td>
<td>Daryl Luginbuhl</td>
<td><a href="mailto:darylluginbuhl@gmail.com">darylluginbuhl@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Nov 8 - 15</td>
<td>Maurice Schaefer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:schaefs2@gmail.com">schaefs2@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Nov 15-20</td>
<td>Jon Zeller</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jczeller1972@gmail.com">jczeller1972@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Dec 6-13</td>
<td>Lane Gerber</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lane.gerber@gmail.com">lane.gerber@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Dec 12-19</td>
<td>Rick Wuethrich</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rick@wuethrichfarms.com">rick@wuethrichfarms.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Jan 3-10</td>
<td>Ron Palitto</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ronp@palittoconsulting.com">Ronp@palittoconsulting.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Jan 10-17</td>
<td>Maurice Schaefer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:schaefs2@gmail.com">schaefs2@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simone Orphanage</td>
<td>Jan 24-30</td>
<td>Rick Wuethrich</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rick@wuethrichfarms.com">rick@wuethrichfarms.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Jan 25-Feb 1</td>
<td>Daryl Luginbuhl</td>
<td><a href="mailto:darylluginbuhl@gmail.com">darylluginbuhl@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Jan 31-Feb 7</td>
<td>Richard Kraft</td>
<td><a href="mailto:richard@kraftmasonryinc.com">richard@kraftmasonryinc.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Feb 22-Mar 1</td>
<td>Daryl Luginbuhl</td>
<td><a href="mailto:darylluginbuhl@gmail.com">darylluginbuhl@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Mar 8-15</td>
<td>Daryl Luginbuhl</td>
<td><a href="mailto:darylluginbuhl@gmail.com">darylluginbuhl@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Mar 14-21</td>
<td>Steve Leuthold</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sleuth@speerbank.com">sleuth@speerbank.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Mar 21-28</td>
<td>Maurice Schaefer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:schaefs2@gmail.com">schaefs2@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Mar 21-28</td>
<td>Rick Wuethrich</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rick@wuethrichfarms.com">rick@wuethrichfarms.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Mar 28 - Apr 4</td>
<td>Rich Bertschi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lemangm@mtco.com">lemangm@mtco.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Apr 15-22</td>
<td>Jon Zeller</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jczeller1972@gmail.com">jczeller1972@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Apr 15-22</td>
<td>Daryl Luginbuhl</td>
<td><a href="mailto:darylluginbuhl@gmail.com">darylluginbuhl@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Apr 24-28</td>
<td>Jon Zeller</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jczeller1972@gmail.com">jczeller1972@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>May 17-24</td>
<td>Daryl Luginbuhl</td>
<td><a href="mailto:darylluginbuhl@gmail.com">darylluginbuhl@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Haiti Medical Work Teams

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Year 2013</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Sept 14-21</td>
<td>Alice Widmer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com">alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Oct 5-12</td>
<td>Alice Widmer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com">alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Jan 11-18</td>
<td>Alice Widmer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com">alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Feb 8-15</td>
<td>Alice Widmer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com">alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Mar 22-29</td>
<td>Alice Widmer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com">alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>May 3-10</td>
<td>Alice Widmer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com">alice.widmer@jmsmucker.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**August 2013    SILVER LINING 53**
— Continued from pg. 5

and our every care. Tenderly He leads us in His own sweet way out into the glory of a brighter day. May we keep our hearts fixed on this.

It says, “And he did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that David his father had done.” (2 Chronicles 29:2). David wasn’t his father, but he was in that heritage of David who was blessed of God. I don’t know how many greats would be the grandfather that David was to Him.

We read here that Hezekiah cleanses the temple. What is the temple, Dear Ones, for you and me? The temple is our heart. God looks down upon our hearts, and He sees the sin there. God looks upon our heart, and He sees the impurities that are there. Like a refiner’s fire, He works with us. He wants us to learn from Him. He wants us to lean upon Him and lean upon His everlasting arms. When we repent, there is a great change takes place. We’re sorry for our sins. Those things that are revealed to us, in the presence of man, confess. Usually in our time, that’s to an elder brother or ordained deacon.

We just expose the devil, and there’s great benefit in this. God knows about it, but there’s something there in God’s plan that the devil is exposed and his power and his grasp upon our life is released somewhat. We make restitution, which is so helpful to us – to go back to people and explain to them why we wronged them. There again there’s release, and there’s blessing in that and help against the enemy.

A faith in the shed blood and righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ is a cleansing of the temple. A cleansing of our heart takes place as we go through this conversion process of dying off to the old man, that slavery to sin and to Satan which, if it isn’t removed from our lives, would lead us to hell and destruction. God works with His people and He wants us to trust Him, and He wants us to obey Him. In the midst of dying off to the old, what a blessing there is to return back to God and show Him our love by keeping His commandments and doing according His will. It’s His good pleasure to bless us, and it’s His good pleasure to share with us this kingdom here upon the earth and the kingdom of heaven.

Then the brethren have the privilege to be baptized into His name most holy and to be partakers of the love and of the benefits of a child of God. There those of us who have come from large families, and there those of us who come from small families. There are those of us who have many relatives in the church, and there those of us who have very few. But we have the privilege in Christ Jesus to gain a family, a church family, brothers and sisters of the Lord Jesus Christ.

How many times, Dear Ones, do parents and God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, our Brother much higher than us, have to remind us quit concentrating on the things that are different? We want to cleanse the temple. That was the order of King Hezekiah here. We want to do what’s right in God’s sight, but we have the instruction to esteem our brother and sister higher than ourselves – that’s my brother, that’s my sister, and we’re a family. How did mom and dad say it? “Boys, get along!”

The Apostle Paul was concerned for their souls. He said he didn’t want get in a position to say I’m the elder, I’m the bishop, you ought to be listening to me, but he wanted them to know that God wanted them to have these blessings. In his way, maybe somewhat in his roundabout way, he taught them about what God had done. He taught them about how careful he was in trying to lead them to the blessings that God had laid out before them.

He taught them about how it’s not always good for us to have everything go our way all the time. He taught them about experiences he had coming before the Lord and asking God to remove something from his life. I’ve heard it said, but this is not necessarily the way it is – the blinding light that stopped Paul on the way when he thought so sure he was going in the right
direction and it ended up he was going in the wrong direction – we make experiences like that ourselves – maybe that blinding light affected his eyes or maybe it was something else. What a blessing it is for you and me who have different crosses to bear, afflictions, or things that maybe slow us down, hinder us, or remind us that we need God. We beseech God that He would take our burden away. The Lord Himself did that there in the Garden of Gethsemane. He acknowledged He was capable of having it that we could have salvation in some other way besides dying. As He continued in His prayer before God, He realized this is the way God wanted it, whether He understood it or not. Then He was willing to go through with it. He said, not my will but thine be done. (Luke 22:42)

The Lord had reminded Paul about this. It said he had this thorn in the flesh, this messenger of Satan to buffet him (2 Corinthians 12:7), this reminder that he had clay feet, this reminder that this world is not his home. The Lord said to him, like He says to us brothers and sisters as He holds our hands in a spiritual way and squeezes them so to speak and reminds us, “…My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness…” (v.9).

May our reaction be as Paul’s was – that we would most gladly therefore glory in our infirmities (v.9), remembering that for most of us, it was in the time of great need and great trouble that our pride could be broken down, and we realized that we needed a Saviour. So may God focus, adjust, and redirect us from day to day so we might have our hearts and minds fixed on some day being with Him in the glory land. Along the way may it be that seeds of goodness may be sown in the hearts of men.

My Faith Has Found A Resting Place

My faith has found a resting place, Not in device nor creed; I trust the Ever-living One, His wounds for me shall plead.

I need no other argument, I need no other plea; It is enough that Jesus died, And that He died for me.

Enough for me that Jesus saves, This ends my fear and doubt; A sinful soul I come to Him, He’ll never cast me out.

My heart is leaning on the Word, The written Word of God, Salvation by my Savior’s name, Salvation through His blood.

My great Physician heals the sick, The lost He came to save; For me His precious blood He shed, For me His life He gave.
Heart for the Lost
— Continued from pg. 3

that all that is evil is sin and that idol worship is contrary to the worship of the living God. Rather, He homed in on exposing the indifferent and inactive - those who were perceived as good people. But their good did not include “gathering” with Jesus, and He condemned their seemingly benign inaction as a very malignant “scattering.”

What does it mean to “gather” with Jesus? What did He do?

Jesus told His hometown congregation of Nazareth that, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.” (Luke 4:18-19)

If He is the Head and the church is His body, then we ought also to preach the gospel to the poor. If He was sent to heal the brokenhearted, then we will tenderly and patiently do all we can to heal the brokenhearted. If He came to preach deliverance to the captives, then we will gather with Him by preaching deliverance to those who are captive to lust, addiction, pride, hopelessness, and every other form of spiritual slavery.

We will demonstrate the proof of deliverance by living free from these. By the power of His Spirit, we can open the eyes of the blind and set the bruised free. In faith and love, we can freely proclaim the awe-inspiring and genuine hopefulness that now is the acceptable year of the Lord.

Through simple faith and deep humility, the faithful church will gather with Jesus.

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry. (2 Timothy 4:1-5)

Out of a pure heart, let’s gather with Him.

Eastern Europe
— Continued from pg. 6

is significant as meager budgets are often stretched beyond limits.

Using sewing machines donated from Germany, fabric by the pallet donated from Hungary, working in rooms donated in a families home, these sisters allocate time from busy motherhood/household schedules to create clothing for needs within the brotherhood.

One sister describes her feelings, “We thank God for the opportunity to help in a small way when others have donated so much to help us. This is our way of passing on the great love God and others have shown upon our people in need.”

How you can help

Pray that those with needs can be served to make the love of Christ be seen and felt to make hope come alive. Also that Nazarean brethren may continue to recognize and take full advantage of opportunities to serve one another.

Your donations will be used for assistance toward basic material needs of food, clothing, and housing for destitute and infirm individuals and families in Eastern Europe.
sent on the sea container for use where it is needed. All these instances illustrate again and again that the Lord does provide. He knows our needs, and hears our prayers.

In appreciation
The WR Jamaica Committee is thankful to share God’s teachings. Their faith is increased each time they witness the true servant hearts of the Jamaican infirmary staff, whose consistent and strong faith is a testimony they live out every day. Please lift up the caretakers, staff, and residents of Trelawny, Manchester, and St. James Infirmarys, praying “May God be glorified by their obedience and love for each other and by transformed lives.”

The WR Jamaica Committee asks for your prayers, and appreciates your material donations and generous financial help as they strive to live and share the gospel, following the command and example of Christ. More information can be found at www.acworldrelief.org/material-aid-needs-in-jamaica.

Jamaica — Continued from pg. 7

Faith comes alive in an act of obedience...

“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?” Romans 16:6

Spiritual Heritage — Continued from pg. 58

not permitted to stay there, he dragged himself to Unterseen, in order to go to Thun from there, by ship. Von Goumoens, frightened by his ghastly appearance, sent him at once to a Christian doctor in Berne, Dr. Niehans Enge, where he finds new strength after fourteen days.”

Editor’s note: this is descriptive of the devotion and the unrelenting spirit of Bro. Samuel Froehlich. In spite of ill health, and many distractions from the state government, he plodded on in behalf of the Gospel of Christ. He truly felt a calling from God in this holy work!

– By Perry Klopfenstein

Next Issue: Bro. Froehlich’s next missionary journey.

Never Harsh — Continued from pg. 59

Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.”

What we say and how we say it, is important. Never use a harsh word. Let us use only those words which honor God and are a help to the person we are addressing. A serene and tranquil atmosphere is so desirable, and is only possible by avoiding harsh words. If we practice smiling while speaking, it would help.

We need to get our needed rest in order to be more pleasant. The Bible warns us against harming our bodies which might in turn cause us to lack patience and to be irritable.

1 Corinthians 3:16, 17 “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.”

If we take proper care of our bodies, it should help us obey the teaching, “Never a Harsh Word.”

– by Willis Ehnle
This is the second installment concerning the establishment of a new church in Switzerland and surrounding areas by Bro. Samuel Froehlich. He had made a series of missionary journeys across many portions of Switzerland to see if there was a thirst for the Gospel. Having left the Rationalist/Reformed doctrine of the Swiss State Church, he took the Bible and traveled to and fro in many cantons of his home nation. His message, a literal one from the New Testament, was heard by many sincere souls, and a new denomination was formed with the intent to form a church according to the model taught by Christ and the Apostles. At the outset, the mode was to travel extensively and inquire if souls would come to preaching meetings. They would announce the time of their meetings, and souls responded. Often, early meetings were held in homes, barnyards, pastures, and town squares. The following data is taken from Swiss author Herman Reugger’s 1949 book entitled, “Apostolic Christian History, Volume 1.”

Second Missionary Journey

“As it seemed impossible to be active further in Aargau, Froehlich once more turned to Pastor (Ami) Bost at Geneva. ‘I have been declared scott-free. In Aargau I was arrested and banned. Where shall I go?’ In the mission field he felt himself a beginner and a novice. He would like to go with Paul and to learn of him ‘how with simplicity and shrewdness’ the Gospel might best be spread.

“The new constitution (of Switzerland) gave religious freedom and freedom of conscience. When Froehlich appealed to it before the officials, he was told he may believe what he chooses, but he cannot convey it to others.

“In July, 1832, Froehlich journeyed to Berne to meet with Pastor Bost. (Note: the meeting did not take place). Froehlich resolved to go on a missionary journey from Berne. His way led through Thun where he was received in a friendly way by the governmental representative, Von Goumoens, who held a Christian meeting in his home and on that account was publically attacked. On July 21, Froehlich discoursed on Luke 14:25-27 before around 30 brethren.

Froehlich Proceeds with Caution

“On the following Sunday he spoke in a nearby village and also instructed children. He experienced, however, that just among those, who apparently were well-grounded in the Gospel, strong contradiction(s) arose. ‘More and more I see that one cannot take too much for granted with people in order not to build on strange ground, but that it is always better to lay the right foundation and then to build farther (henceforth) the more certainty.’

In Lauterbrunnen he met a believing pastor, who on that account also expected his disposition and with whom he held meetings in the area, which were greatly blessed.”

Overtaken By Rain

On August 4, 1932, Froehlich and another preacher were walking from Wengernalp to Grindelwald, a distance of eight hours. They were overtaken by a heavy rain. He addressed a small group of less-than-eager hearers. Reugger writes, “On the way to Interlaken, the next day, Froehlich broke down as a result of a feverish cold. He must remain in Gsteig over night, but conducted a meeting in spite of his condition. He experienced what he had frequently experienced before: as long as he speaks, he feels well; as soon as he stops, his strength forsakes him.

Illness in Duty

The next morning he arose, very sick. But as he was

— Continued on pg. 57
Never a Harsh Word

What does the Bible say about harsh words? I have discovered that the word “harsh” is not found in the King James Bible, according to my concordance. However, in Proverbs 15:1 we find this statement, “A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.” “Grievous words” and “Harsh words,” are about the same. I’m thinking about how important it is that we never use harsh words in speaking to one another. May we always use words that show love and respect, and may our tone of voice also show love and respect.

The above verse speaks of our anger being stirred up. Another verse which speaks of being stirred up is 2 Peter 1:13, “Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance.” It is good to be stirred up in our devotion to Christ, but it is not good to be stirred up with anger. The way we talk to each other is a factor.

I notice that in the Bible the Apostles sometimes used harsh words when addressing others. An example is Acts 8:23 “For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.” Peter was speaking to Simon the sorcerer who had believed on Christ and had been baptized, but who had then tried to buy the power that he saw in the Apostles. Harsh words may sometimes be necessary, but that is the exception.

James also addresses the matter of the words we use and the way we speak. In James 3:10 we read, “Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren these things ought not so to be.”

Jesus said in Matthew 5:9, “Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.” To be a peacemaker we must do our best to avoid using harsh words. When we are tired and under stress, we may use harsh words to loved ones in our own family. If this ever happens, we should quickly say, “I’m sorry,” and try not to let it happen again. Love and respect should be the order of the day for children of God.

In 1 Corinthians 13:4 it is written, “Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not: charity vaunted not itself, is not puffed up.” Charity or love should enable us to keep our harmful emotions in check and under control.

Another Scripture to consider in regard to harsh words is the Golden Rule. It is recorded in Matthew 7:12 and Luke 6:31. The latter reads “And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise.” None of us like to have others speak to us with harsh words, so it behooves us to speak to others as we would like for them to speak to us. Kind suggestions for improvement are appreciated, but blame and others putting themselves above us, is not appreciated. When a conflict or other problem develops, it is not always necessary to determine who is to blame. It is better to spend our time doing that which will lessen the ill effects of the problem.

In Matthew 5:25, Jesus taught us to “Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him.” We believe this means we should do all we can to avoid conflict. Harsh words at a time like that would be counter-productive.

Peter writes of being courteous in 1 Peter 3:8, “Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.” This also supports the admonition “Never a harsh word.”

There is an exhortation for us in Ephesians 4:31 and 32 which reads, “Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for

— Continued on page 57
He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.

– Proverbs 10:5