And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate
Ezekiel 43:4

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The “One Anothers” of Scripture

Have you ever noticed how often “one another” is used in the New Testament? The phrase is a reciprocal pronoun, which means that reference is being made back and forth between two or more individuals. In the Bible, it is a call to a mutual behavior as we interact with other people, especially within the church.

Some examples include: “have peace one with another”, “love one another”, “members one of another”, “preferring one another”, “by love, serve one another”, “Greet ye one another” “Forbearing one another”, “exhorting one another”, “edify one another”, “comfort one another”, “receive ye one another”.

These biblical instructions remind us that we need each other and that we can be a help to each other in our precious church. I can’t help but think that The Silver Lining can facilitate many of these “one anothers”, particularly by sharing updates of joys, sorrows and events in our congregations.

May God help us to do our part to fulfill these directives.

Rick Plattner, along with Tom Stock, counseling elders
**Light from the Word**

**Relevance of the Old Testament**

In a world that seems to change more rapidly every year, there are few constants. People change, the cultures change, patterns of life evolve and adapt – even to the point of changing social mores and customs. The good news is that God does not change! One of the great joys in knowing the Lord is the calm assurance of His unchanging nature.

Although some may think that the God of the Old Testament is different than the God of the New Testament, His constancy is reflected throughout the Bible by many examples of His consistent message to creation. He has not changed, and He will not change.

“For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.” (Malachi 3:6)

From the beginning, God has demonstrated a constant and consistent love for His creation. In the New Testament, we continue to observe that God is love. He hasn’t changed. We also read that Jesus was with God at the creation and that nothing was made without Him. We read that Jesus is the same today and yesterday and forever. Like the Father, He does not change.

“Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8)

Understanding that God does not change, helps us understand that His Word has not changed either. The entire Bible is more than applicable to our lives; it is given by the inspiration of God and is profitable to us in many ways.

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:” (2 Timothy 3:16)

When the Apostle Paul wrote this instruction to Timothy, the only scripture that existed was the Old Testament. We must conclude that the Old Testament is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness – just as the New Testament is profitable for these things. In fact, a thorough reading of both reveals that, like the Father and the Son, the Word has not changed. Some key points of consistency include: the enduring commandment to love, the richness of God’s mercy, and His desire that we walk humbly in His sight – circumcised in heart.

In response to Abraham’s faith and as a sign of His covenant with Abraham, God commanded Abraham to circumcise all males. He further instructed the Jews through Moses that God’s intent was to circumcise their heart. This circumcision of the heart indicates the Lord’s desire that we who live by faith would cut off every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us – in order to love God with all our heart – and live.

“And the LORD thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.” (Deuteronomy 30:6)

“For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly; neither is that circumcision, which is outward in the flesh: But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.” (Romans 2:28-29)

Jesus quoted often from the Old Testament and in doing so, further reveals the major themes of mercy and love. As He spoke with a lawyer who asked what he must do to inherit eternal life, the lawyer answered, “Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself.” And Jesus confirmed this saying, “Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live” (Luke 10:27-28) In confirming this, Jesus validated the

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Greetings of Christian love. We gather together in the name of Christ. We look forward to the Word, being encouraged, being uplifted, being admonished, whatever. God knows we have needs. We are thankful to be with you today.

You certainly have been in our prayers as a church. We’re thankful God has protected and kept you in His care. Walking into church reminded me of the proverb that says where there’s no oxen, the cribs are clean (Proverbs 14:4). You can tell the church has been busy in the last couple weeks. There’s a little oil on the front drive, machinery in the back, tools that are needed to help and to increase and to strengthen and to restore. Surely it exemplifies a church and a group of believers that are rolling up their sleeves and working on behalf of their community and their loved ones.

Certainly there are a number of thoughts. I love that thought that we’re encouraged in Scripture to “LORD, make me to know mine end…” (Psalm 39:4) - to keep a proper perspective, to keep in mind that our life is but a vapor. It is here today and gone tomorrow. It really helps us. I heard recently that there’s nothing like a death sentence to help somebody focus on the reality that their life is soon to be over. So often in our minds we think we have time. We have more years. We’re young. We’re middle-aged. We’re not. It confirms that the reality is we are one breath away from eternity, and we need to keep that in mind that we can stay focused on our purpose, focused on God’s plan for our lives, focused on salvation if we have not sought it. The reality is there’s a day coming, a day of truth, a moment of truth, a day like no other days, and we want to be prepared for that one.

Moses prayed teach me to number my days that I might apply my heart unto wisdom (Psalm 90:20) - might live in a way that reflects wisdom of God. It’s a beautiful prayer, beautiful thought. It’s encouragement to me that we just don’t take life for granted as I’m sure many over the last couple of weeks reflect on the reality that what you know today, what you’re comfortable with, what you’re used to, is not necessarily guaranteed. Only that which is done for the Lord will last. Only that which is done for Christ is meaningful. We have Scripture here that reminds us to live for Him and not for ourselves.

The value of the Bible is helping us to understand the mind of God, helping us to understand His perspective, His viewpoint. That’s all that really matters. It isn’t what I think. It isn’t what you think. It’s really what God thinks that really matters. This chapter defines charity, and it does it in a way that is like you remember those assignments you got in school to contrast, to talk about what it is and what it isn’t, to get a clear picture and to bring into focus what charity is.

I read a chapter such as this, and I question if I could really elaborate. What’s more to be said? Charity is important. It’s absolutely critical in the life of a believer. It’s absolutely critical that it is an ingredient that is part of our life because without it we lose the effectiveness and the ability to be where God would want us to be.

Apostle Paul goes to great lengths to point out that you can do a lot of good things, you can do a tremendous amount of sacrifice and expend a lot of resources, but you can do it for all the wrong reasons or you can do it with an attitude or in a way that is not very effective. I think that’s a challenge we all face. Certainly anything we do we want to be effective, don’t we? When you go to school, you want to learn. When you go to work, you want to achieve something,
When you apply resources, when you apply time and energy, it is a shame when nothing happens, and so we want to be effective in all that we do.

Certainly here we're told that we can do a lot of great things, but if we don't have charity, we negate, we diminish, the power of God working in our lives. So it's something to think about because we would all say prophesy is good. Understanding is great. Knowing the Scripture, having knowledge, having insight, having wisdom, and certainly if we could remove mountains, but without love, without charity, it is nothing. It gives us pause to reflect on why we do what we do. What is our thought process? What is our thought process? What is our thinking as we go about and accomplish our tasks, as we go about and do whatever we do as we spend our days. As the Psalmist wrote about, we live our lives day by day, that we think about how we are going about and what we're thinking about. The Psalmist wrote here that I will take heed to my ways.

I would say, perhaps, as we read this chapter in 1 Corinthians, we should also take heed to our thinking and our thought processes. The Psalmist says, “...I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me.” (v.1) We read in James we should be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; the righteousness of God is not accomplished in the wrath of man and in our words (James 1:19-20). It’s the challenges we face because we know our thoughts often stumble off the tips of our tongues. As believers we want to exemplify, we want to pursue God’s agenda and God’s purpose, and it's important.

Then we’re given this example: “…I was dumb with silence...” (v.2). I believe that referenced Christ. Christ did not demand His rights when He was on trial. He did not try to set all the records straight, but He was there and bore patiently our sins for you and me. Thanks be to God. Obviously the disciples thought differently. Peter thought to pull out the sword and take care of it. Make quick work of the challenges in front of him. That wasn’t the way of Christ. That wasn’t the way He was going to face Calvary (St. John 18:10-11).

“My heart was hot within me, while I was musing the fire burned: then spake I with my tongue, LORD, make me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, what it is; that I may know how frail I am.” (v.3-4) I think it’s referencing, perhaps, that we can just literally ruin relationships with words. We can cut people off at the knees. We can alter forever by words that stumble off our tongues. I think we all could stand back and take a look of the big picture, and if we thought about the cost and the consequences of our words, we would give pause and thought to them. Really, what is our objective? We all want to meet a good end. We all want that victory. We all want to have that hope, but we recognize that we are frail. We recognize that we don’t always see clearly as the Apostle Paul wrote - we see through a glass darkly (1 Corinthians 13:12). We don’t see the big picture always. We don’t focus on the big picture, and sometimes it’s the heat of the day, the heat of the battle, the heat of a situation that we stumble across. We’re encouraged here to take a look when we’re faced with a situation that we are tempted to express ourselves in ways that are less than endearing and doesn’t present the testimony that we would like that we are challenged here.

“Behold, thou hast made my days as an handbreadth; and mine age is as nothing before thee: verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity.” (v.5.) We’ve seen it. Anybody who’s worked a little among the rubble, you realize how quickly everything that you have or are stewards of can be strewn around and come to nothing, and it clearly gets puts into perspective. You look at the damage, and you
Material Aid to the Caribbean

Every year, many dear souls in Haiti and Jamaica benefit from Apostolic Christian World Relief donated materials.

Getting material to Haiti
In Haiti, the materials help provide: new schools and churches, clean water wells, functioning trade schools, and medical care. Most of the material used in these programs cannot be purchased locally in Haiti and the programs rely on materials from the United States to operate.

But by an equality, that now at this time your abundance may be a supply for their want, that their abundance also may be a supply for your want: that there may be equality 2 Cor 8:14

Supplying material to the World Relief programs in Haiti and Jamaica requires a disciplined, coordinated effort on the part of many Apostolic Christian volunteers to insure that the materials and equipment sent to the Caribbean arrive in time to support the work team construction activities, water well drilling schedules, and the work done in various locations. Months before the materials arrive in Haiti, brethren at the Bluffton Distribution Center label and package materials, and fill sea containers. World Relief ships six to eight containers to Haiti each year. Contents include food, medical equipment and supplies, lumber, roofing steel, well drilling supplies, tools, vehicles, household items and repair parts of all kinds, supplies for various World Relief supported ministries, and Bibles in the Creole language. Many items that are produced as part of local World Relief efforts are also sent along on these shipments to aid the needy. Through the years, the number of containers loaded and shipped to Haiti from Bluffton has grown as World Relief programs have expanded. God has moved the hearts of brethren to respond to the great needs in that country.

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Phillipians 4:19

From Bluffton, the sea container moves by truck to a nearby rail station, where it is loaded on rail car and transported to Miami, then shipped by sea to Port au Prince, Haiti. From there, it is loaded on a truck and shipped to several locations, with many shipments arriving at the new depot in the Cite Lumiere construction compound in Les Cayes, Haiti. This process typically takes several weeks. The City Lumiere depot was the result of several years of planning and hard work on the part of the ACC World Relief missionaries and Haitian laborers in Les Cayes. Prior to building the depot, the storage area consisted of a few sea containers in the yard around the construction department shops. As the construction program has developed and expanded over the last 20 years, it became necessary

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New Developments at Publications

Apostolic Christian Publications

On a Sunday morning we all enjoy going to church. Though the routine may vary for each of us, perhaps the day begins with a reading at the breakfast table from God’s Word. Once at church, we greet the brethren and send our children to Sunday School. In their classrooms, teachers use Bible storybooks and workbooks specifically selected for our church to teach our children. We sing congregational hymns in the assembly room from our Zion’s Harp and Hymns of Zion or combined Hymns of Zion/Tabernacle Hymns hymnals. A ministering brother will begin the service by opening a King James pulpit Bible while those in the pews or listening remotely follow along with their own pew Bibles. Maybe we have never stopped to think about where these books and materials come from. We can be thankful that, beginning in 1962, faithful brothers were tasked with the job of researching and/or creating appropriate Sunday School materials for our denomination. In 1968 the Apostolic Christian Publications committee was organized and met for the first time. Part of their mission is to maintain inventory for the Apostolic Christian brotherhood’s needs. Each of the books and materials mentioned above (and more) are available from the bookstore or website of Apostolic Christian Publications.

New bookstore and warehouse opens

On October 21, 2013 our new bookstore and warehouse facility opened in Goodfield, Illinois. The facility is adjacent to the site of the Goodfield World Relief Distribution Center. The new building includes approximately 1,200 square feet for retail space and meeting area along with 6,000 square feet of storage and warehouse. The warehouse space is shared with the Bible Distribution program, which operates from the same building.

New Publications website

In the near future, the Publications website will be moved into the Resources section of the newly-redesigned church website (apostolicchristian.org). You will still be able to access the website directly at appublications.org. This move will give the online store an improved design and make it consistent with our main church website.

Brotherhood Communications Committee

A new committee has been formed which is a joint effort between Publications and the Elder Communications Committee. This group will provide direction for The Silver Lining, the new Apostolic Christian Church website, mobile applications and future digital publishing ideas. Brothers or sisters who have skills in one or more of the following areas are needed: publishing, journalism, copy editing, digital communications, planning, and finance. This is an interesting opportunity to help ensure that Apostolic Christian content is engaging and accessible for current and future generations. Please contact Bro. Dan Weerts at dweerts@acmission.org, if interested in joining this committee or if you wish to nominate someone as a potential committee member.

Website package for congregations

A new service is available: congregation website packages. Authorized by the Elder Communications Committee and underwritten by the Mission Committee, this website package enables our churches to get a professionally designed, fully featured, responsive website that looks similar to the national church website, which was recently

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Ungodly Communication: Gossip and Discord

In our last article, we focused on healthy communication principles. In this article, the focus shifts to some of the most deadly forms of unhealthy communication. Gossip, the spreading of hurtful information about another person, whether true or untrue, can cause great pain in lives and relationships. Discord can easily be born out of this pain. God’s Word is clear in its challenge and its condemnation of such behaviors. A few key principles to reflect upon are discussed below.

Gossip and Discord

1. **We are called to be pure in our speech.**
   
   Our communication can serve to build up others or tear them down. God establishes a high standard for our speech which should serve as a convicting challenge. We are reminded that out of a pure fountain one cannot draw both sweet and bitter water. If we claim to be living as Christ would have us live, there should not be any evil or impure motive in our communication.

   *Proverbs 21:23, “Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.”*
   
   *Matthew 12:36, “But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.”*
   
   *Ephesians 4:29, “Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.”*
   
   *James 1:26, “If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man’s religion is vain.”*
   
   *James 3:11-12, “Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.”*

2. **Gossip involves us in other people’s business.**
   
   One of the hallmarks of gossip is it draws us unnecessarily into the business of others. Our natural curiosity can quickly lead us down the wrong, ungodly path. What might be considered as innocent inquiries are actually feeding our “need to know” the latest and most significant news of the day. We are often oblivious to these faults in ourselves and need to use careful, honest self-examination. Do we repeat something only so someone else has the information and we can together be “in the know,” or is it our intent to focus prayerful attention on a serious matter by only sharing the vital information necessary and being careful not to embellish the details? This distinction is important as the Bible is clear in its condemnation of “busybodies.”

   *Acts 17:21, “For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else, but either to tell, or to hear some new thing.”*
   
   *1 Timothy 5:13, “And withal they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not.”*

3. **Gossip leads to deep wounds.**
   
   Scripture indicates words can cause wounds to the very core of who we are. The Bible says they “go down into the innermost parts of the belly” (Proverbs 18:8) or the very depths of the soul. The wounds suffered through gossip are not easily healed, and they can lead to great discouragement and emotional damage. Words often travel further than we ever intended (Ecclesiastes 10:20) and cannot be retrieved once uttered.

   *Proverbs 18:8, “The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly.”*
   
   *Proverbs 18:19, “A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like...*
Mark 12:30-31, “And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.”

John 13:34-35, “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”

Romans 13:10, “Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.”

6. Gossip can end with you!

So, what is the good news of this subject? We do not have to participate in gossip. If we keep gossip to ourselves, we can help put an end to it. We can choose to not put wood on the fire (Proverbs 26:20). We can take the information we may have heard and turn it into prayer. It is our opportunity to end these discussions, keep our conversations positive and helpful, and “minister grace” (Ephesians 4:29).

Proverbs 11:13, “To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, but gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.”

In spite of our best efforts at communication, we find that conflict does arise at times in our relationships. Next month, we will look at some basic principles of conflict resolution to help us navigate these moments.
Fall is coming, but the summer of 2014 has so far been quite mild in central Illinois, for which we are thankful. Our residents were able to enjoy their outdoor outings in greater comfort this summer as opposed to some summers when typical weather temperatures may often rise to near three digits. And though the summer was pleasant, our residents always look forward to the fall as there so many highly-anticipated events planned like wiener roasts, pumpkin patch visits, the annual Ice Cream Social and the Morton Pumpkin Festival.

Each year our residents and their families converge on the picnic area behind Timber Ridge for the Ice Cream Social. They look forward to the ice cream and the many topping options, not to mention the special groups that lend their musical talents. This year, we look forward to hearing from the Kaiser Family of Tremont, IL.

Another big event for our residents is the annual Morton Pumpkin Festival. The parade, the pumpkin donuts and pumpkin ice cream and the many musical and other events are enjoyed by many of our residents and staff.

As we take note of the changes from one season to the next, we also want to reflect on the changes experienced by our ACHH family. We have welcomed many new faces to Timber Ridge, Oakwood Estate, Linden Estate and to the CILA’s (Community Integrated Living Arrangements). We are thankful the Lord long ago directed parents and families to be mindful and proactive regarding how to serve individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities as adults. God has prepared the homes of the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped to meet the needs of individuals who would not be able to live independently or work independently, who require 24 hour supervision and sometimes 24 hour nursing assistance. May the work that is done here glorify the One who planted a seed in the minds of parents long ago for its development and to the One who continues to watch over the home as it seeks to provide a loving, caring, safe and dignified home for not only our residents to live, but such a place for our staff to serve. And we thank our church family for lifting us up these many years with prayer and financial support. May God bless you.

“O give thanks unto the Lord; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people.”
Psalm 105:1

Gateway Woods Apostolic Christian Children’s Home
Ross Feller – Communications Coordinator

My heart feels cold, like a winter day,
My heart feels empty, and my Soul is hungry,
Empty like the Grand Canyon, Hungry for love, happiness...and God.

These pain-filled words were written by one of our residents, Ellen. She’s written many more like them, and most are far more difficult to read. Her broken past simply pours out in her words. Yet we praise God for the opportunity to serve Ellen, and to teach her of the love, redemption and hope available to her.

After over a year of receiving treatment from her houseparents and counselors, and spending time in a loving, Christ-like environment, Ellen has written some very different, and much more beautiful words:

He wipes my tears away
He loves me so
He is my Savior
He is my all in all
He is my security blanket
He is my guide
He is my life.

Ellen is now out in the “real
world”. We are thankful for her time with us, and ask for your prayers as the seeds that were planted at Gateway continue to grow deeper into her life.

**News:**

There are four different career positions available currently at Gateway Woods, including several of great need: several openings for Alternate Houseparents, one opening for a counselor, one opening for a Home-Based & Adoption Case Worker. 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/careers. 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!

We are thankful to announce the hiring of a Teacher and a Foster Care Case Manager! Bro. Brock Williamson (Leo) has been hired on as the new science teacher at Gateway Woods School. In addition, Sis. Abby Greutman (Latty) has been hired on as the new Foster Care Case Manager. Please pray for them as they join that Gateway Woods team.

The final Auction total is in! God blessed Gateway Woods with an incredible, record-breaking, total of $470,000! Thank you to all of those that supported the Auction in any form.

Gateway Woods Illinois Adoption Program is open for business and seeking to serve our brothers and sisters in Illinois. Visit GatewayWoodsIL.org or contact Sis. Luci Koch at 309.266.0767 or Luci.Koch@gatewaywoodsil.org.

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 ross.feller@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. You can do so at our website or by emailing ross.feller@gatewaywoods.org.

**Apostolic Christian Preschool Athens, AL**

**Susan Koch**

The themes for September were fall, the farm/harvest, and the color brown. We also studied the letters A through C. The weather has been cooling off and we’ve finally been able to enjoy some 80 degree weather. Actually, our summer wasn’t too hot, but we did have a few weeks of 90-100 degree days in late July. It’s nice to be able to not run the AC constantly, and the students get to play outside more often!

Ms. Susan’s class has been busy working on recognizing their shapes and colors. Her class’s favorite way to learn is through singing and reading books together. One neat project we made was a stoplight out of apples for the letter A.

Ms. Louise’s class does lots of fun art projects after their calendar time. Some of my favorites this month have been the Ark for the letter A. They used a fine grain sand paper for the boards and had frosted animal crackers entering the ark two by two. One of her students’ favorite activities is painting with balloons. They dip the balloon in paint and go to town on a piece of paper. It’s always interesting to see the various textures that are created from the balloon’s surface, especially if it has a “bellybutton”. Ms. Kalla’s class has been hard at work learning to write the letters in their first names and recognizing numbers and
letters. One day they went to the Fellowship Hall and used different senses to find the door in the dark (our FH doesn’t have any windows). First they propped the door open with a brick and used their eyes to follow the light let in by the door. Then they had one student stand by the door and used their ears as the student called out directions to them. Then the class held hands and Ms. Kalla led them to the door by feeling where the wall was with her hand. This last activity reminded me of the verse where Paul says now we see through a glass darkly, but when we meet Jesus face to face, we will understand all things (1 Cor. 13:12). Here on earth we only catch snatches of spiritual understanding which come directly from God, but one day we will see God and He will completely open our understanding. What a day that will be!

Volunteer Information: contact me at 309.202.4897 or susankoch2@yahoo.com. Visit our website at www.acpreschool.org. The “About Us” tab will offer information on volunteering at the preschool. Talk to other volunteers to see what their experience was like. They are always listed in the Silver Lining.

**Alabama, Athens**  
**Roger and Becky Roberts**  
Ministering to our congregation in the past month were Bro. Daron (Sis. Monica) Price (Milford, IN) and Bro. Jerry (Sis. Martha) Bauman (Rittman, OH).

We extend our sympathies to the Haggenmaker and Ray families in the loss of their sister, Sis. Francis Ray.

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.

We have several campsites with water and electric available at the TN Fellowship area if you are traveling through the region. We would be delighted to have you with us.

**Arizona, Phoenix**  
**Heather Hinrichsen**  
Bro. Chuck and Sis. Marie Kieser, Bro. Dave Klopfenstein (Sis. LouAnn) and Austin Lindenbaum (Sis. Aubrey) have asked for intercessory prayer on their behalf to the Great Physician. We lift them up as they experience medical and surgical procedures.

Casey Katich (Bro. Brian and Sis. Debbie) has expressed that he is at peace with God and desires to be baptized. We look forward to baptism in October.

**Arizona, Prescott**  
**Richard Manz**  
Greetings from Prescott!

We want to thank all of you that have been praying for our church, as we spent the past couple months in prayer searching out God’s will in selecting a new minister. With God’s help, and the support of the church, Bro. Dan (Sis. Stephanie) Cargill has joined Bro. Stan (Sis. Norma) Shambach on our pulpit to share God’s Word with us. What a blessing to see God display His power through the Holy Spirit as He worked in each one of our hearts. May we continue to trust Him and pray for Bro. Dan as he takes on this responsibility.

Our sympathy goes out to our Bro. Tom and Sis. Kim Wackerle who lost their father Bro. Samuel Wackerle on September 15, 2014. We ask for prayers for him and his family as they deal with this loss.

Visiting ministers this month included, Bro. Jeff (Sis. Janelle) Wiegand from Goodfield, IL; Bro. Kevin (Sis. Sandy) Banwart from West Bend, IA; Bro. Jon (Sis. Nancy) Kokanovich from Phoenix; Bro. Keith (Sis. Tammy) Hinrichsen from Phoenix; Bro. Herbert (Sis. Lorie) Knochel from Phoenix. We are thankful for all that came to serve us, as well as all the visitors we had this past month.

**Arizona, Tucson**  
**Dean and Jackie Knobloch**  
Greetings to all. Arizona has been receiving some very torrential rains this month. Sometimes life brings rain and sometimes showers of blessings. We know that we have to recognize all blessings and events as an opportunity to walk closer with our Lord and Savior.

Our prayers are continuing
for the family of Bro. Don and Sis. Glo Bauer as their daughter Angie’s husband, Rob Wilson, is dealing with serious health issues. We know there is power in prayer and we lift up this entire family to our Heavenly Father’s care.

**Colorado, San Diego**

*Janelle Brewer*

As we look over the past month, we can count our blessings and see what the Lord has done for us. We were privileged to host the Arizona/California ACYF weekend over Labor Day. “Wisdom” was the theme for the weekend. The Lord provided wonderful weather and the students enjoyed the fellowship with each other. Our prayer is that each one went home from the weekend with the mindset to seek heavenly wisdom and not earthly wisdom.

“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.” James 1:5

This past month, we said farewell to a couple who moved to Chicago and then gained a sister who moved from Chicago! Bro. Levi and Sis. Kyann Wuetrich will be missed here, but we are sure they will be a blessing there. We appreciate the efforts of Bro. Levi during his time here and enjoyed getting to know Sis. Kyann over the past few months. Sis. Andrea Luthi recently relocated here for her job. We warmly welcome her and look forward to her time with us!

Our Elder Bro. John Wiegand came to visit us this past month. We pray that God will bless him for his labors on our behalf.

Bro. Perry Klopfenstein was recently with us on a Wednesday evening and shared on “Preserving Our Doctrine and Practices” and “Christian Soldiering.” It was a blessing and encouragement to have him and his wife in church.

Onward, Christian soldiers!
Marching as to war, with the cross
of Jesus going on before. Christ,
the Royal Master, leads against the
foe; forward into battle, see His
banners go.
Like a mighty army moves the
Church of God: Brothers we are
treading where the saints have
trod. We are not divided, all
one body we, one in hope and
doctrine, one in charity.”

Gospel Hymns #365 vs. 1-2

**Canada, Kitchener, Ontario**

*Johanna Fortenbacher*

Romans 15:6&7 “…that ye may
with one mind and one mouth
glorify God, even the Father of
our Lord Jesus Christ. Wherefore
receive ye one another, as Christ also
received us to the glory of God.”

Once again we had some
wonderful speakers come and
share encouraging messages.
I feel like making notes while the ministers are speaking so I can remember them better. The ministers that came were: Bro. Mark & Sis. Cheryl Zimmermann from Eureka, Bro. Brad & Sis. Teresa Gudeman from Bradford, Bro. Dan & Sis. Deb Stoller from Remington and Bro. Daron Price from Milford. It struck me how we are exactly like ‘the people’ of the Bible times in Acts 14. The people praised Paul for healing the impotent man, not giving credit to God. And the very next thing they did was stone him because of being persuaded by certain Jews who didn’t like Paul. May God grant us grace to instead learn and grow in the mind of Christ.

**Colorado, Denver**

*Tess Leman*

Naomi Wiegand

Greetings of love from Colorado! With joy we announce the news of another baby born into our congregation! Kevin and Kerry Haeflinger, along with their son Harper, welcomed Marley Hazel into their home at the end of August. Thankful grandparents are Earl and Julie Haeflinger (Colorado), and Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Berg (Bern, KS).

Wonderful, awesome, and blessing were all words used to describe the Sunday School gathering we hosted last weekend. Bro. John Reinhard (Bluffton, IN) challenged the young people to “Take a Stand” for Christ. Old friendships were renewed and new bonds were formed as high school students from our Kansas congregations (including Kansas City, MO and Garden Grove, IA) joined us for the weekend.

We want to encourage each of you to take time out to pray...
daily for teachers. Living in an urban area, we see an awful lot of negative things happening in our schools. With the breakdown of families, an increase in testing requirements, and a lack of support from parents, teachers are faced with an incredibly difficult job. Please pray for them as they shape the next generation.

Connecticut, Rockville

Lauren Gottier
Sheila Gerber

We rejoice with Ashley and Tabor Dizon as they welcome a new daughter, Natasha Pearl. She joins brothers, Nick and Gabriel. Grandparents are Bro. Duane and Sis. Kay Reutter and Judi Murphy (New Britain, CT) and David Dizon (Austin, TX).

“Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.” Revelation 22:14

Sis. Della Erismann (Bro. Erwin, dec.) passed away in Alto, MI. She was the sister-in-law of Bro. Warren and Sis. Margaret Gottier. We extend our prayers and support to them in sympathy.

We also extend our thoughts and prayers to the family of Sis. Marge Schneider (Rittman, OH), as she recently passed from this life. She leaves her husband, Bro. Wilbur, and her eight children: Laurie Schneider (Stuart, FL), Julie Helenski (Fred, Palm City, FL), Sis. Kay Lanz (Bro. John, Philadelphia, PA), Bob Schneider (Donna, South Windsor, CT), Sis. Sue-Ellen Maibach (Bro. Ken, Smithville, OH), Bro. Tim Schneider (Sis. Dana), Bro. Dave Schneider (Sis. Kim), and Sis. Bonnie Bahler (Bro. Ron). May the Lord provide them comfort. Ministering Bro. Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam, Latty, OH) was with us for the funeral.

District of Columbia, Washington

Henrietta Meyer

I just checked the caretaker calendar for next year, so far we have three months filled. 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 dkgsteen@gmail.com or 302-540-6574.

Our ministers this month were Bro. Tom Bahler (Rockville, CT), Bro. Jim Butikofer (Iowa City, IA), Bro. Brandon Emch (Sis. Marcia, Kansas City, MO), Bro. Harv Kaeb (Sis. Judy, Gridley, IL), and Bro. Steve Stieglitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN). Our other visitors this month were from Smithville, Sardis, Bay City, Tremont, Oakville, and Remington. Thanks to all who have included us in your vacation plans.

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 thankful to have a few visiting ministers this past month. The ministers that joined us were Bro. James Fehr (Sis. Brenda, Tremont, IL) Bro. Matt Koehl (Sis. Emily, Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Jeff Leman (Sis. Val, Bluffton North, IN). We pray for a blessing for these loved ones that come and share God’s Word.

As summer is coming to an end, we are looking forward to being reunited with our winter friends and families.

Florida, Sarasota

Kim Ott

“This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.” Psalm 118:24

Today we can be thankful for the day we have been given! What a comfort to know that God in all of His sovereignty has control over this day and that we can live in faith believing that He knows what is best for us. No matter what swirling challenges the day may bring, we can live with joy that God loves us and He has planned our day according to what is best for us. No matter what swirling challenges the day may bring, we can live with joy that God loves us and He has planned our day according to what is best for us. No not only are we able to rejoice because God holds us in His hand at the present, but we can also sing thankful praises to God’s name for sending us His son Jesus Christ to die for our sins so that we can have a hope of salvation. For everything that God
is and for the amazing love He has for us, we have can live with joy in our hearts today!

**South Fort Myers, Florida**  
**Victor Beer**

This is the week of another delivery from the Midwest Food Bank. Our brothers have acquired a very spacious building right along I-75 for storage, and a center of operations which is really lending itself for all purposes in distributing the foods and materials. Needs have shown up in an unbelievable amount. Larry Bruellman, Curt Huette, Dave Knapp and Stan Vogel, along with a couple others are doing a great job with the distribution, along with the help of Teen Challenge helpers.

Our Sunday school is enjoying a time of growth. God is bringing to our Sunday school, children who desire to learn about Him. These children are contacts made through those within our congregation who are reaching out to the lost, the least, and the lonely. It appears that God is showing us the potential for growth to our church from our community. Beloved, we have a window of time to grow our church or watch it die out. We believe that God is calling us to step up and be workers in His vineyard.

Matthew 9:35-38 talks about Jesus’ ministry. “And Jesus went about all the cities and villages… But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few…”

John 4:35 “…I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.”

Those of us at the Fort Myers Church, are bringing children to church to hear the word of God, but our small congregation is limited by the number of children we can effectively handle. We would like to earnestly plead for anyone who has felt God’s nudging to help in an outreach, to prayerfully consider whether He is calling you to come and help labor in His vineyard in our Fort Myers congregation.

**The New Beginnings**

Sister Marie Luthi, who has been serving as a mentor with us at The New Beginnings, has been led to move back north. We wish her well in whatever endeavor God leads her. We appreciate the time she spent here at The New Beginnings and hope her experiences will be useful in her service to the Lord in the future.

We welcome Valerie to The New Beginnings family. She comes to us from the South Bend, IN area. Her two-year-old Damerel is a joyful addition to our group. He is such a happy little guy and has captured our hearts in a short time. Valerie has begun her classes at Florida Southwestern State College in Fort Myers. We have enjoyed Valerie’s cooking skills as she begins taking her turn at fixing meals for our group.

The New Beginnings family went on an outing to Busch Gardens in Tampa, FL. Even though the weather was hot, we enjoyed our time together, and the ability to leave behind our daily duties and responsibilities for a time of recreation.

God continues to bless us and supply our needs, and we are thankful to Him for blessings above all that we can think or imagine.

**Illinois, Belvidere**

**Doreen Moser**  
**Shayla Steffen**

We have had the opportunity to listen to the conference recordings. It is a wonderful quiet hour to sit in peaceful serenity with our brothers and sisters to read, understand, and “LIVE” the word. As one of our elders talked he made the comment “You will know LOVE by seeing ……”

Service (serving)...Obedience…Laying down your life...self-sacrifice…Loving…Works

Elder Bro. Duane Rocke and his wife, Sis. Bonnie (Minneapolis, MN), and Bro. Matthew Rassi and his wife, Sis. Bridget (Chicago, IL), served us in love this month by preaching the Word.

Our monthly Bible study was held this month. There is always so much to learn! Is there a better way to spend our time?

Our Sunday school teachers lovingly take of their time to teach our precious youth. We appreciate the extra time it takes to travel with them. ACYF was held in
Peoria this month.

Charity Steffen (Bro. Dean and Sis. Carol) is at peace with God and man and desires baptism. Lord willing, baptism is scheduled for the end of October. May we take time to encourage Charity.

Our church campout was this month. What great fellowship and love we can share with one another, if we but take the time.

As the Bible tells us time and time again...Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so!

May we LOVE to tell the story!

Illinois, Bloomington-
Normal
Sarah Maurer
Terri Huber

September marks the beginning of our mid-week programs involving youths. Teen Night for high school students, Students with a Purpose (SWAP) for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students, and Scripture Memory all look forward to fun and learning.

Preparations have begun for the Bible Class Mission trip fund raising auction on November 1. This year, an auction will be held to support the high school students as they travel to Jamaica. The auction will include lunch and available babysitting at Normal Community High School.

Our congregation is happy to welcome Sis. Michelle Cornell and daughter, Katie James, to our congregation since their recent move. We are excited to see how God will use this new family in the future at Bloomington.

Also, we are excited for the coming of Caden David Mariani to the home of Brian and Aimee Mariani in Grand Junction, CO. Grandparents include Bro. Larry and Sis. Jeannine Mariani of Bloomington and Dave and Aimee Rorher of Auburn, CA. Great-grandmother, Imogene Mariani, is of Bloomington as well. Also this month, Jett Anderson Kaeb was born to Clark and Jessica Kaeb. Grandparents include Bro. Dave and Sis. Brenda Kaeb, Kevin and Debbie Earnst (Wentzville, MO) and the late Jeff Goodyear and great-grandmother Sis. Helen Hoffmann.

Our prayers and support are with Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb Young as Bro. Dave has been diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor. Similarly, Madalyn (Bro. Joe) Terrini has been diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor as well. Both are receiving treatment and continued prayers.

Psalms 23:3-4 “He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for the art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.”

Our thoughts go to the family of Sis. Rita Wenger as her mother, Sis. Leona Leman, passed away at the beginning of September. Leona was a resident of Fairbury and a loved mother.

Illinois, Bradford
Roseann Stahl
Sandi Joos

“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.” Phil. 3:1

In remembrance of the dedication of our church in Bradford on September 13, 1964, a special Sunday was enjoyed. On Sunday, September 14, 2014 we worshiped with many of those whom had been part of our church family in the previous 50 years. The fellowship we shared with those that assembled was a blessing to us.

“Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits even the God of our salvation.” Psalm 68:19

We benefited from many visiting ministers this past month. Bringing the gospel to us were Bro. Willis Ehnle (Sis. Lois, Peoria, IL), Bro. Dale Stoller (Sis. Sandra, Fairbury, IL), Bro. Earl Beery (Sis. Suzanne, Rittman, OH), Bro. Greg Rassi, (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL), Elder Bro. Tom Stock (Sis. Karol, Cisna Park, IL), Bro. Jon Pratt (Sis. Sharon, Valparaiso, IN), and Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI).

Another benefit we are enjoying is the addition of two members to our congregation. Sis. Rebekah Braun has moved to our area from Elgin, IL. Bro. Andrew Klumpp has returned to our congregation from Iowa City, IA. We warmly welcome them.

Ps. 39:1-2 I said, I will take heed to my ways, that I sin not with my tongue: I will keep my mouth with a bridle, while the wicked is before me.
**Illinois, Champaign**  
*Sarah Eisenmann*  
Greetings from Champaign-Urbana!  
August 24 was the annual picnic to welcome our new and returning college students. We love getting new students. The Champaign-Urbana atmosphere is always more energetic when the students return. We also appreciated the students’ families that made the effort to visit for the day, including a visiting minister, Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy; Chicago, IL).  
We are delighted to announce that Haley Plattner, daughter of Bro. Darren and Sis. Sue Plattner, has expressed faith in Jesus Christ and has expressed a desire to be part of our Apostolic Christian body of believers. We pray for her as she makes this step.  
September 12-13 was the annual Sunday School Campout, when our college students coordinate an overnight camping trip with some Sunday School students (4th grade and up). This is a great opportunity to build lasting relationships across age groups. We are thankful for the godly example that the college students are to the younger students.

**Illinois, Cisssna Park**  
*Janie Waldbeser*  
*Sandy Rudin*  
“Jesus Love Me!  
Jesus loves me, this I know,  
Though my hair is white as snow,  
Though my sight is growing dim,  
Still He bids me trust in Him.  
(CHORUS)  
Though my steps are oh, so slow,  
With my hand in His I’ll go,  
On through life, let come what may,  
He’ll be there to lead the way.  
(CHORUS)  
When the nights are dark and long,  
In my heart He puts a song,  
Telling me in words so clear  
“Heave no fear, for I am near.”  
(CHORUS)  
When my work on earth is done,  
And life’s victories have been won.  
He will take me home above,  
Then I’ll understand His love.  
(CHORUS)  
I love Jesus, does He know?  
Have I ever told Him so?  
Jesus loves to hear me say,  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me!  
The Bible tells me so.”  
*author unknown*  
This was the closing hymn sung at our annual Senior Citizen’s meal hosted by our Sunday School students 3rd through 12th grades. What a blessing to have our young energetic students mingle with our beloved senior citizens and grandparents! It is truly a wonderful evening of fellowship that draws our hearts and minds together in love!  
Sis. Laverne Farney had a knee replaced. Curt Knapp spent some time in Asta Care Nursing Home in Paxton, but is home again. We continue to pray for all our loved ones with ailments, some we don’t even know about! May God provide for each and every one as He sees fit.  
“He shall deliver the needy when he crieth...” *Psalm 72:12*

**Illinois, Congerville**  
*Erica Steffen*  
“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” *1 John 1:7*  
Our church is rejoicing with the angels as several more souls have found their need of a Savior and have come in repentance. May we continually lift them up in prayer to our Heavenly Father as they begin their life in Christ!
Zach Zobrist and Amelia Harris were united in marriage on September 5. Zach is the son of Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie Zobrist. May God richly bless them as they begin their life together!

The Zobrist family had another reason to rejoice this month, as Bro. Mike and Sis. Susie’s youngest son, Nate, was announced for peace. May Nate feel God’s nearness as he prepares his heart and mind for baptism.

We were blessed by many visiting ministers this month: Bros. Nate Wiegand (Sis. Laura, Goodfield), Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucille, Eureka), Dave Obergfel (Sis. Kathleen, Peoria), Dan Koch (Sis. Julie, Tremont), John Hartman (Sis. Rosemary, Fairbury), Tony Manz (Sis. Denise, Junction, OH), John Steiner (Sis Carol, Oakville-Mediapolis), Ned Bahler (Sis. Anna, Fairbury), Tom Leman (Denver, CO), Nathan Walder (Sis. Denise, Cissna Park), Tom Lanz (Sis. Mary, Oakville-Mediapolis), Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke), Jeremiah Psinas (Morton), Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City), and Bill Wettstein (Sis. Heidi, Eureka) graciously supported our church through their ministry. May they all be richly blessed!

**Illinois, Elgin**

*Amy Gasser*

Our visiting ministers during the past month included Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann and Bro. Virgil Metzger (Chicago, IL), Elder Bro. Doug Schock and Bro. Ryan Schock (Bloomfield, IA), and Bro. Gary Sinn (Latty, OH). We thank them for their willingness to serve us.

We thank our Bible Class students, who hosted the annual Pancake Breakfast on September 6 at the Fellowship Center. The donations will be used for their bus trips to ACYF and other Sunday School activities throughout the year.

Our prayers are with Bro. Bill Wewetzer, who has been in and out of the hospital recently.

We are thankful for Shayna Young (Tom and Sis. Jolene), who has recently begun her repentance. May this be the beginning of a life of service to the Lord.

**Illinois, Eureka**

*Debra Blunier*

*Linda Rocke*

Bringing us God’s Word is one of the best things anyone can do for us. Our thanks go out to our visiting ministers, including Bro. Paul Kilgus (Sis. Carmen, Fairbury, IL), Bro. Barry Dietz (Sis. Rachel, Bradford, IL), Bro. Jason Dotterer (Sis. Lynn, Forrest, IL), Bro. Gary Anliker (Sis. Edie, Elgin, IL), Bro. Ken Eisenmann (Sis. Sharon, Cissna Park, IL), and Bro. Dave Eisenmann (Sis. Jackie, Champaign, IL).

Bro. Tim (Sis. Becky) Martin had hip surgery recently, but is recovering well.

We have been quite blest with babies. Willow Pearl was born to Brent and Jessica Martin of Secor. Her siblings are Walker, Vada, and Winston. Her grandparents are Bro. Alan and Sis. Sharon Martin and Dennis and Joy Crouch. Toby Earl Sanders was born to Bro. Jason and Sis. Janel, and welcomed home by a delighted sister, Samarah. His grandparents are Bill and Sue Sanders of Washington and Bill Cottrell of Washington and Sis. Judy Cottrell of Eureka. Britton Evan was born to Bro. Evan and Sis. Emily Schmidgall. His big sister is Brielle. His grandparents are Paul and Kris Schmidgall of Washington and Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie Sinn of Silverton, OR. Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Marla Wiegand welcomed home a third son, Cade Tyler. He is brother to Logan and Landon. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Jane Wiegand and Bro. Mike and Sis. Dianne Schmidgall.

Our hearts were saddened by the death of Bro. Les (Sis. Ruth) Martin. He was father to Bro. Alan (Sis. Sharon) Martin and Sis. Becki (Bro. Dean) Martin of our congregation, and Donna (Tim) Carr of El Paso and Larry (Debbie) Martin of Flanagan. Our sincere sympathy to all the family members as they adjust to this loss.

Trusting that God has directed their lives to become one, Bro. Kurt Cottrell and Sis. Kristen Edelman began their married life on September 7. Parents are Bro. Brent and Sis. Darla Cottrell, and Bro. Keith and Sis. Nadine Edelman. May the Lord lead as
they walk life’s path together.

**Illinois, Fairbury**

**Angela Herr**

**Janelle Stoller**

“Let us hear and give attention, God’s own teaching to embrace, for again He maketh mention of His covenant of grace; Words of life and consolation come to us, His congregation, how thro’ Jesus Christ, His Son, full redemption we have won.” Attentive Hearers, Zion’s Harp #217, verse 1

We have been listening to the conference recordings and are thankful for the kind exhortation and encouragement from our dear elder brothers. May we continue to lift them up in prayer.

We are also thankful for the visitors who have been with us this past month, including many visiting ministers. May God bless Bro. Matt Knapp (Atlanta, GA), Bro. Scott Wegman (Taylor, MO), Elder Bro. Jim Plattner (Princeville, IL), Bro. Matt Steffen (Princeville, IL), Bro. Les Kaeb (Francesville, IN), Bro. Craig Stickling (Peoria, IL), Bro. David Eisenmann (Champaign, IL), Bro. Ryan Hoerr (Princeville, IL), Bro. Brian Waibel (Champaign, IL), Bro. Fred Witzig (Washington, IL), Bro. Harvey Kaeb (Gridley, IL), Bro. Calvin Schneider (LaCrosse, IN), and Bro. Darren Plattner (Champaign, IL) for being in our midst.

“There is beauty all around, when there’s love at home; There is joy in every sound, when there’s love at home. Peace and plenty here abide, smiling sweet on every side, time doth softly, sweetly glide, when there’s love at home.” The Christian Home, Hymns of Zion #64, verse 1

Kalin Stoller (Bro. Randy and Sis. Ronda) and Anna Steidinger (Bro. Doug and Sis. Dixie, Bloomington, IL) exchanged wedding vows on September 6. We wish them God’s blessings in their married life.

September 21 was the wedding day of Sis. Maria Steidinger (Bro. Keith and Sis. Kristine) and Bro. Cody Blunier (Bro. Darin and Sis. Keri, Princeville, IL). May God bless their marriage and provide for them as they walk together.

Thadd Benjamin was born on September 17 to Bro. Neil and Sis. Kay Kaisner. Cody is his big brother. Bro. Jerry and Sis. Donna Kaisner and Phil and Charlotte Leman are his grandparents.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Duane Kilgus (Sis. Arlene) in the loss of his brother-in-law, George Fyke, who passed away on August 31.

There have been many in our congregation who have experienced surgery or spent time in the hospital this month, including Sis. Lollie Young (Bro. Norman), Jim Waldbeser (Sis. Renae), Sis. Dorothy Streib, Sis. Janice Nussbaum, Steven Slagel (Ron and Sis. June), and Bro. Kirby Knapp. May God’s healing hand be upon each one according to His will.

Sis. Delores Nussbaum was baptized with the sprinkling of water at the nursing home on September 10. We are thankful she has repented and found peace with God and we welcome her as our sister in the Lord.

**Illinois, Forrest**

**Karla Zimmerman**

**Molly Zimmerman**

“The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.” Matthew 9:37-38

We appreciate the laborers who ministered to our congregation in the last month. Visiting ministers were Bros. Scott Schafer (South Bend, IN), Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Paul Kilgus (Fairbury, IL), James Koehl (Morris, MN), Ed Fritz (Washington, IL), Darren Plattner (Champaign, IL), Charles Kellenberger (Elgin, IL), Bruce Frank (Cissna Park, IL), Chris Laukhuf (Latty, OH), and Elder Bro. John Laukhuf (Latty, OH). May the Lord bless you for your labors.

We are thankful the Lord is stirring hearts to labor in the harvest. We wish Sis. Laura Ricketts (Sis. Marie and late Bro. Brian) God’s blessing as she has felt His leading to move to Magdalena, MX, for a long-term opportunity to help at CVE. We will miss her in our Forrest congregation and will keep her in our thoughts and prayers.

“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” Galatians 6:2

Our prayers are with the families who have lost loved ones.
in recent days. Geraldine Wiles, the sister of Sis. Laverne Aberle (Bro. Mark), passed away. Sis. Marjorie Schneider (Bro. Wilbur) of Rockville, CT, has also passed from time into eternity, leaving her sisters: Sis. Ruth Roth and Sis. Donna Leman and their families of our congregation. Likewise, we lift up in prayer Sis. Deb Nussbaum (Bro. Terry) and their family, as she has said good-bye to her father, Marvin Fritchley. We also extend love and sympathy to the family of our Sis. Leona Leman, who recently went home to be with the Lord. We pray that each of these families can feel God’s peace and comfort during this difficult time.

Many people have spent time in the hospital recently and, as brothers and sisters in Christ, we wish to pray God’s healing mercies upon them. Bro. John Schaffer (Sis. Sally), who recently had two surgeries and spent time in the hospital, is now home recovering. Also, Blake Brown (Bro. Brad and Sis. Shannon) was in the hospital due to bronchitis. Sis. Holly Mueller (Bro. David) slipped and broke her leg quite badly; she’s had two surgeries and is now recovering at home. Rita Bahler was another surgery/hospital patient; we are thankful she is recovering well. We are thankful that we, as part of the Body of Christ, can bear one another’s burdens in times of need.

First-time parents, Jason and Brooke Leman, have been blessed with a precious little girl, Sienna Elizabeth. Sienna’s grandparents in our congregation are Bro. Ernie and Sis. Carol Leman.

We rejoice with Derek and Molly (Brucker) Bachtold as they were joined in marriage. Derek is the son of Bro. Herb and Sis. Jan Bachtold. We wish them God’s blessings as they have become one.

**Note of Thanks:**

Many thanks for your love, prayers, and deeds of kindness during and after my surgery. May God richly bless each one of you.

Bro. Eldon Waibel

**Illinois, Goodfield**

**Kayla Wiegand**

**Melissa Rokey**

We are thankful the Lord blessed our church with three new babies this month. Bro. Adam & Sis. Maribeth Rocke welcomed a son, Dallas Carter on September 1. He has older siblings: Fiona, Donovan, and Dawson to keep him company at home. His grandparents are Mark and Connie Rocke, and Mike and Peg Moens (Secor, IL). Bro. Loren & Sis. Darcy Schock were blessed with their firstborn child, a daughter, Kina Aree on September 4. Her grandparents are Elder Bro. Doug and Sis. Clara Schock (Bloomfield, IA) and Bro. Phil and Sis. Jane Price (Milford, IN). Lane Andrew Sinn was born September 17 to Mark and Sis. Amy Sinn. He will be lovingly cared for by big sisters, Mackenzie and Madison. His grandparents are Charles and Karen Sinn (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Curt and Sis. Livy Blunier (Eureka, IL). May God grant them grace and wisdom as they raise these precious children up to know Him.

“I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice, And it told Thy love to me…” Gospel Hymns # 572

Angels in heaven are rejoicing for the new converts who are beginning their journey of faith. Emily Wiegand (Bro. Greg and Sis. Jenny), Tori Taufer (Bro. Ted and Sis. Kenda), Ambria Herrmann (Bro. Ross and Sis. Kitty) and Claire Hohulin (Bro. Ross and Sis. Heather) have come in a humble repentance realizing their need for our Savior Jesus Christ. Our prayers and love are with them.

We rejoice that Julia Martin (Sis. Jill Martin, Goodfield and Bro. Ken Martin, Morton) is at peace with God and man and is planning to have testimonies and baptisms in Morton on September 27 and 28.

Sis. Carolyn Ott is in the hospital undergoing some tests. Please pray for her and Bro. Don.

Our heartfelt sympathy is given to Sis. Verna Hartter as she has lost a sibling, Bro. Les Martin (Eureka, IL) on August 23. We.grieve for the family of Dave Knapp (Sis. Becky) who had a stroke and passed away recently. He is the son of Sis. Wilma Knapp.

“Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge.” Proverbs 23:12

Sunday School began again on
September 7. We are thankful the children can hear the Word taught and pray for open hearts and ears willing to hear.

We have been listening to the recordings from the general conference and are thankful God can speak to us and we can gain instruction in this way.

Everyone was invited to Bro. Barry and Sis. Joyce Kloter’s September 13 for an ice cream social and singing. It was a lovely fall evening and enjoyed by all.

We always appreciate the ministers who visit and share God’s message. We want to express our thanks to Bro. Erik Givens (Sis. Debbie, Princeville, IL), Bro. Tim Hohulin (Sis. Cathy, Roanoke, IL), Bro. Ryan Hoerr (Sis. Joy, Princeville, IL), and Bro. Craig Stickling (Sis. Jackie, Peoria, IL) for their recent work in Goodfield.

We want to remember our Sis. Erin Davis who continues to serve in the mission field in Jamaica. Also, prayers can be offered for the family of Bro. Kurt, Sis. Joan Plattner, Reggie, Toby, Hadley & Brenna as they prepare to leave this fall for extended mission work in Haiti at the Hospital Lumiere.

Illinois, Gridley
Perry Klopfenstein

We were pleased to have Bro. Mark Wettstein, LaCrosse, IN as a visiting minister this past month. He grew up here in Gridley. May the Lord be with him in his preaching duties.

Bro. Don Gilmore is residing at the Meadows Home.

Sis. Catherine Klopfenstein has moved into the Meadows Home.

Bro. Steve Stortz is residing at the Asta Care facility in Bloomington, recovering from a broken foot.

Jack and Sis. Jerry Sievers are residing at the Luther Oaks home in Bloomington.

The Daton Kupferschmidt family has moved to Mexico to help in the CVE work in Magdalena. May the Lord be with them as they adjust to their calling.

Our sympathies are with the Bro. Bill Butikofer family over the loss of his brother, former ministering Bro. Bert Butikofer, Elgin, IA.

A son was born on August 26 to Kevin and Sarah (Hock) Holstine. Grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Kay Hock. He was named Raymond Joseph Holstine. His great-uncle, Raymond Witzig, Gridley, was fatally wounded in the Viet Nam war.

At this writing, the farmers of this area, were poised to begin the grain harvest of corn and soybeans. Some think it could be one of the biggest harvests ever. It is all in God’s hands.

Illinois, Morton
Annette Tanner
Julie Bahr

Our Morton Church participated in serving hungry carnival workers who came to set up for Morton’s Annual Pumpkin Festival. A booth was also filled with Bibles and spiritual materials to feed the hungry souls. Let us keep our eye on the harvest and also keep our eyes on Jesus, the Lord of the Harvest. This ministry covets the prayers “of those we love” for prosperity - for God’s Holy Kingdom.

We are thankful for visiting ministers of the Gospel. Bro. Keith Hinrichsen (Sis. Tammy, Phoenix) and Bro. Matt Kaufmann (Sis. Rebekah, Bloomington). Bro. Matt came and willingly gave our Family Worship topic “Building Relationships” which is part of our series on “Walking the Halls”. We learned how important strengthening our personal relationship with Jesus is, when we are given a calling to “walk the halls” of any given institution. Once we have received the Word of God he has given us a responsibility to go forth and be His vessel!

Our prayers and sympathy are shared with our Sis. Joan Oberlander in the loss of her dear sister, Sis. Eleanor Geyer (late Bro. Norm Geyer) both from Morton. Sis. Eleanor leaves her two sons, Bro. Bill Geyer and Brad (Rochelle) Geyer.

Illinois, Peoria
Pam Fritzenmeier

We welcomed six young people into the family of God on August 24. They gave their testimonies of His work in their lives on August 20 and 23. They include Bro. Clayton Grassi (Sis. Cheryl and the late Bro. John), Sis. Hannah Reinhard (Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan), Sis. Maddie Waibel (Bro. Matt
and Sis. Lisa), Bro. Logan Sauder (Bro. David and Sis. Rachel), Sis. Shelby Vaughn (friend of Bro. Craig and Sis. Jacki Stickling), and Bro. Jacob Feucht (Bro. Tim and Sis. Robyn). Bro. Fred Funk (Sis. Diane, Morton), Elder Bro. Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton North), and Bro. Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor) were here also to share in this most special day. We thank them for their ministry. 

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Wanda Grimm on the passing of her mother, Sis. Rosalyn Grimm. 

Many need our prayers for various life and health issues. Your prayers do make a difference! Bro. Steve and Sis. Rose Staley report that their daughter-in-law, Andrea (Aaron), has completed treatments for colon cancer and is cancer free! She is suffering one-sided weakness from the treatments and still desires prayers. They are all thankful to know people are praying. 


Allison Stickling, 16-year-old daughter of Chris and Sis. Marsha, had a kidney transplant April 13. She is doing well. Please continue to pray for her. 

Those serving far from home are in our prayers too. These include Bro. Jason Grassi, Bro. Zack and Sis. Daniela Knobloch, and Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Bere Aupperle and families, all in CVE, Magdalena. Sis. Daniela’s brother, Fede, and little Keyla, both from CVE continue to need prayer. 

Sunday, September 14, was the first day of Sunday school in the United States for Mackenson and Berlica Reinhard, who just arrived from Haiti! We praise God with Bro. Tim and Sis. Joan Reinhard and family. 

Note of Thanks: 

I am completely overwhelmed by all of the cards and gifts you sent out with my parents. It was such a blessing and an unexpected surprise. More than that, I am thankful for all of the prayers that I feel from you. They are what help get me out of bed in the morning when it looks too daunting that day. My stitches are out from surgery and I can start moving my foot, but still not walking on it, but I will hopefully be very soon! Thanks again for all of your love and support! Love and prayers to you all! Sis. Megan Kieser (Prescott). 

We are very thankful for God’s servants willing to share God’s word. 

Believing through faith that God brought their lives together, Melinda Martin (Bro. Ed and Sis. Gladys) was wed in holy matrimony to Brent Schaefer (Stanley and Beverly) of Hancock, MN. We wish them God’s richest blessings. 

We are very thankful David Herrmann (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Grace) has made a beginning in repentance. We know God’s grace is sufficient for all who come to the foot of the Cross. 

Bro. Mark and Sis. Katelyn Stoller are thankful parents of a baby boy, Rafe William, born September 4. He was welcomed home by big sister, Jade. The grandparents are Bro. Gale and Sis. Sonia Stoller and Dave and Sis. Linda Fehr of Washington, IL. 

Our hospital patient this month was Tamara (Bro. Kevin and Sis. Grace) Herrmann. We are very thankful she is home and all is well. 

Death is so very final. Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Diane (Bro. Herb) Rumbold at the death of her father, Robert Pilger of Ozark, MO. Sis. Loretta Rumbold experienced her brother’s death, Bro. Lester Martin of Eureka, IL. 

Note of Thanks: 

We wish to thank everyone for the outpouring of love through prayer, monetary gifts, food, cards and words of encouragement before and since the passing of our loved one. To know others
remember and show love and concern in various ways helps us get through the hard times. God bless each of you for your kindness.

The family of Emily Stoller

Illinois, Roanoke

Barb Schwind
Judy Sauder

We thank visiting ministers Bro. Willis Ehnle (Peoria), Bro. Randy Mogler (Washington) on August 20; Elder Bro. Kent Heimer on August 24; Bro. Brad Strahm (Bern), Bro. Mike Hohulin (Fort Lauderdale) on August 31; Bro. Jeff Wiegand (Goodfield) and Bro. Art Mueller (Belvidere) on September 21 for sharing God’s Word.

August 22-23 were Nursing Home Benefit Days. It was wonderful seeing all ages of people from our church and many individuals and groups from the community work together to support the Home.

Our prayers are with Sis. Verla Leman and family in the death of her brother, Glenn (Wilma) Stieglitz of Morton, who passed away on August 25.

Erin Martin (Bro. Tim and Sis. Linda) is engaged to Josh King (Phil and Kathy) of Tremont.

On August 31, Kim Sauder (Bro. Harold and Sis. Judy) was married to Jimmy Houck of Peoria (Jake and Joyce Houck of Jackson, MI). We wish both young couples God’s abundant blessings in their life together.

We rejoice with Bro. Caleb, Sis. Erin and Graysen Leman on the September 4 birth of Wren Lorene. Grandparents are Bro. Brad and Sis. Patty Hodel, and Elder Bro. Mike and Sis. Deb Leman (Denver). God’s blessings to this family!

We are so thankful that Julianne Wilson (mother of Sis. Brooke Marcille) and Mary Kate Fowler (Mitch and Sharon Fowler) have begun their walk with the Lord.

Please join us in prayer for those with health challenges: John Tiraboschi (Melinda, son-in-law of Dan and Mary Jane Steffen), Sis. Marge and Bro. Russ Plattner, Sis. Jane Schumacher, and Sally and Jake Achterberg.

September 21 was Invite-a-Guest Day for Roanoke church. It was a wonderful time of worship and fellowship. Our guests joined us for church and for a potluck and singing at the fellowship hall. Bro. Jeff Wiegand read from John 7 and reminded us that Jesus refused to take glory and honor for himself. The Son of God reflected the glory of God in everything He said and did. May this be our goal! Bro. Art Mueller read from I Cor. 15 and encouraged us to focus on the resurrection of Christ. He said we should look back at the cross and learn the lessons but the good news of the gospel is the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Because He lives, we can live, too! We thank all who participated in this special day, as well as the planning committee.

Note of Thanks:

Our heartfelt thanks to all who remembered our loved one during his time of illness and passing. Thank you for the many cards, meals, flowers, visits and gifts of love as well as thoughts and prayers offered. May God bless each one of you.

The Bill Hodel family

Illinois, Tremont

Teresa Rowell
Janice Sauder

We have been abundantly blessed with many visiting ministers recently: Elder Bros. Trent Meiss (Eureka, IL), Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL) and Marvin Dotterer (Forrest, IL); and Bros. Gary Sinn (Latty, OH), Akihiro Ito (Shioda, Japan), Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), John Bradle (Roanoke, IL) and David Obergfel (Peoria, IL). We thank each brother again for willingly sharing God’s Word in his service to us.

September 7 was an eventful day for us. Our Bible Class entertained the high school students and teachers from Morton, Princeville and Bradford for ACYF Day. We all shared in the afternoon service and enjoyed the singing that followed. May God bless these young adults—our beloved children and grandchildren!

“And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work’s sake. And be at peace among yourselves.” 1 Thessalonians 5:12&13

These verses were read when we reassembled that same evening,
as Bro. James (Sis. Brenda) Fehr was ordained as Deacon for the Tremont church. We thank Bro. James and Sis. Brenda for their willingness to serve us, and will pray for grace and wisdom for this work as he assists Elder Bro. Steve (Sis. Mary) Sauder.

May God continue to bless Bro. Galen and Sis. LeaAnn Huette, as they begin their marriage in the Lord. Bro. Galen’s parents are Bro. David and Sis. Susan Huette. Sis. LeaAnn’s mother is Sis. Colleen (the late Bro. Stan) Ringger of Gridley, IL. We also pray that Brett and Ashley Koch will enjoy God’s direction and blessings throughout their married life. Parents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Diane Koch and Bro. Todd and Sis. Rita Kilgus.

We extend our best wishes to Mark Zuercher and Amy Donaldson at the announcement of their engagement. Parents are: Bro. Jerry and Sis. Kathy Zuercher, Martha Homan of E. Peoria, IL, and Rick Donaldson of Pekin, IL. May their love for each other grow as they prepare for a June, 2015 wedding.

Our prayer of sympathy for Bro. Simon III and Sis. Lori Wagenbach at the passing of her mother, Joy Rodden, of Pekin, IL. May God provide comfort in this time of sorrow.

Baby boys—oh, how precious! Bro. Doug and Sis. Cheri Frank welcome little Beau Timothy, who was born to Bro. Tim and Sis. Emily Schmidgall of Bloomington, IL. His big sister is Lola. Bro. Curt and Sis. Kathy Rassi have a new grandson, Elliot Aaron. His parents are Bro. Nic and Sis. Amanda Rassi of Bloomington, IL. Another rejoicing grandparent is Sis. LaVonne (the late Bro. Simon, Jr.) Wagenbach at the birth of Remington Charles, firstborn son of Andy and Jade Wagenbach of Brimfield, IL. God bless these parents and little ones each morning anew.

Illinois, Washington

Marlene Prather
Jodi Fehr

We were blessed to have several visiting ministers this month. Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth), Wolcott, IN; Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Tamara), Wolcott, IN; Bro. Nate Wiegand (Sis. Laura), Goodfield, IL; and Bro. Matt Feucht (Sis. Jennifer), Roanoke, IL. We thank these brothers and their wives for sharing God’s Word.

We rejoice with Bro. Micah Pfaffmann and Sis. Olivia Baumgartner (Bern, KS) as they were married on September 7 in Bern, KS. Their parents are Bro. Jeff and Sis. Kim Baumgartner (Bern, KS) and Bro. Robert and Sis. Lilly Pfaffmann. Our Washington congregation looks forward to welcoming Sis. Kim and getting to know her. May God bless this dear couple.

Our church is growing, as Bro. Jason and Sis. Angie Schrock and family welcome Alaina Hope. She was born on September 3 and is welcomed home by Addison, Alivia, and Trevor and grandparents: Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri Schrock (Congerville, IL), Sis. Mary Knapp (Congerville, IL), and Bruce and Kathlene (Moore) Knapp of Kansas City, MO. We also rejoice with Dave and Sis. Linda Fehr as they welcome a new grandson. Bro. Mark and Sis. Katelyn Stoller (Princeville, IL) are joyful as Rafe William has arrived.

A new Sunday School year started on August 24. May we stay prayerful, for our dear children that God has entrusted to us, and for our teachers, that teach them each Sunday.

We have had several in our congregation that have needed our prayers. Our dear Barb Smith had surgery, and is healing. Bro. Jason Schrock had a hand injury, Trevor Schrock (Bro. Jason and Sis. Angie) had an ear injury, and Bro. Andy Mogler is experiencing health issues. We will continue to pray for them.

Indiana, Bluffton

Suzie Fiechter
Kim Meyer

“...The kingdom of Heaven is at hand.” Matt. 10:7

We have experienced a little taste of Heaven this month. On Sunday, September 7, our congregation gathered for a church picnic. From babies to great grandparents, all were surrounded with God’s love as we ate together, sang together and fellowshipped together. Our loving Father
blessed us with a beautiful day and we were uplifted and encouraged.

“...Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven.” Matt. 18: 3

Joining the angels in Heaven, we rejoice as new brothers and sisters have been added to His family. Taylor Pulver (Bro. Chris and Sis. Kara), Sydnee Reinhard (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Kim), Hannah Rinkenberger (Bro. Linc and Sis. Catrina) and David Wolf (Bro. Kent and Sis. Viola) were baptized on August 17. On September 14, Laiken Carter (Sis. Heidi), Liana Reinhard (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Jody), Gretchen Moser (Bro. Dave and Sis. Sheri), Desiah Reinhard (Bro. Kent and Sis. Jodi) and Katelyn Pfister (Bro. Rich and Sis. Amber) were added to the fold.

Andy and Christy Plattner (McAllen, TX) were visiting for Sis. Desiah’s baptism and began their repentance. We pray for the Lord’s guidance and converting power in their lives, and also that they would feel the love of our congregation! Included in our prayers as well, is our new convert, Jenna Meyer (Bro. Denny and Sis. Kathy).

Thank you to our visiting ministers for instructing us in Heavenly ways: Bro. Jon (Sis. Tara) Sprunger of Indianapolis, Bro. Neal (Sis. Kris) Widmer of West Lafayette, Bro. Lynn (Sis. Leonda) Stieglitz of Leo, Bro. Steve (Sis. Irene) Frauhiger of Bluffton North and Elder Bro. Steve (Sis. Myra) Ringger of Bluffton North.


Each of these little souls will spend eternity somewhere. May God give these parents grace to direct and train them in His ways that they will choose to be Heavenbound.

We extend loving sympathy to Bro. Erv Moser and Sis. Nova Kipfer on the passing of their brother, Glen Fiechter.

Sis. Barb (Bro. Tom – dec) Pfister and Jeremy Valentine have been in our prayers due to their health issues.

“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of Heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven.” Matt. 7:21

May we all be busy doing the will of our Father!

“And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be... He which testifieth these things saith,

Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus” Rev. 22:12,20

Indiana, Bluffton North
Corinne Stettner
Amy Moser

Sometimes we spend too much time in the Kingdom without spending enough time with the King.

“Who do you serve?”

Throughout the morning of Sunday, August 10, the question rang out loud and clear. This year Bluffton North had the privilege of hosting Christian Endeavor to over 100 High School students. Bro. Ryan Bertsch had the morning service and spoke to this question, declaring that it cannot be answered verbally, but by our lifestyle, our actions, our appearance, and how we respond to God.

Once again, the annual Gateway Woods Auction brought with many visitors to our church. We were blessed to have Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann from Smithville, OH) and Bro. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy from Gridley, IL) preach God’s Word to us on Sunday. The auction weekend was beautiful and truly a blessing to see the outpouring of love and resources from the body of Christ. Bro. Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo) from Leo, IN, also came to spend a Sunday with us in late July.

Bro. Ted Kaehr (Bluffton) went home to be with Jesus on August 4. We rejoice for him, but mourn for those who said goodbye to a father and grandfather. He is the father of Jane (Doyle) Frauhiger,
Marie (Chuck) Frauhiger, Lyle (Connie), Myron, and Irene (Steve) Frauhiger.

Bro. Darren and Sis. Amanda Drayer are celebrating the birth of their second child. Julian Darren was born on August 7. He joins sister, Samantha, at home.

Indiana, Francesville
Jacki Huber
Mildred Clauss

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.” Ephesians 6:13.

In verses 14-18 in this same chapter, we are instructed about the different parts of the armor. On seven Wednesday evenings, our ministering brothers are each taking one of the pieces of armor and expounding upon it. It has been a blessing to learn and to be reminded of how to do this!

Our young people have been blessed by attending ACYF and Christian Endeavor recently. We are thankful for times of fellowship, and pray that faith and friendships will be strengthened through these events.

We have also enjoyed fellowship as a congregation. Recently the entire church family was invited to a hog roast/potluck and singing at the Fellowship Center. It was a special evening for all who attended.

Prayers have been with Bro. Jim Denton, and Sisters Carol Overmyer and Diane Clevenger (Jon), as they have been hospital patients this month.

A special thanks to ministering Bro. Ken Wuethrich (Sis. Lyn, Indianapolis, IN) who shared God’s Word on a recent Sunday.

Indiana, Indianapolis
Gail Bradford
Sandy Lichtle

We sincerely welcome four new college students to our church. The students are Sis. Katie Isch (Francesville, IN), Bro. Jacob Zeltwanger (Francesville, IN), Raquel Sauder (Leo, IN) and Jonathan Stoller (Leo, IN). We pray they will feel at home here. We also want to welcome Bro. Blake and Sis. Tashi Widmer (Kingston, Jamaica) to Indy during this fall semester. Sis. Tashi is doing an internship at the Indiana School for the Deaf.

On Wednesday, August 27, Bro. Makoto Inoue (Sis. Anna, Tokyo, Japan) gave a presentation on the church and life in Japan. Our thoughts and prayers are with Bro. Makoto, Sis. Anna, and their family as they have returned to Tokyo.

We rejoice with Ireland Beebe (Bro. Mark and Sis. Julie) as she has decided to seek the Lord in repentance. We pray that God’s joy and peace will fill her heart in this new journey.

On September 14, we hosted the Indiana Junior High ACYF day. The theme verse was 2 Tim. 2:21 and exhortations were given by ministering Bros. Joe Sprunger (Sis. Tara) and Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Washington, IL). It was a blessing to have a large group of students and teachers worship and fellowship together.

We extend our thanks to Elder Bro. Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Byron Stoller (Sis. Carol, Gridley, IL) for their willingness to be used in the Lord’s service in sharing the Truth with us this month.

Indiana, Lacrosse
Betsy Virkler
Meagan Frank

To compensate for the arrival of cooler autumn temperatures, during the month of September we have had plenty of soup. We enjoyed our monthly soup packaging, graciously hosted by Bro. Brad & Sis. Julie Rocke, along with putting together school kits. Then, Bro. Tom & Sis. LuAnn Troxel hosted their annual Stone Soup Supper at their farm. We always look forward to the blessing of warm fellowship outside around a warm fire. It is exciting to see what everyone has brought to throw into the pot, and it always turns out delicious!

Our hearts go out to Sis. Kerri Gudeman (Bro. Glen) as her grandpa, Steve Shaban, recently passed away. Also, our Sis. Sue Heinold, recently returned home from a nearby nursing home, is failing in health and is in our thoughts and prayers.

Bro. Gene & Sis. Evie Heinold are rejoicing in the arrival of a healthy granddaughter, Rayna Sue. Rayna’s parents Bro. Travis &
Sis. Kathy Knobloch (Lester, IA) are also thankful to welcome her home.

**Indiana, Leo**

*Kirby Reutter*

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to visit 35 different Apostolic Christian churches in a single day of worship? Welcome to Leo! According to the 2014 Census conducted and announced by Bro. Lynn Stieglitz, local Leo congregants were baptized in at least 35 different Apostolic Christian locales around the country—and world. In light of this information, this month I tried an experiment. I decided to try very hard to only report information from Leo. (As you can see below, the experiment failed—miserably.)

The month started off well enough. One email announcement reminded us to pray for all eleven Leo converts (Brianna Dailey, Dayla Drayer, James Drayer, Kelsey Kaeb, Abby Kaufmann, Abrey Plattner, Holly Rager, Kami Schafer, Michaela Slagel, Aviah Wieland, Bethany Young). I thought: “Great—this is perfect for my experiment!” But then the same email further reminded us to pray for the following Leo-supported couples serving abroad: Bro. Jon and Sis. Amy Gerst (Ethiopia); Bro. Kyle and Sis. Trisha Fiechter (Jordan); Joel and Sally Kaufmann (Japan); Bro. Nathan & Sis. Rachel Mueller (Papa New Guinea, Lord willing); Bro. Josh and Sis. Kaitlyn Ramsier (Dominican Republic); Bro. Jeff and Sis. Tina Schumacher (Dominican Republic); Bro. Blake and Sis. Tashi Widmer (Jamaica); and Bro. Erik and Sis. Carrie Wiegand (Zambia). So then I thought: “Well there goes that experiment—it was ruined before it even got started. Here I am trying to focus only on Leo—and now I’m being asked to pray for seven different countries!”

Then those of us at Gateway received this prayer request from our fearless leader, Bro. Ed Graf: “I would like to issue a general call to prayer for God to move among our Brotherhood to fill our current staffing needs. It is very widespread within the organization. I continue to be amazed at the quality and passion in those God calls to serve at Gateway Woods. His work here is far from done—the harvest is great and there is a need for workers. Pray to the Lord of the Harvest!” Once again, my experiment had failed. I tried to focus only on Leo—and now Bro. Ed was asking us to pray for the entire Brotherhood!

As it turns out, Bro. Ed’s prayer request was wisely directed. Bro. Chet Baumgartner (from Bluffton) soon heeded the call and became our new English teacher. Then, Sis. Abby Greutman (from Latty) heeded the call and became our new Foster Care Case Manager. Finally, Bro. Brock Williamson (from Leo) heeded the call and became our new Science Teacher. Once again, however, my experiment had failed. Sixty-seven percent of the new recruits were not from Leo. Furthermore, not even Brock is originally from Leo; he is one of the many transplants referenced by Bro. Lynn. In short, I couldn’t even count him as a data point either!

Then our beloved Bro. Roger Gasser (from Junction) announced his plans to retire from the Gateway Counseling Department: “I will be leaving Gateway Woods in the next month or two to take a position with Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services in Morton, IL. It has been a pleasure working at Gateway Woods, and establishing relationships that I will cherish the rest of my life. I have often told non-Gateway people, ‘I love everybody I work with,’ and that remains true to this day. Thank you for all you have done for me, and Heaven will be richer by seeing you there. I can’t imagine how little our ‘problems’ will seem in that day. May we redouble our efforts so He may find us faithful!” By this point, I was ready to give up on my little experiment altogether…

Then we received news of tragedy from our beloved Gateway representative, Bro. Sam Manz—once again, from Junction: “Yesterday, I accompanied our 3-year-old son, Symon, to Fort Wayne via life-flight. A Labor Day project was to clear trees at the wooded property where we hope to build. Possibly due to the wind, a tree fell in the opposite direction than intended. Part of a tree-top caused multiple skull fractures. He went from Emergency Room to
neurosurgery to ‘pop the dent’ and restore the skull to proper position with titanium plates. He is now sedated in pediatric intensive care to monitor inter-cranial pressure. By the grace of God, we genuinely feel thankful that our boy is alive with a cautiously hopeful prognosis. We have benefitted from an outpouring of love and prayer-support. We invite you to pray for the Lord’s will and provision. God and prayer-support buoy me on. I am weary, but not defeated. Finding strength far beyond my own, Bro. Sam.”

Needless to say, my experiment had utterly failed yet once again. And to be quite honest, I’m kind of glad that it did. Even when I tried to focus only on Leo, I couldn’t. Whether we realize it or not, we are all woven together into the fabric of the Body of Christ. All of us have been called to look beyond our local circumstances to believers throughout the Brotherhood—and throughout the world. As the world continues to shrink, shouldn’t the church (in contrast) start to grow?

The last news of the month just came in: “Congratulations to Bro. Tyler and Sis. Abby Stieglitz on the arrival of their son, Boden William, on September 15.” I thought to myself: “Finally—something to report from Leo!”

Indiana, Milford
Jodi Beer
Minnie Beer

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue, Detroit, MI); Bro. Robert Beebe (Sis. Sue, South Bend, IN); and Bro. Mark Wettstein (Sis. Karen, Lacrosse, IN). Our Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Junction, OH) was here for Bible study. We want to thank these brothers for their visit and service of love.

We just finished listening to the conference conclusions and would like to thank our elder brothers for their commitment to us, their time spent for church duties, and for continuing the faith.

Our Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy Steffen continue to need our prayers as she grows weaker. Bro. Dave Young (Sis. Barb, Bloomington-Normal, IL), father of our Sis. Kim Schlipf (Bro. Rob), has some serious health issues. May they feel our prayers and support each day. Our Sis. Melinda Gramm (Bro. Larry) was involved in a motor vehicle accident. She was hospitalized for several days and has returned home to recover. Sis. Marge Plattner (Bro. Russ, Roanoke, IL), mother of our Sis. Pat Beer (Bro. Fred), also has had health issues this month. We are remembering all of these loved ones in prayer.

On a happier note, our Bro. Phil and Sis. Jane Price have a new granddaughter, Kina Aree, born to Bro. Loren and Sis. Darcy Schock of Goodfield, IL.

Indiana, Remington
Jenni Honegger
Marcella Tyler

Bro. Ed Fritz from Washington, IL again was willing to share God’s word with us. It is an added blessing to us when he comes to visit family. We are also thankful to Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa) from Bradford, IL for sharing a day with us. Thank you, Bros. Ed and Brad, may the Lord continue to bless you.

Our convert, Sophie Getz (Bro. Jason and Sis. Sara), has found peace with God and man. May we continue to encourage her as she looks forward to her baptism.

We are thankful to have Bro. Stuart Kilgus back worshiping with us since his return from a summer internship in MN.

Wes Corbin, a high school friend of our students, has been worshiping with us. He has been battling Leukemia for some time and will be traveling to Philadelphia for treatment for the next 6 weeks. Wes has a strong faith. We pray that God will be with him and his family and, if it would be His will, that he could be healed.

Several in our congregation have been traveling and we have welcomed visitors as well. We are thankful for the safety that God has provided each one.

Indiana, South Bend
Joshua Martinez

“And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not...

We thank Bro. Brad and Sis. Becky Langhofer for planning a “World Relief Work Day” with some of our LaCrosse Church brethren. We thank all who helped in this project, which involved cleaning up the property of a widow near Grovertown, IN.

We thank Bro. Dan Pfister (Sis. Sherry, Bluffton North, IN) and Bro. Ken Hoerr (Sis. Darlene, Peoria, IL) for their service from the pulpit.

We thank our outgoing Sunday School teachers, Bro. Brad Langhofer, and Sisters Rachel Langhofer and Tricia Lester for their kind and faithful instruction. Our prayers are with incoming teachers: Bro. Craig Langhofer and Sis. Bethany Kupferschmid, as they show our children how wide and long and high and deep is the love of our Savior.

We are grateful that Sis. Ernestine Meister, who is recovering from a recent fall, is able to attend church services.

"Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.” Romans 15:13

Indiana, Valparaiso
Marguerite Hoerr
Sherry Meiss

Bro. Ken Schneider (Sis. Bernice) visited Valpo this month. We thank him for sharing the Word with us. May God bless them both for coming to bless our Sunday.

Our dear, Judy Kotzer has been hospitalized twice recently and treated for numerous blood clots. She’s been in the prayers of both of us and our whole congregation, and will continue to be as she heals from this second round of problems. Our prayers also include Dave, who is so loved by all of us. We miss having them meet with us and will continue our prayers in their behalf.

Most of our congregation was able to meet at a local park one Sunday afternoon and hold a picnic to show our appreciation for Bro. Garry & Sis. Lois Bucher. Bro. Garry has retired from the ministry. We feel he deserves this requiem from responsibility, but we miss his presence on the pulpit. We hope they both feel the love and respect that is accorded them. May God bless them during their retirement. They both are such blessings to the Valpo congregation.

Our children, one by one, have visited us recently and I find it necessary to share with you the blessings we’ve had during their visits. Not only children, but grown grandchildren have taken time from their busy lives to check in with us. Families are such a blessing and we thank God for ours, as we know all of you do for the blessings you receive from your family members.

I had a phone call again this past week that meant so much to me. Sis. Lois Ehnle called. Sis. Lois and I are first cousins. Our fathers, Theo & Henry Beer, shared the pulpit together in Milford for many years. We were not only cousins, but very good friends and classmates, and later sisters in faith. We are both in our eighties now and it seems our relationship means even more as we grow older. When I get a phone call from Peoria where she and Bro. Willis now live, it’s always a gift. I thank God for the blessing of her relationship and her friendship.

Those of us in the Valparaiso congregation want you to know how thankful we are when you stop in to visit with us as you are in the vicinity. We hope you felt our love as you stopped by, because we appreciated your visit. May God bless you for it.

Indiana, West Lafayette
Kris Widmer
Libby Wahl

Our church fall activities began with a Sunday School picnic and the “promotion” of our students. We thank all the brothers and sisters who diligently served our youth and pray for our new teachers who begin their roles! What a blessing that our younger classes are bursting at the seams...we are switching around classrooms to reflect that growth!

Fall also brings the joy and increased activity resulting from our Purdue students returning and the freshmen arriving. We’ve begun the incorporated student/church Bible Study on “Integrity”
and thank the following brothers for speaking the truth on the alternate “church Thursday evenings”: Bro. Chris Huber (Sis. Sharon), Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Sis Linda) both from Francesville; and Bro. Dan Pfister (Sis. Sherry) from Bluffton North. Special thanks to Bro. Nick Waibel (Sis. Sandra) Francesville, who shared the pulpit on a recent Sunday.

We enjoyed our traditional PYG/church Fall Picnic at Happy Hollow this past Tuesday evening. Crisp air and fellowship are a wonderful blessing!

September 13-14, Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH) and our Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis Lyla) joined us for the testimonies and baptism of our new brother and sister in the Lord, Allen and Mollie Osborn. What a joy and testimony as their children: Makaylie, Bransen, and Tristen observed and we the church body welcome them!

We are so thankful for the exciting news that our Bro. Grant Heinold and Sis. Anne Wagenbach’s engagement brought! Anne and their parents are from Washington, IL: Bro. Dan and Sis. Carol Heinold, and Bro. Don and Sis. Marie Wagenbach.

Ali Virkler (Bro. Paul and Sis. Miranda) had an emergency appendectomy and Bro. Ryan Meister (Sis. Hollie) had knee surgery. We are thankful they are both getting along great!

Welcome to our newest addition, little Colt Zechariah, born September 14 to our ministering Bro. Rustin and Sis. Amanda Meister. Micah, Clay, Joshua, and Moriah welcome their sibling and Bro. Dick and Sis. Sharon Meister and Bro. Roger and Sis. Sandi Ward (Francesville) welcome their grandson! God has been so very good!

Indiana, Wolcott

Michelle Earney
Beckie Lehman

Our church was blessed with many visitors this past month as we held our annual Invite-A-Friend weekend. We are very thankful for the visiting ministers that shared the Word this month. Bro. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie) from Mansfield, OH was with us as well as Bro. Dana Neiman (Sis. Lea) from Remington, IN.

Bro. Greg and Sis. MaryBeth Lehman are happy to be first-time grandparents! Calvin James was born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Maria McCormick (Alto, MI). Paternal grandparents are Tim and Laurie McCormick. Bro. Gene and Sis. Verna Lehman are happy to be great grandparents again.

We want to express our apologies to Bro. Alex and Sis. Mindy Steffen (Elgin, IL) and their families as we forgot to mention their wedding last month. Bro. Alex is the son of Bro. Gary and Sis. Lois Steffen (Elgin, IL). Sis. Mindy’s is the daughter of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Pam Furrer of our Wolcott church. We want to wish them God’s blessings as they begin their married life together.

Iowa, Bloomfield

Teresa Schock
Bro. Joe Gerst (Sis. Connie, Iowa City) and Bro. Jonathon Pratt (Sis. Sharon, Valparaiso) shared our pulpit August 31, as Bros. Doug and Ryan were both gone. May God bless those that come and preach and also those who host them. We appreciate everyone’s efforts.

We have just finished listening to the conference recordings. Aren’t we thankful that Heaven is available for everyone? May our elders ever be blessed.

Iowa, Burlington

Ivy Steiner
Monica Eisenmann

Once again we were blessed with several visiting ministers this past month. Serving us were Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall, Bros. Tom Lanz, and Mark Schmidgall (Oakville-Mediapolis), Bro. Gary Endress (Bradford, IL) and Bro. Jim Butikofer (Iowa City).

We are very thankful to have two new ministers here in Burlington as of August 20, Bro. Seth Hartter (Sis. Brenda Schulz) and Bro. Dallas Massner (Sis. Christy Frank). Our prayers are with them and their children as they accept this responsibility and change in their lives. May they always remember “The Lord will Provide” if we look to Him.

Iowa, Elgin

Maria Rocke

“How shall it be, when we in close relation
With holy saints the streets of heaven tread;
Where trees of life, fresh as in first creation,
By waters from the stream of life are fed.
Where fountains of eternal youth shall flourish,
The hand of time no more shall work decay,
No eyes shall close in death, no more soul perish;
Pain, sorrow and distress have passed away!”
Zion's Harp # 146

How suddenly this earthly life dims and our vision of Heaven becomes brighter and more focused, when we say our last farewell to loved ones. Bro. Bert Butikofer passed on to his eternal reward August 25. Our sympathy and prayers are with his wife, Sis. Beulah and family; his sons, Bro. Lon (Sis. Sandy) and Tracy (West Union, IA); his daughter, Melanie (Steve) Streicher (South Milwaukee, WI); his siblings, Harry, Bro. Paul (Sis. Mildred), Bro. Al (Sis. LaVerne), Bro. Bill (Sis. Wilma), Sis. Shirley Nester; sister-in-law, Bertha Butikofer; brother-in-law, Wilbur Wiegand; and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Bro. Bert, a retired minister, was a dear example of faith and optimism and cheered the lives of those who knew him.

Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend) was with us this month on Sunday, August 24 and also to share in the funeral service for Bro. Bert. May God bless his labors.

**Iowa, Garden Grove**
*Laura Funk*

Welcoming Tyrel Orrin Moser are Bro. Clint and Sis. Moonlight. Grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Dawn Moser and Sis. Gail Szabo, Bay City, MI.

Bringing God’s Word to our congregation this past month included Elder Bro. Steve Gutwein (Francesville, IN) and Bro. Joe Gerst (Iowa City, IA).

We continue to listen to the recordings from the Annual Conference. God loves us for who He is, not who we are.

**Iowa, Iowa City**
*Dianna Butikofer*

We were blessed this month by the visits of Bro. Greg and Sis. Carla Rassi (Chicago, IL) on a Wednesday evening and Bro. Dale and Sis. Tina Frank (Oakville-Mediapolis, IA) on a Sunday. We neglected to mention our appreciation for Bro. Dale’s presentation of a Bible Study in April on forgiveness. We trust he will lovingly forgive this oversight. May the Lord bless them for their labors.

Our prayers and sympathy are with Bro. Tim and Sis. Melisa Gerst and family following the death of her grandfather, Bro. Bert Butikofer (Sis. Beulah, Elgin, IA). We pray the Lord will comfort Melisa and her family in their grief.

**Iowa, Lester**
*Audrey Metzger*

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are the children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them....” Ps. 127:3-5

Our congregation welcomed several new babies in this past month. Lance & Janice Bullerman had a new little boy, Liam Lane, on August 14. He is welcomed home by siblings: Micah, Mitchell and Morgan; and grandparents, Bro. Charles & Sis. Vicki Leuthold.

A double blessing came to the home of Bro. Brent & Sis. Priscilla Bosch when Bo Thomas and Brielle Marie joined their family on August 25. Helping to welcome the twins home are Brianna, Brooklyn, Briggs, and Brieley; along with grandparents, Bro. Tony & Sis. Pam Bosch. On August 28, a sweet little girl, Rayna Sue, joined the family of Bro. Travis and Sis. Kathy Knoblock. Her sisters: Tyra, Kiana, Dayra, Bryna, Luca, and Alexa, as well as grandparents, Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet Knoblock, are delighted to share their love with this new little one.

We were blessed to hear the Living Word expounded by several visiting ministers this past month: Elder Bro. Duane Rocke (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Philip Schulz (Burlington, IA), Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend, IA) and Bro. Kevin Fehr (West Bend, IA). We thank these brothers, and
their families, for being used in His service.

Spending time in the hospital in the past month were: Sis. Beth (Bro. Myron) Knobloch, Bro. Jerome (Sis. Gail) Hartter, and Tayton (Bro. Derek and Sis. Connie) Knobloch. There are several others in our church with ongoing health and life challenges. We want to remember to lift each of these dear ones up in prayer to the One who knows their needs best.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Sis. Shirley Nester and family in the loss of her brother, Bro. Bert Butikofer, from Elgin, IA. We also extend sympathy to Leah Doorneweerd and to Sis. Alice Wulf, who lost their sister and sister-in-law, respectively, when Mildred Sauder (Morris, MN) died August 31.

Our Bro. Perry Mogler won his earthly battle on September 15, after providing a beautiful example of faith and courage. His beloved wife, Jessica, and their children: Mallorie, Rier, Elise, Leah, and Marissa will continue to be in our hearts and prayers as they begin life without their loved one. Also left to mourn are Bro. Perry’s parents, Bro. Howard & Sis. Lillian (“Lollie”) Mogler; and siblings: Bro. Rodney (Sis. Lois) Mogler, Bro. Kent (Sis. Mary) Mogler (Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Brian (Sis. Bev) Mogler, Sis. Beth (Bro. Myron) Knobloch, Bro. Dwight (Sis. Donna) Mogler, and Sis. Wendy (Bro. Thadd) Knoblock; along with many nieces, nephews, and other relatives. We extend sincere sympathy, and are thankful for the hope of a glad reunion one day, where “God shall wipe away all tears.”

School is back in session for our students from primary to college age. As they look to further their education, may both our students, and their instructors, seek for true knowledge ripened with wisdom.

“Knowledge is proud that he has learnt so much;  
Wisdom is humble that he knows no more.” William Cowper, The Task (1785)

Iowa, Oakville-Mediapolis
Sharla Wieand

Visiting ministers this past month were Elder Bro. Curt Frank (LaCrosse, IN) and Bro. Kevin Fehr (West Bend, IA). We pray they are richly rewarded for their willingness to bring forth God’s Word.

The engagement of Sis. Erika Massner and Bro. Cameron Sinn of Silverton, OR was shared on August 31. Parents of this couple are Bro. Troy and Sis. Joni Massner and Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie Sinn.

Miles Henry was born September 4 to Bro. Orrin and Sis. Christa Lanz. He joins big sister, Abigail, and happy grandparents, Bro. Monte and Sis. Kelly Lanz and Randy and Cathy Smith.

On September 5, Bro. Reilly and Sis. Katie Wagenbach were blessed with their first child, Ellis Andrew. Grandparents are Bro. Colin and Sis. Barb Wagenbach and Bro. Andy and Sis. Vicki Wiegand of Eureka, IL.

Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Brittany Steiner were blessed with a baby girl, Elle Mae, on September 12. Mia and Raya welcome home their little sister. Thankful grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Carol Steiner and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Monti Wagenbach.

Iowa, West Bend
Yvonne Bruellman
Becky Virkler

It is so pleasant to welcome new babies into our congregation. Bro. Abram and Sis. Jessica Frank have been blessed with a son, Keegan Clay. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Scott and Sis. Elaine Frank (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Mark and Sis. Janet Fehr. God blessed the home and hearts of Derek and Allie Wirtz with baby, Colin Adam. Grandparents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Wirtz, joyfully share this blessing.

Recently, two couples have been married. Jane Hogan became the wife of Luke Metzger (son of Roy and Angela). Ashleigh Gambell became the wife of Dylan Zaugg (son of Bro. David and Sis. Melissa). May God be warmly invited and present into these newly-established homes.

“O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good; for his mercy endureth forever.” Psalm 136:1.

Julie Banwart (Brad) was hospitalized and is now back home.
On Sundays, we look forward to meeting our Sunday School students. Two exchange students have been added to that joy. Elisabeth Borne is from Germany and lives with the Bro. Kevin Banwart family. Tong Yang Lee is from Taiwan and lives with the Bro. Duane Metzger family. We warmly welcome Elisabeth and Tong Yang.

“When a Christian dies, precious is the prize.”

Hymns of Zion #248.

So quickly our congregation has bid farewell to three dear souls. Sis. Rosene Grimm was called to her eternal rest on August 14. Left to cherish memories of their mother are Elder Bro. Wayne (Sis. Rose) Grimm, Sis. Wanda Grimm, Peoria, IL; Karen (Ken) Schirm, Stuart, IA; and Keith (Beth) Grimm.

On August 20, Bro. Ivan Schmidt was called to his eternal rest. Left to cherish memories are his wife, Sis. Evelyn; and their children: Janece (Jay) Schwartzkopf, Stuart, IA; Bro. Michael (Sis. Mavis) Schmidt, Lester, IA; Sis Beth (Bro. Kent) Banwart; Bro. Ted (Sis. Kelly) Schmidt; Bro. Frank (Sis. Dawn) Schmidt; and Bro. Wendell (Sis. Karen) Schmidt.

On August 24, Bro. Duane Schmidt quietly left this earth for his eternal reward. Cherished memories remain with his wife, Sis. Lucille; and their children: Lynn (David) Peterson; Dennis (Annette) Schmidt, Eagan, MN; Gayle (Alex) Schimmel, Kansas City, KS; and Bro. Neal (Sis. Angela) Schmidt.

In each of these three dear family circles there are many grandchildren, siblings and extended family members that miss their loved one. We ask God to comfort each touched heart. Help us all ponder the completion of our family circles in heaven.

Our prayers are with Sis. Dorothy Zaugg in the passing of her sister-in-law, Mildred (Virgil) Sauder from Morris, MN. May God comfort this family.

Traveling to West Bend were the following ministers: Bro. Nathan Walder (Sis. Denise, Cissna Park, IL); Bro. Dan Moser (Sis. Anne, Elgin, IL); Bro. Dale Frank (Sis. Christine, Oakville-Mediapolis, IA); Bro. Bruce Frank (Sis. Bonita, Cissna Park, IL); and Bro. Gary Endress (Sis. Evelyn, Bradford, IL). May God bless each one.

Kansas, Bern

Jill Meyer

Rita Menold

We are thankful to have a newborn baby among us again! Scott and Lydia Anson welcomed Clara Beth to their family, along with siblings: Paul, Marcus, Phillip, William, Sarah and Maggie. May God grant them wisdom as they raise their family.

It was a blessing to have our church “full to overflowing” for the wedding of Sis. Olivia Baumgartner (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Kim) and Bro. Micah Pfaffmann (Bro. Robert and Sis. Lily, Washington) on September 7. We will miss Sis. Olivia, but know God will provide as they trust in Him! Our appreciation is extended to Bros. Ed Fritz (Washington), Jeff Bahler (Sis. Marie Inoue

In September the local schools continue on with the second semester. We look forward to the fall season with the leaves of the ginkgo tree turning bright yellow. There are many of these trees in our area, and they bring forth the glory of the Lord as the autumn sun shines through them and also as a carpet of them lay on the ground.

Bro. Teruo Sanada had a hospital stay this month as his heart became very weak again. We are all thankful the doctors could treat the stint and he could return home again. He was thankful to the Lord for healing his body and had a nice smile in church this past Sunday.

We are enjoying Sis. Edie Bollier (Bro. Ron) of Indy as she is visiting for a month. She is the mother of Sis. Anna Inoue (Bro. Makoto) and is assisting in their home while Anna attends language school. We enjoy her pleasant personality as she takes part in our church events.

This month we did extra cleaning jobs at our church, both inside and out. We usually keep our same jobs each year and enjoy working together in the Lord’s house.
Heidi, Wolcott) and Ron Isch (Sis. Jane, Lamont) for ministering to us that weekend. We also thank Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha) and Bro. Jerry Meeks (Sis. Christy, Sabetha) for serving us this month.

Prayers have been offered for Bro. Waymer Esslinger who underwent surgery this month, and also for others who have had to stay at home for various health reasons. We pray each one will feel God’s nearness as they recover!

Benton Rokey (Bro. Dwight and Sis. Anita) has been announced as having found that wonderful peace with God and man. May he continue to draw close to the Lord as he looks forward to baptism in the near future.

Trusting in the Lord, we have moved forward with a change in leadership for our congregation. Our many prayers are with Bro. Brad and Sis. Michelle Strahm and their children: Bro. Josh, Ryan and Kate as Bro. Brad will now be serving as our elder. We thank Elder Bros. Mark Bahr (Sis. Bev, Detroit), Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington), Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City), Jay Luthi (Sis. Jane, Lamont) and Gerry Hertzel (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha) as well as Bro. Cory Metzger (Sis. Jodi, Wichita) for being here to help with the ordination, which was held the weekend of September 20-21. Our gratitude is certainly extended to Elder Bro. John and Sis. Connie Lehman for their love and service to us for 26 years! May God continue to provide for them as they make this change into retirement and for our congregation as we all trust in Him.

Kansas, Ft. Scott
Karen Kellenberger

We rejoice with Ben Fischer (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Gloria) as he turns to the Lord in repentance. Our prayers go with him on this lifelong path.

Bro. Don and Sis. Aleta Banwart welcome a sweet granddaughter. Ava Grace was born to their daughter, Alyssa, and husband, Levi Arnold, and is their first child.

Recent visiting ministers were Bro. Art Mueller (Sis. Marlene, Belvidere, IL) and Bro. Jaye Rinkenberger (Sis. Peggy, Goodfield, IL). Bro. Jaye gave us a Bible Study at the home of Bro. Trent and Sis. Kristi Banwart on Saturday evening. We thank our visiting ministers for lending themselves.

Empty Sunday School positions have been filled by Sis. Melanie Banwart for the Preschool and Kindergarten, and Bro. Chris Wuthrich remaining as Junior Bible School (6-8th) teacher. May God grant them wisdom and patience to impart His love and teachings.

It was preached to us that Job, who believed he was righteous in good deeds (thus not deserving his severe trials), was reprimanded by God to repent of his pride and trust Him who lovingly created him even as He created all things mighty and small.

Kansas, Kiowa
Janice Bahr

Jenny Stewart

Our Sunday School enjoyed the opportunity to fellowship and learn about Jesus when we had our annual Bible School for the pre-school class, elementary class, and junior Bible class. We completed our day with a wiener roast and campfire.

We enjoyed the visiting ministers and want to thank them for giving of their time to worship with us: Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), and Bro. Donald Sinn (Sis. Linda, Silverton, OR).

Our Senior Bible class traveled to Denver for the annual Sunday School fellowship in September. It was a wonderful time of fellowship. Thanks to the Denver congregation for all the love and effort for a wonderful weekend.

Our hospital patient this month was Bud Murrow (Sis. Helen).

“And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.”
1 Timothy 1:14

Kansas, Lamont-Gridley
Dorene Metzger

“It waited for the Lord, my God And patiently did bear: At length to me He did incline My voice and cry to hear. He took me from a fearful pit, And from the miry clay,
And on a rock He set my feet,  
Establishing my way.  
He put a new song in my mouth,  
Our God to magnify:  
Many shall see it, and shall fear,  
And on the Lord rely.  
Oh blessed is the man whose trust  
Upon the Lord relies:  
Respecting not the proud, nor such  
As turn aside to lies.”

#703 Gospel Hymns

This beautiful hymn has held a very special spot in my heart thru the years of my converted life. Recently, Psalm 40 was read during our worship service and a light clicked on in my mind. Verses 1-4 echo the hymn almost verbatim. Singing scripture seems to give added vibrancy to the written Word. Our God must surely rejoice when He hears our voices echo what His Word has said through the ages of time. He is worthy of all the praise and glory that each of our hearts, minds and voices render to Him.

Another hymn, #191 in the Zion’s Harp gives voice to praise—“Sing praise to God, al ye who love the Savior;  
Exalt His actions, praise His faithfulness!  
Sing praise to Him, who first showed us His favor;  
His loving kindness in your song express!  
In love and grace He ever greets  
His children,  
Gives them salvation and contentment, grace;  
Eternally will be with them in union;  
Bestows on them all heaven’s blessedness”

One Sunday, our congregation was blessed to have Bro. Roger (Sis. Lavonne) Aberle of Sabetha, KS; Bro. Larry (Sis. Julie) Bahr of Ft. Scott, KS, and Bro. John (Sis. Lori) Baumgartner from Bern, KS preach the Word.  

Thank you to the Denver, Co. church for hosting Youth Fellowship for the Kansas High School aged students. Riding a passenger bus made for making new acquaintances and renewing old ones. May these times of comradery and fellowship encourage future fellowships in following the Lord.

Note of Thanks:

We want to thank our brethren for the prayers, love, gifts, and emotional support while Glen was hospitalized with a stroke and his rehabilitation. Following the rehab, Glen had to undergo gallbladder surgery. But God has been faithful thru all those issues and we ask that God would bless all of you with His riches. Your least ones in Faith, Bro Glen and Sis Lorean Anliker.

Kansas, Sabetha

Crystal Harter

Dawn Strahm

We rejoice with Mark & Kari Hertzel as they feel they have been granted peace and now await baptism. Parents of the couple are Elder Bro. Gerry & Sis. Ellen Hertzel and Bro. Steve & Sis. Kaye Meyer. We look forward to their proving and baptism scheduled for October 18 & 19.

Sunday school has resumed after our summer break. Our prayers are with the teachers as they help the students learn about the ways of the Lord.

“The Sunday school is our delight.  
We love it more and more; ‘Tis here we learn to do the right And live forever more. We hear the truth, so pure and clear; Of Jesus’ love so sweet and dear; There we are taught to lift our eyes to Him who lives on high.” The Sunday School, Hymns of Zion, #73

Our prayers for healing are with Bro. Velmer Meyer and Sis. Sharlyn Huber as they were hospital/surgical patients this month.

We will soon begin listening to the conference recordings. May each of us have a pliable heart and apply the teachings to our lives. We thank the elder brothers for their labors on our behalf.

We express our thankfulness that Kent & Courtney Odgers have a desire to become a part of our church fellowship. May our prayers be with them as they take this step in life.

Note of Thanks:

My family and I would like to thank everyone who were so kind to us when Calvin passed away. We thank everyone for all the meals and food that were given and served to us. Also, all the many memorial gifts. May God Bless you all for remembering us.

Dena Weiss; Scott, Vicki and Bret Samelson; Kurt, Lori, Richard and Silas Weiss
Kansas, Wichita
Max and Judy Reimschisel

“I need the prayers of those I love, While trav’ling o’er life’s rugged way. That I may true and faithful be. And live for Jesus every day. I want my friends to pray for me. To bear my tempted soul above. And intercede with God for me. I need the prayers of those I love.” Hymns of Zion #201

We were recently reminded how important and needful it is to be in prayer for one another. Sis. Emma Miller was hospitalized recently for a short time. We are glad for her recovery. Our prayer is that God would give her strength and courage according to His will and way. Sister Emma has been a faithful servant for many years. She has been our Silver Lining correspondent, Sunday School teacher and very active in teaching the young people for many years. It is hard for us to see dear ones move on to different stages of life, but God has promised that He will provide.

The Denver congregation hosted the Sunday school fellowship for the older students. It was inspiring for us flat-landers to see God’s creation of mountains and trees so beautiful.

“Stand in awe…and be still” Psalm 4:4

Bro. John Reinhard challenged students to “Take a stand “ in this present world.

We were thankful for visiting ministers who are willing to share the Word of God: Bro. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA).
Michigan, Alto
Renee Steffen
Shelli Oesch

Welcome little bundles of joy and miraculous love. Calvin James came into this world a little earlier than expected, but oh what excitement for his parents, Bro. Jim and Sis. Maria McCormick; grandparents, Tim and Laurie McCormick, Bro. Greg and Sis Mary Beth Lehman; and aunts and uncle. Tyrel Orrin, a blessing for first-time parents, Bro. Clint and Sis. Moonlight Moser, has finally made his appearance. Jude Robert, a much-anticipated brother by his big brother, Titus, was welcomed into the home and hearts of Bro. Aaron and Sis. Bekah Plattner; big sister, Anna; grandparents, Bro. Howard and Sis. Kristen Plattner, and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Bonnie Kaufman. Congratulations to these families. May these precious new additions be taught to serve and know the Truth of Jesus Christ, the ‘Solid Rock.’

We were so happy to hear that our dear Peggi Vasbinder has peace with God and man. Truly we have seen the heavenly Father working in her heart and life. We look forward to her testimony and baptism in the near future.

Dylan Blough (Gordy and Trish Blough) had reconstructive surgery on his knee this past month. He is doing much better and has much less pain. Also hospitalized this month were Judah Oesch (Bro. Matt and Sis. Shelli) and Sis. Pat Schlatter (Bro. Otto), for whom we give our prayerful support.

As we share in the joy with these families, we also have shared in sorrow, pain, sadness and concern for and with others in our church. Harry Erickson’s adored wife, Pat Erickson, went home to be with her Lord and Savior after her battle with cancer. Also, Bro. Ron Erismann’s (Penny) mother, Sis. Della Erismann from Bay City, passed away and we can say, “She has gone the last mile of the way.” May these families know the comfort of ‘leaning on the everlasting arms’ of our God and King. We wish to extend our sincere prayers for two dear sisters here in Alto who live far from family members who are experiencing illness, Sis. Laura Kaeb (Bro. Aaron) and Sis. Heidi Kaeb (Bro. Loren). May these families know that prayers are ascending for them and those they love. If it could be God’s will, may they know the healing touch of the Master’s Hand.

What sweet fellowship we have when we can gather around the Holy Word with those who are visiting and are willing to share the duties laid out for them by speaking the Truth. We want to thank Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth) from Wolcott, Bro. Gary Brown (Sis. Jane) from Forrest, and Bro. Mark Ruffener (Sis. Julie) from Mansfield for giving of themselves. We were also blessed and wish to thank Bro. Dick Meister (Sis. Sharon) from West Lafayette who came to speak to us about the History of our Christian Heritage. This has been very informative and we look forward to his final talk in the fall.

This summer, our sweet fellowship has been very unique in that we have had people assemble with us from many different parts of the world. Our church was privileged to meet believers from Alaska, Japan, India, Switzerland and Azerbaijan. Wow, our God is so great, so strong and so mighty. There’s nothing our God cannot do, there’s nowhere our God cannot be.

Sense Smiles
I breathed God in the sweet soft scent, of the babe I held, so new.
I heard God speak when a child asked, “What world are you moving to?”
I saw God’s smile as the children took, a longed for, elevator ride.
I knew God’s time in the taste of fall that soon, would no longer hide.
I felt God’s grace as many shared, in others pain and grief.
Take time to stretch your senses far realizing life’s smiles are brief.
-Renee Steffen

Notes of Thanks:

Harry and his family wish to thank all of you for your prayers and support during the 16 months Pat struggled with cancer, for all the food you so kindly brought to the house, the visits, cards and love you brought to us, for the delicious meal provided before the visitation and after the funeral by the giving and kind women of the church, and the heartfelt tribute to Pat and our family by Howard and Ted.
We appreciate all you have done for our family in this difficult time. We feel so blessed!

Harry Erickson, Pam, Barb, Brenda and grandkids.

The Erismann family wishes to express their sincere appreciation to each one of you for your thoughts, prayers, attendance at visitation, and also the funeral of our Mother, Grandmother, and Great Grandmother. It was a great comfort, blessing and humbling experience for us. May God bless each one of you for your support.

**Michigan, Bay City**

*Sarah Knochel*

We rejoice with Bro. Bob and Sis. Rhonda Knochel as they welcome a new grandson, Kolton Robert Harroun. Kolton is also welcomed home by parents, Amanda & Justin and older sister, Khloe.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Joan Long (Rick) and Sis. Connie Pashak (Bro. Dean) as they both spent time in the hospital recently. It seems like we have many from our congregation who are confined to home or nursing home and are unable to worship with us. We continue to keep each one in our thoughts and prayers.

*What a joy 'twill be when I wake to see
Him for whom my heart is burning!*

*Nevermore to sigh, nevermore to die--*

*For that day my heart is yearning
I'll exchange my cross for a starry crown,*

*Where the gates swing outward never;*

*At His feet I'll lay ev'ry burden down,*

*And with Jesus reign forever.*

*Hymns of Zion, 173*

Two loved ones from our congregation exchanged their cross for a starry crown. We are thankful that their suffering is over but miss their presence here.

Sis. Della Erismann passed away on August 31. Our thoughts and prayers are with her son, Bro. Ron (Penny, Alto, MI) and daughter, Sis. Joan (Rick).

Bro. Sam Wackerle passed away on September 15. We want to remember his wife, Sis. Lorraine, and children: Bro. Greg (Sis. Carol, Silverton), Bro. Tom (Sis. Kim, Prescott, AZ), Allan (Stephanie) and son-in-law Clinton Strawn.

We are thankful that Bro. Jesse Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie, Detroit, MI) was able to spend a Sunday morning sharing the Word with our congregation. Bro. Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo, Leo, IN) assisted with Bro. Sam’s funeral service. May the Lord richly bless these brothers for their labor of love.

Michigan, Detroit

*Manuela Denes*

One of my favorite things to do is go on long bike rides, especially on a beautiful fall day. I'm so fortunate to live near Lake St. Clair. There is a lovely bike trail that follows it for quite a long distance. I often stop for a break at one of the many parks found along the lake. Most of the benches have engravings that announce births, anniversaries or the loss of a loved one. A number also have scriptures. My favorite one says: “Stand still and consider the wondrous works of God” from Job 37:14. Perfect for a beautiful fall day surrounded by the oranges, reds and yellows of fall! May we always be able to take the opportunity to appreciate and praise God for His many wondrous works.

It’s been a busy and eventful September for us here in Detroit. We were so happy to be able to host the Michigan Youth Day weekend at the start of the month. Seventh to twelfth graders came from Bay City, MI, Alto, MI and Kitchener, ON. This year we were happy to have Latty, OH and Taylor, MO Sunday School students join us as well. Much fun was had and friendship building was experienced on Saturday. A special afternoon Sunday School had a wonderful message that was shared by our guest Bro. Tim Lehman (Sis. Amber) from Taylor, MO. "Life apart from God is meaningless” was the summation that Solomon learned
after spending many years and lots of money pursuing the meaning and purpose of life. Much of the things in life are like chasing after the wind—completely fruitless and empty. But, a desire for Christ should give us enthusiasm, zeal and enjoyment that is easily witnessed and provides a real, tangible purpose. We can gain victory in this present life and then experience it to its fullest in eternity!

A warm welcome goes out to Bro. Sasha & Sis. Marija Mojic who moved here from Indianapolis. We’re happy to have them both and hope that they will be blessed as they make their home here.

We give a joyous welcome to little Caleb William Rauhe. Grateful parents are Bro. Jason and Sis. Carrie. He is welcomed by his brothers and sisters and grandparents, Bro. Cloyce and Sis. Carol Gress (Detroit) and Bro. Warren and Sis. Kay Rauhe (Alto, MI).

Another joyous announcement came in the form of the engagement of Bro. Pat Allen to Sis. Bonnie Jermo. We are all so happy to share in their joy and wish them and their families the Lord’s richest blessings.

The annual father/child campout took place on Labor Day weekend. Much fun was had by all who attended. What a wonderful opportunity to get to share and make special memories.

We were blessed on a Sunday evening to share a church supper and singing. Afterward, there was a presentation by God’s Storehouse, a church-supported Detroit mission. How important for us to remember that many in our local communities have great need. How fortunate for us that we can offer items and time that might make their lives a little more comfortable.

Finally, a big “thank you” to Bro. Neil Ramseyer and his wife, Sis. Sharon, for coming from Bay City to minister to our Woodhaven residents. God bless you!

**Minnesota, Minneapolis**

**Brenda Messner**

**Betty Rassi Lindwall**

We are so thankful for God’s many blessings and provisions including our Sunday School teachers who are Sis. Sheryl Luthi for the preschoolers and kindergarten, Sis. Suzy and Bro. Ben Dill for the first through fifth graders, Bro. Matt Sauer for the Jr. High and Bro. Jim Tilbury for the Senior High Bible Classes. May God bless their efforts and give them His Wisdom as they teach our children.

We welcome Abby Nielsen from Bradford, IL who is worshipping with us as she attends graduate school here at the University of Minnesota.

We were excited to hear of Sis. Anne Wagenbach’s (formerly from our congregation and now in Washington, IL) engagement to Bro. Grant Heinold from West Lafayette, IN. May God bless them as they plan their life together.

Our young girls participated in a summer Bible Study called Appleseeds. It was a blessing for those attending and for those who led this study.

Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to Dennis Schmidt and his family with the passing of his father, Bro. Duane Schmidt of West Bend, IA.

We have enjoyed having Fede Figueroa Martinez worshiping with us as he undergoes rehabilitation from his farm accident in May that has left him in a wheelchair. The Wulf family from Morris, MN have been so faithful in bringing him to church along with Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeanette Lavalier from Gridley, IL and Bro. Todd Kaeb and family from Cissna Park, IL.

**Minnesota, Morris**

**Amy Ekren**

**Heidi Pfaffmann**

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Dale Zeltwanger (Sis. Rachel, Morris North). We are thankful for his willingness to visit and serve.

We rejoice with Bro. Travis Moser (Bro. Lowell and Sis. Karen) and Sis. Rita Wulf (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Linda) on their engagement. Both are from our home congregation and we look forward to fellowshipping with them as a couple.

This month was the wedding of Paul Koehl (Bro. Guy and Sis. Lynnette) and Caley Moser (Bro. Rick & Sis. Lori Moser, Lester, IA) in Iowa. We welcome Caley to Morris!
Our thoughts and prayers go to the family of Mildred Sauder in her passing. Among her children are Bro. Verle (Sis. Christa), Sis. Maxine Koehl (late Bro. Doug), and Sis. Carolyn Reuter (Bro. Jim).

Please pray for our Sis. Maxine Koehl (late Bro. Doug) who recently underwent surgery.

We are excited to announce the safe arrival of baby boy, Julian Adam, to Bro. Corbin and Sis. Stacy Fehr and big sister, Anya. Grandparents are Bro. Jim and Sis. Hildy Koehl, and Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy Fehr, West Bend, Iowa.

“The Sunday school is our delight. We love it more and more. ‘Tis here we learn to do the right And live forever more.”

Hymns of Zion, #73, vs. 1

May this ever be true for the children as Sunday school commences for the year. We are thankful and prayerful for the teachers as they work to instill the teachings of God deep in the children’s hearts.

**Minnesota, Morris North**

**Lois Schmidgall**

Greetings from Morris North! Take time to see God! What a busy world. Today, I needed to drive out of town on a job. The beauty of fall, the colors…trees, grasses, lakes…so amazing. God is an amazing artist, creator, father…to think He can create such beauty and still love us… I can’t help but sing “Lord, how great thou art!”

We have been so blessed…we are now in our new church building. Last weekend we had our Open House, and enjoyed seeing so many come to visit and tour our new building.

We are able to help several from our church by filling food bags for Feed My Starving Children. Living in plenteousness, it’s hard to imagine what some children are going thru.

Our children are back in Sunday School. We gathered together in Bro. Doug and Sis. Dawn’s renovated, family barn for a church picnic and Sunday School kick-off. We enjoyed a program put on by the kids. Their theme was “Signs”, and was really interesting how they found spiritual meaning in everyday road signs. We thank Bro. Doug and Sis. Dawn for making this an annual event, and pray for our teachers and students as they start this new year. May they grow in the knowledge of our Lord.

Thank-you to Bros. Wes (Sis. Esther) Moser, Lester, IA; Herbie (Sis. Laurie) Knochell, Phoenix, AZ; Mitch (Sis. Abbie) Fehr, Morris Country Church; and for our Elder Bro. Andy (Sis. Roberta) Stoller, for visiting us and for sharing God’s Word. We really appreciate your efforts, and pray that God will bless you.

We are looking forward to Dedication for our new church building on October 5. We would invite anyone that would like to join us for the weekend.

Our Sis. Josie Esterling was in the hospital, but we are glad she is out again and is among us.

The Annual Harvest Supper date has been set for November 1. Once again, we would extend a warm welcome to whoever would like to join us for the weekend.

We are looking forward to “The Fruit of The Spirit” Bible study that will begin this month.

For those that would be in our area, we would love to have you visit us. The address of our new church is 418 Birch Ave., Morris. The phone number is 320-585-6848.

**Minnesota, Winthrop**

**Lindsay Schmidt**

“Greetings be to you, our brethren,
To our sisters in the Lord,
Here from far and near assembled,
Gathered here in one accord.
Welcome, welcome, All ye loved ones;
Greetings in the Savior’s name.”

Hymns of Zion #7

It warms our hearts to welcome believers into our congregation, even if it is for a short while. This school year brings college students: Kelsey Knobloch (Sis. Brenda & Mark, Morris, MN), Sis. Emily Moser (Bro. Doug & Sis. Dawn, Morris North, MN) and Bro. Andrew Steiner (Bro. Jeff & Sis. Jill, Morris, MN) into our area. We hope they feel welcome and at home here in Winthrop.

We also welcomed visiting
Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam) from Washington, IL and as always, we are thankful to have come home to visit us. We appreciate his labors of love.

“Just as I am; Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God! I come, I come!”

*Gospel Hymns #682*

We are so grateful and rejoice with our new brothers in faith: Bro. Gerry Messner (Millie) and Bro. Melvin Messner (Vernita) and warmly welcome them into the fold. There is no higher standing than to be a child of God.

“Be still, my soul; the hour is hastening on When we shall be forever with the Lord, When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, Sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored. Be still my soul; when change and tears are past, All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.”

*Hymns of Zion #191*

Our heartfelt sympathies and prayers go to our Sis. Verna Bruns in the loss of her brother, Bro. Dwaine Schmidt (Sis. Lucille) from West Bend, IA.

“O, teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious things Thou dost impart; And wing my words that they may reach The hidden depths of many a heart.”

*Hymns of Zion #208 vs. 2*

Another year of Sunday School has begun. To kick off the new year, the children enjoyed a bike trip and the annual picnic in the park. May we be prayerful for the teachers and students as they learn God’s lessons.

**Missouri, Kansas City**

**Brittany Fehr**

“I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” *Philippians 4:13*

The thought of Christ being able to do all things in us according to His Will does indeed strengthen and encourage us. We are so thankful to those who helped plan and serve for our Vacation Bible School this year for our youth. They look forward to the time of fellowship and learning more of Jesus, and as adults, we are blessed to observe their enthusiasm and fresh observations.

Furthermore, we are grateful for the parents who take time to teach these children the love of God. Bro. Brandon and Sis. Maria Emch welcomed the most recent baby in our congregation, little Jonas Edward! Jonas was also welcomed by older siblings: Anna, Timon, Jesse, Alice, and Milan.

The wedding of Sis. Anna Donahue and Bro. Don Katanic was held July 6 in our Kansas City church -- a special event for a small congregation. We wish them God’s blessings and uplift them in prayer as they begin their life as one in Christ. We welcome Bro. Don to our congregation. We were very grateful for our guests, including ministering Bros. Elder Duane Rocke, Kent Mogler, and Dewayne Dill.

We were thankful for the blessing of visiting ministers, Bro. David Hartter (Sabetha) and his family on July 27 and Bros. Philip Schulz and Seth Hartter (Burlington) and some of their families and friends on August 24. What a treasure we have when visiting brothers and sisters and families worship with us and share time together. We thank each one of you and encourage visitors.

We welcome Sis. Krystal Tyler who moved here from Tucson, AZ. We are thankful for her presence and pray that we can support and encourage one another in our daily walk in Christ. We have also appreciated visits from her parents who worship in Remington, IN.

We continue to pray for those who have health struggles. This includes Sisters Carol Wales and Marty Rokey, who have had surgery, and our convert Ron Trayford, who is battling cancer. May we uplift them in prayer and encourage them in Christ.

We welcome Sis. Verda Bruellman from West Bend who came to our area for surgery and recovery. We have enjoyed having her in church with us the past month.

As summer has passed by, we want to thank any visitors and also all our home brethren who have supported and served in our congregation. We appreciate the young to the old as they clear
tables, sing, sweep, prepare food, host, and carry out the duties of the church and encourage and support one another. Let us be prayerful for one another. Furthermore, those in leadership positions within our church are often not verbally thanked. Let us remember to encourage and thank them. They give willingly of their time and efforts, and we need to uplift them in prayer that God may be glorified in all of us.

Missouri, Lamar

Venetta Banwart

We would like to thank our visiting ministers this month for being willing to come to Lamar and teach us from God’s Holy Word. May each be richly blessed as we were. They were: Bro. Brad Strahm (Sis. Michelle, Bern, KS), Bro. Curtis Kaufman (Sis. Caroline, Tucson, AZ), Bro. Dennis Kaufman (Sis. Bonnie, Bloomington-Normal, IL), Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Connie, Bern, KS), Bro. Brent Kellenberger (Sis. Beth, Kansas City, MO), Bro. John Steiner (Sis. Carol, Oakville-Mediapolis, IA).

We would like to also thank our Elder Bro. Doug Schock (Sis. Clara) for being willing to come and be with us on a Wednesday night for a church history session.

Missouri, Taylor

Marcia Sutter

Visiting ministers this month includes: Bro. Tom (Sis. Jane) Bolliger from Tremont, IL; Bro. Charles (Sis. Debbie) Kellenberger from Elgin, IL; Bro. Stan (Sis. Norma) Schambach from Prescott, AZ; Elder Bro. Tom (Sis. Jody) Klotzle from Altadena, CA; and Bro. Tom (Sis. Mary) Lanz from Mediapolis/Oakville, IA. The Taylor church appreciates their willingness to serve us.

Bro. James (Sis. Brenda) Fehr from Tremont, IL came to give our monthly Wednesday night Bible Study on “Joy” on 9/3/2014. Bro. James reminded us that Satan would steal our joy unless we focus totally on the joy of our salvation and God’s love.

“Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.” I Peter 1:8

Prayers are requested for Bro. Vernon (Sis. Judy) Huber who had heart surgery and Sis. Ruthie (Bro. Louis) Hoerr is again having treatments for cancer. We beseech God, the Great Physician to care for these dear loved ones and their families.

On September 6, 2014, members of the World Relief Committee met at Taylor for a meeting and on the 7th they stayed and worshiped with us.

September 13, 2014 was the wedding day for Rita Yackley (daughter of Bro. Joe and Sis. Jerilyn Yackley of Taylor) and Brad Schaefer (son of Jim and Nancy Schaefer of Palmyra, MO). We wish them God’s abundant blessings.

Also on September 13, the Ed Grimm Family Reunion was held. Ed Grimm’s grandchildren enjoyed remembering growing up or visiting at the Red Barn house where Ed Grimm lived and about the “Little White Church on the Levee”.

The Taylor church enjoyed having so many visitors this month that were here for the World Relief Meeting, Reunion, and Wedding. We enjoyed the wonderful fellowship with all those who came and the precious memories that were made.

New York, Croghan-Naumburg

Hope Graves

We appreciated ministering Bro. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie), Mansfield, OH, for coming to share the Word on September 14. We thank them and Bro. John and Sis. Joyce Schambach for serving our lunch that day. We were blessed that last month Bro. John and Sis. Joyce brought Sis.
Zsuzsa Fulop along with them from Budapest, Hungary. What a blessing to see our faith shared from churches both far and near.

We again had several visitors with us on September 21 from Rockville, CT. Ministering Bros. Dan (Sis. MaryLou) Goric and Brent (Sis. Naomi) Walder shared God’s teachings and many hands worked together to provide our lunch.

Our prayers extend to the family of Gilbert (Betty) Widrick who died on September 15. His funeral was held at our church on September 19 and all of the seats were filled.

Prayers continue to go out for Bro. Lowell Virkler and Sis. Rita Petzoldt who have been hospitalized this past month.

As we see the leaves on our trees turning several brilliant shades of color, it reminds us that a new season is approaching. Every season has its blessings and its challenges, especially as we know that snow will be coming before we know it. May we be reminded that our lives too have many seasons and bring both good and difficult times. Let us rely on God to help us through each season of our lives and see the good that He has in store for each of us.

Ohio, Akron
Carla Miller

We are thankful for our visiting minister this month, Bro. Bob Riggenbach (Sis. Lorie, Rittman, OH).

Bro. Nathan, Sis. Cheryl, Reuben, Trina, Franz, Miriam, and Benedikt Wiegand welcomed Rosina Mae into their family on September 2. Grandparents are Dale and Sis. Freidora Wiegand (Eureka, IL) and Stan and Lola Stoller.

Brandon Steidl (Bro. Les and Sis. Judi) and Molly Aciero (Frank and Laura) were united in marriage on September 6.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with Carola Laubli as she recovers from surgery.

Ohio, Junction
Elizabeth Manz

Greetings! Fall…I love this time of year! The weather cools off, the leaves change colors, crops are harvested, birds congregate, ponds are mystified by fog and cool mornings make the sunrise look crisp and beautiful. As the seasons change, it reminds me of our ever faithful, never-changing God who is the same yesterday, today and forever. That is a wonderful reason for us to be thankful!

As a congregation, we rejoice that Jaci Schlatter (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Laurie) has started her repentance. We pray that God will surround her with His grace in the days to come.

We are thankful to have had several visiting ministers with us this month. One Sunday, Bros. Nelson Beer (Sis. Minnie, Milford, IN) and Chris Laukhuf (Sis. Rachel, Latty, OH) ministered to us. Another Sunday, Bro. Zoltan Vegvari (Pecs, Hungary) visited our church and had the afternoon service. Bro. Tom Bako (Sis. Laura, Akron, OH) was with us as well and translated the service. We appreciate each of them sharing with us and wish them God’s blessings.

Our prayers have been with several who have spent time in the hospital recently. Little Symon Manz (Bro. Sam and Sis. Shelby) was injured in a tree-falling accident and spent several days in Intensive Care. We are so thankful that he is able to join us again at church and praise God for his speedy recovery so far. Sis. Shelby Manz (Bro. Sam) and Eleanor Gerber also spent time in the hospital. We pray that God’s hand will be near them also.

Ohio, Latty
Carmen Stoller
Mindy Stoller

Daniel 4:3 How great are his signs! and how mighty are his wonders! his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation.

Greetings of love to each of you! Our church was blessed September 13 to come together and celebrate our 100th anniversary! The centennial celebration drew many loved ones and included a talk on the history of our church, given by Bro. Clark Stoller (Gridley, IL), a slide show by Bro. Randy Wenninger, and some uplifting songs from our choir. Many thanks to all who visited and those who worked hard to put it all together. Special thanks also to Bro. Rich Steiner (Sis. Pat,
Rittman, OH) and his crew for a delicious catered meal.

We want to thank Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL) and Bro. Clark Stoller (Sis. Cindy, Gridley, IL) for ministering to us this month.

Bro. Sam and Sis. Laura Steffen welcomed Elise Clara into this world on August 24. Elated grandparents are Bro. Donn and Sis. Karen Steffen and Bro. Dave and Sis. Patty Gerber. We rejoice with them and wish them God’s richest blessings!

We are thankful God has allowed Symon Manz (Bro. Sam and Sis. Shelby, Junction, OH) to be brought home after a stay in the hospital following an injury from a tree branch. Symon is the grandson of Bro. Walt and Sis. Renee Sinn. May we never take our blessings for granted!

Ohio, Rittman
Anna Bauman
Julie Steiner

“One day at a time, with its failures and fears,
With its hurts and mistakes, with its weakness and tears,
With its portion of pain, and its burden of care;
One day at a time, we must meet and must bear.”

-Annie Johnson Flint

Thankfully, on August 22, Bro. Walt & Sis. Lynda Beery’s granddaughter, Ellie Roseann, was born, to Bro. Garth & Sis. Hannah Maibach (Sardis). A few weeks later, Bree Joann Dotterer was gratefully welcomed by Bro. Matthew & Sis. Calla Dotterer. Her grandparents are Bro. Rick & Sis. Dawn Dotterer, and Bro. Dave & Sis. Lynn Steiner.

But not all visits to the hospital for children are pleasant! Bro. Ryan & Sis. Julie Steiner spent several days in Akron Children’s Hospital with their young children, Abigail and Cody, both suffering from seizures. Also, David Widmer, Bro. Brad & Sis. Jody Widmer’s infant son, spent more of his young life as a hospital patient. Also in the hospital this month were Ken Bauman (Shirley) and Tim Hanzie (Sis. Kim). We often want answers to our questions. Then we are gently reminded our answers might not come now, but in the coming years. (Hymns of Zion #165)

Sis. Ann Gerber’s (Bro. Joe) father, Bro. Dave Zollinger (Smithville), has gone on from this time to eternity. Considering how it feels to say our final goodbyes, we feel the urgency of today!

This month, we have enjoyed many visitors, including ministering Bros. Nelson Beer (Milford, IN), Randy Gasser (Detroit), Bill Brake (Sardis), Dan Beer (Milford, IN), and Dana Indermuhle (Sardis, OH). They feed us with the inspired Word of God, which lives and abides forever!

Ohio, Sardis
Faith Beard

“God oft gave beyond all expectation
More than heart had wished for to behold;
Should not this give us new inspiration
To await what His word has foretold?”

Zion’s Harp # 255 vs. 6

We have been so abundantly blessed this month in different ways. Ellie Roseann was born on August 22 to Bro. Garth and Sis. Hannah, Colby and Katrina Maibach. Also thankful for her arrival are grandparents Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lois Maibach (Smithville, OH) and Bro. Walt and Sis. Lynda Beery (Rittman, OH).

An announcement of upcoming marriage is not a common occurrence in our smaller congregation, and we rejoiced to
hear of the engagement of our Sis. Mariah Indermuhle (Eric and Lisa) to Bro. Philip Maletich (Bro. Dave and Sis. Connie, Smithville, OH). We pray for God’s guidance to this couple as they prepare for their upcoming wedding and marriage in November.

What a blessing to renew acquaintances young and old at our recent Invite-A-Guest weekend. Thanks goes out to all those who made the effort of traveling to fellowship and worship with us for the weekend, and also to those who prepared the accommodations for our evening together.

Ohio, Smithville
Sara Crist
Kara Stoller

Congratulations to Bro. Mark & Sis. Sue Steiner on the birth of a new granddaughter. Shannon Smith was born to Milan and Stephanie Steiner on August 21 and joins brothers, Mason and Sullivan.

With thankful hearts, we share the engagement news of Bro. Joel Landis (Bro. Harvey & Stephanie) to Sis. Leah Gasser (Bro. Ken & Sis. SueEllen Maibach, and the late Bro. Greg Gasser). Their special day will be October 19.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to Bro. Wilbur Schneider upon the loss of his wife, Sis. Marge, on September 5. Special thoughts go to daughter, Sis. SueEllen Maibach (Bro. Ken). Other children include Laurie Schneider and Julie Helenski (Fred) of Palm City, FL; Sis. Kay Lanz (Bro. John, Philadelphia, PA); Bob Schneider (Donna, South Windsor, CT); Bro. Tim Schneider (Sis. Dana), Bro. David Schneider (Sis. Kim) and Sis. Bonnie Bahler (Bro. Ron) of Rockville, CT. The funeral took place in Rockville.

On September 6, we said farewell to our dear Bro. Dave Zollinger (Sis. Mary Ann). Our hearts are with Sis. Mary Ann and their children: Paul Zollinger (Carol) and Ruth Bachman (Scott) of Sterling, OH; Sis. Ann Gerber (Bro. Joe, Rittman OH) and Becky Oller (Curtis, Creston OH).

In times of death and pain of earthly separation we can cling to the Bible’s promises about God.

God is our strength, our rock, our fortress, our deliverer. He liveth and we can trust Him and call upon Him. His right hand upholds us. He is a giver of tender mercies and lovingkindness. God is good.

(Psalms 18, 25)

Thank you visiting ministers: Bro. Ned Stoller (Sis. Heidi, Alto, MI), Bro. Dana Nieman (Sis. Lea, Remington, IN), Bro. Todd Stoller (Sis. Pam, Latty, OH) and Bro. Bill Brake (Sis. Miriam, Sardis, OH).

Ohio, Toledo
Deanna Manz
Jenny Manz

“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.” 2 Timothy 4:2

We express our heartfelt thanks to Bro. Mark Ramsier (Sis. Alice, Sardis) and Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily, Junction) for ministering the Word this month. May the Lord bless them for their service.

We are thankful to report the arrival of a new baby boy in our congregation! Bro. Brad and Sis. Holli Shields welcomed Malachi Jordan on August 20. Excited siblings are Isaac, Haven, Micah, Joseph, Titus and Lewis.

We look forward to the school year beginning, as this brings new and returning college students to worship with us. We had our annual college picnic on September 7. We enjoyed the afternoon together and are grateful for the students and families that joined us!

On August 31, Bro. Walt Rager (Sis. Sharon) ministered his last sermon from our pulpit. Bro. Walt has retired after serving the Toledo church for 46 years in the ministry and 27 years as our Ordained Deacon. Thank you does not seem adequate to express our appreciation for the countless hours of service, loving deeds of kindness and steadfast example. Bro. Walt and Sis. Sharon have blessed our church with. We trust they feel our love and gratitude, and pray that God will be their rich rewarder!

Oregon, Portland
Louisa Gallup

On September 13, Sis. Nelia Leman (Bro. Mike & Sis. Lisa)
shared her testimony with us and was baptized the next day. We rejoice with them and wish Sis. Nelia God’s grace and guidance in her Christian walk.

Our congregation also gathered for Communion Service that weekend, which was filled with blessings and precious fellowship. We want to express our special gratitude to Elder Bros. Tom (Sis. Karol) Stock and John (Sis. Jane) Wiegand for their labors in these services. We thank Bro. Tom and Sis. Karol for their willingness to serve and travel to us from Cissna Park, IL.

We have begun to listen to the recordings of the Elder Conference, on Wednesday evenings and appreciate the labors of our Elder Brethren.

A good number of visitors joined us this past month. We thank them all for worshipping with us. Visiting ministers were: Bro. Joe (Sis. Sue) Klotzle, Altadena, CA; Elder Bro. John (Sis. Jane) Wiegand, Bro. Chris (Sis. Mary) Kuenzi and Bro. Ron (Sis. Liz) Jones, all from Silverton, OR. May The Lord bless them all for their support and service.

Oregon, Silverton
Kelsey Walder
Ann Kuenzi

August 23 was Jordan and Alisha Kuenzi’s wedding day. Parents are Greg and Carol Dyke and Bro. Art and Sis. Mary Beth Kuenzi. Rejoicing also in their new marriage, August 30 are Aaron and Anna Luthi. Their parents are Walter and Laura Lierman and Bill and Kris Luthi. We wish both couples the Lord’s blessings, as they begin their lives together.

Our visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Tom Klotzle (Sis. Jody) from Altadena, CA; Bro. Dale Moore (Sis. Cheryl) from Elgin, IA; and Bro. Steve Baner (Sis. Donnalou) from Gridley, IL. We really appreciate their coming and preaching the Word.

We are praying for Trenton Schurter (Bro. Craig and Sis. Juanita), as he is hurting from burns to his foot. The accident occurred while the family was at the beach.

Enjoying another grandchild are Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie Sinn. Bro. Evan, Sis. Emily and Brielle Schmidgall have a new son and brother, Britton Evan, born August 26.

The engagement of Bro. Cameron Sinn (Bro. Mark and Sis. Elsie) was announced August 31 to Sis. Erika Massner from Oakville-Mediapolis, IA. Sis. Erika’s parents are Bro. Troy and Sis. Joni Massner. We rejoice with them, and look forward to welcoming Sis. Erika to our Silverton church.

We have been enjoying the conference recordings this month. We appreciate the advice and counsel from the Elders, as they share the different topics.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes to Bro. Greg Wackerle (Sis. Carol), in the loss of his father, Bro. Sam Wackerle from Bay City, MI. Also grieving are Kent and Teri Kilgus in the loss of a stillborn grandchild, to Evan and Alisha Burke (their daughter). Our love and prayers are with all of them, as they mourn the loss of their loved ones.

Tennessee, Nashville
Mike and Monica Fritz

We have been richly blessed by the willing ministry of our recent visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Steve Sauder (Sis. Mary, Tremont), and Bros. Jerry Wagenbach (Sis. Bonnie, Oakville-Mediapolis), Lucas Frank (Sis. Crystal, Detroit), and Ted Hirstein (Morton). We have also been strengthened by the fellowship of visitors from Chicago, Gridley, Tremont, and Washington, IL; Francesville, IN; and Junction, Latty, and Rittman, OH.

If you are traveling to or through the Nashville area, please plan to worship with us. Please call ahead to confirm our schedule. Contact Bro. Don & Sis. Faye Sauder, 615-373-8928; Bro. Mike & Sis. Monica Fritz, 615-866-5543, fritzmb.family@gmail.com; or Bro. Buck & Sis. Taunia Henry, 615-920-9584.

Texas, Austin
Candy Meiss

Sending our Love and Greetings from Austin!

We are so thankful for our visitors and encourage everyone passing through to stop and worship with us!
We are praying for a quick recovery for Bill Zeltwanger after his recent surgery. It is such a blessing to know that our Lord is ever near. This song has been on my heart. “I need Thee every hour, Most gracious Lord: No tender voice like Thine Can peace afford. I need Thee, O I need Thee; Every hour I need Thee! O bless me now, my Savior, I come to Thee! “

This past month, we were blessed to have our elder Brother Wayne Banwart (Champaign, IL), our deacon Brother Leland Plattner (Zapata, TX), Bro. Kent Mogler (Sis. Mary, Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Al Schambach (Sis. Sarah, Remington, IN) and Bro. Jeff Neihouser (Sis. Sue, Morton, IL) here to preach the Word.

Ministers scheduled: 9/28 - Bro. Gerry Hertzel (Sabetha, KS), 10/5 - Akron, OH and 10/12 - Taylor, MO.

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

Texas, Dallas-Fort Worth

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

Vermont, Clarendon

Nathan and Miriam Reutter

Christian greetings!

This month we enjoyed the ministry of Bro. Les and Sis. Christine Kaeb (Francesville, IN), and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Carol Gerber (Rockville, CT). Thank you for coming and being the mouthpiece of the LORD. Bro. Les commented that we are watched by those in the community and encouraged us to be faithful lights.

The Sunday School picnic occurred this past month. The time spent with the children and the fellowship of some faithful, supportive families from Rockville, CT was precious.

Thanks to all who made the effort to be with us.

We are in the midst of listening to the Conference expositions, and, indeed, it was a Spirit-filled experience, being built up and exhorted to keep striving for our heavenly goal. I was strongly impressed by the reminder that a good dose of both mercy and truth is to be seen in our conversation.

You are welcome to worship and fellowship with us anytime. Contact Bro. Nathan and Sis. Miriam Reutter at 802-447-2426 or nmrbenn6@gmail.com to let us know when you are planning to be in our area so we can accommodate you.

Service times are as follows:

• Mid-week services (Contact local brethren)
• Sunday Morning Service: 10:10 AM
• Sunday Afternoon Service: 12:15 PM
• Sunday School held during the morning service.

Reader Comments

Dear Silver Lining Readers: I write to express gratitude for our church and the Brotherhood Conference. I was privileged to be able to attend the last 2 conferences in Fairbury and Lester. What a blessing!

We get to hear faithful brethren speaking on the Bible, telling mankind of the truth and grace of Jesus Christ.

I am not the best one to do this, but I wish to encourage and challenge our young people, especially our young brothers, to attend the next Brotherhood Conference in Morris, MN. Be there by about 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 10, 2015. We’ll enjoy a ‘spiritual feast’ together.

I know that you’ll want to make this a yearly endeavor, and probably a weekend out of it, for it will be some of the best you will have.

Least,
Bro. Dale Schock, Bloomfield, IA
Volunteer Caretaker Opportunity – Washington, D.C.

The Washington, DC church caretaker program is entering its eighth year. It has been such a blessing for our visiting caretakers, as well as our local members and friends. We are taking reservations for 2015. Our church home is located in Silver Spring, MD, and meets both church and residential needs.

The fellowship that caretakers provide is vital to our small congregation and visiting ministers. Caretakers can be couples, singles or families who would enjoy spending time near the Nation’s Capitol and other points of interest on the East Coast. Caretakers would perform routine household and yard maintenance chores, and should plan to stay at least three Sundays.

Families with children are urged to give this opportunity prayerful consideration. We have three children (pre-teen and teen), who would welcome other children in their Sunday School class.

For more information, please contact Barry and Doreen Steffen at 302-540-6574 or dkgsteffen@gmail.com
Alternate Houseparent Needed - Gateway Woods

Houseparenting at Gateway Woods offers an opportunity for a couple, directed of the Lord, to come to work in a full-time ongoing ministry at Gateway Woods. Due to a change in staff, we have a need for an Alternate Houseparent couple. This position offers competitive wages and generous benefits and a close relationship with brothers and sisters whose hearts and lives are dedicated to a common mission with an eternal reward. If you feel the call to explore this possibility, please call one of the brothers listed below.

Clint Plattner  
Residential Program Manager  
PO Box 125  
Leo, IN 46765  
888.443.4283  
clint.plattner@gatewaywoods.org

Lynn Stieglitz  
Counseling Elder  
15417 Doty Rd.  
New Haven, IN 46774  
Cell: 260.466.6712  
lynnstieg@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

Interested in receiving a printed sermon?
To order, contact:
Printed Sermons  
P.O. Box 154, Forrest, IL 61741  
(815) 848-5113 • printedsermons@gmail.com

Used Bible, Bible Story Book, and Song Book Distribution
Used Bibles, Bible Story Books, Hymns of Zion, Zion’s Harp, Gospel Hymns, and Tabernacle Hymns are needed. AC Publications is now the collection center for your donated books.
651 E. Peoria St, Goodfield, IL 61742
Home-Based & Adoption Case Worker Needed – Gateway Woods

Gateway Woods has a need for a full-time Home-Based & Adoption Case Worker. This position provides the opportunity to work partially with adoptive families and partially with hurting children and families in our Home-Based Program. Requires a Bachelors Degree in Social Work or a related field, experience working with children and families preferred.

Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of children and families. Contact one of the brothers below for more information concerning this position.

Jeff Waibel
Director of Clinical Services
PO Box 125
Leo, IN 46765
888.443.4283
jeff.waibel@gatewaywoods.org

Lynn Stieglitz
Counseling Elder
15417 Doty Rd.
New Haven, IN 46774
Cell:260.466.6712
lynnstieg@gmail.com

Counselor Needed - Gateway Woods

Gateway Woods has a need for a full-time Counselor. This position provides the opportunity to work directly with struggling children and families in need of help and guidance. Requires a Master’s Degree in social work, psychology, or counseling from an accredited college or university.

Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of children. Contact one of the brothers below for more information concerning this position.

Jeff Waibel
Director of Clinical Services
PO Box 125
Leo, IN 46765
888.443.4283
jeff.waibel@gatewaywoods.org

Lynn Stieglitz
Counseling Elder
15417 Doty Rd.
New Haven, IN 46774
Cell:260.466.6712
lynnstieg@gmail.com

Light from the Word

Now available by downloadable PDF from the Apostolic Christian Publication website: www.acpublications.org

After entering the website, click on the item located at the left hand frame entitled, “Light from the Word Reprints”. The entire set of editorials are available in a complete download (June 1987 to current).
**Bible Distribution: Sharing His Word in Love**

*Declare his glory among the heathen, his wonders among all people. Psalm 96:3*

Together we can provide Bibles for seeking people. This may be someone you attend school with, someone you work with, or someone God has shown you at a gas station. Bibles and approved Bible story Books are available. Carrying a New Testament to distribute can help you remember what our real task is. To order, contact:

Apostolic Christian Church Bible Distribution  
651 E. Peoria Street  
Goodfield, IL 61742  
Phone: 309-965-2141  
bibledistribution@acpublications.org

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**Communications Coordinator Job Opening**

**Position Description**
The Communications Coordinator will be an integral part of the World Relief / Mission Committee Communications Team and provide hands-on coordination of a wide variety of projects. This person is the primary production-oriented person who ensures projects stay on track and deadlines are met. He/she works regularly with the Communications Director, Regional Communications Managers, other volunteer contributors, graphic designers and miscellaneous vendors.

**Qualifications** (partial list)
1. Desire to see God glorified and the church edified by using your talents to support those who serve others.
2. Demonstrated ability to meet deadlines in a well-managed way.
3. Experience with Adobe Creative Suite, especially InDesign and Photoshop.
4. Excellent communications skills, particularly writing.
5. Highly organized.
6. Tech savvy. Able to quickly learn new software.
7. Experience engaging people on social media.
8. Willingness to relocate to the West Lafayette / Remington / Wolcott area.
9. Experience working in a marketing department or advertising agency is a definite plus.

This is a full-time, paid position. Salary will be commensurate with the experience and skills of the chosen candidate. Benefits are provided. Some occasional evening and weekend work is required.

**To Learn More**
For a complete job description and/or more information, email Dan Weerts (address below.)

**How to Apply**
Send resume, salary expectations, and writing samples to:  
dweerts@acmission.org  
-- or to --
Dan Weerts  
Apostolic Christian World Relief  
16448 S. US Hwy 231  
Remington, IN 47977

If you have graphic design samples, send those as well.

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**Apostolic Christian World Relief**

www.acworldrelief.org
Forgiveness resources

Sometimes we find ourselves on the hurt side of relationships, gossip, and conflict. In these instances when emotions are raw and the pain is real, the Bible’s instructions to forgive “…even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye” (Colossians 3:13) can be exceptionally difficult. ACCFS has several resources available to assist in the proper understanding of Biblical forgiveness on our website at www.accounseling.org/forgiveness.
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

Eastern Meeting:
Rittman, OH
November 8, 2014
2:30 pm - 8:00 pm EST

Give a Child Hope

Child Sponsorships

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

The goal of this program is to provide an education to help these children learn life skills to improve their standard of living, and also to provide spiritual training to address the true need...the need for a knowledge of and a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children.  Isaiah 54:13
Haiti Medical Work Teams

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<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Year 2014</th>
<th>Coordinator</th>
<th>Capacity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
<td>Oct 11-18</td>
<td>Lydia Bertschi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Lumiere</td>
<td></td>
<td>309-467-6110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dental Team</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lydiabertschi@yahoo.com">lydiabertschi@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Bonne Finn, Haiti</td>
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<td>Nursing Proficiencies</td>
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Hospital Lumiere Awareness Tours

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<td>Rich Bertschi</td>
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<td>Quick Tour</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:hospitalllumiere@acwr.org">hospitalllumiere@acwr.org</a></td>
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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
### Haiti Work Teams - Les Cayes

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<td>Daryl Luginbuhl</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital Lumiere Construction</td>
<td></td>
<td>daryl@<a href="mailto:luginbuhl@gmail.com">luginbuhl@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Nov 13-21</td>
<td>Art Mueller</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEED</td>
<td></td>
<td>608-676-4365</td>
<td>Magdalena</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:art.marlene.mueller@gmail.com">art.marlene.mueller@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Les Cayes</td>
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<td>AWA</td>
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<td>309-253-9003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Aid</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:schaesfs2@gmail.com">schaesfs2@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Nov 19-24</td>
<td>Jon Zeller</td>
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<td>Les Cayes</td>
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<td>Andy Getz</td>
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<td>Haiti Trade Schools/Magog Vocational</td>
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<td>574-870-5046</td>
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<td>School/Port-au-Prince</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:andy@getzitdone.com">andy@getzitdone.com</a></td>
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<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Dec 5 - 12</td>
<td>Lane Gerber</td>
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<td>MEBSH/Bluffton Construction</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:lane.gerber@gmail.com">lane.gerber@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Simone Orphanage</td>
<td>Dec 26 - Jan 2</td>
<td>Rick Wuetrich</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Francesville-Father/Son</td>
<td></td>
<td>219-863-4163</td>
<td>Magdalena</td>
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<td>Construction</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:rick@wuetrichfarms.com">rick@wuetrichfarms.com</a></td>
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### Mexico Work Teams

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<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Jan 2-9</td>
<td>Ron Palitto</td>
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<td>MEBSH/Ohio Construction</td>
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<td>330-336-5373</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:Ronp@paltitoconsulting.com">Ronp@paltitoconsulting.com</a></td>
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<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Jan 9-16</td>
<td>Maurice Schaefer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Jan 30-Feb 6</td>
<td>Richard Kraft</td>
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<tr>
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<td>503-364-3103</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:rickard@kraftmasonryinc.com">rickard@kraftmasonryinc.com</a></td>
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<td>Les Cayes</td>
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<td>School/Port-au-Prince</td>
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<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Feb 26-Mar 6</td>
<td>Larry Kaufmann</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>SEED</td>
<td></td>
<td>815-716-6018</td>
<td>Questions?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agricultural</td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ljkaufmann@juno.com">ljkaufmann@juno.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Les Cayes</td>
<td>Feb 27 - Mar 6</td>
<td>Steve Leuthold</td>
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<tr>
<td>MEBSH/Peoria Construction</td>
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<td>309-645-2208</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:sleuth@speerbank.com">sleuth@speerbank.com</a></td>
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### Haiti Work Teams - Les Cayes

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think there’s just absolutely no way. In California we build for earthquakes, and we put a lot of metal in our structures. We anchor the first floor very tightly into the foundation with a lot of metal, a lot of straps, a lot of extra nailing, and yet the reality is that there’s just no way to protect yourself from the type of forces that can come upon it and that you saw and experienced.

So, how do we protect ourselves? We realize as the Psalmist wrote - a lot of what we have in life, a lot of what we experience is vanity. I helped clean up in the catch basin a little bit, and obviously somebody’s kitchen had a lot of cookbooks and a lot of things that I’m sure were collected over time, perhaps a passion of an individual, a lot of time and energy and resources. I thought about my own life and my own passions, and do they lie in the things that last? Do they lie in the things that can’t get scattered around when the storms of life come? Am I protected against the reality that storms of life will come? Life gets changed and rearranged. We’re challenged to seek those things that are above.

The Bible tells us against the fruit of the Spirit there is no law (Galatians 5:23). There’s no law that can constrain the fruits of the Spirit. It’s pretty interesting because we legislate a lot in the United States. If there’s something that happens that we don’t like, we figure out a way to make that never happen again, and we get out and write legislation to try to push something or to restrain something. Yet there’s no restraint against the fruits of the Spirit. There is no storm, there is no tornado or earthquake that can ever take away the love and the charity and the good deeds of an individual done in the name of Christ. They can’t get scattered around. They can’t burn. They can’t get twisted. They can’t get bent out of shape. So we’re challenged to seek those things which are above, to perform those things that are above and charity.

“Surely every man walketh in a vain shew…” (v.6) It’s a bit humbling, really, if you think about it. It’s Scripture that there’s vanity in all of our lives that we have to recognize that it’s there. “…surely they are disquieted in vain: he heareth up riches, and knoweth not who shall gather them.” (v.6) I guess it’s really being fulfilled - some of the riches, some of the things that are being collected and gathered.

“And now, Lord, what wait I for? my hope is in thee.” (v.7) And therein lies the answer. We put our hope in Christ. We put our hope in our Heavenly Father who is good, who is merciful, who pardoned, who is gracious. The Psalmist wrote “Deliver me from all my transgressions: make me not the reproach of the foolish.” (v.8) That’s really where we want to be. We want to be delivered from our transgressions. Christ made it possible because He died on Calvary. He paid the price that you and I could not pay. We’re totally indebted to our Creator, and yet Christ can set us free from the sin and the bondage of sin. “I was dumb, I opened not my mouth; because thou didst it.” (v.8) I think this is also, we could say, is a reference to Christ who was quiet and did not try to defend Himself.

“Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear unto my cry…” Do we want the attention of God today? Certainly we do. We need it. “…hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all my fathers were. O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more.” (v.12-13) I really desire to feel the strength and the power of God working in our lives that we can feel His presence and that we can appreciate God for who He is. He’s our Creator. He’s our Heavenly Father, Counselor, our Strength, our Rock, our Fortress. The list goes on and on.

Going back to 1 Corinthians
13. “And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor…” (v.3)

We think that would be great if someone that would give out of their resources to the poor.

Certainly we’re encouraged to do that. We’re encouraged to consider the poor, the fatherless, the widow, and those that have needs. “…though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.” (v.3) - clearly bringing into focus why we do what we do. What is our purpose? Is it to bring glory to ourselves or is it bring glory and honor to God? It’s encouraging for anyone who has been on World Relief teams. Perhaps you sing the song - it’s an honor to serve, it’s a blessing to serve, and that not for ourselves but for God in the name of Christ to do things. Not in the name of ourselves, our family, our church, but in the name of Christ we would want to provide.

Then we read this description of charity. As the Psalmist reminded us, we’re frail.

Sometimes we aren’t so willing to suffer. “Charity suffereth long, and is kind…” (v.4) It’s a challenge to suffer. We would prefer not to. I think we’re challenged in the time we live in because we can, perhaps, in so many ways do things quickly, and it actually diminishes our ability to be more patient and to sit. So the Word would tell us here that charity, as God defines it, is longsuffering, willing to be patient, and is kind.

We appreciate being the recipients of kindness, don’t we? We enjoy it and appreciate it, and we’re thankful for it when somebody is kind to us. We’re challenged to be kind to others because that is love. That is Christ. Christ was kind to us. We see as He interacted, He went the extra mile. He reached people that most people were ignoring or would walk around. He exemplified that kindness.

Charity then is described as some things that it isn’t. “…charity vaunteth not itself…” (v.4) That puts us in a bit of a dilemma because we just read that all of us have a tendency to vanity. All of us have a tendency to want to elevate ourselves. We need to recognize that that’s just a reality. “…charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up…” - is not arrogant, is not presumptuous. We read here it “Doth not behave itself unseemly…” (v.5) That’s an interesting word. It is reasonable. It is easy to be entertained, is not somebody that’s hard to get along. It’s a description of somebody that you’d like to work with, you’d like to work for, that you would enjoy being around. The salt of the earth is that enhancement to our neighborhoods, and we’re provoked to think about that and the result of that.

“…seeketh not her own…” (v.5) It’s pretty hard because we’re all pretty interested in what we think and how we think and our own self interests. One of the biggest challenges we face is that self-centeredness tendency that we have. Scripture would challenge us to seek what God would want us to seek - to seek those things that are above, to seek His agenda, that His purposes would be our purposes and not that which would be self-serving.

“…is not easily provoked…” (v.5) Many Scriptures would tell us not to let the sun go down upon your wrath, be ye angry and sin not (Ephesians 4:26), and to caution us against that emotion that can so easily come upon us.

But, we’re encouraged here to not be easily provoked. It gives a picture of somebody who’s not easily taken in and quick with their words or quick to respond back. I guess we can go back to the Peter and Christ example. Peter was very quick with the sword in his unconverted state. It was easy, it was convenient, and it seemed prudent to take and deal with it right away in an effective way in his mind. Yet it wasn’t the way of Christ (St. John 18:10-11). It wasn’t how He would have him approach it. Jesus said if you take the sword, you live by the sword,
all the things that are written in Scripture? Reading about the millennial reign in Micah talks about the world over nations will stream to Zion to learn of the goodness of God. That’s exciting to think that some day the evil and the unrighteousness and the corruption that is pervasive all over will one day be set aside for truth and righteousness.

“Hopeth all things.” Our hope is in Christ, that anchor of the soul. It gives us something tremendous to look forward to. So as you go through the valleys and the mountains of life, when we have our hope in Christ, we can be sustained.

“Endureth all things.” We’re called to endure. You can never criticize the Word for not setting expectations. Christ said in this world there will be tribulations, there will be trials, there will be pressures. That’s the reality, but He told us to be of good cheer (St. John 16:33). His grace is sufficient. His strength is made perfect in weakness. (II Corinthians 12:9)

“Charity never faileth…” (v.8) You know we think about that. How do we respond in certain situations? What works? What doesn’t? So much of what we do in our lives, if we see something doesn’t work, we back up and try something else. Verse 8 says charity never faileth - a surefire
It’s because of His tremendous love for us. The Bible tells us for God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but entertain that hope of eternal life (St. John 3:16).

“And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.” (v.13)

The day is coming when that which is perfect is come. I love that word ‘perfect’ - mature, complete, no loose ends, no straggling rough edges, nothing that’s out of place. “But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.” (v.10) Christ’s kingdom will be perfect. Christ will establish Himself. You can come to your own conclusions. You can see we’re blessed. We’ve just come through Thanksgiving, and certainly we have a lot to be thankful for. We live in a tremendous opportunity in our nation with a lot of freedoms, but we know there’s a lot to be desired and there’s a lot of room for improvement. There’s a lot which is not in line with Scripture, but Christ’s kingdom will be perfect.

It speaks here of coming to understanding. “…I understood as a child, I thought as a child…” (v.11) We have to focus on and be intentional about growing, a maturing. “…when I became a man, I put away childish things.” Our focus and our time and our energy. Really the purpose is recognizing this. It’s really that perspective we read about in the Psalms that our life is but a vapor, but one day we will meet our Creator. We can do it with joy and gratitude if we have the Savior on our side. It’s because of His love.

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 6:16
Relevance of O.T.  
— Continued from pg. 3 

primary commandment that Moses gave to the Israelites after they escaped Egypt saying, “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.” (Deuteronomy 6:4-5) 

Jesus also confirms that the principle of loving one’s neighbor has not changed since the days in which it was communicated to the children of Israel. “Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of the people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD” (Leviticus 19:18)

Again the New Testament affirms the Old, reminding us to love even our enemies. (Matthew 5:43-45) 

As the Lord continued speaking with the lawyer, He gave the parable of the Good Samaritan and asked him who was neighbor to the man who fell among thieves. The lawyer answered, “He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, “Go, and do thou likewise.” (Luke 10:37)

Mercy is another recurring theme that God taught from the beginning, demonstrated by His own actions, and reiterated through His prophets. He responded to Abraham’s pleas for mercy towards Sodom. He responded to Moses when he pleaded for the children of Israel. He showed tremendous mercy towards those who repented of the sins they had committed – even those who were very evil such as King Ahab, and the people of Nineveh. Through His prophets, He reiterated that His desire for men is that we would live in mercy, justice and humility.

“He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?” (Micah 6:8)

To receive God’s mercy has always required faith. Those who repented – even in Old Testament times had to believe in God in order to respond to Him. The New Testament teaches us that Abraham believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness. As in all the previous examples, we see the unchanging truth of the Word – whether given before Jesus came, given by Jesus, or communicated by the Apostles as they quoted the prophets.

“Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith.” (Habakkuk 2:4) ... and ... But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, ‘The just shall live by faith.’” (Galatians 3:11)

In an ever-changing world, it is comforting to know that the Living God does not change and will not change.

When all is done and the last pages are written in the book of life, there is no such error or heresy, nothing so fundamentally opposed to Christ, as a wicked life.  
—anonymous

“Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord.”  
Hebrews 12:14
...Caribbean
— Continued from pg. 6

to construct a larger storing and staging area to replace the bank of sea containers. Construction has been recently completed on the new depot. It has a loading dock to access the shipments and offload with a fork truck. The lower level of the depot has an area for truck and equipment storage. The main floor is organized with pallets of stored material, and a mezzanine floor area now houses the offices for the construction department. This depot will allow offloading and storage of the aid components in a more efficient and safe manner.

Materials to Jamaica
A similar scenario occurs in the Goodfield Distribution center to prepare shipments to Jamaica. The donations from many generous material aid donors are used to procure needed equipment, supplies, and foodstocks. Also, health kits and school kits that are assembled by the various ACC churches go to World Relief Distribution Centers and end up on containers to Jamaica. Each year, several sea containers are loaded to provide the needs of the World Relief Jamaican ministries. From Goodfield, the sea containers are transported by truck and rail to a port where they are loaded and sent by sea to Montego Bay, Jamaica. From there, the supplies are trucked to the various infirmaries, children’s homes, hospitals, and schools, as well as some of the Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf (CCCD) facilities.

It takes planning
While we often communicate the needs of the Haitian and Jamaican people that World Relief ministers to, we sometimes overlook the logistical planning and work that is involved in this country to support this effort.

Without this ongoing work, the ministries in Haiti and Jamaica would not be possible. Please pray for the labors of our brethren at the Bluffton and Goodfield distribution centers as they supply the material needs to the Caribbean.

If your heart is moved to donate a specific item or items for the Jamaican ministry, contact Bro. Alan Roth at alroth60@gmail.com or (309) 264-1080 to supply items from the list of material needs. To donate specific items for the Haiti ministry, contact Bro. Scott Yordy at smyordy98@gmail.com or (309) 740-3555.

Publications
— Continued from pg. 7

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This month's article is a continuation of how the church was established in Hungary. Excerpts are taken from The Nazarenes by a Hungarian professor named Karoly Eotvos. The following describes the baptism of Louis Hencsey, a convert who became a leading force in the development of the Faith in Hungary.

Louis Hencsey

Hencsey was baptized on May 8, 1840. The date is a memorable one. This marked the beginning of the Nazarene community in Hungary. Before this date, there were only two members: Denkel (John) and Kropacsek (John).

On this date there were about four people present. The scene was in a house on 5 Kerepesi Road in John Pecznik’s workshop. There were four together in the workshop: Denkel, the teaching brother; Kropacsek, the believer with whom he had traveled in Switzerland; Hencsey, the new convert, and Joseph Bella. Bella would subsequently play an important role in Hungary and in America.

It was late at night. They closed the doors and windows at a late hour and had a worship service. They put a white tablecloth on the small table beside the foundry and on it they put a bottle for water. A bucket next to a seat was filled with cold water. The candles were burning on their hanging sticks on the wall.

Baptismal Service

The solemn worship service began with singing. They had a prayer. When the prayer was over, Denkel read a passage of the New Testament and gave a short sermon. After the service, he called upon Hencsey to have a share in the blessing of baptism. Hencsey took off his dolman (cape) waistcoat and neckerchief, untied his shirt and tied it down. His head, neck and shoulders were bare. Then, Denkel asked Hencsey the points of the Apostles Creed.

“Do you believe in one God who created heaven and earth, who is omnipresent and omnipotent?” Hencsey answered in a strong voice and bowed head, “Yes, I believe it.”

“Do you believe that Jesus Christ is God’s only begotten Son from time immemorial?” “I believe it,” Hencsey answered.

“Do you believe in the Holy Ghost who sanctified us, who teaches us, guides us, and who initiates good morals in us?” Hencsey replied, “I believe it.”

“Do you believe in a Christian church which abhors sin and is ready to keep God’s commandments? Do believe in the coming of eternal life?” Hencsey answered, “I believe.”

Then, Denkel took Hencsey’s hands, led him to the cooling water. Hencsey bowed down above the water. Denkel took the jug in his hand, poured water on his head and with a slow prayer initiated him into the sacred community of the elect. When it was over the three were given communion with bread and water.

Joseph Bella was watching this sacred ceremony with tears in his eyes, deeply moved. (Bella would later become a big force in the churches).

Midnight was well over when the small group broke up. At this moment, they all felt something great had happened.

Editor’s Note: In the September issue of the Remembering column, it was noted in error that Hencsey was introduced to the faith on November 20, 1939. It should have been listed as having occurred in 1839. We apologize for this typing error.

-By Perry Klopfenstein
Nevertheless, that very night, Peter denied Christ three times. Peter meant well, but once again we see that words alone don’t mean much.

In Revelation 3:17, Christ says to the church of the Laodiceans, “Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked.” The people in the church of the Laodiceans said that they were wealthy and had need of nothing, but Christ told them quite the opposite. Without Christ, we are very poor and with Christ, we are very rich. Earthly possessions do not necessarily mean God’s approval or blessing. If we have earthly possessions, let’s use them for God’s glory and for the furtherance of His Kingdom here on earth.

In John 14:21, Jesus is quoted as saying, “He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me.” Here the Lord Jesus is telling us that even if we say that we love Him, if we don’t keep His commandments, and instead, live for self and do what our selfish nature wants to do to keep in tune with the world, it doesn’t mean much. The proof of what we say is what we do. I conclude that the Bible does not teach us to discard obedience in order to demonstrate that we are saved by grace and not by works. The Bible teaches that if we have the right kind of faith, saving faith, then surely our works, our attitude, our obedience, will show that faith very clearly.

In Matthew 21, verse 28, the Lord Jesus tells a parable about a man who had two sons. He told them both to go work in his vineyard. The first son replied, “I will not,” but afterward repented and went. The second son replied, “I go sir,” but he didn’t go. Then Jesus asked the people who were listening which son did the will of the father. They replied, “The first.” This makes me think that words alone don’t mean much.

In Matthew 7:21, the Lord Jesus is quoted as saying, “Not everyone that sayeth unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.” To call the Lord Jesus Christ, Lord, indicates that we give Him permission to have control of our life. However, if a person does not do the Father’s will, and if He is not permitted to have control of our life, the words alone don’t mean much. There is a saying, “Talk is cheap.”

In James 2:14, we read, “What doth it profit, my brethren, though a man say he hath faith, and have not works? Can faith save him?” Based on Ephesians 2:8 and 9, the answer to the latter question is “Yes, faith can save him.” But what James means is, “Can a person, by saying he has faith, be saved?” The answer to that question, if I’m not mistaken, is “No.” A person must really have faith, not just say he has faith.

In Matthew 7:16, the Lord Jesus said, “Ye shall know them by their fruits.” Words are important. We should confess Christ. But words alone, evidently, don’t mean much. We should have saving faith which produces good works, although we are not saved by good works, but by the blood of Christ.

In Matthew 26:35, Peter said to Christ, “Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee.” Words alone don’t mean much. The Bible tells us many things we should be doing. We should love our neighbor as ourselves. That alone would eliminate any waste of time for selfish pleasure and entertainment. Our time belongs to God and should be used for His honor and pleasure. Words alone don’t mean much.

-By Willis Ehnle
Streams that from Thy wounds are flowing

Zion’s Harp #162