Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob; Which turned the rock into a standing water, the flint into a fountain of waters.

Psalm 114:7-8
Learning to be content

This issue contains reader submissions on, “What are practical ways to maintain contentment when it’s so easy to compare and complain?” It’s a wonderful section with pearls of wisdom, ranging from tangible tips you can start today — like listing your blessings — and on to spiritual disciplines — like focusing your mind on Jesus being your sufficiency. Along the way, we are reminded that faithful living involves trials, reflecting on the plights of others provides needed perspective, and last, but not least, God doesn’t like complaining (and neither does anyone else)!

“Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned in whatsoever state I am, there with to be content.” Philippians 4:11

In Christian love,

Jeff Grimm and Rick Plattner, Counseling Elders

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As the people reached the border of the Promised Land, they were about five miles away from the walled city of Jericho on the other side of the river Jordan. Joshua, being chosen by God as the new leader in Moses’s stead, was given a beautiful exhortation from God, “There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee. Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.”

Secondly, He gives Joshua the conditions for this success: “Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.”

Though his tasks may have seemed overwhelming at this point, Joshua showed no signs of wavering from his duty. Joshua believed and followed God as He prepared the way before him.

Joshua’s first action was to send two spies into the city of Jericho. A harlot named Rahab received the two men into her house, located upon one of the walls surrounding Jericho. Rahab had a simple and firm faith based on the spoken accounts of God leading His people from Egypt to the land of Canaan:

“And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you. For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.”

She pleaded with the spies that she and her family be spared when the Israelites overtook the city. They agreed, provided Rahab and her family remained in her house. With this agreement in place, the spies were let down from her house by a scarlet line, which was left hanging from the window to identify her house. The Hebrew word (tiqva?h) translated as ‘line’ in this scripture is more commonly translated as ‘hope’ and ‘expectation’ in the Bible. Rahab put her hope and expectation not only in that slender cord and in the word of the men she had helped, but also in the unshakable belief that the “LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.”

— Please turn to pg. 62
Greetings, dear ones. Let’s to turn Daniel 4. We just sang that beautiful hymn about praise, #208 (Zion’s Harp) as we were walking into church. Beautiful hymn. The melody and the words spoke right to my heart. As we think about why we’re here tonight – maybe it’s different for all of us really – I know why I need to be here. We sang this hymn Praise Ye the Lord. Did we do that today? Think about how easy it is to just forget because life’s in a hurry and we’re going really, really fast. It made me think of Daniel 4, and an experience I had this morning.

This morning I was as far south as you can go in Illinois on route 57. I was with a salesman because we had a meeting, and as we were coming back, I knew my truck was in Mt. Vernon and I needed to be no later than 1:00, so that I wouldn’t be rushed tonight in coming to church. At about 11:00, we could see the traffic up ahead, and there were a lot of brake lights. Pretty soon we were stopped on 57; it’s pretty common in that area. Then it wasn’t very long and we saw a helicopter come. There lots and lots of lights way up ahead of us. There happened to be a police officer right by our vehicle, so I rolled down my window and asked him about it. He said, “it’s a bad wreck with a turned over vehicle up there. You’re going to be here awhile,” so I told the gentleman I was with that I was going to get out to walk. It’d be good for me to do that anyway. I told him, “I’m going to walk up to the top of the hill. If the traffic starts moving, you just stop; don’t forget me. I’ll jump in.” I’ve driven that road a lot, but I’ve never walked that road, and it really hit me while I was walking on 57 that there are three lanes right there and it usually is rolling. As I was walking, I noticed all kinds of things – there were lug bolts along the road. There were hubcaps, lots of hubcaps. You notice those things when you slow down and you walk. Just this week I’ve been reading through Daniel, and I had to think as I was walking, “Do I need to have a Nebuchadnezzar experience to get where I am now?”

Let’s turn to Nebuchadnezzar in this account and start reading in chapter 4, verse 28. We know this account. Nebuchadnezzar had a dream, and Daniel told him about that dream, exactly what would happen. He said, “I wish this was someone other than you.” This chapter is after Nebuchadnezzar knew about the dream.

Dear ones, we know what Nebuchadnezzar was like. Think about how he took God’s chosen people, the Israelite people and captured them and hauled them back to his land. He treated some of them very nicely, but many of them were slaves, and yet God talked to him. God desired of him to worship and praise him. God used men like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and Daniel to teach him.

I had to think of that today, “is my life going so fast that I miss the opportunities?” I just pray that as we go thru life that we don’t need a tragedy to slow us down. Do we? Because so often that’s what happens. I can still remember a brother that shared after his father was killed that as he and his brothers were there looking up at that highway and the traffic was flying by, he wanted to scream at the traffic to Stop! In his mind and his life everything had stopped. We don’t want that, dear ones. Just like, why did King Nebuchadnezzar have to be made an animal to realize that God was mighty?

We sang that hymn Praise Ye the Lord. (#208 Zion’s Harp) It just comes to me – do we praise him as we should? Maybe you do better than I do. I love him, and I know that’s he’s mighty, but there are many days when I just get caught up in the busyness of the day. I regret that I do that. And
then there are days that things go pretty well, but it's a good thing that God reminds me, and he did that this morning. I pray that all of us can learn from the life of King Nebuchadnezzar.

In the New Testament, I have Ephesians 3. We haven't read that recently, so let's turn there and begin reading at the beginning of the chapter.

As we think about this very first verse “for this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles”, is being a prisoner something that we'd all desire to be known as? But that's where Paul found himself as he was writing this letter to the Ephesian church. He was telling them that he was willing to be a prisoner of Jesus Christ. Are we willing to be that prisoner, dear ones?

I often think as we read these letters, it's so important for us to reflect back on who Paul was. I know so often we read these letters that Paul wrote, but do we stop and think why Paul had the passion and the love that he had for these churches? We all were sinners. We were born sinners, and we knew we were sinners from the time we were little. We recognized that we did not have a hope to go to heaven unless we repented and became converted, but just for a moment let's suppose that we thought we were doing okay. Just for a moment let's suppose we thought we were doing what was right. We were certain because we were taught by the best teachers. That's who Paul was. Paul was not in his own mind a sinner. Paul was trained by the very best teachers, and he knew exactly what the letter said. When he was on that way and Jesus struck him down, he did not realize how lost he was, how blinded he was, so when Paul has the passion that he does for these churches, he wants them to understand the details. It was just as hard for Paul to speak to these people that were known as Gentiles because he was a Jew, and back then, you didn't talk to Gentiles. They weren't the chosen. So sometimes as we read these letters it's easy for me forget that, but if I put that in my mind, and I think about where Paul was coming from and how God had converted his heart, I recognize he couldn't have done that by himself. It wasn't a matter of reading different books, of just going to church, or going and sitting under different leaders. God changed him. God converted his heart. We all need to recognize God is doing that for us if we become fallen down and we acknowledge just as Paul did when he said, “What would you have me to do, Lord?” That's what he said, and then God said, “I'll show you.” I'll show you. That's why I think it's important he was a prisoner because that's where he came from, and he wasn't ashamed of that. His heart was right. This grace of God he acknowledged throughout his letters – we can't do it by ourselves. There is no way.

I know that it feels like lately we've gotten a full dose of grace over this pulpit, but that's okay. It's important that we hear it clearly. We cannot be saved without the grace of God. We can work hard and be a very disciplined person, but we can't be saved until we recognize it's all about Jesus and become broken before him, and acknowledge that his grace is what drew us and his grace is what gives us the strength to say, “I want to serve thee; I want to repent.” He wanted to give them what he had.

“How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery…” (vs 3) He understood the mystery. He's not the only one that understands the mystery. Daniel got the mystery. Daniel understood the mystery. Daniel understood that he needed to believe in God. He needed to have faith in God. Abraham understood the mystery; it was faith that allowed them to walk with God and to hear what God had to say. And not just to hear it, but to be obedient and to follow. Can you imagine? Think of Abraham – he was asked to go to a foreign country.

— Please turn to pg. 64
Ministry Program Updates

Enhancing our Deaf Ministry in Jamaica Child Sponsorship Committee

Most of us are blessed from birth with all five body senses – touch, sight, hearing, smell, and taste. If a person doesn’t have the use of one or more of these senses, life can be very challenging. The degree of difficulty is accentuated for those who don’t have the ability to see or hear. Not only is it more difficult to assimilate into the culture and become a productive adult, the gospel message isn’t easily learned or even available. In fact, in many cases, the scripture hasn’t been translated into sign language that enables effective teaching and learning.

Several factors combine to exacerbate the situation for the Deaf in Jamaica: 1) most of the Deaf population struggles without functional language skills, 2) a high unemployment rate and inaccessibility mean scarce jobs are available for the Deaf, and 3) the Jamaican society does not focus on Deaf learning and empowerment.

The mission of CCCD

CCCD (Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf) exists to reach, teach, and nurture the Deaf of Jamaica so they can experience the joy of knowing Jesus and serving in their community. CCCD’s mission is to enable full language access and affirmation in an inclusive community whereby knowledge is empowered to know the Lord, appreciate diversity, and understand the functions of the world (Romans 12). They accomplish this by operating three residential schools spread geographically across the island (Kingston, Knockpatrick, and Montego Bay), as well as a centrally-located Jamaica Deaf Village (Mandeville), which ministers to adult Deaf and their children.

For over 20 years, CCCD in Jamaica has been supported as one of the ministry priorities of the Apostolic Christian Church. However, changes in Jamaica have created different needs for the students and challenges for CCCD under the old funding models. Demographic shifts have resulted in the need to repurpose the Montego Bay campus. Rather than being a boarding school for Deaf children, it is being transformed into a continuing adult Deaf education facility to meet the ongoing academic and vocational training needs of Deaf adults in Jamaica.

The basic Deaf education provided by primary and secondary schools continues to be a work

Distributing Bibles Changes Lives Bible Distribution Committee

How can God use me? Can I even fulfill a purpose in this world? What can I offer to point souls to Christ’s transforming power?

Like Moses at the burning bush, God calls us to radiate his love to today’s spiritual captives. We may identify with Moses’ reactions: “Who am I?” (Exodus 3:11), “…they will not believe me, nor hearken to my voice?” (Exodus 4:1), and “…I am not eloquent, … but I am slow of speech…” (Exodus 4:10). Our Creator reassures us with his timeless promise, “…Certainly I will be with thee;” (Exodus 3:12). Whenever the Spirit inspires us to speak for God’s kingdom, let’s raise our voice during each limited encounter. Yet, the Bible is God’s voice. Distributing Bibles lets him speak repeatedly … through his Word’s ability to discern each heart’s thoughts and intents (Hebrews 4:12). It’s the gift that can extend the conversation eternally!

Matthew 28:19-20 instructs us to teach all nations to observe all of Christ’s commandments. In its purest form, his commission points to distributing the Bible. We have reason to share it with everyone!

Jesus commanded Peter (and us) to feed people,
in progress at fully equipping the graduates for independence and sustaining careers. Currently, CCCD’s Montego Bay campus is the only entity island-wide that provides programs for continuing education to Deaf adult graduates to increase their specialized knowledge and skills to obtain employment to demonstrate their value. CCCD is offering courses tailored to the needs of their graduates to help them further obtain those elements that they LACK (Language, Affirmation, Community, and Knowledge). CCCD administration is seeking sponsors for these continuing education courses as part of their strategic plan to use the assets and resources available to further their mission.

**New Child Sponsorship Opportunity**

The administration of CCCD is proposing a model of class sponsorship that is very similar to their current model for child sponsorship. They will be seeking 150 sponsors from their supporting organizations – their request is that the Apostolic Christian HarvestCall child sponsorship program provides 15 of those sponsors. Each sponsored class would require $50 per month from each sponsor. Sponsors will receive a class leader’s letter, class video, and class profiles. All classes would contain the same basic educational foundation, including Biblical instruction.

**Prayer Request**

As CCCD adjusts its offering to accommodate specialized education for Deaf graduates to help them obtain meaningful employment and service in their communities, pray for God’s provision of wisdom and resources to bless this enhanced ministry. If you aren’t a current sponsor, please prayerfully consider this new opportunity for Deaf adults to become more productive and learn about Jesus.

— **by Ken Rinkenberger**

Christ through the distribution of Bibles and related resources. All funding comes through donations by congregations, organizations, and individuals. (Those distributing Bibles can donate to cover costs, but it is not required.) For more information: Phone: (309) 965-2141, Email: biledistribution@acpublications.org

As we develop, encourage, and communicate opportunities for Bible distribution, we invite all to come, taste, see … and share, so God’s glory can resonate in each of us! How will God’s Word reach your world? May he use your hands and feet to send his “Text-Message” to souls near you? Your bush is burning. Join in front line service. Distribute Bibles!
“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;” Ps. 46:1-2

Psalm 46:1-2 has always been a meaningful passage to me. It generates a visual of God being a safe place to take shelter. As I pondered these verses, it strikes me that parents are to be a refuge pointing children to the ultimate source of protection.

Several years ago, I distinctly remember finding myself in a hail storm with my 18-month-old son and his 3-year-old sister. As we sat in the parking lot with our vehicle getting pelted, I looked in the rearview mirror to find my son staring at me with a look of terror on his face. He was rightly concerned given he had never experienced hail and sitting inside a small metal vehicle made the sound deafening. He was looking at me to assess if his terror was warranted. While scared myself, I recognized his non-verbal plea for help, smiled and assured him we were going to be okay. Admittedly while telling him this message, I was having a difficult time believing.

This simple example demonstrates the ongoing dance between a child and their caretaker that is played out in daily interactions. Over the course of a child’s life, thousands of these interactions play out and begin to build a foundation for how the child views relationships. Consider the following relationship continuum: one side represents hurtful and negative relationships and thereby relationships are avoided; and on the other side, relationships are a place of continual validation and thereby anxiously pursued so you can always feel approval. The parent-child relationship can be viewed through this continuum which can help provide perspective on how you might need to adjust your parenting approach.

Somewhere between these two extremes is viewing relationships as something to move toward for growth and learning while also realizing that no human relationship has the capacity to fulfill every desire. The parent-child relationship is a wonderful, God-designed relationship to lay foundational truths. As parents we want to be a safe place for our children to approach. This will in turn allow us to teach, verbally or non-verbally, our children. Teaching them they are loved and need instruction helps prepare them to view themselves accurately. Often parenting is viewed as correction more than comfort. Yet corrective parenting without comfort parenting can create an environment of either fear or perfectionism. Parents are to provide both comfort and correction. No parent balances this perfectly, but we can lean on Lamentations 3:22-23 when our days end and we recognize our interactions with our children were not what we hoped when the day began.

Human tendency is to either minimize the importance of healthy, scripture-honoring interactions or get overwhelmed and stuck in our mistakes. Scripture encourages the believer to recognize our continued need for growth while trusting God’s provision. (1 John 1:8-9) This certainly holds true for parenting. Though far from perfect.

Parents are to provide both comfort and correction. They are to be a refuge, pointing children to the ultimate source of protection.

Psalm 46:1-2

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea;”
Attachment with our Children

we can still be a safe source of directing our children toward truth. Not just “do this” and “don’t do this,” but a demonstration that relationships are a place to live out God’s instruction. A place where we receive comfort as well as correction. In general, the Scriptures paint a picture of relationships being difficult, refining, and enjoyable. Consider Paul and Barnabas’ relationship, which, like most, experienced seasons of each. (Acts 13-15)

Providing direction is often what we think in the context of parenting. However, especially as children grow into adulthood, parents will need to be a “safe” place to come prior to being allowed to provide direction. Being a safe parenting source means being able to consider these questions and honestly consider situations rather than just jumping to a quick conclusion based on our preconceived ideas. As parents may we provide comfort and correction to our children so we might point them to the one, ultimate relationship they desperately need in life…a relationship with their heavenly Father. Psalm 46:1-2 beautifully demonstrates the refuge and strength available as we find shelter in God and point our children towards Him.

As parents it is certain our relationships with our children will experience both sorrow and joy. As we walk through these parenting experiences, some questions to keep in mind are:

- What are my children learning about relationships and the world around them from my interactions with them?
- As a parent am I giving both correction and comfort?
- As a parent am I a safe source to approach?
- Do my children believe I am there for them?
- Do I often get overwhelmed by their questions or emotions?
- Am I willing to listen and provide wise direction versus constant correction?

ACCFS has a host of resources available to encourage parents in their responsibilities. We continue to conduct Parenting with a Purpose seminars and other presentations as requested. In addition, we develop and refer to many other helpful resources on our website at www.accounseling.org/category/parenting. If you have requests or would like more information, please contact ACCFS at (309)263-5536.
It’s the season of Thanksgiving! Although we want to constantly be praising God for who He is and what He has done, sometimes we get caught up in our own concerns and forget. What a blessing it is that we have this holiday reminder to give thanks always!

We have recently begun a history project here at LifePoints, documenting the memories of individuals involved in the beginning years of this ministry. Board members, relatives of residents, and early employees have shared their experiences with the development of the Apostolic Christian Home for the Handicapped (now Apostolic Christian LifePoints). These stories have been encouraging to say the least! Each interview reminds us of God’s faithfulness and provision – one cannot doubt His hand in every aspect of LifePoints’ history. How else can we respond, except to joyfully praise His name?

We thank God for working in the hearts of members in our church, planting the idea to build a home to serve family members with disabilities. We thank God for all those who listened and supported that idea through donations, volunteer work, love, and prayers. We thank God that the State gave us permission to establish our Home, despite the fact that they told us we would fail. Praise God that He is greater than any doubt or unbelief!

We thank God for those first families who trusted us with the care of their loved ones, and we thank Him for every family who has done so since. We thank God for each individual He has brought to work at LifePoints; we know it has been a step of faith for many to begin. We thank God for all of the additions and changes He has enabled us to make in order to better our facilities and services. Praise God for how even our nation has changed in its approach toward serving those with disabilities in the past 50 years!

We thank God that the history of this ministry is filled with details that make us stop and say, “Only God.” Only God can do this great work, and we thank Him for letting us participate in serving His children here at LifePoints.

Gateway Woods Apostolic Christian Children’s Home

Shanna Conner — Adoption Case Manager & Adoptive Mom

“A man’s heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps.” Proverbs 16:9

Ten years ago this month, almost to this very day, we received a file of a five-week-old boy from Ethiopia. I always think of that day as the true beginning of our adoption journey. I remember the excitement and bit of anxiety, the potential this file held as we thought about this little boy as our son. There was never a doubt that we would say “yes” to this little guy.

Each family’s adoption journey is unique and ours certainly would be no exception. Not many people adopting internationally are matched with a child so young. We soon began our travel plans and were scheduled to fly to Ethiopia in late February. The day before we were scheduled to fly out, our agency called and said there had been an issue and they weren’t sure if we should move forward with our travel plans. My heart sunk, and we immediately began praying and calling friends and family to pray with us. We were determined to meet our son as planned.
We arrived in Ethiopia tired, excited, and anxious – and no one was there to meet us. Scrambling a little, we were finally able to get hold of a contact in Ethiopia who eventually came to pick us up and take us to our guest home. God’s total provision. Early the next day, we met our son. We were ushered into the orphanage where he was quietly sleeping in a crib. His world, and ours, would never be the same.

We spent the bulk of our two-week trip sequestered in our guest room as it was recommended at the time that we not go out with our son due to the belief that adoption was seen unfavorably in the country. My husband and I took one short afternoon to visit the market to purchase a few mementos, but otherwise, we spent our time in our room getting to know our son and bonding as a new family of three. This is not the experience for most families as many have the opportunity to explore the city and even meet the birth parents.

What we did not know at the time was that our son had cerebral palsy. The very things that were unique about our situation, we now see as God’s provision – provision of an early match, provision of travel and safety in the midst of uncertainty, provision of the gift of time to bond. These gifts allowed us to meet our son as earliest as possible, to welcome him in our family, and begin getting him the medical care necessary for his diagnosis we would soon discover.

As we reflect back, which we often do this time of year, we are able to see God’s generosity and faithfulness in our story. It has not always been the journey that we expected, but it is the journey that God has given us and one for which He has generously provided in the big and small moments of our family’s life.

**News:**

November is National Adoption Month. If you are interested in learning more about adoption, please visit our adoption website: adoptiongateway.org

WillowBridge is officially open. WillowBridge transitional housing is a new branch of the LARC initiative that can provide up to 9 young people housing and ongoing community support to help them prepare for independent living. Please visit our website for more information: gatewaywoods.org/willowbridge.

We currently have a need for Houseparent Couples. For more info, please see our ad in this issue or visit the Careers page on our website at gatewaywoods.org/careers.

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 gatewaywoods.org and our Facebook page at facebook.com/gatewaywoods often for updates, and make sure that you are on our mailing list. If you would like be added to our mailing list, please contact us at 888.443.4283 or send an email to info@gatewaywoods.org. Finally, if you would like to receive monthly inspiration in your inbox, you can sign up for our e-newsletter, Restoring Hope, at gatewaywoods.org/newsletter or by emailing jon.ringger@gatewaywoods.org.

**Arizona, Phoenix**

**Marge Lindenbaum**

“Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” Rom. 8:26

The Word gives us instruction to pray for many things, in various places. We are to pray for government, for peace in Israel, for missionaries, for the Gospel, for the Church, and many more things. We are instructed to pray for each other (James 5:16). If we were to pray for all these things every time we prayed, it would be quite tiring, and I believe prayer would become a chore that we
We are enjoying cooler weather for us, but warmer than most of the rest of the country. We invite those who tire of the snow and cold to come and visit us here in the desert.

Arizona, Prescott

Autumn Rokey

“And these are they {the seeds} which are sown on good ground; such as hear the word, and receive it, and bring forth fruit, some thirtyfold, some sixty, and some an hundred” Mark 4:20.

The seasons seem to change overnight. The cool crisp air gives relief to summer’s heat and we become nostalgic about fall happenings. Harvest brings produce from the long days of growing. This fruit is not produced over night. We know that it takes a season. Spiritually, the daily life of serving our God and learning of His love brings growth not always seen. It develops over seasons of rejoicing or trials. Keep pressing on knowing that God will produce fruit in your life if you are willing to let Him cultivate your heart.

We also had a wonderful night together as a church with Bro. Arlan Miller from ACCFS learning about God redeeming both good and hard transitions in life. After much prayer as a church, Bro. Richard & Sis. Audrey Manz feel led to serve and minister to our congregation here in Prescott. Please pray for Bro. Richard as he starts this new transition into the pulpit ministry.
We are thankful for visiting ministers: Bro. Keith Hinrichsen (Phoenix, AZ), Bro. Arlan Miller (Sis. Katie, Gridley, IL), and Elder Bro. Herbie Knochel (Sis. Laurie, Phoenix, AZ).

**Arizona, Tucson**

**Dean and Jackie Knobloch**

Greetings to all across the miles. We are enjoying the beautiful fall weather that God has given to us here in the Southwest. Bro. Brad and Sis. Sandy Bauer are grateful for the safe arrival of their granddaughter, Gloriana Noble who was born to Daniel and Amy Bauer.

We had our annual Sunday School picnic which was well attended. Thanks goes out for those who organized food and games. It is always good to be together as a church family.

Pray that God is the center of your days as we enter the last months of the year.

If you are visiting our area and looking for accommodations please contact Bro. Dean Knobloch at 309-231-8428.

**California, San Diego**

**Lillian Wagenbach**

We are thankful that Matthew Fulop, Ashlyn Petrovic and Jayden Grimm answered the Lord’s call, repented and were baptized on September 1. We were blessed to have Bro. Jeff Grimm (Goodfield, IL) and Bro. John Wiegand (Silverton, OR) serve with testimonies and the baptism. It was truly a day of celebration made possible by the love and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. We were also thankful for other visiting brothers that served our congregation: Bros. Scott Manger and Justin Moser (Altadena), Jim Koehl (Morris) and Mike Rieker (Peoria).

We have much to rejoice when one of our dear ones in church decides to repent and live her life for the Lord. We are thankful that Tori Stoller (Bro. Corbin and Sis. Katie) has made this important decision.

Our thoughts have been with Sis. Abby Fulop as she studies abroad in Budapest. We’ve been enjoying the pictures she sends our way!

We had our bi-annual picnic with Altadena and as usual it was a lovely time of fellowship and food. It’s so nice to get together with our other California church!

We were reminded this month that regardless of the circumstances, God is in control. And we stand amazed at what He has done and continues to do to accomplish His purposes!

“Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?” Jer. 9:27

**Colorado, Denver**

**Tess Leman**

This month was relatively quiet around here. Fall has fully arrived bringing with it a sense of routine and cadence.

We have enjoyed listening to and discussing the conference talks on Wednesday evenings. They have gendered good discussion such as “am I truly pure in heart?” and “how do I respond to being mistreated?”.

Do you ever get that glimpse? You know, the one where eternity and the preciousness of our Lord comes clearly into view; Where everything around you grows dim in comparison to pleasing and glorifying Him? Your heartbeat may quicken, your eyes dim with tears at the glorious thought of our Savior and His worthiness.

I was recently discussing this with a friend. We both admitted that that glimpse can so quickly fade away and it is far too easy to become entangled with the affairs of this life. I pray that all of us who claim the name Christian will continue to hone our eternal “homing devices” and be ready at any moment for that glorious day “when my Jesus I shall see”!

(What a day that Will Be, Gospel Hymns #831)

**Connecticut, Rockville**

**Julie Bauman, Heidi Beutel**

On September 8, after 15 years of serving our congregation in the ministry and as Deacon, Bro. Warren Zahner spoke his last sermon. We are ever grateful to his service and while his time in pulpit ministry has come to an end, we are all reminded that we each have a ministry that God has called us to while we are on this earth. We have all benefited from Bro. Warren’s wisdom and gentle guidance, clearly exemplifying his love for the church. “As iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his
friend.” Proverbs 27:17. We also want to extend heartfelt gratitude to Sis. Bonnie, their children and grand-children for sacrificing time with their husband, father and grandfather so that he could serve and care for God’s flock.

As Bro. Warren laid down his mantle of deacon, Bro. Brent Walder was asked to pick this responsibility up. The weekend of September 21-22 was set aside for his ordination weekend. We are thankful for visiting Elder Bros. Ben Wiegand (Sis. Michelle, Philadelphia, PA); Mark Masters (Sis. Jeanine, Mansfield, OH); Curt Frank (Sis. Lila, LaCrosse, IN); and Duane Farney (Sis. Karen, Croghan, NY) and their assistance to Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan in the work of exhorting the church, the ministering brothers, and Bro. Brent and family. Psalm 133 was read. It was a beautiful reminder of the wonderful love and unity our church family has for one another. We prayerfully support Bro. Brent and Sis. Naomi as they transition into this new role.

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down the beard, even Aaron’s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments; As the dew of Hermon, and as the dew that descended up on the mountains of Zion: for there the LORD commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.” Ps. 133.

The following weekend, September 28 and 29, we were able to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of four dear souls. We welcome into our brotherhood: Bro. Brian Garrow (Bro. Ed and Sis. Cindy); Bro. Paul and Sis. Kelsey Hills; and Bro. Rob Hany (Beth). It was a beautiful weekend. We were reminded once again of the faithfulness and goodness of God.

In addition to the previously mentioned visiting elders, we were thankful to have additional visiting ministers throughout the month. Bro. Darin Massner and his wife, Sis. Twila (West Bend, IA) were here for a midweek service. A few weekends later, we were served by Bro. Marvin Zollinger (Sis. Pam, Smithville, OH) and Bro. Todd Graf (Sis. Lydia, Akron, OH).

We rejoice in the establishment of another Christian home in our congregation! The wedding of Bro. Matthew Moser and Sis. Laura Schneider was on October 13. Their parents are Bro. Steve and Sis. Janis Moser and Bro. Doug and Sis. Jane Schneider. We wish special blessings upon Bro. Matthew and Sis. Laura as they begin their life together!

Bro. Gerry and Heidi Ludwig are relocating to San Diego. We want to give them our love, support, and wish them God’s nearness as they make this transition.

District of Columbia, Washington
Henrietta Meyer

This month our caretaker is Sis. Debra Blunier (Eureka, IL) along with Sis. Patty Steiner (Mediapolis, IA) and Sis. Jamie Marti (Kansas City, MO). There are still some months available in 2020. If you feel led to support one of our small churches, being caretakers here 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 dkgsteffen@gmail.com or 302-540-6574.

Our ministers this month were Bro. Nathan Steffen (Alto, MI), Elder Bro. Ben Wiegand (Philadelphia, PA), Bro. Kevin Fehr (Sis. Lonnie, West Bend, IA), and Bro. Ryan Hoerr (Sis. Joy, Princeville, IL). Other visitors were from Bluffton, IN; Tremont and Bloomington, IL; Sabetha, KS; Rockville, CT; Rittman, OH; and West Bend, IA. We are thankful for visitors and for them letting us know they are coming. Among our visitors were brethren who are feeling the Holy Spirit’s prompting for them to make the Washington, DC their new home. We pray others might feel the Spirit’s nudge in this direction.

If you are planning to visit Washington, D.C. area for vacation or business, please contact Sis. Henrietta Meyer at 703 904-8301 or hmeyer2831@gmail.com for assistance and to let us know how many to expect for Sunday services.

Florida, Fort Lauderdale
Renee Mangold

We were thankful to have
visiting ministers: Bro. Tim Ramsier (Sis. Jonell) Rittman, OH and Elder Bro. Kevin Ryan (Sis. Cheryl) Rockville, CT this past month. We pray they will be blessed for their efforts.

Bro. Jerry Kaiser (Tremont, IL) presented a Bible Study on hope, believing that Jesus can heal as told in the story of the nobleman’s son (St. John 4:46-54).

We appreciate our visiting ministers and other visitors that come to worship with us.

“For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me.” Romans 1:11-12

Florida, Fort Myers
Mary Masters

Our Elder Bro. Jeff Streitmatter (Sis. Lynn) came and served us as he shared the memorandum. We thank them for their selfless efforts on our behalf.

We are enjoying the return of some of our snowbirds which makes the singing sound so beautiful.

Some of us are looking forward to the annual Lakewood Retreat get-away where we can go and enjoy God’s beautiful creation and be spiritually refreshed.

Georgia, Peachtree City/Atlanta
Lexi Knapp

These past couple months have been busy, full of change and transition; and God’s consistent faithfulness is a continually sweet foundation in each new turn and twist of life. How thankful and in awe I am at His work and constant goodness!

On August 31, we were able to witness the union of Sis. Sheree Waldbeser (Bro. Tom and Sis. Sue) and Bro. Ryan Steffen (Corey and Sis. Beth, Fairbury, IL). We praise God for His faithfulness and pray that their marriage can be another beautiful example of Christ’s relationship with the church. Also, we are thankful that they will be living in Georgia for the time being.

We also rejoice with Bro. Drew and Sis. Ashley Pelc at the birth of their son, Henry Daniel, born August 30. He joins older siblings, Audrey and Noah. Despite coming a few weeks early, we are thankful that he is home and doing well now.

We likewise welcome Bro. Drew Waldbeser (Bro. Tom and Sis. Sue) back to our congregation as he has taken a job in Atlanta. We are thankful to have him back and praying that He can continue to know God’s faithfulness in this new transition.

We were thankful as well to have Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Deb, Peoria, IL) and Bro. James Fehr (Sis. Brenda, Tremont, IL) here to minister to us this past month. We greatly appreciate their service to us!

We extend our sympathy to our dear Chris and Sis. Peggy Camp at the passing of Sis. Peggy’s mother, Sis. Marie Bauman (Rittman, OH). We pray that they may know the nearness of Jesus in this difficult time and be comforted in Him.

If anyone is coming to the area, we would love to have you worship with us! Our address is: 202 Robinson Road, Peachtree City, GA 30269. However, please call ahead! (Tom Waldbeser 678.416.6586 or Matt Knapp 815.674.1498). For additional information, visit our website at www.ptcacchurch.org.

Haiti, Bonne Fin - Hospital Lumiere
Rick and Komari Aberle

Greetings of Christian love from southern Haiti. We again are disappointed to share that the country we live in continues in the throes of turmoil. Haiti continues to experience nationwide protests, which continue to restrict travel and availability of supplies for the hospital here in Bonne Fin. The population of the country continues to struggle with difficult economic conditions and shortages.

Mid-September brought an orthopedic team to visit the hospital. Despite having a very limited supply of oxygen in the hospital, the team was able to help many patients with treatment through surgery and other services. Since this time, due to the unstable conditions in Haiti, other visiting teams have been canceled.

We ask again for continued prayer for all of Haiti as well as our missionary team here. The team here, along with
HarvestCall and the Hospital Lumiere Governing Board, made the difficult decision in early October to send the majority of the missionary families back to the United States. This difficult step was taken as a precautionary measure. The hospital is in a relatively remote location in relation to major transportation services, and due to that fact, those involved felt it was wise to reduce the potential number of people on site should an evacuation become necessary. Those that departed for an undetermined length of stay in the United States are: Bro. Lucas and Sis. Raya Nussbaum and family, Bro. Danny and Sis. Sarah Bertsch and family, Sis. Laura Herrmann and family, and Sis. Komari Aberle and family. Those remaining at the hospital are Sis. Carrie Stoller, Bro. Brett Herrmann and Bro. Rick Aberle. We expect that in the future weeks, others stateside will rotate back to give those still in country an opportunity to reunite with their families.

This is a difficult and challenging time as families are separated. For missionaries living cross-culturally, their place of service becomes their home very quickly. It is physically and emotionally taxing to uproot a family and attempt to find a stable family environment in a place that, while familiar in many ways, is no longer “home”. We trust God’s grace and provision in this time.

**Haiti, Les Cayes**

**Mike & Susie Walder**

Greetings from Haiti, where we are experiencing God’s peace, protection, and provision day to day amid trying circumstances. Since early September, political demonstrations have become more violent and destructive throughout the country. Fuel is rarely sold in gas stations. The price of almost everything has increased dramatically. People are cautious about going out, and banks and businesses are often closed, depending on the day’s protest activities. Schools were only open for a short time in September, and since they were not safe to operate, most have discontinued classes indefinitely.

Our containers that bring supplies and ministry items are not able to come across the country with the level of robbery and roadblocks on the highways.

Several missionary families, including ours, have already returned to the U.S. with HarvestCall’s encouragement and support. We are thankful for the prayers and support we have felt from so many. It is very unsettling to temporarily relocate when there is no idea of return dates or ability to make future plans. For sure, God’s plan is always the best, so we continue to trust in Him.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.” Proverbs 3:5-6.

**Illinois, Belvidere**

**Amy Hanson, Dean Steffen**

“The time flies on and death draws nigh, unite us Lord with thee on high, prepare us how to live with thee forever in eternity.”

Zion’s Harp #188

The summer has flown by also, we’ll leave it at that and carry on with the news. Our congregation has been blessed with two babies! Bro. Jordan and Sis. Shayla Steffen, Adler and Elim, have been blessed with Emery Elaiah Salome. Grandparents are Bro. Dean and Sis. Carol Steffen and Bro. Dean and Sis. Wanda Messner. Bro. Grant and Sis. Emily Anliker rejoice to be given Roland Grant. Grandparents are Bro. Brian and Sis. Peg Anliker and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Camille Hartzler who also came to visit the little guy and ministered to our congregation.

Bro. Curt Wettstein led a topical Bible Study on Doubt in late May.

In June, Bro. Troy and Sis. Ellie Steffen, along with Cyrus, Bryer and Rowan, moved to Colorado. They are supporting the Denver church.

Our Elder Bro. Duane Rocke read the memorandum on June 16. We appreciate his untiring efforts.

Vacation Bible School went well with the lower grades one week. The following week the upper grades, along with the rest of the congregation were able to hear of “Paradise Lost and Paradise Found.” Bro. Dwayne Dill (Minneapolis, MN) and
Bro. Dan Stoller (Remington, IN) spoke to us. It was very good to hear of the fall and rising of mankind. Also in June, our upper grades, along with many others from our congregation, joined together for our own local mission project helping an elderly woman in southern WI by building her a ramp, cleaning up the yard and house and helping find new homes for her many collected animals (horses, dogs, cats, chickens).

Bro. Dean Steffen has felt it necessary to take a leave of absence from the pulpit ministry due to illness. He appreciates your love and prayers. In his absence, the other brothers have had good support by visiting: Bro. Kurt Frank (Sis. Lila, LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA), Bro. Fred Deitz (Sis. Sherry, Elgin, IL), Bro. Jonathon Hodel (Sis. Megan, Roanoke, IL), and Bro. Ryan Hoerr (Sis. Joy, Princeville, IL). Bro. Rich Hanson presented a topical Bible Study on Salt & Light in July.

Bro. Curt and Sis. Larissa Wettstein, along with Isabella, Brodie, Ebony and Adalee, moved southward to central Illinois. We were sorry to see the two families move this summer, but are glad for those who reach them.

On a happier note, we had a wonderful time at the Sunday School/All-Church Picnic at Dave and Sis. Sheila McCoy’s in August.

Lastly, Bro. Art and Sis. Marlene Mueller hosted a slideshow and reunion of those who visited Israel earlier in the year. We were blessed with many visitors that weekend. Among them were Bro. James Fehr (Sis. Brenda) and Bro. Doug Moser who ministered to us. We’ve had numerous visitors this past summer and much precious fellowship.

“We know that we have passed from death unto life because we love the brethren.” John 3:14.

That is the first part of the verse which is encouraging, the latter part (not written) is sobering. It’s a good checkup verse to see how we’re doing. We have the Great Physician to diagnose and to prescribe the cure. Let’s go to Him!

Illinois, Bloomington-Normal

Wendy Zimmerman, Sara Anliker

“And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.” Jeremiah 3:15

October was Pastor Appreciation Month and a reminder for us to pray for, encourage and thank our ministers and their families. They invest so much of their time into studying God’s word and serving us! May God give them wisdom, discernment and courage to shepherd their church families.

We rejoice with Bro. Drew and Sis. Hannah Banwart, along with older sisters, Ember and Iri, on the arrival of Afton Soleil. Grandparents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Donna Banwart of Fairbury and Bro. Denny and Sis. Pam Zimmerman.

In September, we began our all-church Bible Study for the Fall semester entitled “Sharing the Gospel.” Our prayer is to grow in our understanding of the gospel message of salvation so that we may share it with others.

As harvest comes to a close and Thanksgiving approaches, may we remember to be thankful for all that God has blessed us with!

Illinois, Bradford

Becky Endress, Lana Wiegand

“The harvest fields are bending with precious ripened grain; More reapers now are needed ere Christ comes back again. Harvest time! Harvest time! Precious gospel seed is sown…..”
Tabernacle Hymns #71

It is harvest time on the farm and the reapers go forth, whether they reap little or much. It has been a challenging year for our farmers.

The golden harvest of souls reminds us of the real riches. Two of our 2018 high school graduates have repented for sin and vowed to serve the Lord the rest of their lives. Our new Bros. Corbin Endress (Bro. Ben and Sis. Katie) and Gabe Stahl (Bro. Wendell and late Sis. Linda) gave their testimonies and were baptized on September 22. Bro. Gabe’s uncle, Elder Bro. Craig Martin (Sis. Terri, Princeville), assisted with this work.

Thanks go to other visiting ministers who sowed the seed, watered, and helped us weed when they visited our church: Bros. Fred
We pray for Bro. Paul Nenadov (Sis. Marilyn) who is hospitalized in Peoria.

“`The Lord knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be forever.” Psalm 37:18

Illinois, Champaign
Brent Young

We are grateful to both Bros. Chad Leman and Paul Streitmatter, who shared Wednesday evening messages.

As the fall continues, we are enjoying our traditional events of the season, including the annual wiener roast and hayrack ride, hosted by Bro. Dennie & Sis. Cheryl Mangers. This event brings some of our ‘alumni’ back home, including Bro. Scott Mangers, who willingly preached the Sunday morning message.

As most readers will already be aware, our Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart was recently diagnosed with cancer and is now beginning treatment. We echo Bro. Scott’s pulpit prayer from October 13:

“For the uncertainty that lies ahead, we pray that we will cling to Your promises, that we will cling to what this Word says to be true, and what we have discovered in faith. For Bro. Wayne and his family, overwhelm them with Your peace, overwhelm them with Your strength. We love them and say thank You for them. For this church family, we pray for peace, grace, and strength. For daily needs, for the needs of this present moment.”

Note of Thanks:

We would like to thank all who sent cards to us on the occasion of our 60th anniversary. With sincere appreciation, Jerry & Lois Vogel

Illinois, Chicago
Diana Eisenmann

Our Annual Church Visioning Workshop was held in September. It was a blessing to spend a morning together discussing our responsibility of discipleship and how we can continue to grow together and support each other as a church family. In October we had a Women of the Word Moms event as well as our Fall Communion. We thank Bro. Lenny Meyer (Sis. Charlotte) for assisting Elder Bro. Brad with the Communion service.

Thanks to Sis. Luann Eisenmann and Sis. Tiera Wiegand for serving on the Vacation Bible School Committee. Bro. Ryan and Sis. Sarah Eisenmann have agreed to fill the open positions.

Illinois, Cissna Park
Joan Rudin, Amber Stuckel

Fellowship and worship with brethren of like mind and faith is a rich blessing. Fairly large groups from Forrest, IL, and Akron, OH gathered with us on two different weekends. We appreciate many other visitors from various congregations who assembled with us this month, also. Thank you, each one, for coming! Visiting ministers included Bro. Mark Dotterer (Sis. Katie, Eureka, IL), Bro. Brian Palitto (Sis. Lisa, Akron, OH), Bro. David Lanz (Sis. Tami, Mediapolis, IA), and Bro. Bill Wettstein (Heidi, Eureka, IL).

Our local church family (young and old alike) enjoyed a wiener roast and singing at the home of Mark and Sis. Dinah Wilkening. Although the fall weather was a little overcast and rainy that evening, sunshine and love was certainly present in our gathering.

We rejoice with Bro. Trevor Kaeb (Bro. Todd and Sis. Val) and Sis. Amy Beer (Bro. Randy and Sis. Deb, Milford, IN) as they announce their marriage engagement. We welcome Sis. Amy, and pray for God’s blessings in their lives as they become one in the Lord.

Prayers reach out to Bro. Ken Weerts (Sis. Myrna) who has been hospitalized recently.

“`Sunset is Coming, but the Sunrise We’ll See.”

While grieving the loss of loved ones, we realize how close heaven can be, and take comfort from the examples of faithfulness we have witnessed. Our sympathies are extended to the family of Bro. Bill Maul (Sis. Wanda); their children: Jeannie Maul, John (Tresa Bazzell) Maul, Sarah (Justin) Decker, Heidi Maul, Maria (Kurt)
Rademacher, Steven Maul; several grandchildren; and Bill’s mother, Elizabeth Maul, who resides at a local nursing home. When asked about his medical condition, Bro. Bill was consistent about his response, “Pray that the Lord’s will be done.” His peaceful hope of heaven, along with a complete willingness to stay and be used here on earth, if that was God’s will, was a witness to many.

“The angel said my place is ready
In heaven far above,
And that I have to leave behind
All those I dearly love.
But when I walked
through heaven’s gate,
I felt so much at home,
For God looked down,
smiled at me,
And told me, “Welcome Home.”
So when tomorrow
starts without me
Don’t think we’re far apart,
For every time you think of me
I’m right there in your heart.”

Deepest sympathies also go to our Judy (Mrs. Wesley) Knapp in the loss of her mother, 96 year old Mary Louise Reece, formerly of Wellington, IL.

Illinois, Congerville
Mary Knapp, Erica Steffen

“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him.” John 4:23

We have had many wonderful opportunities to fellowship together and worship our Lord in this month. Our Invite-A-Guest was a blessing to all. We especially wish to thank Elder Bro. Mike Leman (Sis. Deb, Denver) and Bro. Neil Stoller (Sis. LuAnn, Princeville) for bringing forth the Living Word that day.

Also visiting this month was Bro. Nathan Walder (Sis. Denise, Cisna Park), Bro. Dennis Rassi (Sis. Diane, Austin/Bastrop), Elder Bro. Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucy, Eureka), Bro. Brad Wiegand (Sis. Deanna, Rockville), and Bro. Jay Knapp (Sis. Lisa, Tuscon). May God bless these brothers for their willingness to serve.

Illinois, Elgin
Amy Gasser

We thank Bro. Brad Gudeman (Sis. Teresa, Bradford), Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago), and Bro. Paul Zimmerman (Sis. Loretta, Forrest) for ministering during the past month.

Our annual “Invite-a-Guest Day” was on Sunday, September 22. We enjoyed having many visitors.

We extend sympathy to those who have lost loved ones recently. Chad Sancriant’s father, Dave Sancriant of Toledo, OH, passed away unexpectedly on September 21. Sis. Leona Steffen (the late Bro. Mel) passed away on October 3 at Fairview Haven in Fairbury. She was the sister-in-law of Bro. John (Sis. Wava) Steffen and Sis. Judy (Bro. Dick) Klopfenstein.

The following church offices have been filled: Bro. Dave Kellenberger has accepted a 6 and 1/2 year term for church trustee. Otto Klein will be finishing out Bro. Bob Schambach’s term for Fellowship Center trustee. Bro. Dave Rinkenberger will be finishing out Bro. Don Heiniger’s term for cemetery trustee. We thank these brothers for their willingness to serve.

Bro. Dick Hartman fell recently and was hospitalized with his injuries. Bro. Howie (Sis. Pat) Schifferer was also a medical patient.


Debbi Blunier, Linda Rocke

It was with great joy that we heard the testimonies of three dear souls and how they’ve repented and become converted into a new life in the Lord. Our new brothers in faith are Bro. Brett Leman (Bro. Scott and Sis. Phyllis), Bro. Aaron Schmidgall (Bro. Mike and Sis. Dianne), and Bro. Burke Wettstein (Bro. Bill and Sis. Heidi). Bro. Trent had the assistance of Elder Bro. Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Mediapolis, IA), Elder Bro. Jeff Grimm (Sis. Ruth, Goodfield, IL), and Elder Bro. Ron Messner (Sis. Pam, Washington, IL).

Other visiting ministers we had this month were Bro. Arlen Leman (Sis. Denise, Forrest, IL), Bro. Brad Funk (Sis. Laura,
Garden Grove, IA), Bro. Don Manz (Sis. Connie, Junction, OH), Bro. Dana Nieman (Sis. Lea, Remington, IN), Bro. Ryan Hoerr (Sis. Joy, Princeville, IL), and Bro. Isaac Wofford (Sis. Rachel, Washington, IL). May God bless each of you for your work in the ministry.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Sis. Holly and Bro. Pete Wettstein in the death of her father, Bro. Mike Hinrichsen (Sis. Gerri) of Goodfield. We pray you will feel God’s comfort in this difficult time and in the years to come.

Sis. Eleanor Baer (Otto, dec.) had been in the hospital and failing, but was able to move back into the Nursing Home. We are thankful for each day that God grants her, especially since she just celebrated her 101st birthday.

Illinois, Fairbury
Trish Steidinger, Kati Meiss

This month the Forrest brethren joined our church family for several services while their church building was being redecorated. We thank Bro. Arlen Leman (Sis. Denise) and Bro. Josh Zimmerman (Sis. Molly) for sharing the Gospel. Joining them were Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer (Sis. Nancy), Bros. Jason Dotterer (Sis. Lynn), and Paul Zimmerman (Sis. Loretta). Then on October 6, Elder Bro. Tony Manz (Sis. Denise, Junction, OH), Bro. Mark Roth (Tammy, Congerville, IL), Bro. Jerry Wagenbach (Sis. Bonnie, Mediapolis, IA) shared the Word. We appreciate all of these brothers as they willingly stand to proclaim the Truth.

We continue to pray for those in our church family who have been surgical patients or are experiencing health struggles. Mary Etta Mullen (Dan) anticipates a trip to Mayo’s for treatment of her cancer that has returned. Robert Kaisner (Cherie) had shoulder surgery. Bro. Donald Broquard (Sis. Ione) injured his eye and needed surgery. We are thankful there are many that have been given the gift of medical knowledge and are willing and able to help. We pray God will restore health as He sees fit.

We also pray for our Sis. Roberta Meyer as she mourns the passing of her brother Ralph. May she feel God’s arms of love around her.

Bro. Kent and Sis. Beth Steidinger have been blessed with a baby girl. Welcoming Kyra Lyn home are brothers Zackary, Tanner, Ryker and Xander. Grandparents are Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen Manz, Junction, OH, and Bro. Martin & Sis. Trish Steidinger.

Illinois, Forrest
Carissa Knapp, Marsha Lanz

“Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.” Romans 6:4

The weekend of October 12-13 were the testimonies and baptisms of Jared and Jenna Stork, Grace Eisenmann, (Bro. Dan and Sis. Abby) and Morgan Lanz (Bro. Troy and Sis. Kathleen). We want to thank Elder Bro. Dan Moser (Sis. Anne, Elgin, IL) for assisting in this work and ministering to us. Also ministering this month were Bro. Matt Steffen (Sis. Deanna, Princeville, IL) and Matt Zimmerman (Sis. Kim, St. Louis, MO).

“Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt, Yonder on Calvary’s mount outpoured, There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt. Grace, grace, God’s grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within; Grace, grace, God’s grace, Grace that is great than all our sin.” Grace Greater Than our Sins, Gospel Hymns #752, vs. 1.

We are so thankful and rejoice with Marcus Aberle who is repenting. May he continue to feel the marvelous grace of our Lord.

Bro. Bryan and Sis. Lisa Aberle welcome home a new son, Milo Andrew. Older siblings are David, Roksana, Oliver, and Willow. Grandparents are Sis. LaVerne Aberle and Bro. Dan and Sis. Kathy Banwart.

Our Sis. Leona Steffen passed away into eternity on October 3. We extend our prayers and sympathy to her siblings, Bro. David Wiegand (Sis. Ethel) and Sis. Virginia Hilti. We want to thank Elder Bro. John Wiegand (Sis. Jane, Silverton, OR) for his labors in the funeral service.
Our sympathy and prayers are with the family of our Sis. Marjorie Stephens, who passed from this life on October 11. May God be the Great Comforter to all during this time of loss.

We are prayerful for Keith Bachman (Sis. Tamra) as he is spending time in the hospital with some serious health issues.

**Note of Thanks:**

We wish to express our thanks for the many cards and other expressions of sympathy since the passing of our dear husband, father, and grandfather. We appreciated it and pray God will bless each one.

The Earl Gerber family

**Illinois, Goodfield**

*Judy Knapp, Amy Hinrichsen*

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

We rejoice with Adam and Kathy Herrmann, as they welcomed little Quill Eileen into their hearts and home on September 13. Her big sisters, Salem and Cedar, are excited to have a new baby sister to love. Quill’s Goodfield grandparents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Jill Wagner. Paternal grandparents are Mark and Tammy Herrmann.

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations.” Matthew 28:19

We are so thankful for those missionaries that go when and where they are called and lift them up in prayer daily. The unrest in Haiti is calling for more diligent prayer for the safety of those that remain in Haiti and for the uncertainty of the situation. Pray for those here in the states that make the decisions regarding the missions in Haiti and those serving there.

“And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up…” James 5:16

As a church family we have several with health concerns. We lift them up to the Father in fervent prayer. Gail Ames had knee replacement surgery. Our Sis. Mae Kelly had a bout with pneumonia. Sis. Loretta Hess is thankful to be back in her own home after a brief stay at the nursing home. I know there are others with concerns that we may not know about, but the prayers of the church can still be effective.

Thank you goes to our Bro. Tom Bolliger (Sis. Jane, Tremont, IL) for spending Sunday, September 22 with us.

“Blessed are they that mourn; for they shall be comforted.” Matt. 5:4

This verse was just covered in the recent conference deliberations and is so fitting for our church family right now as we have said goodbye to a dear brother in faith. Bro. Mike Hinrichsen suffered serious burns in an accident and passed away several days later. He is survived by his dear wife, Sis. Gerri, and nine children: Sis. Teri, Sis. Marti (Bro. Martin) Rumbold, Hans (Franci), Sis. Holly (Bro. Pete) Wettstein, Bro. Fritz (Sis. Amy), Emily (Derek) Vollmer, Sis. Tiffany (Bro. Jesse) Reugsegger, Sis. Allison (Bro. Zach) Sutter, and Bro. Max. He was also blessed to be grandpa to 12 precious grandchildren. Bro. Mike is also survived by 10 siblings, three of which attend our Goodfield church: Sis. Molly (Bro. Noel) Davis, Bro. Chuck (Sis. Brenda), and Sis. Joanne (Bro. Alan) Roth. Our loving prayers extend to them as well. We will continue to wrap our arms of love around this dear family as they navigate the uncharted waters of mourning and finding a new normalcy of life.

**Note of thanks:**

I want to thank you all for the many prayers, visits, and lovely cards that were sent to me during my hospital and nursing home stays and since returning home. May God bless each and every one. Sis. Loretta Hess

**Illinois, Gridley**

*Perry Klopfenstein*

Elder Bro. Marvin Dotterer of Forrest was here for Sunday worship on September 29. Bro. Matt Steffen from Princeville, was here on Wednesday evening, October 9, to speak on “Discipleship Today: Continuing In His Word”. We thank these brothers for their efforts in communicating the truth.

Sis. Cindy Stoller had surgery on her arm/shoulder following a fall. She is now recovering. Kollin Schlipf injured his shoulder in a sports accident at school.

In an effort to better organize the files in my home office, I encountered a Gridley church Silver Lining report, written for the December, 1980 issue, by my...
predecessor as reporter. I thought it was valid and inspirational.

“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved.” Acts 16:31

The very first requirement for any soul who would be part of God’s kingdom is that they believe on His Son whom He has sent. No other good works that may be performed are to any avail if one does not first have faith in Jesus and the sacrifice that He made. This faith, however, can be dead and is not a saving faith if it doesn’t bring forth fruit meet for repentance (Matthew 3:8). The Apostle James stated that even the devils believe in God and tremble, but they do not have a saving faith. The Apostle further stated that faith without works is dead (James 2).

Apparently there are two kinds of belief or faith in Christ. There is a saving faith that moves the heart of man to repentance and conversion. There is also a shallow faith in which one acknowledges the truth, but because of pride and hardness of heart, does not allow it to free him from the bondage of sin.

Faith in Jesus and His atoning work is foremost in our lives. It is this deep and unwavering faith that prompts our beloved ministers and elders to stand up and proclaim the whole counsel of God. They are not content to let us be lulled to sleep spiritually by letting us believe that an unproductive faith is sufficient for salvation. They are steadfast in exhorting us to examine ourselves whether we be in the faith. (2 Corinthians 13:5) Are we unselfish and kind? Are we content to be humble? Do we seek after the things that make for peace? Above all, do we have fervent charity among ourselves? A simple steadfast faith that manifests itself in love and humble obedience is the key to our salvation.”

This salvation description is as valid and truthful today as it was in 1980.

Illinois, Morton

Annette Tanner, Julie Bahr

We thank our visiting ministers who served us this month. Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL) shared God’s word on Wednesday evening October 9.

Our October Family Worship Night was led by Bro. Kaleb Beyer (Sis. Angie, Washington, IL). He spoke on the last topic in our “Gideon” series “The Battle”. Gideon trusted God as he went to battle with the Midianites. In fighting the battles in front of us, we need to follow God’s Battle Plan. Worship -- learn to delight in God. Secure -- rest in His promises when following His commands. Defeat -- remember God accomplishes His work against all odds and through human weakness.

“What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?” Romans 8:31

“Encamped along the hills of light, Ye Christian soldiers rise, And press the battle ere the night Shall veil the glowing skies.

Against the foe in vales below
Let all our strength be hurled;
Faith is the victory we know, that overcomes the world.
Faith is the victory! Faith is the victory! Oh, glorious victory, That overcomes the world.”

Faith Is The Victory, Hymns of Zion/Tabernacle Hymns #412

September 20, our dear Bro. Lester Kaiser went to his reward in Heaven. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Irene, and one son, Denny (Sue) Kaiser, Morton; and four daughters: Carla (Phil) Bock, Bloomington, IL; Jane (Dan) Steffen of Bluffton, IN; Lisa (Bill) Quigley; and Lori (Greg) Daniel both of Morton. We also extend our sympathy to Robin (Allen) Pfanz whose father, Lloyd Johnson of Minnesota, passed away. Also surviving him are his grandsons Josh and Chris who along with their parents worship with us.

We were blessed with two special week ends of testimonies and baptisms. September 18 & 19, Lucas, Isaac and Alyssa Rassi gave their testimonies and were baptized. Their parents are Bro. Andrew and Sis. Sandy Rassi. Elder Bro. Tim Funk (Sis. Deb, Peoria, IL) helped with this holy work. It was special for Bro. Lucas, Bro. Isaac and Sis. Alyssa to have their uncles serve on the pulpit on Sunday. They are Bro. Nathan Rassi (Sis. Michelle, St. Louis, MO), Bro. Nathan Wiegand (Sis. Laura, Goodfield, IL) and Bro. Matthew Rassi (Sis. Bridget, Chicago, IL).
October 12 & 13, we heard how God has worked in the lives of Nicole Leman and Hallie Stoller. Their parents are Bro. Tim and Sis. Beth Leman and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Stacey Stoller. We welcome them as our new sisters in faith. We thank Bro. Brad Metz (Sis. Karen, Bloomington-Normal, IL) for preaching God’s Word on Sunday morning. It was special for Sis. Nicole to have her great-grandma, Sis. Helen Schmidgall, in attendance for her and Sis. Hallie’s testimonies and baptisms. Sis. Helen celebrated her 105th birthday on October 17.

As this is being read, we will be looking forward to celebrating Thanksgiving with our families and friends. May we have thankful hearts not only in this season, but throughout the year.

“Now thank we all our god With heart, and hands and voices, Who wondrous things has done In whom the world rejoices. Who from our mother’s arms Has blest us on our way With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.”

All Come and Thank the Lord!

Zion’s Harp #236

Illinois, Peoria

Crystal Wettstein, Bonnie Bach

“Seeds of goodness we are sowing in the hearts of man today. Bless it Lord that it may prosper, and bear fruit for harvest day.”

Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Washington, IL) brought the message, “The Way of Peace,” on Sunday, October 6. We truly appreciate the wisdom he shared with us by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We wish God’s blessings to all the ministering brothers for all they do for the church!

“Children come the grain to gather, while the morning sun doth shine; and ere long beloved brethren, it will be your harvest time.”

Bro. Jesse and Sis. Erin Rieker have welcomed home a precious baby boy, Creighton James. Grandparents are Bro. James and Sis. Jane Rieker and Bro. Keith and Sis. Jodi Schieler of Morris North, MN. How happy we are to welcome this little one and to include him in our prayers!

“Now the field is ripe for harvest; let us then all garner in; for if we should stand here idle, who would bring the sheaves of grain?”

The autumn season has started and we see harvesting taking place in the fields. The season is bringing many benefits and fundraisers to share the bounty God provides. Some of our activities begin anew after a summer break. How good it is to share and encourage our brethren in things like the all-church cookout on September 29 and a new Bible study we have just begun! We in the United States are blest to be able to freely worship together and share our faith!

“Hasten gladly to the labor. Consecrate to God your heart. Say this day unto your Saviour, “Lord, I’ll gladly do my part.” All quotes above from The Golden Harvest, Hymns of Zion, #46.

Illinois, Princeville

Cherie White, Melinda Christ

“Now the field is ripe for harvest; Let us then all garner in; For if we should stand here idle, Who would bring the Sheaves of grain? He who gathers not at harvest, Will a begger be at last, Therefore rise today and labor, gathering golden sheaves with haste! Hasten gladly to the labor, Consecrate to God your heart, Say this day unto your Savior, “Lord I’ll do my part.” Hymns of Zion #46, Vs. 3-4.

Bro. Braden Streitmatter, son of Bro. David and Sis. Crystal Streitmatter, was engaged to Sis. Lydia Sauder, daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Marie Sauder. May God bless and be near them as they plan a December wedding.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Bro. Jordan and Sis. Cathy Feucht in the passing of her brother Bro. Mike Hinrichsen, Goodfield, IL.

Those spending time in the hospital are Bro. Ray Wagenbach, (Sis. Betty), Sis. Eleanor Baer, and Bro. Robert Scholl (Sis. Arlene).

Jonathan Baurer married Mikayla Cooksey on September 22. He is the son of Phil Baurer (and the late Linda) of Texas and grandson of Sis. Carol Baurer (and the late Bro. Ed) and Bro. Gene and Sis. Kay Siebenthal.

We were privileged to have Bro. Matt Zimmerman (Sis. Kim, St. Louis, MO) and Bro. Brian Waibel (Sis. Wendy, Champaign, IL) preach the word. We welcome them back.
Our annual all-church wiener roast was held at the fellowship hall this year due to rainy weather.

Sis. Eleanor Baer celebrated her 101st birthday in October. May God bless Sis. Eleanor and may her legacy live on.

**Illinois, Roanoke**

**Barb Schwind, Judy Sauder**

“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless His name.” Psalm 100:4

We thank our visiting ministers: Bro. Arlen Leman (Sis. Denise, Forrest, IL), Bro. Joe Klotzle (Sis. Sue, Altadena, CA), Elder Bro. Randy Beer (Sis. Deb, Milford, IN), Bro. Rick Kaisner (Sis. Michelle, Chicago, IL) & Bro. Fred Witzig (Sis. Nancy, Washington, IL).

Bro. Mike (Sis. Geri) Hinrichsen of Goodfield, IL passed away on September 24. He was a brother of our Bro. Mark (Sis. Sue) Hinrichsen.

Sis. Verla Leman passed away October 13. Her survivors include her children: Roger (Barbara) of Morton, IL; Sue (Harlan) Zobrist, Metamora, IL; Bro. Steve (Sis. Shirley) of Roanoke, IL; Rita (Randy) Kneezel, Decatur, IL; Deb (Rick) Lavaux of Washington, IL; & Curt of Roanoke; 13 grandchildren; 22 great-grandchildren; & a sister-in-law, Wilma Stieglitz of Morton, IL. A kind lady with a big smile, Sis. Verla was known for making delicious pies for Rollie’s, the restaurant that she and her husband owned. Our prayers are with the Hinrichsen and Leman families.

“The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness; but of every one that is hasty only to want.” Proverbs 21:5.

Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Megan Hodel explained the process of setting up a budget to us and included various tips to help us be successful in budgeting in Part 2 of the Financial Bible Study at the fellowship hall on September 25.

Bro. Tyler Barth (Bro. Mike & Sis. Joyce) married Sis. Amanda Miller (Bro. Mike & Sis. Carol) of Smithville, OH, on September 29. Sis. Lauren Schroeder (Bro. Duane & Sis. Rachel) married Bro. Cass Schumacher (Bro. David & Sis. Julie) of Washington, IL, on October 13. We rejoice with these couples as they walk together with the Lord!

We want to welcome Sis. Pat Landes formerly of Morton, IL, to our church. She has recently moved to the Country View apartments. She is the mother of our Sis. Barb (Bro. Dave) Schwind.

On October 6, Elder Bro. Frank (Sis. Kathy) Sauder and our other ministers exhorted us on selecting a minister or ministers to serve our church. We are voting to choose a brother or brothers for this position. Elder Bro. Trent Meiss (Sis. Lucille, Eureka, IL) and Elder Bro. Kent Heimer (Sis. Jan, Taylor, MO) are assisting Bro. Frank in this process.

Bro. Brent (Sis. Marge) Hodel gave us an update on the political unrest in Haiti and its effect on our missionaries there.

On October 9, Bro. Nate (Sis. Karel) Hoffman presented information about our nursing home. Several renovations are planned hopefully to be completed in 2020.


The past 4 weeks have been very difficult for our family. On September 19 we found out that Dave has cancer. On September 26, Dave was in a car accident that totaled the car, but he walked away with a strained ligament in his hand. The following Thursday we found out the cancer was Stage 4, and on Thursday October 3 he began chemo. We are still working on processing all of this. What does the Lord want us to learn from this? One thing for sure--the number of our days are in His hands. Whether it is a car accident or a devastating illness, God is in control. It is within His power to take or give life. He is the Great Physician. We pray for healing. We pray for strength and peace for the journey. We pray for rest, ability to eat, freedom from pain, help with symptoms of disease or chemo treatment. He encourages us to come to Him with our requests in prayer with thanksgiving (Phil. 4:6); and so we come, but we know that we have to leave those
requests in His hands for Him to respond according to His will. The challenge is to leave the burden with the Lord and not pick it up again, find joy in the journey, and to live in the moment, not in the future. How thankful that we can lean on Christ’s strength (Phil. 4:13) and not our own! Thank you for praying for us!

“Pray, pray tho’ your eyes grow dim,
Go with your troubles straight to Him;
Pray, pray for God understands;
Have faith leaving all in His dear hands.”

Tabernacle Hymns #40 - “Pray, Pray” lyrics by Charles H. Gabriel

**Illinois, Tremont**

**Debbie Aberle, Anita Koch**

“Trust the fact that God is good. Before every miracle is a problem, we just don’t know how God will work. Jesus is always in control, and His commandments are for our good. Our obedience to Him is worth it!” These were reminders given to us by Bro. Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor, MO.)

We extend our best wishes for many joyful years to Cameron and Shelby Ehnle who became united as one. Rejoicing with them are parents Darrell and Brenda Ehnle, and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Marla Rose.

We are thankful that Sis. Rachel Sauder (Bro. Jim) had a successful surgery and is recuperating at home. Our thoughts and prayers have also been with Libby Mathers as she has been hospitalized.

“At Home ‘tis Well! When this short life is o’er, New life will bloom for us and never wither.”

Zion’s Harp #170.

Bro. Elmer Kaeb has overcome all the pains of pilgrim life. We extend our sympathy to his family: Bro. David (Sis. Barb), Dennis (Shelly, Morton, IL), Bro. Virgil (Sis. Suellen, Sarasota, FL) and Bro. Timm (Sis. Sandra, Sarasota, FL)

As a congregation, we have sought God’s direction, and He has provided. Ordained Deacon Bro. James Fehr (Sis. Brenda) has been selected to be our next elder, and will be interviewed in March.

We have appreciated the help of Bros. Ted Witzig, Sr. (Morton, IL), Ron Messner (Washington, IL), and Trent Meiss (Eureka, IL) in this work. May God give us submissive hearts to support this, and help us to prepare our hearts to be under new leadership.

“I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and known of mine.” John 10:14.

Bro. Trent asked us “Are we listening to the voice of Jesus, the Shepherd?” May that be our personal hope and desire.

We welcome as our new brothers and sisters in Christ: Alexander Koch (Bro. Nathan & Sis. Sandi), Katie Schaefer (Bro. Kevin & Sis. Tammy), Rachel Koch (Bro. Nelson & Sis. Mary), and Jerey Harper (grandson of Bro. Alvin & Sis. Carol Beutel). Elder Bro. Craig Martin (Sis. Terri, Princeville, IL) assisted Bro. Steve and Bro. James in leading the testimonies. We also appreciated having Bro. Barry Dietz (Sis. Rachel, Bradford, IL) and Bro. Fred Dietz (Sis. Shaena, Elgin, IL) minister to us.

Sis. Debbie Aberle is thankful to welcome and love another granddaughter, Lennox Jo, born to Royce and Kirstin Aberle. Loren, Liam and Lucas are excited about their little sister.

**Illinois, Washington**

**Lily Pfaffmann, Michelle Braker**

We pray for comfort for the family of Sis. Vicki Bucher (Bro. Steve) whose mother, Sis. Ida Aschliman (Bluffton) passed away.

We were also reminded of the rest and peace in heaven with Jesus as we learned of the death of Phil McVitty. Phil attended Washington Church for many years. In spite of his many struggles and trials, we were reminded of God’s unfailing compassion, forgiveness, and mercy.

Abram Sauder (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Chelby Sauder) had heart surgery this month. We are thankful that it went well. Continue to pray for a quick and smooth recovery.

We rejoice with Bro. Cass Schumacher (Bro. Dave and Sis. Julie, Washington, IL) and Sis. Lauren Schroeder (Bro. Duane and Sis. Rachel, Roanoke, IL) as they were married this month.

**Indiana, Bluffton**

**Suzie Fiechter, Olivia Steffen, Liana Reinhard**

“Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the
Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.”
Phil. 1:2-3

Most of us will never be well known or famous, yet we each play an important part in God’s plan. We live much of our lives in support roles, behind the scenes, striving to be faithful in the “small” things. At times it can feel like we really don’t matter very much. Yet that is exactly what Satan wants us to believe. That can be the first step down the path of isolation, where the enemy waits to further discourage and tempt us. He tells us there is more purpose in following our own path, in advancing our own agenda, in making a name for ourselves. These are his lies! The truth is that our purpose is to elevate God, to be a “no-name” here, to have our names in the Book of Life. Our faithfulness can and will inspire those around us, just as the faithfulness of others has encouraged us. Let’s be joyful in the roles God has placed us, and thankful to those who have loved and cared for us! As we show appreciation to each other, love and joy abound!

Our ministering brothers give so much of themselves! We’re thankful for the Spirit speaking through Bros. Jeremy Frauhiger (Sis. Sally, Bluffton North), Scott Wegman (Sis. Dawn, Taylor MO), Chad Huber (Sis. Pam, Francesville, IN), Randy Gudeman (Sis. Becky, Francesville, IN), and Nick Waibel (Sis. Sandra, Francesville, IN).

God has called Bro. David Putt (Bro. Mike and Sis. Donna, Francesville, IN), and Sis. Sierra Steffen (Bro. Ed and Sis. Denise) to serve Him together. We rejoice with them and pray they will bless the Tayor, MO church as they make their first home there. Bro. Brandon Kaehr (Bro. Brent and Sis. Allison) and Sis. Katelyn Pfister (Bro. Rich and Sis. Amber) have also been united as one. Curt Reinhard (Bro. Larry and Sis. Deb) was married to Lucinda Rush (Steve and Kelli). We wish these couples God’s grace and blessing!

Bro. Matt, Sis. Olivia and Remi Kaehr welcomed Boden Matthew into their family.


Our love and prayers continue to surround those with health challenges, including Bro. Clarren Gehring (Sis. Joyce) and Sis. Barb Pfister (Bro. Tom, dec.).

God has called Sis. Mabel Heyerly Moser home. Her daughter is Sue Yergler (Kim) of Bluffton. Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue Harris mourn the death of their son, Bruce. He will also be missed by his brother, Bro. Andrew Harris (Sis. Katy) and sister, Sis. Beth Stoller (Bro. Adam) and many nieces and nephews. Alan Bedwell, brother of Bro. Bruce Bedwell (Sis. Nancy) has passed into eternity. We pray each of these families will continue to feel the arms of our loving Father around them as they face the future without their loved one.

We thank our Remington congregation for their love and hospitality in hosting Jr-High ACYF. Serving one another is a wonderful way to express our love! We have abounded in that love with a high school fall party, ACTIVE for the 6th– 8th graders, HarvestCall sewing, Sunday School fundraisers, and a missions presentation by Bro. Nick and Sis. Amber Steffen. We are thankful for the opportunities!

Bro. Danny and Sis. Sarah Bertsch are back home after being evacuated from Haiti due to the unrest there. We share their disappointment, as they were just getting settled in their new home, but love fellowshipping with them again for a time.

“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:” Phil. 1:3-6
Indiana, Bluffton North
Tiffani Schladenhauffen,
Rhonda Maller

“And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. John bare witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spake, He that cometh after me is preferred before me: for he was before me. And of his fulness have all we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.” John 1:14-17

Grace indeed and the love of our Heavenly Father have upheld many in our congregation who have suffered illness or loss this past month.

Our prayers uplift Bro. Brett and Sis. Cindy Shorb, who both have had surgery and hospital stays, and Jill Philabaum, who has experienced ongoing health issues. May all three fully recover and be strengthened.

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to Sis. Tundy (Bro. Jadon) Rauch, who received the sad news that her nephew, Joshias, and his wife, Carina (Hungary), lost their 14-month old son, Ruben, in a tragic accident. May the God of all comfort uplift the entire family in His arms of love.

We were blest to add four souls to the church this past month. On September 28 and 29, we heard the testimonies and witnessed the baptism of Deidra Reinhard (Bro. Kent, Sis. Jodi), Mimi Stettner (Bro. Graig, Sis. Corinne), Zane Schaden (Bro. Jeff, Sis. Kim) and Payton Beeks (Bro. John, Sis. Laura). Visiting ministers Bro. George Gal (Sis. Tina, Akron, OH) and Bro. Jeff Waibel (Sis. Margo, Leo, IN) joined us for the occasion and inspired us with their teachings. What a Mighty God we serve.

As we welcome four new members, we also prepare to say good-bye. Bro. Nick and Sis. Amber Steffen are busy preparing to serve away from Bluffton North. Lord willing, this coming spring, they will be moving to Eurasia to serve workers through Clinical Counseling and crisis response.

In other areas of ministry, the combined Bluffton churches served our 11th annual lunch to street fair employees.

The Sunday School keeps busy, as well. The 6-8th graders visited the Remington, IN church for Jr-High ACYF on September 22. On October 12, the seniors hosted their first of two fundraisers for the senior class mission trip to Jamaica in the Spring. They sold delicious chicken and pulled pork dinners. We are so thankful for our students – the future church.

Indiana, Francesville
Jacki Huber

We have had excitement in two families, both with the birth of their first child, and both arriving weeks earlier than expected! Congratulations to Bro. Jonathan and Sis. Jenna Pelsy on the arrival of Preston James. Preston was born on October 9. Preston’s grandparents are Bro. Brian and Sis. Tami Pelt and Bro. Roger and Sis. Lily Pelsy. We also rejoice with Bro. Jesse and Sis. Victoria Wuetrich who welcomed Sage Lola into their family on October 11. Sage’s grandparents are Bro. Roger and Sis. Mary Stoller (Gridley, IL) and Bro. Bruce and Sis. Kathy Wuetrich.

We are thankful for the Lord’s hand in leading the lives of two dear ones together to serve Him. The engagement of Bro. Brandon Putt to Sis. Hailey Luzadder was announced recently. Sis. Hailey’s parents are Brian and Sarah Luzadder. Bro. Brandon’s parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Donna Putt. Bro. David Putt (Bro. Mike and Sis. Donna) and Sis. Sierra Steffen (Bro. Ed and Sis. Denise, Bluffton, IN) were united in marriage on September 22. We pray for God’s blessings and continued guidance as David and Sierra serve Him together!

It is a blessing to enjoy the fellowship of those who come to visit us. We are thankful for the recent visits of ministering Bros. Dan Leman (Sis. Tess, Denver, CO) and Andy Kaufmann (Sis. Marie, Bloomington, IL), who both came to visit family.

Our dear Sis. Sandee (Huber) Price (Sarasota, FL) is “safe in the arms of Jesus”, and will be dearly missed. We extend loving sympathy to her family!

On a recent Saturday, the Bible Class hosted a pancake breakfast for anyone in the community to enjoy. It is always
a nice time to fellowship and to support the Bible Class. May God bless all that is done for Him, that all will have eternal value!

**Indiana, Indianapolis**

*Kaylin Bollier, Edie Bollier*

We have enjoyed some exceptionally beautiful weather this fall! As the seasons change, it reminds us of God’s faithfulness.

“While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.”

*Genesis 8:22*

Elder Bro. John Lehman (Sis. Carol, Bern, KS) visited and brought the Word while visiting family.

We were thankful to all those who helped with our Fall Outreach again this past weekend. One of the projects was visiting the Women’s Prison. We were blessed to then have Lemuel Vega of Christmas Behind Bars share his testimony that evening. We are thankful for how God is using his life to reach many people for Christ. He encouraged us all to reach out and serve others and share Christ wherever we are!

We continue to be challenged by our weekly study of the gospel of Luke.

Our prayers are with our dear Elder Bro. Wayne Banwart as he battles cancer. He faithfully served our church as our elder for many years and made many trips to Indianapolis.

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**Indiana, Leo**

*Jan Beer*

The weekend of October 12 and 13, we had the privilege of hearing testimonies and viewing baptisms of three dear young people: Bro. Josiah Kaeb (Bro. Chad and Sis. Kristy), Sis. Kate Laukhuf (Bro. Mick and Sis. Lisa) and Sis. Kinsey Donaghy (Bro. Ryan and Sis. Bethany). Kate’s uncle, Bro. John Jackson (Sis. Peggy, Bay City, MI) helped our Bro. Lynn and Bro. Jeff with this important work. Also on the pulpit were Kate’s grandpa, Bro. Bill Waibel (Sis. Carol, Bay City, MI) and her great-uncle, Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane, Bluffton North, IN). It is extremely encouraging to hear young people express their desire to live as an Ambassador for Christ and to want to use their God-given talents to benefit the Body of Believers.

To show our love and appreciation to our local ministers and their wives, we gathered as a church family at the Fellowship Center for a dinner and time of fellowship on Sunday evening, October 6. Our gratitude and devotion is to Elder Bro. Lynn and Sis. Leonda Stieglitz, Ordained Deacon Bro. Jeff and Sis. Margo Waibel, Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane Stieglitz, Bro. Brace and Sis. Brenda Wieland, Bro. Tim and Sis. Christa Wiegand, Bro. Brian and Sis. Mackenzie Wenninger and Bro. Jason and Sis. Joy Huber. May the Truth continue to be spoken from our pulpit.

With great joy, the engagement was made known of our Sis. Charity Fischer and Bro. Adrian Rocke, Minneapolis, MN. Their parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Leanne Fischer of Leo and Elder Bro. Duane and Sis. Bonnie Rocke of Minneapolis. As they make plans for their wedding and life together, we wish them God’s guidance. As is often the case in our denomination, Adrian has relatives in Leo. His mother is a sister to our Sis. Julie (Bro. Mark) Maibach, so his cousins are Sisters Miranda and Rachel and Bros. Luke and Reed Maibach!

Our dear Sis. Ruth Garman has fallen and broken her hip. She had a successful surgery and is now recovering in a rehab facility in Auburn, IN. Ruth has experienced the loss of her husband, grandson and daughter in the last eighteen months, but is an inspiration to us with her cheerful attitude and her steadfast faith in God. She appreciates the prayers of her church family. We look forward to the time when she can assemble with us again. Bro. Joe Beer, Sr. had hip replacement surgery and is grateful for a good outcome. We are happy that Sis. Judy Gehring has recovered to the point of attending church services again.

Bro. Jeremy and Sis. Maria Stieglitz were blessed with the birth of Rosie Jane on October 4. She is doted on by her big brothers Jones, Max and Lincoln! Elder Bro. Lynn and Sis. Leonda Stieglitz are her local grandparents. May God bless this little family.
As the Fall weather changes back and forth from glorious, sunny days to rainy, gloomy days, and the trees change from spectacularly colored leaves to bare branches, it is a great reminder that God never changes!

**Indiana, Milford**  
**Heidi Beer, Carol Haab**

We appreciate the willingness of Bro. Joshua Martinez (Sis. Keyna, South Bend, IN) to share the Word this month. His message was very inspiring. May God continue to guide his ministry.

“I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.”  
**John 12:46**

With thankful hearts, we rejoice with Micah Lehman (Bro. Dean & Sis. Mary) as he has turned from the darkness of this world and begun his repentance. May he feel our prayerful support as he builds a firm foundation on our Lord Jesus Christ.

Believing in God’s perfect plan for their lives, the engagement of Sis. Amy Beer (Elder Bro. Randy & Sis. Deb) to Bro. Trevor Kaeb (Bro. Todd & Sis. Val, Cissna Park, IL) was announced. We wish them many blessings as they plan their February 23, 2020 wedding.

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Bro. Phil & Sis. Jane Price and their family as they say farewell to her mother, Sis. Emma Knapp of Morton, IL. Our hearts also go out to the family of Martin Stookey who passed away recently.

“I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.”  
**John 14:18**

**Indiana, Remington**  
**Jenni Honegger, Marcella Tyler**

We had several visiting ministers this past month. Many thanks go to Bro. Jason Dotterer (Sis. Lynn, Forrest, IL), Bro. Josh Zimmerman (Sis. Molly, Forrest, IL), Bro. Michael Schneider (Sis. Jody, Junction, OH), and Bro. Ryan Schock (Sis. Melanie, Bloomfield, IA) for their support and encouragement and willingness to serve!

Please pray for Bro. Elmer Bahler (Sis. Marilyn) as he has had surgery this month. We hope he recovers swiftly and feels God’s comfort during his time of healing.

Our Sunday School classes hosted Junior High ACYF this past month. It was an energy-filled church that Sunday as we were full of Indiana’s junior high school students. What a blessing! Many thanks go to all who participated and to all who worked to make the weekend a success!

Our 3rd through 12th grade Sunday School classes recently took a day trip to Turkey Run State Park for games, hiking, and fellowship. It is always a day that is looked forward to with anticipation! Thanks go to all who contributed time and effort to make it a blessed day for our students.

Next month it will be Thanksgiving time and how these fall days have flown by so far! Let’s remember to count God’s many blessings no matter what the time of year, but especially now as we anticipate the holiday season.

**Indiana, South Bend**  
**Joshua Martinez**

“All Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”  
**Acts 2:38**

On the weekend of September 28-29, we were blessed to hear the testimony of a young soul, Ava Kupferschmid (Bro. Garrett and Sis. Bethany), followed by her baptism the next day! We thank Elder Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN) for his assistance during the weekend. Joining us for this special time were visitors from near and far, including Bro. Mark Klaus (Sis. Rebecca, Athens, AL) who preached the Good News.

On October 12-13, we had another victory celebration! On Saturday evening, we commemorated Bro. Bob and Sis. Sue Beebe’s ministry of more than forty years with a church family meal followed by a singing. The next day was Bro. Bob’s last “official” sermon. May the Lord bless this dear couple, whom we love and appreciate, for their “good and faithful” service. We will lift them up in prayer, as God reveals to them the next steps in their ministry.

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.”  
**1 Cor. 2:9**
India, Valparaiso  
Sherry Meiss  

The verse for the month is: 1 Peter 3:15, “But sanctify the Lord in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness & fear.”

Our thanks go out to the visiting ministers. Bro. Steve Stiegitz (Sis. Jane, Leo, IN) brought company with them. Bro. Greg Rassi (Sis. Carla, Chicago, IL) came so our Bro. Jon & Sis. Sharon Pratt could attend Jon’s brother’s wedding. Bro. Nate Steffen (Sis. Susan, Alto, MI) was part of our Harvest program.

It was such a joy to have Bro. Kyle, Sis. Lindsey & baby Murphy Isch bring visitors with them and serve lunch. They have blessed our congregation in many ways.

The annual church picnic originally was planned to be at Butterfly Park in Valparaiso, but the weather did not cooperate. So, it was moved to the fellowship hall which is downstairs in our church building. Of course there was plenty food and good fellowship for all.

We had our Harvest dinner on October 13 with a special program. The Matt Drayer family from Wolcott, IN was the singing group. Many thanks go to all who helped plan, participate, and assist in bringing this wonderful time together.

Bible study has continued with the study of evangelism. This is a very encouraging time, reviewing ways for us to speak to each other of how Jesus has saved us.

Indiana, West Lafayette  
Libby Wahl  

This fall some of our church family stepped up to assist Habitat for Humanity with a new residential construction project. It is a charitable work taking time from already full schedules to share carpentry skills and meals to support local community needs.

Bro. Neal and Sis. Kris Widmer have safely returned from another ongoing connection with family in Jamaica. This trip they were accompanied by Kris’s sister, Sis. Arlene Metzger, and their 94 yr. old mother, Sis. Fern Leman, both of Francesville, IN. That’s an impressive age for a mission trip.

The Livonia (Detroit) Choir energized our hearts with great, choral music October 5 & 6. It was a good weekend of hospitality and cheer with a couple of their ministering Bros. Randy Gasser (Sis. Sue) and Jesse Bedolla (Sis. Bonnie) sharing our pulpit. They all were so appreciated.

Thank you, Bro. Chad Gerber (Sis. Jami, Bluffton, IN), for your willingness to minister midweek in support of our college youth. Heather Furrer, who has been a believer in Jesus Christ for some time, has expressed her desire to become a member of our church. Heather is the wife of our recent convert, Mark Furrer. Mark and Emily Gutwein, likewise committed believers who have been worshipping with us, have also expressed their desire for membership in our fellowship. We are blessed to have them.

“There are many who preach Christ but not many who live Christ. My great aim will be to live Christ.” - R.C.Chapman

Indiana, Wolcott  
Luann Gerber, Teresa Earney  

Bro. Jeff and Sis. Heidi Bahler welcomed two new precious grandbabies into their family recently. August James is welcomed into the loving arms of Jake and Emily Tesch and big brother Julian. Navy Annalea is welcomed into the loving arms of Trystn and Sarah Taylor and big brother Knox. We rejoice with all of them!

On October 19, Abbie Bahler (Bro. Jeff and Sis. Heidi) was joined in marriage to Justin Dejong. It was a beautiful fall day.
and a beautiful day for a wedding! We pray their lives will be blessed as they walk hand in hand!

Bro. Gene (Sis. Verna) Lehman had knee surgery and is recuperating. Praise God for His provisions!

Our recent visiting ministers have been Bro. Doyle Frauhiger (Sis. Jane) from Bluffton North, Bro. Jerry (Sis. Linda) Isch from Philadelphia, Bro. Nate Lehman (Sis. Yvonne) from Bloomington and Bro. Harvey (Sis. Jennifer) Kuenzi from Silverton, OR. We sincerely thank these brothers for letting the Lord use them while they were here!

Iowa Burlington
Marilyn Anderson, Elaine Eisenmann

Many of our church family enjoyed our annual picnic at Starr’s Cave on September 22. We were glad for nice enough weather to be outside, but also the privilege to visit the museum upstairs this year. The single sisters and brothers of Burlington and Mediapolis once again fixed and served a delicious meal to those of us who are age 70+ on September 29. We greatly appreciate it and also enjoyed the singing that followed.

Our visiting minister this month was Bro. Dale Frank (Sis. Tina, Mediapolis). We always welcome their visits!

We recently completed listening to the recordings from this year’s annual conference. Our thanks go to the elder brothers for all they do for us and giving their time.

Iowa, Elgin
Maria Rocke

We were especially encouraged by our many visitors September 21 & 22. It was our annual all-church invite. We enjoyed the time of fellowship very much. Ministers that visited this month include: Bro. Scott Schambach (Sis. Hope, Elgin, IL), Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA), Bro. Curt Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN), Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL) and Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Lonnie, West Bend, IA). May these brothers and their wives be blessed for serving us so willingly.

Our prayers are with Sheryl Schroeder as she recovers from surgery. How thankful we can be for the God-given skills of our doctors and nurses.

May this Thanksgiving season find us grateful for all God has given us in this life.

“Whatever God has given,
I’ll trust Him who knows best.
With thankful heart and willing
mind, Let me the blessing find.”

Iowa, Garden Grove
Laura Funk

We have enjoyed and appreciated many visitors this past month. Ministers include: Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Mediapolis, IA), Bro. Dewayne Dill (Sis. Christy, Burlington, IA). We also want to thank Bro. Matt Kaufmann from ACCFS who presented a topical presentation on “One Another” Relationships on a Wednesday evening.

We are happy as Craig and Jacki Amstutz and big brother, Owen, welcome Claire Ensley to their family. Happy local grandparents are Bro. Jon and Sis. Rita Wettstein and Keith and Gail Amstutz.

As we think of the harvest being gathered in from the earthly fields, may a spirit of Thanksgiving well up within us for the spiritual blessings which are ours.

“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” 1 Thess. 5:18
The Gathering
"O Father of the harvest,
Hear this, our thankful prayer,
For all the precious gathering
Of bounty everywhere.
The sown seed has sprouted forth;
The full crop has appeared;
The wheat is garnered, tares cast off, For this, another year.
O Father of the harvest,
Keep us within Thy fold
That we may be the wheat, not
tares, At the gathering of souls.”
-Loise Pinkerton Fritz
Iowa, Iowa City
Diana Butikofer
We recently held our annual business meeting. Bro. Bob (Sis. Barb) Fehr is our new trustee, and Sis. Barb (Bro. Bob) Fehr is on the women’s committee. We thank those who have fulfilled their terms, and those who continue to serve in these and other capacities in our church.

“O give thanks unto the Lord; call upon his name: make known his deeds among the people. Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him: talk ye of all his wondrous works.”
Psalm 105:1-2

This is a great reminder to sing to God not only for ourselves, but so others can hear us.

“Thank ye the Lord!
Give thanks to the Lord,
For He is gracious, His mercy
It endureth evermore.”
Hymns of Zion #245

Iowa, Lester
Audrey Metzger, Kristi Knobloch
“At home, ‘tis well. There shall the pilgrim tarry,
When tired and worn, by sorrow, grief and strife;
In heav’n, when the hard race of earthly life
Is run, the long-borne load no more he’ll carry.” At Home ‘Tis Well, Zion’s Harp #170

On October 11, our Bro. John Gerber (late Sis. Donna) entered into eternity. We will miss his friendly demeanor, but are thankful for him that earthly struggles have ended. Sympathy is extended to his children: Jeff (Shelley, Queen Creek, AZ), Greg (Wanda, Rock Valley, IA), Sheryl Bouwman (Tom, Jr., Rock Rapids, IA), David (Sherryl, Yuma, AZ), and Cindi Blankespoor (Brian, Rock Valley, IA). He is also survived by his siblings: Bro. Robert (Sis. Nancy), Ernest (Danville, IN), Wayne (Mansfield, OH), Pauline Teubel (Dunlap, IL), Bro. William (Sis. Erma), and James (Marleen). Several of his in-laws from our congregation also survive, including Bro. Frank Moser, Sis. Leona Moser, Sis. Mariann Metzger, Sis. Estelle Leuthold and Sis. Janet Wysong, as well as numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews. We remember each one at this time of loss and hope they find comfort in the promises of God.

Just two days later, our Bro. Brad Klostergaard also left this life to claim his victory after a long-fought battle with cancer, during which his miracle was not in a cure or physical healing, but in coming to right relationship with Christ as his Savior. Our prayers and sympathy go out to his beloved wife, Sis. Linda, and their children: Angela Knobloch (Ashton, Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Bryce, Karmen Peters (Casey, Harrisburg, SD), Alison Klostergaard (Sioux Falls, SD), and Morgan Newborg (Jake, Beresford, SD) and six grandchildren. We also want to remember Brad’s extended family, and Linda’s family: Sis. Carolyn Hartzler (Bro. Dale, Rittman, OH), Shirley DeSmet (Robert), Sis. Donna Barber (Mike), and Sis. Chalea Knobloch (late Bro. Vern), as well as many nieces and nephews.

Elder Bro. Herb Knochel (Sis. Laurie, Phoenix, AZ) and Elder Bro. Curtis Frank (Sis. Lyla, LaCrosse, IN), along with Bro. Roger Aberle (Sis. LaVonne, Sabetha, KS), were here for pulpit duty for the funeral for Bro. Brad. We thank them for their services there.

Often on our earthly journey we find that “joy here alternates with woe.” We are all thankful that both Bro. Brad & Sis. Linda were able to be present to celebrate, just a few weeks before his passing, the wedding of their daughter, Morgan Klostergaard, to Jake Newborg on September 21. We wish for them God’s blessing on their marriage. We are thankful for the example of devotion this young couple can take from Bro. Brad & Sis. Linda.

Our new facility for HarvestCall activities is nearing
completion. We look forward to soon being able to put it to use to bring glory to God and blessings to the less fortunate.

Wedding vows were exchanged on October 20 between Bro. Garth Fehr (Bro. Byron & Sis. Anita, West Bend, IA) and our Sis. Katrina Gerber (Bro. Monte & Sis. Karla). We congratulate them and wish them God’s blessings as they establish their home in West Bend, where we know Sis. Katrina will be welcomed as a smiling asset to their congregation! Elder Bro. Wayne Grimm (Sis. Rose, West Bend, IA), Bro. Mark Wettstein (Sis. Karen, Lamar, MO), and Bro. Jon Zeller (Sis. Christine, Morton, IL) all assisted on the pulpit on that joyous day, and we thank them.

Other visiting ministers during the past month were: Elder Bro. Duane Rocke (Sis. Bonnie, Minneapolis, MN), Bro. Josh Walder (Sis. Tina, Congerville, IL), Bro. Greg Fehr (Sis. Denise, West Bend, IA), Bro. Damon Knobloch (Sis. Stephanie, Morris North, MN), Bro. Darren Fehr (Sis. Nora, West Bend, IA), Bro. Darin Massner (Sis. Twila, West Bend, IA), Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Mediapolis, IA), and Bro. Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA). We thank all these brothers for their efforts in sharing God’s word and teachings and for their presence and support during special occasions!

Hospitalized this past month were Sis. Gail Hartter (Bro. Jerome), Sis. Pam Bosch (Bro. Tony), and Bro. Tom Metzger (Sis. Debra). We pray for a full and rapid recovery for these dear ones. We know that often there are others battling ailments of the flesh, mind and spirit that don’t require hospitalization, but we trust that God knows and provides for their needs as He sees fit.

**Iowa, Mediapolis**

*Janet Lanz, Tami Lanz*

We are thankful for each new addition to our church family. Lenox Robert Lanz was born September 29 and welcomed into the waiting arms of his parents, Logan and Bay Lanz. Grandparents are Bro. Robby and Sis. Kris Lanz and Bambi and the late Aaron Boysen.

Our hearts are saddened however to say farewell to our Bro. John Wagenbach as he has moved to an apartment in the Apostolic Christian Home in Eureka, IL. His big smile and good sense of humor will be missed. We wish him God’s nearness as he settles into his new home.

We are thankful for our visiting minister this past month. Bro. Phil Schulz (Sis. Kelli, Burlington, IA) was willing to come and be used to share God’s word.

**Iowa, West Bend**

*Karen Schmidt, Jenny Banwart*

We thank visiting ministers: Bro. Matthew Kaisner (Sis. Jodi, Fairbury, IL), Bro. Kent Getz (Sis. Betty, Elgin, IA), and Bro. Jim Butikofer (Sis. Diana, Iowa City, IA) for sharing God’s Word this past month. Bro. Klint Beyer (Sis. Kara, Sabetha, KS) was also with us after giving an informational summary of HarvestCall at the Fellowship Center. We thank Elder Bros. Rod Bajema (Sis. Sue, Lester, IA), Jon Schmidgall (Sis. Julie, Mediapolis, IA, and Lowell Moser (Sis. Karen, Morris, MN) for being here on a Wednesday evening and giving our church some loving encouragement.

Our hospital patients this past month have been Sis. Jackie Mogler and Mitchell Banwart (Bro. Josh & Sis. Lainey). We’re thankful God seems to be providing His healing to them.

Bro. Abram and Sis. Jessica Frank are thankful for the safe, early arrival of their sweet little girl, Brynlee Ann on October 3. Big brothers Keegan, Brody and Cooper are surely loving on her. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Scott & Sis. Elaine Frank (Eureka, IL) and Bro. Mark & Sis. Janet Fehr.

**Japan, Tokyo**

*Anna Inoue, Marie Inoue*

We thank all those who prayed for our safety during the strong winds and heavy rain of Typhoon Hagibis #19. Rail and expressway transportation was not feasible on October 13. It also brought the special blessing of having the Ito family visit our church for the day. The message of Bro. Akihiro (Sis. Carrie) included Luke 6:46-49. The lady sitting beside me told her friend how the words read surely described the strong typhoon the night before.
It was about the second time they had attended a church service. Other visitors were 6 young brethren from our sister churches of Canada, CA, and AZ. How the singing surely warmed the Father’s heart and our hearts. Bro. Peter and Sis. Penny Schroder and sons, Jonah and Jarod, of our Indianapolis, IN assembly were our next visitors. Bro. Peter was our teacher for our afternoon Bible class on the book of Ecclesiastes. His teachings were a blessing for all of us. The boys spent time studying Japanese and learning origami from their cell phones as they made new SS friends.

Our latest visitor was Barbara Brutt, a friend of Sis. Rachel Witzig of Pittsburgh, PA. May the Lord bless each one of the visitors who spent time and effort to visit us, joining us in praising and glorifying our Lord in conversation and song.

Kansas, Kiowa

Millie Frieden, Janice Bahr

So, how does Sunday morning go at your house? Do you get up at the crack of dawn and go outside to view the magnificent handiwork of a brand new Lord’s Day? Do you wearily reach for the alarm clock and hit snooze for another 7 minutes before you have to get up and get breakfast for the family and hurry everyone into their good clothes? Or is your heart filled with joy that finally, after a long 6 days, Sunday is here again! Sunday is synonymous with the Lord’s Day, first day of the week, Church Day. CHURCH!

What exactly does that word imply to you? Church isn’t just one good choice among many. Church, properly understood, is the body of Christ; the gathering of believers in a specific place. And as such, it is a place where we all belong. We are all equally sinful before God and equally in need of a Savior. Church isn’t just a building. Church, properly understood, is the body of Christ; the gathering of believers in a specific place. And as such, it is a place where we all belong. We are all equally sinful before God and equally in need of a Savior.

Church isn’t just a place you go. It’s not a place that you go to feel better about yourself. It’s not entertainment. Its purpose is not to give you ten easy steps to fix your marriage. Church is the gathering of believers to receive what God has come to give in His Son, Jesus. Jesus himself said, “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” Matthew 18:20. When we come together as the body of Christ, the Church, we confess our sins. Then, having confessed our brokenness and need, we hear those great and unfathomable words of forgiveness. We hear that, though our sins are many, and we in no way deserve grace, that God in Jesus has forgiven us. We hear God’s word spoken as Scripture is read. We sing songs and hymns praising and proclaiming what Jesus has done for us. We hear sermons that proclaim the good news of forgiveness in Jesus.

Don’t give up and don’t give in to those outside voices that tell you how much more important sleep, or schoolwork, or meetings, or sports, or anything else may be than Church. Instead, “Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; for he is faithful that promised; And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.” Hebrews 10:23-25.

We are grateful for our dear Elder Bro. John Lehman and his wife, Sis Carol, of Bern who were here for the expounding of the Memorandum and its teachings of application to our everyday lives. We appreciate the time and fellowship that we have with this beloved couple of God.

Kansas, Lamont

Maria Luthi

We have had many special visitors this month with extended
family members, reunions, and other guests. It’s been a blessing to host every one.

Many from the Congerville, IL came to visit on a bus trip. We enjoyed a weekend of fellowship with them. We extend our thanks to visiting ministers Bro. Zach Anderson (Sis. Karla Kaisner) and Bro. Kevin Schrock (Sis. Rachel Stoller) both from Congerville.

Our annual Sunday School picnic was enjoyed by young and old alike with games, hot dogs, smores, and hymn singing. We were blessed to have a group of singles from Bern and Sabetha for worship as well as the picnic that day.

Life seems to be busy and full for everyone. However, looking back over these encouraging times with dear brethren reminds us that it is well worth it to prioritize gathering with other believers.

“Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.” Hebrews 10:25

Kansas, Sabetha
Brenda Nenadov, Leanna Hartter

We are so thankful souls are continuing to answer God’s call to repentance. Our prayers are with Annie Edelman (Bro. Steven and Sis. Kelly), Tucker Grimm (Bro. Kurt and Sis. Hannah) and Amber Strahm (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Sally) as they have sought God’s grace and forgiveness and surrendered their hearts to Him for His guidance for their lives.

Bro. Ted and Sis. Miranda Grimm joyfully welcomed their daughter, Ida Loree, on October 8. Big sister, Ella, is also excited to welcome her, along with grandparents Doug and Jeryl Grimm and Bro. Jeff and Sis. Kim Baumgartner (Bern, KS).

Our Fall Invite-a-Guest was October 12 and 13. We are so appreciative of the visitors that came to share the weekend. We were thankful to have Bro. Mark Schmidgall (Sis. Sally, Mediapolis, IA) minister to us, along with Elder Bro. Randy Kellenberger (Sis. Karen, Kansas City, MO) who was also with us that day.

As we look forward to Thanksgiving, we are so grateful for the bountiful blessings our Father has given us. Let us remember to praise Him and give Him our thanks for all things.

“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.” Psalm 100:4

Kansas, Wichita
Niklaus and Sara Schrader

We appreciate our recent visiting ministers Bro. Brad Strahm (Sis. Michelle, Bern, KS) and Bro. Jay Luthi (Lamont-Gridley, KS) preaching God’s Word and worshiping with us.

Our fall picnic was a great success at Bro. Jeff and Sis. Debbie Frieden’s property, near Howard, KS. It was a fun time of worship, food, four wheeling, and games.

We have enjoyed having Bro. Eric and Sis. Katy Frantz and family from the Kansas City congregation joining us in fellowship for the month of October. Bro. Eric has been gaining medical experience working with the Sedgwick County EMS.

Please be prayerful for Bro. Roger and Bertie Reimchisel as they transition from their home to a new residence.

In our new Wednesday night Bible study we have been discussing the single most important question any human should ask, “What is Truth?” The ultimate source of Truth is God. In John 18:37, Jesus stated that He came to testify to the Truth. Through this study we have discussed the importance of God’s perfect Truth in our lives and how it correlates to our Faith. We pray that we can all, with the help of God, live with His perfect Truth as our standard and remember that Faith isn’t a feeling, its a lifestyle.

Mexico, Ixtlán
Ruth Gerber

“At that day shall a man look to his Maker, and his eyes shall have respect to the Holy One of Israel. And he shall not look to the altars, the work of his hands, neither shall respect that which his fingers have made, either the groves, or the images.” Isaiah 17:7-8

This past month we had the privilege of hearing several of our believers share how their eyes were turned to their Maker and away from the altars and the works of their own hands. As a team
from HarvestCall visited with and recorded testimonies of the Ixtlan believers, we were reminded that God’s call is the same in all nations, even though the idols and the works of our hands may look different. We were thankful for the visitors, for the fellowship we could share, and for the faith that unites us.

The Lord continues to draw souls to Himself. We are anticipating hearing the testimony and witnessing the baptism of Gaby Vazquez in November, Lord willing. Also, it was shared that there are two converts ready for baptism in Barra Vieja. They are Matias Angelito (sister to Sis. Kike) and Pablo Angelito (brother of Sis. Kike). What a blessing to have the faith spreading in that extended family.

Michigan, Alto

Renee Steffen, Heidi Kaeb

With joy and thanksgiving we listened to Sis. Marilyn Byam’s testimony and witnessed her baptism in October. Her act of faith and obedience encourages and strengthens all of us as we press for the mark of our high calling. All glory goes to God as He grows His church by calling, saving, and transforming His people.

We are blessed to have Sis. Virginia Rocke from Lacrosse, IN worshipping with us as she pursues a college degree here in Michigan.

Bro. Myron Knobloch (Lester, IA) and Bro. Matt Steffen (Sis. Deanna, Princeville, IL) visited their family here this month and served our congregation by preaching God’s Word. We are thankful for travel and the ability God gives many of us to visit other states so easily.

The annual fall Sunday School picnic was again held at Heidi’s Farmstand. Despite the coolness and some rain, the youth enjoyed the corn maze, activities, and hayrack ride. The heater in the greenhouse was a welcome blessing as we continued our typical talents…eating and talking!

Those undergoing health trials or surgeries are in our prayers: Angie Sixberry (Jason) and Sis. Sandy Steffen (Bro. Ted). May they continue to lean and depend on God who strengthens, sustains and provides.

Michigan, Detroit

Krista Wieland

In my opinion, fall season (my favorite) is WAY too short. I would pick that winter be half as long and fall would make up the rest. Since I wasn’t asked to choose, it is what it is. That’s a lot like life, I guess. Certain things are the way they are. Some things will change, some won’t, some might, and many we have no control over. Prayer is powerful, but just because we don’t get what we think God wants us to have doesn’t mean that God doesn’t care. Looking back on the last 20 years, none of it has gone as “planned”. But is God’s plan better? I would pick His plan any time looking back.

That’s easy to say looking back, right, but what about now? No matter what we are going through, He knows. He is real and Holy and Jesus Christ is our master. He WILL take care of us.

Not to be morbid, but as many have recently experienced, we have absolutely no clue when our life will end. We all have that in common. And really, when we think about it, in the end what matters? Our relationship with God and other people, right? So how is that going for us?

As an aside that fits into this topic, I was disappointed as the census has been low at the hospital where I work, and I again got cancelled tonight which means instead of taking care of patients, which I love and am fairly good at, I was not very nice to my family initially because I was thinking about making dinner. I don’t like cooking and have a history of cooking mistakes.

So I quickly planned a meal -- not gourmet -- but a meal. Then I burned fish sticks (no, scorched fish sticks). They were eaten anyway by my daughter and husband, bless their hearts. I felt bad, but my husband actually said he liked these blackened things better than “normal” fish sticks…? hmmm.? Our laughter as a family that evening mattered more than the blackened fish sticks. We had time together and that is something to treasure. I care about my family.

Back to what do I want to be remembered for when I die? That I cared about people and Jesus and relationships. A work in progress, to be sure.
Ann Marie Mason is recovering after a brief hospital stay. Bro. Ernie Weigele also had a brief stay in the hospital as a surgical patient, but we are thankful he is now home recovering.

Bro. Joe Ramseyer passed away. Our support and prayers are extended to his wife, Sis. Dort and to Bro. Mark and Sis. Kelly Ramseyer and the entire family. We thoroughly enjoyed having Bro. Joe as part of our church family for the last few years. He will be missed.

As a church family, we share our love, sympathy and prayers with the family of Bro. Mark and Sis. Kelly Ramseyer in the passing of Sis. Kelly’s father, Bro. Chris Lee Wuethrich (Sis. Ruth) from Francesville.

We thank Bro. Neil Ramseyer and his wife, Sis. Sharon, who came along with Sis. Vicki Ramseyer and Bro. Darrell and Sis. Sue Steffen from Bay City to minister on a Tuesday evening to the residents at Woodhaven. Their efforts are most appreciated.

Our choir enjoyed a recent visit to the West Lafayette congregation. They were very welcoming. It was a wonderful weekend of worship and fellowship!

We rejoice with Sis. Haley Knochel in her engagement to Bro. Gabe Streitmatter from Sarasota, FL. We are thankful for both of them and wish them God’s continued nearness and direction in their life together.

**Minnesota, Minneapolis**

**Brenda Messner, Renee Messner**

We wish you love and greetings from Minneapolis. A sign by a little country church said it well, “Autumn is God’s coloring book”. As we traveled to our church to worship and give our Lord and Creator the praise and glory due, we were blessed at the beauty of the fall colors around us!

“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted.” Ecclesiastes 3:1-2

We witness those stages of life that Solomon wrote about. Bro. Kent and Sis. Mary Mogler are anxious to meet their new adopted grandson, Miles Theodore. Miles is the son of Braden and Caroline Mogler who now live in Gallup, NM. They waited patiently with loving arms to nurture and care for this little boy miracle! Caroline’s parents are Dr. Rusty and Tina Kovaleski from Panama City, FL.

Sis. Sandy and Craig Bentz are new grandparents as well. Their daughter, Jennifer and Brandon Koppendrayer welcomed Nora on July 24. Big sister Olivia was proud to show her off on a recent Sunday.

Sis. Sandy Bentz’s husband, Craig, is in the hospital recovering from major surgery. Sis. Ethel Bednarski, Sis. Sandy’s grandmother, is in need of our prayers as well. Please keep this dear family close in heart.

On a happier note, we rejoice with Bro. Adrian Rocke (Bro. Duane and Sis. Bonnie) of his recent engagement to Sis. Charity Fischer (Bro. Paul and Sis. Leanne) from Leo, IN. Her name says it all, when you look at Bro. Adrian’s face! We can’t wait to meet her!

More joy-filled news to share is that our dear convert Rose Dill (Bro. Dewayne and Sis. LaRae) expressed peace with God and man. We are thankful for her and look forward to her upcoming baptism.

Then, to come full circle in the joys of life, we must also pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Ashton Stevenson-Peterson and Angela Knobloch, along with their children, A.J., Amirion, Amayah, Adahlia and Anorah will miss their dad and grandfather, Bro. Brad Klostergaard from Beresford, SD. Please keep them, her mom Sis. Linda and all her family in Lester, IA area in your prayers.

Also, our dear Sis. Renee Messner (Todd) had to say goodbye to her beloved earthly mother, Diane Ohlemann, this past month. We rest assured she’s in a better place, with Jesus, in the glory of our Lord and Savior. Finding comfort in the hymn, “When We all Get to Heaven,” our precious God is good through it all!

**Minnesota, Morris**

**Ashley Knobloch, Brianna Wulf**

“Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.” Psalm 127:3
We rejoiced at the birth of Kace Robert, newborn son of Bro. Drew and Sis. Lanna Schmidgall. He was welcomed home by big brothers, Kortlen and River. Thankful grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Kathryn Schmidgall and Bro. Dean and Sis. Linda Meyer (Lester, IA).

We also appreciated the labors of Bro. Jerry Bauman (Sis. Martha, Rittman, OH) on our behalf as he brought forth the Word. How thankful we are for those that bring the Word faithfully week after week! May we never tire of the story of Jesus.

“Tell me the story of Jesus, Write on my heart every word; Tell me the story most precious, Sweetest that ever was heard.”

Tabernacle Hymns #491

Minnesota, Morris North
Kay Feuchtenberger,
Natalie Feuchtenberger

Greetings across the miles.
Sometimes, when there isn’t a lot of news to report, writing these articles can seem pointless. But then, I have to remember the blessing it is to share fellowship and greet brothers, sisters and acquaintances across the land and around the world. What a gift we have in our legacy of fellowship.

We were blessed to have our Elder Bro. Earl Ringger and his wife, Sis. Dixie, (Gridley) here to share the memorandum. We cannot adequately express our gratitude for Bro. Earl’s labor of love on our behalf.

Our church family is digging into a new Bible study on the book of Romans. We look forward to the learning and bonding of our small groups.

We rejoice with Bro. Keith and Sis. Jodi Schieler as they welcome their first grandchild into their family. Little Creighton (Bro. Jesse and Sis. Erin Rieker) surely brings much joy with his arrival.

Our church enjoyed the annual rib feed on a rainy September evening. The weather might have been gloomy, but the fellowship was warm, thanks to our generous hosts!

We extend our love and prayers across the miles and welcome visitors anytime.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Joyce Messner thank you all for all the prayers, cards, and phone calls regarding the passing of their granddaughter.

Missouri, Kansas City
Julie Webel

Fall is here and the leaves are beginning to turn beautiful shades of red, orange and yellow just as our hearts turn fiery red for our Lord Jesus when we think of all He has done for us in our lives and hopefully changed us for the better.

It is this time of year that we have our annual wiener roast in which we had perfect weather and was enjoyed by all! Thanks again to Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen for graciously hosting this event. This past month we witnessed the marriage of Sis. Allison Meyer to Bro. Mitch Manz of Junction, OH. Our hearts are happy to see how God has worked in their lives and brought them together. We wish God’s blessings to them as they become one in Christ.

Thank you visiting ministers this past month which included Bro. Tony Manz (Sis. Denise, Junction, OH), Bro. Gary Sinn (Sis. Paulette, Latty, OH) and Elder Bro. Brad Strahm (Sis. Michelle, Bern, KS). Thanks so much for your service to our KC church.

We want to wish Retired Elder, Bro. Don Braker and his wife, Sis. Eileen, a safe and smooth transition as they move to the Bern, KS church. We all will miss you very much and wonder how we can fill
that empty space where you both have filled for such a long time, including many years of service to the Kansas City church. I think they can expect many visitors in their new home in the Sabetha church apartments.

Missouri, Lamar

Mindy Wettstein

We are thankful that the weekend of October 12 & 13 a potluck group from Bloomfield came down and blessed us by serving us dinner Saturday night and lunch Sunday. Bro. Ryan Schock (Sis. Melanie) shared the Word on Sunday.

Maurine Lanz passed away. We extend our sympathy to her survivors, including children: Greg (Heidi) Lanz, Susan (Don) Cook, Cindy (Jerry) Lack, and Sheri (Bill) Keltner.

Missouri, St. Louis

Victoria Eberhardt

We would like to thank our visiting ministers this month: Bro. Brad Stoller (Sis. Amanda, Eureka, IL) and Bro. Kevin Schrock (Sis. Rachel, Congerville, IL). We are so grateful for their willingness to share God’s Word during their visit.

Our surgical patient this month was Cora Wuethrich (Bro. Landon and Sis. Hannah Wuethrich). We are so thankful for God’s healing hand.

Missouri, Taylor

Lori Marquart

September 22 marked the wedding date of Bro. David Putt and Sis. Sierra Steffen in Bluffton. David is currently a student in Kirksville, MO, so they will make Taylor their temporary home church until at least the end of next semester. Their parents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Donna Putt of Francesville, and Bro. Ed and Sis. Denise Steffen of Bluffton.

Deep grievance is felt at the passing of Bro. Mike Hinrichsen (Sis. Gerri, Goodfield). Sympathy and love is extended to this family, and especially to Sis. Allison Sutter (Bro. Zach, Taylor) who is Bro. Mike’s youngest daughter.

Bro. Andrew Rassi (Sis. Sandy, Morton) spoke to our church on Wednesday, October 2, on the topic of Godly Parenting. Deuteronomy 6:4-9, “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. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children…”

The Taylor Young Group sent an invitation for the weekend of October 5 which blessed our church. About 120 individuals representing at least 35 different Apostolic Christian churches accepted the invitation. Saturday included acts of service for individuals in our church and community. The Sunday afternoon service concluded with them singing three beautiful hymns to our congregation. Although it’s a huge effort on the part of many to provide accommodations for such a crowd, the rewards are immeasurable. Thanks goes to each who came and to those who worked to make it possible.

Welcome Bro. Dave and Paige Steiglitz, Reagan and Taylor! Bro. Dave has accepted employment in Quincy which prompted the move, and Taylor has made the switch to her new school. Paige and Reagan are making a slower transition to enable Reagan to finish his senior year in the Elgin area. Paige’s parents are Bro. Allen and Sis. Rosie Massner. We rejoice with them to have family nearby, and welcome the gifts the Steiglitz family brings to our body of believers in Taylor.

Prayers are requested for Irene Riney who was a hospital patient. “The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust in Him.” Nah. 1:7

New York, Croghan/Naumburg

Karen Farney

Our visitors for this month were the young group from Rockville, CT, who came to serve lunch and fellowship on Sunday September 15. Then on October 6, two couples and two children from Rockville, CT came and served lunch and fellowship. Also a young group from Ohio’s churches came. What a blessing for us to have brethren come to support our church. On the two Saturday evenings, September 14 and October 5, Bro. John Farney opened his cabin, and
had a covered dish meal and singing. It was a blessed evening of fellowship.

“We Are Going Down The Valley”  
Gospel Hymns #798

Sis. Rachel Snyder, 96, passed away September 19. Surviving her are nieces, nephews and great nieces and great nephews. She served her Lord faithfully for 80 years.

Bro. Fred Ebersol, 94, passed away September 27. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Barb, a daughter and son-in-law; Linda (Ralph) Bush, four grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; one brother and three sisters.

We thank ministering Bro. Mark Hoffman (Sis. Luella, Clarendon, VT) for being with us for both funerals, and to help assist in the services.

I forgot to mention in last month’s news that Bro. Mark and Sis. Luella were also here for Bro. Bradley Herzig’s funeral, and helped assist in the services.

We appreciate all the support that we receive from our neighboring churches, assisting in ministering, helping with song leading, and preparing the meals.

Ohio, Akron
Joelle Indermuhle

We are thankful for the miracle of new births to report over the past month. Sis. Donna Dotterer has a new granddaughter, Mara Jade, born to Brandon and Deanna Bevier on September 27. Her siblings are Aayla and Owen. Bro. Marvin and Sis. Carol Indermuhle are thankful to have two grandchildren arrive this month. Joshua Glen was born to Bro. Christopher and Sis. Joelle Indermuhle on October 1, joining big brother Titus. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Lois Maibach (Rittman). Matthew and Rachael Steiner welcomed Anna Josephine on October 5. Her older siblings are Miriam, Caleb, Abigail, and Naomi.

Visiting ministers were Bro. Jonathan Pratt (Sis. Sharon, Valparaiso, IN) and Bro. Tim Ramsier (Sis. Joni, Rittman). We’re thankful for their willingness to share God’s Word.

Our thoughts are with Bro. Roger and Sis. Judy Gal as Sis. Judy’s brother, Emil Ordog, passed away this month.

Ohio, Columbus
Nancy Banks

Our small congregation was blessed this month with many visitors traveling during the fall months. We are thankful for the visiting ministers who shared from the pulpit: Elder Bro. Mark Masters (Sis. Jeannine, Mansfield, OH), Bro. Gary Maibach (Sis. Mary Ann, Smithville, OH), Bro. Justin Koch (Sis. Marcia, Washington, IL), Bro. Neil Stoller (Sis. Luann, Princeville, IL), Bro. Matt Manz (Sis. Deanna, Toledo, OH) and Bro. Dana Nieman (Sis. Lea, Remington, IN). We appreciate these ministers and their families for their willingness to serve.

Work has begun on remodeling the Sunday School rooms in the basement of the church. We look forward to the finished project!

We thank the Lord for the return of our dear Sis. Cheryl Gehres and Jennifer Curry who were able to return to church for the first time in a few months. May they continue to gain strength during their recovery process.

Ohio, Junction
Elizabeth Manz

We rejoice with Bro. Mitch Manz (Bro. Les and Sis. Karen) and Sis. Allison Meyer (DeVere Meyer and Sis. Michelle Meyer) as they were united in marriage on September 22 in Kansas City, MO. May God bless and continue to direct them as they begin their lives together! We will miss Bro. Mitch as they plan to live in the Kansas City area, but trust and know that he will be an asset to their church.

We were richly blessed the weekend of October 12 and 13 to hear the testimonies and witness the baptisms of our new Bro. Ashton Manz (Bro. Chris and Sis. Erica), and Bro. Evan and Sis. Miranda Schlatter. Elder Bro. Greg Lehman (Sis. Mary Beth, Wolcott, IN) came to assist in the work.

We had several other visiting ministers for the baptism weekend. They were Bro. Todd Sinn (Sis. Janet, Latty OH), Bro. David Maibach (Sis. Larisa, Smithville, OH) and Bro. Brian Wenninger (Sis. Mackenzie, Leo, IN). Bro.
Regg Beer (Sis. Bev, Milford, IN), Bro. Matt Manz (Sis. Deanna, Toledo, OH) and Bro. Trent Gasser (Sis. Molly, Akron, OH) were also with us this month. We thank each of these brothers for their part in sharing the Word.

Bro. Ralph and Sis. Sheila Schlatter are thankful for the safe arrival of a new grandson, Jackson David, born to Adam and Renae Snyder (Paulding, OH) on October 12.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Gwen Manz were blessed with another granddaughter, Kyra Lyn, born to Bro. Kent and Sis. Beth Steidinger (Fairbury, IL) on October 17. May both of these families be blessed with wisdom as they raise their children.

I neglected to mention last month that Bro. Roger and Lisa Manz gained a daughter-in-law on September 7 when their son, Henry Manz, was married to Lindsey Mattson. We pray for God’s direction for them as they go forward through life.

Ohio, Latty
Angie Klopfenstein, Carmen Stoller

We are praying for and rejoicing with Sadie Sinn (Bro. Tim and Sis. Marlene) as she has begun her repentance and desires to serve the Lord. May God grant her the needed grace, strength, and mercy each day anew.

Valerie Ruth is lovingly welcomed into the home of Bro. Matt and Sis. Wendy Miller. Happy siblings are Claire, Graham, and Caroline. Grandparents include Bro. Roger and Sis. Kay Miller and Bro. Paul and Sis. Sandra Manz (Junction, OH).

We also rejoice with Terry and Patty Offerle as they have professed to be at peace with God and desire baptism. May God continue to provide for them.

Three young ladies gave a testimony of faith and were baptized the weekend of September 28 and 29. We welcome Sis. Claudia Sinn (Bro. Tim and Sis. Marlene), Sis. Gracie Laukhuf (Bro. Chris and Sis. Rachel), and Sis. Lily Sinn (Bro. Gary and Sis. Paulette) into our fellowship. We appreciate Elder Bro. Randy Beer (Sis. Deb, Milford, IN) for assisting with this important work. Other visiting ministers this month included Bro. Daren Metz (Sis. Rita, Gridley, IL), Bro. Brett Lanz (Sis. Renee, Rittman, OH), Bro. Warren Schlatter (Sis. Cindy, Junction, OH), and Bro. Curt Rassi (Sis. Kathy, Tremont, IL). Thank you for your labors of love on our behalf.

Ohio, Mansfield
Katie Miller

We enjoyed wonderful fellowship during our Invite-a-Friend weekend! Among our visitors were ministers: Bro. Chris Laukhuf (Sis. Rachel, Latty, OH), Bro. Sam Schlatter (Sis. Linda, Junction, OH), Bro. David Maibach (Sis. Larisa, Smithville, OH), and Bro. Adam Uhler (Sis. Ann, Smithville, OH). Thank you to each for serving us from the pulpit.

Many thanks, also, go to Bro. Bryon Palitto (Sis. Lisa, Akron, OH) and Bro. Matt Manz (Sis. Deanna, Toledo, OH) for ministering the Word during their visits this past month.

We have been thinking of Sis. Marilyn Beer who spent time in the hospital. Continue to pray often for our loved ones who cannot assemble to worship due to health circumstances. May each feel God’s comforting presence.

Our congregation listened to the General Brotherhood Conference recordings over the course of a few weeks. It is an encouragement to feel the love of the elder brothers. What a privilege it is to be connected to brethren who, although separated by many miles, share a likeminded desire to more fully live God’s Word!

Ohio, Rittman
Julie Steiner, Maria Beery

“Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Psalm 51:1

We rejoice with our new convert, Tom Leonhard (Sis. Holly), and are thankful that our merciful God continues to call souls to Him.

We were thankful to witness the wedding of Bro. Baylor Hartzler (Bro. Marvin and Sis Sue) to Sis. Isabel Steiner (Bro. Brent and Sis. Andrea). Also united in marriage were Kraig Gasser (Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane) to Liz Conrad. We wish the new
couples God’s blessings as they begin their married lives together.

Bro. Nate and Sis. Anita Steiner finalized the adoption of baby Grayson David and welcome him to join older siblings: Sis. Hannah, Sis. Leah, Cecilia, Clay, Laina, Alex, and Lilyana. Grandparents are Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail Steiner and Bro. Dave and Sis. Connie Maletich (Smithville). Bro. Matt and Sis. Gail also added a granddaughter, Anna Josephine Steiner. Anna will be loved by her parents, Matthew, Jr. and Rachael, and older siblings: Miriam, Caleb, Abigail, and Naomi. Azariah Daniel was born to Buck and Taunia Henry. Older siblings are Samaria, Josiah, Isaiah, Nehemiah, Judaea, Moriah, Elijah, and Alexandria. Joshua Glen arrived safely to Bro. Christopher and Sis. Joelle and big brother, Titus, Indermuhle. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Lois Maibach and Bro. Marvin and Sis. Carol Indermuhle (Akron).

Our sympathy and prayers are with the family of Bro. John Nussbaum (Sis. Cynthia) in the passing of his mother, Elizabeth Arko. We also want to remember Sis. Karen Hartzler, Bro. Matt Steiner (Sis. Gail), Sis. Rozalia Kapler, Doretta Kaufman, and Bro. Stan Winkler (Sis. Margaret) in our prayers as they spent time in the hospital this month. We trust God will be near each one who is dealing with illness or loss.

We want to thank Bro. Chet Manz (Sis. Jenny, Toledo), Bro. Gary Sinn (Sis. Paulette, Latty), Bro. Barry Dietz (Sis. Rachel, Bradford), Bro. John Grimm (Sis. Julie, Columbus), and Bro. Curt Walter (Sis. Elizabeth, Mansfield) for serving us on the pulpit.

Ohio, Sardis

Renee Blough, Doris Miller

“Ho! My comrades, see the signal Waving in the sky! Reinforcements now appearing, Victory is nigh! ‘Hold the fort, for I am coming,’ Jesus signals still, Wave the answer back to Heaven, ‘By Thy grace we will.’” Gospel Hymns #11

Fort Sam Houston comrades blessed us by meeting in Sardis for their annual reunion. Among them were several ministering brothers including Bro. Dave Graf (Sis. Barb, Akron, OH), Bro. Fred Domka (Sis. Connie, Mansfield, OH), Bro. Jon Zeller (Sis. Christine, Morton, IL), Bro. Tom Schambach (Sis. Connie, Elgin, IL), and Bro. Bob Beebe (Sis. Sue, South Bend, IN) who served us on the pulpit. The theme of many of the hymns selected throughout the weekend reminded us that we are soldiers in the army of the Lord, marching toward our heavenly home.

As summer cools to fall it is a good time to gather outdoors, pause, relax, and give thanks for the beauty of God and His creation. Activities many have enjoyed were a father/son campout, campfire singings, and our annual Fall Gathering.

Thank you goes to Bro. Nathan Rassi (Sis. Michelle, St. Louis, MO) for preaching the word during a recent visit.

Ohio Smithville

Connie Maletich, Millie Stoller

As I sit down to write this month’s news, The Children’s song God is so Good is playing through my mind.

God is so good, God is so good, God is so good, He’s so good to me.

He cares for me,…

I’ll do His will,…

He loves me so,…

God answers prayers,…

Children’s Harp #10

He cares for me. Bro. Owen and Sis. Carissa Stoller have felt the care of God and the church family as they have seen the miracles of healing in their son’s life. After his last heart surgery, little Tucker is home and thriving. Also, feeling the care and healing touch of God are Bro. George Schuster (Sis. Carol) and Bro. Rudy Maibach (Sis. Barb).

I’ll do His will. Feeling that it was God’s will, Bro. Tyler Barth and Sis. Amanda Miller were united in holy matrimony. Bro. Tyler is the son of Bro. Mike and Sis. Carol Miller. We wish them God’s richest blessings and welcome Bro. Tyler to Smithville.

He loves me so. Bringing us the good news of God’s love this month were Elder Bro. Frank Sauder (Sis. Kathy, Roanoke, IL), Bro. John Bradle (Sis. Jill, Roanoke, IL), Bro. Matthew Feucht (Sis. Jennifer, Roanoke,
God answers prayers. Bro. Jim and Sis. Karen Widmer’s prayers were answered in the safe arrival of their new grandson, Ryder James. Ryder’s thankful parents are Tim and Jana Yeh.

God is so good, He’s so good to me!

Ohio, Toledo
Rebekah Witzig, Brooke Harmon

After a busy summer, the beauty of fall has arrived in the Toledo area. As we enjoy the magnificent color changes, may we take time to reflect on the awesome God we serve, and give Him thanks and praise for the blessings in our lives!

Ontario, Kitchener
RoseLynn Metzger

“Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.” Psalm 55:22

Greetings from Kitchener! This month, we celebrated Thanksgiving in Canada, which is always a good time to reflect on God’s many blessings. We have the necessities of life, a free country to call home, friends and family, and most importantly, the opportunity to be children of God if we invite Him into our hearts!

This month has brought many visitors, another blessing we are thankful for! On September 21/22, Bro. Jerry Isch (Sis. Linda, Philadelphia, PA) was on the pulpit. We also gathered together for a midweek service on September 25, always a joy! The following weekend, Bro. Vince Pfister (Sis. Brandy, Bluffton, IN) was our visiting minister. On October 6, Bro. Jay Steffen (Sis. Melinda, Congerville, IL) brought the Word to us. We enjoyed a nice dinner out in the evening with them, another blessing we have: the sweet fellowship we have with one another! For the October 13 weekend, Bro. Michael Kaisner (Sis. Melinda, Peoria, IL) served us. Thank you to our visitors, we feel very blessed with your willingness to make the trip!

As we continue into the month ahead, let us not forget the blessings we have been given, but thank God every day!

“In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” 1 Thess. 5:18

Oregon, Silverton
Lorraine Kuenzi, Teresa Sinn

We are excited to share that Katie Sinn (Bro. Tom and Sis. Edith) and Jordanna Folia (Bro. Peter and Sis. Elizabeth) have begun their repentance in the Lord! We pray for Christ’s nearness and a sincere desire to give their lives fully to Him.

September 16, Bro. Jack and Sis. Janet Kuenzi welcomed their first grandbaby, Anderson Neil, born to Justin and Ingrid Kuenzi. Our congregation has been blessed to witness several weddings this last month!

Logan Kuenzi (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Jennifer) and Naomi Martin (Dave and Lorraine) were married September 21.

Bro. Nelson Sinn (Bro. Tom and Sis. Edith) and Sis. Teresa Tribbett (Bro. Mark and Sis. Anne-Marie) were married September 29.

Bro. Myron Kuenzi and Sis. Teresa Knecht (Bro. Ed and Sis. Judy from Eureka, IL) were married October 13.

As each couple begins their journey in the Lord, we pray for His guidance in their marriages and that each individual will seek God first, that ultimately He may be glorified.

Elder Bro. Trent and Sis. Lucy Meiss from Eureka, IL were able
to share in Bro. Myron and Sis. Teresa’s special weekend. We are thankful for his willingness to share the Gospel message.

Ron and Sis. Ginge Lichty continue to struggle with health-related problems. They would appreciate your encouragement and prayers as the future seems uncertain. We are thankful we can trust in the Ultimate Healer and Provider for each one of our specific needs.

Pennsylvania, Philadelphia
Laura Isch

“Ring the bells of heaven! There is joy today, For a soul returning from the wild; See! The Father meets him out upon the way, Welcoming His weary, wandering child. Glory! Glory! How the Angels sing; Glory! Glory! How the loud harps ring! ‘Tis the ransomed army, like a mighty sea, pealing forth the anthem of the free.”

Ring the Bells of Heaven, Tabernacle Hymns, #202, v. 1

We are very thankful to report that two souls have found grace to turn to God in humble repentance. We wish Cami Wiegand (Bro. Ben and Sis. Michelle) and Dave Naffin much grace as they continue to seek the Lord.

Tennessee, Nashville
Mike Fritz

We were thankful for the opportunity to recently share Holy Communion together as a congregation, with Elder Bro. Tom Waldbeser (Sis. Sue; Peachtree City, GA) and Elder Bro. Bill Schlatter (Sis. Emily; Junction, OH) visiting to share with us.

We rejoice to welcome Sebastian Jose Medina, born to Mieke and Jose Medina. Big sister Luna is overjoyed. Grandparents are Bro. Mike and Sis. Monica Fritz and Jose Medina.

In the past month, we were also blessed by the ministry of these visiting ministers: Bro. Michael Wagenbach (Sis. Erica; Wolcott, IN); Bro. Kirk Plattner (Sis. Keri; West Lafayette, IN).

Likewise, we are thankful for the fellowship of visitors from Peachtree City, GA; Peoria, IL; Francesville, Leo, Remington, West Lafayette, and Wolcott, IN; Elgin, IA; and Akron, Junction, Latty, and Rittman, OH.

If you are traveling to or through the Nashville area, please plan to fellowship and worship with us. We meet for worship every Sunday. Please contact us ahead of time to confirm our schedule. Contacts are:

Bro. Mike & Sis. Monica Fritz
Phone: 615.866.5543
Email: fritzmb.family@gmail.com

Bro. Jeff & Sis. Cynde Stoller
Phone: 309.530.5760
Email: cyndelynnstoller@gmail.com

Bro. Jordan & Sis. Emily Fritz
Phone: 615.852.9109
Email: jordanmfritz@gmail.com.

Texas, Austin/Bastrop
Candace Meiss

We send our Love and Greetings from Austin/Bastrop.

“Whispering softly, ‘Wanderer, come! Follow me, I’ll guide thee home’” #220 in the Hymns of Zion was sung at our dear Bro. Mike Hinrichsen’s funeral. “Holy, Spirit, faithful Guide, Ever near the Christian’s side, Gently lead us by the hand, Pilgrims in a desert land.” It is with great sorrow that we bid Bro. Mike farewell. He was such an inspiration to our church in Austin/Bastrop. We will forever be grateful for the many deeds of kindness and love that he and his dear wife, Sis. Gerri, bestowed to all and to our church. They quietly used their gifts in making wonderful improvements in our church and surrounding area. He had plans for more improvements and we are striving to fulfill his vision. May God continue to bless our memories of Bro. Mike as we look forward to special times in Austin/Bastrop with his dear wife, Gerri, and their family.

“Whispering softly, ‘Wanderer, come! Follow me, I’ll guide thee home’”.

We were blessed by guest ministers: Elder Bro. Gerry Hertzel (Sis. Ellen, Sabetha, KS), Elder Bro. Brad Eisenmann (Sis. Cindy, Chicago, IL), Elder Bro. Steve Ringger (Sis. Myra, Bluffton North, IN), Ordained Deacon Bro. Lee Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX), Bro. Dan Koch (Sis. Julie, Tremont, IL) and Bro. Earl Beery (Sis. Suzie, Rittman, OH). Thank you Bro. Earl and Sis.
Suzie for organizing the supper and singing at church during your visit! It was enjoyed by all.

We are so thankful for everyone who attended our first annual Sunday School Picnic! The SS students and many others from the neighboring areas enjoyed play time/games, a wonderful potluck dinner for ~80 people and a SS Program at the park. It was such a blessing to see the entire church family come together and support our SS students. It was especially impressive to see young and old, English-speakers and Spanish-speakers, members and friends, locals and visitors all fellowshipping together. The love of Christ was felt by all.

A baby shower was held for our Sis. Katie and Bro. Santos Lopez at our fellowship hall. It was such a special time to provide gifts and love to them as they will soon welcome their little one. May they continue to feel our love and support during this time of excited preparation. We are thankful that Katie’s parents, Bro. Dan and Sis. Julie Koch, could also attend along with approximately 60 friends.

We bid our Sis. Darcy Steffen farewell this month as she moves back to Belvidere, IL. She will be missed by all. It was a blessing to share a special farewell dinner at the church with her. It was a beautiful evening and the time was precious as we had sweet fellowship outside as the kids played. We were thankful for the coolness of the evening and the peacefulness we felt. We appreciate her special spirit of love and her willingness to help our church in so many ways. The younger SS Class was especially blessed to have her for their SS Teacher this past year. We wish her blessings from above.

We are so thankful for our visitors and encourage everyone passing through to stop and worship with us!

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

Texas, Dallas-Ft. Worth
Sheena Pelsy

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.” James 1:17

With fall now upon us, the days are shorter as the light starts to fade earlier and earlier. But I was reminded of the Light within us! We don’t produce the light because Jesus is the Light. He is the oil in our lamps and we are simply the mirrors that reflect it for all to see. As believers we can rejoice in knowing there is a Light that burns within us that will never fade and a heavenly Father that will never change.

The Dallas church would like to thank visiting ministers Bro. Kevin Banwart (Sis. Sandy, West Bend, IA), Bro. Earl Beery (Sis. Susie Rittman, OH), and Bro. Leland Plattner (Sis. Mary, Zapata, TX) for joining our church services and encouraging us through God’s Word. When Bro. Kevin Banwart was with us, we read from parts of Esther 1 and Romans 11 revealing the common theme of humble submission.

In Esther, we see the queen submit to God’s command and make such an impact on those around her. She trusted in God’s purpose for her even though it wasn’t easy. The same thing can be seen with the Gentiles in Paul’s letter to the Romans. The Gentiles were reminded they were grafted into the family of God just like a wild olive branch can be grafted to an olive tree. But God warns them it wasn’t because of who or what they did, but because of what Jesus had done for them. They were accepted only because of the grace of God and not by their own works. The same goes for us. As children of God, we are grafted into the family when we accept the free gift of salvation. We don’t earn it or deserve it, but God loves us enough to give it to us.

Services are being held every 2nd and 4th Sundays. If you plan to visit or want to call ahead to verify services, call Bro. Adam Graf (330-590-7086).

Texas, Zapata
Mary Plattner

We are now having services again in Zapata as our winter family is returning. It is a blessing to gather in church on Sunday with visitors as well our residents. We have appreciated having Bro. Allan Manz and his wife, Sis. Minnie, from Junction, assemble the past 6 months in South Texas.
We will miss them on their return to Ohio in November.

Anyone wishing to come to South Texas is encouraged to visit us in Zapata.

**Vermont, Clarendon**  
**Nathan Reutter**

Cotton Mather, an eminent and infamous New England Puritan minister, lived from the middle 1600s to the early 1700s. He wrote a firsthand account of the Salem witch trials. In this writing he enumerates the ways that the Devil tempts us using the three temptations of Jesus as grounds for describing Satan’s agency.

The first temptation was of turning the stones into bread, for Jesus fasted for forty days. Thereby we get the general idea that Satan is looking continually at our lives and sees what we hunger for. When he finds it, he sets it out before us and makes it sparkle.

The second temptation of Jesus was of casting himself down and trusting God to provide for his safety. By this we see Satan’s ploy of the presumption of God’s goodness. Satan tempts us to prove God will save us from harm by putting ourselves in harm’s way.

The last of the Devil’s temptations was to take Jesus into a high mountain to tempt Him with the glory of many kingdoms, if only He would bow down to the Adversary. In other words, power to control the world can be ours if we give our allegiance to evil, even though the Devil’s power is controlled by God himself.

The vivid descriptions Cotton Mather gave of these three temptations gave me much pause to consider the temptations in my own life, for the Devil, it seems, is still working by these three heads of activity.

Visiting ministers from the past month encouraged us through the Word. We were thankful they encouraged us to faithfulness to the Lord Jesus. They include Bro. Tom & Sis. Connie Schambach (Elgin, IL) and Bro. Jon & Sis. Amy Zahner (Rockville, CT).

“Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin;  
Each victory will help you or some other to win;  
Fight manfully onward, dark passions subdue;  
Look ever to Jesus, He’ll carry you through.  
Shun evil companions, bad language disdain;  
God’s name hold in reverence, nor take it in vain;  
Be thoughtful and earnest, kindhearted and true;  
Look ever to Jesus, He’ll carry you through.  
Ask the Savior to help you,  
To comfort, strengthen, and keep you; He is willing to aid you, He will carry you through”  
Yield Not To Temptation,  
Hymns of Zion #166

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**Requesting Information for Apostolic Christian Church and Minister Directory**

This message is for your local correspondent responsible for maintaining the minister/church directory information.

We are beginning work on the 2020 Apostolic Christian Churches and Ministers directory. The intent of this initial communication is to identify the correct correspondent, verify existing contact information, and collect additional contact information.

Please complete these tasks as soon as possible:

Email the following information from your preferred email account to acdirectory2020@gmail.com AND apostolicchristianchurches@gmail.com:

a. Correspondent name/address changes (if any)  
b. Primary and secondary mobile phone numbers  
c. Other phone number, email, or contact information

Please contact Steve Endress (next generation of the Steiner family) should you have any other questions/concerns at 309-238-0101 or steveendress@gmail.com
Offer Unto God Thanksgiving

This article is taken from a previous "Light from the Word".

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good:..." (Psalm 107:1). "In every thing give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you" (1 Thess. 5:18). These two verses are so much alike and yet so different if quoted in isolation. Thanking God for His goodness is such an easy commandment to obey, however, there are times when it is difficult to thank Him for "every thing".

As we approach the end of the harvest season we often focus our attention on Thanksgiving Day and the many blessings we enjoy in our land. We are fortunate to live in a land that recognizes the need to pause and give thanks to our great God for the many blessings He bestows upon us.

Although Thanksgiving Day did not become a legal federal holiday until 1941, the tradition of setting aside a special time to give thanks to God is deeply rooted in our nation's history, beginning in the early 1600's. Our Thanksgiving celebration grew out of the tradition established by the colonists to set aside a special time after the harvest to thank God for the bountiful provisions that He had given them.

They recognized that God was good to them, and they appreciated what they had even though by our standards their existence was a rather meager one.

As we pause and reflect upon the material blessings that we have, most of us could count many reasons to be thankful. We have abundant food, more than adequate clothing, beautiful and comfortable homes, labor saving conveniences that the early settlers could never have even dreamed of having and other devices that make our life more comfortable. Medical science has progressed to the point that many of the diseases that claimed the lives of many children have been nearly eliminated. It would be nearly impossible to list all the reasons we should be thankful.

Although we appreciate the material blessings that we have, they pale to insignificance when compared to the spiritual blessings. We live in a land in which we have the opportunity to worship God as we believe the Scripture instructs us to do. We have a precious brotherhood that has been preserved by those who have gone before us, keeping a simple faith in a loving God and preserving the plan of salvation that enables us to be free from the bondage of Satan and draw close to God. Most of us have been born into families who have taught us the truth of God's Word and who have helped us develop a faith in this great and loving God. With all of these advantages, how could we not be thankful?

It is easy to give thanks when conditions are as we would have them. It is easy to thank God when a loved one repents. It is easy to thank Him when we are sitting in church, under the sound of His Word, surrounded by faithful brothers and sisters. It is easy to repeat 1 Thess. 5:18 when the trials of life are light and well spaced. But how do we respond when the hand of oppression rests heavily upon our shoulder?

It is clear in the Word of God that we are to give thanks to God even when the load is heavy. Job, after having heard a series of very devastating reports about his family and possessions, was able to say, "...the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21). After being struck with sore boils from the sole of his foot to his crown and having been ridiculed by his wife for retaining his integrity, Job said "...shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?..." (Job 2:10).

The apostles were often faced with seemingly insurmountable obstacles as they spread the Word of God, yet they looked upon their afflictions as a privilege. After having been beaten and commanded to not speak in the name of Jesus, "...they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name" (Acts 5:41).

Likewise, Jesus, about to face the most severe trial and burden that any man ever faced, encouraged and comforted His disciples when He said "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me" (John 14:1). Furthermore, as He was nearing death, He was able to pray for His executioners "...Father forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).

— Please turn to pg. 63
Practical ways to maintain contentment when it’s so easy to compare and complain

“Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned in whatsoever state I am, there with to be content” (Philippians 4:11).

God calls all of us to a different journey in life. We all have dreams, hopes, and desires. However, God may adjust our plans away from what we want, which draws us closer to Him. I appreciate the following saying: “God always provides. It just might look different than what we had in mind.” When we can accept these changes with a faithful heart, it is a big step towards contentment.

On a more personal level, there was a time I wasn’t content with where I was in life. I wanted to “up and move” without ever looking back. I wanted to start all over where no one knew me. The more I thought and prayed about it, I knew that wasn’t the right thing to do. I would be hurting the people I love, who have done so much to get me where I am today. More importantly, I would be hurting my Savior by not following His plan for my life. My discontentment was promoting that selfish desire. I now realize that I’m where I’m at today because of Christ and those who help me on life’s journey. I still feel like I have a long ways to go.

I remember talking to a dear friend about being discontent. All he told me was to look up verse one of #116 in the Hymns of Zion. “When upon life’s billows you are tempest-tossed, When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost, Count your many blessings, name them one by one, And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.” In the past, I have written down everyone’s name in the Single Group and listed one good thing about each one, along with a way to pray for that person. I also store a list of my blessings from God in my Bible. When I feel discouraged or discontent, I go through the list and see what God has done for me.

God blesses me with good health, growing up in a godly home, having a job, and seeing those who were living for the world come to Christ. The power to forgive is another blessing! When we choose to forgive, we let go of the bitter past and move forward in life.

When we aren’t content, we can become bitter, angry, selfish, negative, and miserable. We can easily think that everyone else has it better than us when we don’t stop to think what God has done for us. “And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp” (Numbers 11:1).

At times, it feels like God has thrown a lot at us at once, and we don’t know what to do. This is when we must trust His heart and have faith that He can give us the strength to stay content. When looking back, I can sum up the blessings God has given me with the following verse:

“He hath made everything beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end” (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

Sis. Emily Banwart, Sabetha, KS

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From when I was a small boy and through my years at home until I was 22, my mother said many times, “Godliness with contentment is great gain.” That’s all she said. She didn’t need to explain it. I always saw it every day in her life. Bro. Walt Herrmann, Princeville, IL
Practical Ways to Maintain Contentment

1. Think about what Jesus suffered on our behalf.
2. Ponder our spiritual heritage, especially considering that others may feel like their heritage is comparably shallow. For example, a colleague recently explained that she misses both of her elderly parents since their deaths “because I don’t have a strong faith like you do that I will ever see them again.” My heart was aching for her! During our talks about spiritual matters, she has shared how her church did not encourage her to read the Bible. What a privilege that our brotherhood not only encourages Bible-reading, but it also promotes our strong hymnody, corporate prayer life, opportunities for deep relationships, under-shepherds who truly care for their flocks … and on and on!
3. Think about and pray for those who are persecuted for their Christianity. Their persecutors often take everything from them, including loved ones at times.
4. Remember that our ultimate goal is heaven with our Savior.
5. Think about the privileges we have compared to many of our parents, prior generations, and many in underserved areas of the world still today.

Examples include:
- Doing laundry by throwing a load in an automatic washer before putting it in the dryer. In contrast, my grandparents used washboards, while my mother used a wringer washer. Even today, many people in underdeveloped areas of the world use a river. All three cases have involved placing laundry on the ground or on a line to dry, a very time-consuming process.
- No-iron clothing
- Fresh fruits and vegetables year-round
- A seemingly endless list of other privileges and comforts we have that were not readily available even one generation ago.

Anonymous - younger than 50, Romans 8:28

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WE LOVE TO BOAST of all we can do and gladly quote Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." However, looking back to the previous two verses puts it in a different light. "Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need" (Philippians 4:11-12).

I have learned contentment through being abased and suffering need. Having lost my ability to work, it is hard to proudly say, "I can do all things through Christ." I have nothing to tell about my job to compare myself to others. Not being able to drive takes away any discontentment of not having a higher performance car to drive. Lacking the energy to walk takes away the desire to travel. Even if I had extra income, I would have nowhere I would want to spend it.

Christ has taught me contentment because I know He could heal me and change my circumstances. Yet, since He doesn’t, I choose to believe that I am right where He wants me to be. I feel compelled not to complain because I know God’s plan is perfect, and who am I to question His eternal plan for me with my short, near-sighted vision. I know God doesn’t like complaining, and I don’t either. Just as Simon of Cyrene had to bear an unexpected "cross," I hope to be of service to Christ where He has placed me.

Anonymous - younger than 50, Romans 8:28

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START EVERY DAY by remembering that this is the day the Lord has made. I will be glad in it and pray. Eleanor Gerber, Junction, OH

— Please turn to pg. 50
“J
st BE CONTENT!” It’s so easy to say, yet so difficult to live. As I began writing, I had no organized thoughts on how to maintain contentment. It’s something I try to live, but what do I do? How do others do it? So, I just sat down and started writing what came to my mind and heart.

The verse that keeps popping in my head is I Timothy 6:6, “But godliness with contentment is great gain.” Next, I looked up the words “contentment” and “godliness.” According to the New Strong’s Concordance Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible (1995), contentment denotes self-satisfaction, contentedness, competence, and sufficiency. Godliness involves piety and holiness.

These definitions suggest the words “discipline” and “relationship,” while reinforcing my love for the word “sufficiency.” Jesus is our sufficiency in every way! BAM… Jesus is enough; I need nothing more! Now, the challenge is to just get my mind and body to live it. That’s where the discipline and relationship part come in.

First, let’s start with relationship. Most likely, we already realize our need to pursue a relationship with Jesus! The Holy Spirit really is a great teacher if we just listen and obey. If you aren’t following Jesus first, you can probably “throw in the towel” on your contentment pursuit.

Let’s move on to the discipline part of maintaining contentment. Discipline #1: Got joy? Sometimes, we recognize a problem when we realize something is missing. Being grumbly because my joy is missing is a red flag that contentment might be missing in my life. That’s when I begin searching my heart! Is Jesus my sufficiency, or have I started believing the lie that things or situations affect my contentment?

Discipline #2: Acknowledge the hard things, but also look for ways to be thankful. Life can be hard, and really cruel things happen. Acknowledge the difficulty of the circumstance, the injustice of the situation, or the pain and hurt you feel. Yet, don’t live there. If we dwell there, we will miss out on recognizing many of our blessings, the lessons we learn from hard times, and the relationships that can be built through the struggles. Being thankful usually puts joy and contentment back in our life.

Discipline #3: Take one day at a time. Slow down and smell the roses … or the hamburgers. Jesus gave us today. Let’s embrace each day like an adventure and make the most of it! Do you remember how you can make the most mundane chores or events an adventure for kids? Do that for your life! Today is an uncharted day with the most powerful Being in the world, God Himself! Let’s not miss out on great things because we are too busy moping around.

Jesus has a mighty and divine plan for you! He will equip you for the journey. Are you going to choose to watch and compare to everyone else’s divine plan, or are you going to live the adventure He has for you? The choice is yours my friend. Please choose wisely!

A Bluffton Country Sister

Somewhere

[In the great beyond, we will find eternal contentment]

I’m living for a land beyond – To this world, it does not respond – A place with lasting joy and love, Somewhere up there so far above, Higher than this old world called home Where I wander and where I roam. It’s there where truth shall be defined. What I lack here will be refined. Moreover, what I have not seen My eyes behold so sharp and keen. This misty life that lacks meaning, Which here constantly is leaning – Never perfect, never just straight Hardly content, questioning fate Hoping for a long sought finish To last and never diminish. Questions, answers will then be joined. God’s golden understanding coined For me to spend on how and why I lived my life and then did die. He will reveal that all I knew And hoped for with my human view Was just by His will and His grace Enough to bring me to this place. Bro. Paul Klopfenstein Bloomington, IL
Within your current state of being, follow God’s peace and restore that peaceful relationship whenever it’s disturbed. Seek to relax, bloom where you’re planted, and increase your trust in God. Invest in that trust rather than in specific earthly outcomes. Our minds and contentment can easily feel plagued when close loved ones’ unwelcome choices seem to reflect on us. In such cases, avoid the tendency to focus on what others will think of us. Instead, follow Christ’s example of regarding the eternal welfare of the souls involved and remembering that “where there’s life, there’s hope.”

Someone referenced a presentation on pride, humility, and insecurity, which focused on the dangers of a competitive spirit. Comparing ourselves is a self-destructive route to discontent and misery. While others’ challenges can seem petty, our own feelings and doubts about our position in life are real. Yet, letting them grow is not defendable. Instead, growing in grace and knowing God’s truth is a learning process. In Philippians 4:11, Paul admitted, “…I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.” How long does this learning take? It’s wise to come and reason together, applying the Bible’s counsel to draw nigh to the Lord’s blessings (Luke 24:15). In church decisions, some members struggle when outcomes differ from how they individually voted. In such cases, it helps to remember that we’re a part of the Body; we’re not “the Thing.”

Within Christ’s body, be satisfied with your own gifts and use them well. Others need you to exercise what you can offer, which brings joy to them and you. Be willing to be what God has equipped you to be, rather than what He’s equipped others to be. How can you use what God currently has stocked in your toolbox? Learning from Adam’s and Eve’s downfall in the Garden of Eden, focus on all of the trees from which you can eat, rather than wishing you could eat from the forbidden one! When you’re engaged in serving according to how the Lord calls and equips you personally, you’re more effective and more content. This is the way to heed and fulfill your ministry from the Lord (Colossians 4:17). Your godliness and contentment yield great gain for all of God’s kingdom.
The News & Notices section of The Silver Lining provides a way for qualifying non-profit entities to make the brotherhood aware of church-related events, opportunities, needs, and services that would be of special interest to Apostolic Christian Church of America members and regular attendees. Email us at editor@acsilverlining.org for a copy of our advertising policy, which specifies who June advertise, sizes, file formats and deadlines.

News & Notices

AC Central: a growing hub of Apostolic Christian Content

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Light from the Word

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Jamaica Awareness Tour
If you would like to meet the missionaries and see the ministries of CCCD, Deaf Can! Coffee, and En Gedi House in person, but do not have the desire to participate on a short-term team, please consider our new Awareness Tour. This is a quick trip that gives interested parties the opportunity to meet our missionary families, learn more about our Jamaica ministry as well as other outreach supported by HarvestCall. The trip will be over a weekend and include worshiping with a deaf congregation.
To learn more, Email or Call: Kent Mogler at 612-360-4361 or moglerkent@gmail.com

Haiti Awareness Tours
If you’d like to see the ministry of Hospital Lumiere and other Haiti projects in person, but do not have the time or desire to participate in a week-long work team, please consider our Awareness Tours. These are quick trips that give you the opportunity to meet our missionary families, learn more about the hospital, see the completed renovations and work in process, and visit some of the other HarvestCall ministries in southern Haiti. The remaining Awareness Tour for 2019 is scheduled for and Sept. 28-Oct. 2.

To learn more, contact:
Rich Bertschi at 309.467.2351 or hospitallumiere@harvestcall.org
Rick Wuethrich at 219.863.4163 or rick@wuethrichfarms.com

Haiti Teams - Les Cayes

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<th>YEAR 2019</th>
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<th>CAPACITY</th>
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<td>Dec 6-13</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lane Gerber</td>
<td>260-241-4099</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:lane.gerber@gmail.com">lane.gerber@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ron Palitto</td>
<td>330-336-5373</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:ronp@palittoconsulting.com">ronp@palittoconsulting.com</a></td>
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<td>Andy Getz</td>
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<td>Jon Zeller</td>
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Haiti Medical / Dental Teams

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COORDINATOR FOR ALL HAITI MEDICAL TEAMS:
Komari Aberle Email: komarick@sbcglobal.net | Phone: 785.284.2950

PROCLAIM CHRIST & SERVE OTHERS
**Mexico Medical / Dental Teams**

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Todd & Teresa Earney  260-273-9528   Email: tearney@adamswells.com

**Mexico Construction Teams**

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Rod Schmidt   Thanksgiving  Email: rod.schmidt@watershedfoods.com

**QUESTIONS FOR MEXICO TEAMS:**

Reynosa: Kevin & Sadie Gerber  Phone: 260-417-5272   kevgerber@yahoo.com
Magdalena: Email CVEmexico@gmail.com

**Jamaica Teams**

** QUESTIONS FOR JAMAICA TEAMS:**

Jan 22-29   CCCD - Kingston  25
Brett & Kristin Fehr  815-848-4833   Email: brettkristinfehr@gmail.com
May 22-30   CCCD - JDV  40
Mark Lindberg  815-641-9065   Email: lindma@hotmail.com

If you are interested in sponsoring a work team to Jamaica contact Loren Dettwyler at Imdettwyler@gmail.com

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**Haiti, Bonne Fin Construction Teams**

The Hospital Lumiere renovation program continues to restore and improve the facility to an environment that honors God and provides an atmosphere that contributes to the wellbeing of the hospital staff, our patients and their families.

Hospital Lumiere has an ongoing need for maintenance and/or construction teams and especially for skilled electricians. Rather than listing predetermined dates and asking people to fit into them, if a team, or individual, is interested in coming, they should contact the Hospital Administrator to discuss possible dates and available projects.

Hospital Administrator Bro. Rick Aberle
Phone: 011-509-4222-1004 or 
Email: komarick@sbcglobal.net

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**Hospital Lumiere - Bonne Fin, Haiti**

**MISSIONARY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY**

The Hospital Lumiere team is presently seeking candidates for missionary service in a variety of roles that will fit your calling, interests and experience. Singles, Couples and Families of all ages are encouraged to prayerfully consider full time missionary service supporting the ministry and outreach in Bonne Fin, Haiti.

There are many service and ministry opportunities at HL. The most important qualification is that the brother and/or sister is called by God to serve at the hospital. The service opportunity and placement will be developed to match the candidate's interest and experience. Potential service roles for non-medical candidates:

- Business office management
- Finance and Accounting
- Hospital Administration
- Facilities Operations and/or Maintenance
- Hospital Operations (non-medical)
- Hospital Technical Support
- Information Technology Support
- Missionary School Teacher or Teacher Aid
- Campus and Hospitality Management
- Missionary Support

**Qualifications and Requirements:**

- Member in good standing within the Apostolic Christian Church of America
- A servant heart, willingness to serve those in need
- Desire to engage as ambassadors of Christ with the Haitian staff at HL and the surrounding Bonne Fin community
- Relocate to Hospital Lumiere in Bonne Fin, Haiti
- Learn Haitian Creole (French language fluency is also beneficial)

**For additional details for these exciting and worthy service opportunities contact Tom Hitz.**
Email: tchitz@sbcglobal.net or 
Phone: 734.635.4112

If you are interested in Medical service, please review the Medical Professional Advertisement.
Seeking short-term missionaries willing to live and serve at CVE for one year to support a variety of activities around campus.

Short-Term missionary qualifications include: Member in good-standing; dedication and love for children and young people; good communication, teamwork and conflict management skills; openness to learn, self-motivation and flexibility; ability to speak or willingness to learn Spanish.

The responsibilities could include: Support the caregiver in providing care for children; accounting support; drive church and/or school routes; prepare meals and support meal prep for work teams; work with livestock; teach work related skills to the children.

Terms of Service
- Housing provided on or near the CVE campus
- Language and culture training provided

Candidate selection, preparation, training, sending and supporting will be conducted using HarvestCall’s established Outreach Policies and Procedures and the CVE Short Term Missionary Procedures.

For more information on CVE positions, contact: Keith Beyer. Email: CVEmexico@gmail.com, or Phone: 260-627-0525

Candidate selection, preparation, training, sending and supporting will be conducted using HarvestCall’s established Outreach Policies and Procedures and the CVE Short Term Missionary Procedures.

Now Available
Missionary Support Card Packs
A Resource Tool to Stay Connected with our Missionaries

The past decade has seen tremendous growth in brethren serving full time in the cross-cultural ministries of Apostolic Christian Church. Supporting those the church sends as missionaries is our responsibility and an example given us by the early church. We can support them in prayer, in fellowship, and financially.*


Ideas for Use
- Awareness
- Prayer Reminder
- Personal Connection
- Servant Fund Needs
- Communication via E-mail & Texting
- Letters
- Care Packages

Contact your Local HarvestCall Representative for Availability
PROFESSIONALS in the Medical Field
Full Time / Long Term Opportunities at Hospital Lumiere

Professionals with training, skills and experience in the medical field who have a desire to serve at Hospital Lumiere in Haiti are encouraged to contact us. Current medical positions:

**PHYSICIAN:** (General Medicine/Family Practice, Internists, Orthopedists, Surgeons, OB/GYN) These positions are intended to serve patients, lead a department and mentor/train Haitian physicians.

**ANESTHESIOLOGY:** (Anesthesiologist and CRNAs)

**NURSE PRACTITIONER:** Support and mentor positions for medical and patient care within the hospital and clinic.

**NURSE:** Support and mentor Haitian nursing staff, engage in patient care

There are many needs for medical professionals to serve the patients and Haitian staff including those listed above. If you are led to the mission field but your skill set and qualifications are not a good match for the positions listed above, please contact us. There is flexibility on requirements listed as well as job descriptions and qualifications. Many times, the role that is filled can be developed to fit the gifts of each applicant.

For additional details for this exciting and worthy position contact Tom Hitz.
Email: tchitz@sbcglobal.net or Phone: 734.635.4112

Missionary School - Bonne Fin, Haiti

TEACHER OPPORTUNITY

Hospital Lumiere, Bonne Fin, Haiti is presently seeking a teacher and teacher aid for missionary children. These positions involve full-time teaching in the multi-level classroom setting of the Bonne Fin Missionary School on the Hospital Lumiere compound. The missionary role is expected to start during the summer of 2019. These are full time missionary positions with a service term of one school year. There is opportunity to extend the term of service.

**Teacher qualifications** include being a member in good standing of the Apostolic Christian Church, a minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree, preferably in the field of Education or Child Development, ability to communicate effectively with students, parents and visitors to the school, a nurturing and caring attitude toward children, and a heart and desire to serve others through service to Jesus Christ.

**Teacher Aid qualifications** include being a member in good standing of the Apostolic Christian Church, a minimum of a High School Diploma, a Bachelor’s degree preferred, preferably in the field of Education or Child Development, ability to communicate effectively with the teacher, students, parents and visitors to the school, a nurturing and caring attitude toward children, and a heart and desire to serve others through service to Jesus Christ.

For additional details for this exciting and worthy position contact Tom Hitz.
Email: tchitz@sbcglobal.net or Phone: 734.635.4112
SPONSORSHIP: Giving Children Hope for the Future

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

The goal of this program is to provide an education so these children can learn life skills to enable them to become more productive adults. In addition, its purpose is to present a spiritual opportunity to be exposed to the gospel message and eventually be called to serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children.

Isaiah 54:13

To Sponsor a Child or School

Fill out this form and send to the office. You'll be assigned a student or school and sent further information. Learn more about child sponsorship, including costs, at: harvestcall.org/child-sponsorship

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Mr.    Mrs.    Miss

Spouse _________________________

Address _______________________

City ____________St ___ Zip ______

Home Ph ________________________

Cell Ph ________________________

Email _________________________

Please check preference:

Haiti Student    Jamaica
Haiti School    Guatemala
Mexico    Zambia
Wherever needed

If possible, I prefer:

Boy – Age ______
Girl – Age ______
No Preference

Send to:
HarvestCall Child Sponsorship
PO Box 36
Morton, IL 61550
Phone: 309-266-6080
Fax: 309-266-5281
Email: childsponsorship@harvestcall.org

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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 could 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
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AC Medical Fellowship Committee Biennial Meeting for 2020

Save the date: AC Medical Fellowship meeting is scheduled for Saturday April 18, 2020 in Goodfield, IL at the Fellowship Hall. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. and presentations at 8:30 a.m. and will continue until ~7:00 p.m. with a light breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Spouses are welcome. If you are on the HarvestCall Health Care Provider registry, you will receive an email in a few months with a formal invitation and registration form. There will also be a Facebook posting.

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

JOB OPENING

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Here is an opportunity to use your communications and organizational skills to help our brotherhood proclaim Christ and serve others. An additional communications professional is needed in the HarvestCall office, located in West Lafayette, IN. The Coordinator works regularly with the Communications Director, Videographer/Graphic Designer, committee Communications Managers, other volunteer contributors, and miscellaneous vendors. This person creates and edits content and provides hands-on coordination of a wide variety of projects. He/she is the person who ensures projects stay on track and deadlines are met.

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.
Seeking caregivers, single or married, willing to provide a Christ-centered family-like home for children who have been removed from their biological families. A caregivers qualifications include: Member in good-standing; dedication and love for children and young people; good communication, teamwork and conflict management skills; openness to learn, self-motivation and flexibility; ability to speak or willingness to learn Spanish.

A caregivers responsibilities include: Providing spiritual leadership and training for the children; provide for the daily physical, social and emotional needs of the children; continual pursuit of personal emotional and spiritual growth; continual professional growth as a caregiver; administer discipline in love and using biblical principles in accordance with CVE policies; grow in cultural knowledge and sensitivity.

Terms of Service
- Live on the CVE campus in the homes of the children being cared for.
- Language, culture and caregiver training will be provided.

Candidate selection, preparation, training, sending and supporting will be conducted using HarvestCall’s established Outreach Policies and Procedures.

For more information on CVE positions, contact: Keith Beyer. 
Email: CVEmexico@gmail.com, or Phone: 260-627-0525

Seeking caregiver assistants, single or married, willing to support a caregiver in our Christ-centered family-like homes for children who have been pulled from their homes due to circumstances out of their control. A caregiver assistant qualifications include: Member in good-standing; dedication and love for children and young people; good communication, teamwork and conflict management skills; openness to learn, self-motivation and flexibility; ability to speak or willingness to learn Spanish.

A caregiver assistant responsibilities include: Support or provide spiritual leadership and training for the children; support the caregiver in providing for the daily physical, social and emotional needs of the children; continual pursuit of personal emotional and spiritual growth; continual professional growth as an assistant; administer discipline in love and using biblical principles in accordance with CVE policies; grow in cultural knowledge and sensitivity.

Terms of Service
- Live on or near the CVE campus, may include living in the home of the children being cared for
- Language, culture and caregiver training will be provided.

Candidate selection, preparation, training, sending and supporting will be conducted using HarvestCall’s established Outreach Policies and Procedures.

For more information on CVE positions, contact: Keith Beyer. 
Email: CVEmexico@gmail.com, or Phone: 260-627-0525
Jesus the True Vine [1501]
This Bible Study focuses on John 15:1-8 and is intended for a general audience. It may be used for self-study or with a group. The desired outcome is a deeper understanding of the union of Christ and His church. Price: $4.50

Communication in Marriage [1502]
This is a Bible Study that is designed specifically for use by engaged or married couples. It is divided into seven segments each of which could be used for a unique study period. The purpose is to understand the scriptural directives and Biblical principles of effective communication that contribute significantly to a successful marriage. Price: $4.50

Who Jesus Is [1503]
This Bible Study is for general use and is designed to encourage self-study by each participant as well as discussion within a group. The desired outcome is a deeper understanding of the character and mission of the Lord Jesus Christ, the impact of His life on each of us, and how we can exemplify Him in our walk of life. Price: $4.50

The Second Greatest Commandment [1504]
This Bible study seeks to illuminate our understanding of Bible teachings about interpersonal relationships. Price: $4.50

The Hand of God in the Life of Joseph [1505]
The story of Joseph is perhaps one of the best known and loved stories in the Old Testament. Herein we catch glimpses of God’s will and purpose exemplified in the life of Joseph. We see the hand of God in the life of Joseph, which demonstrates how God’s goodness is active in the lives of his people. Price: $4.50

Romans [1515] Price: $10.00
Romans has been a special inspiration for generations. It is said by many to be the most complete work of the doctrine of salvation by grace. This study will walk through the book of Romans and examine the character of God, His plan of salvation, and His expectations of our response to Him. Romans has an easy-to-understand message, yet we can plumb the depths of its truths and never fully comprehend it.

Additional Titles
- Church Establishment [1507] Price: $4.50
- Loving as One in Christ [1514] Price: $10.00
- The Word of God [1511] Price: $4.50
- Living in Christian Community [1513] Price: $4.50

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Apostolic Christian Publications - 651 East Peoria St., Goodfield, IL 61742
The Faith of Joshua and Rahab
— Continued from pg. 3

In the events that followed, Joshua experiences three notable miracles. In the first, the river Jordan at flood stage divides to allow the passage of the entire host of Israel. As in the battle against Amalek, this was an exercise in faith for all the people. The waters did not divide until the priests bearing the Ark of the Covenant literally walked into the flooded river. As a result, the waters backed up near the city of Adam and spread toward Zaretan allowing the remaining water to run out into the Dead Sea—a distance of about 25 miles! As the priests stood still in the dry river bed, the remainder of the people obediently stepped in and everyone crossed over the river. Then as the priests came across and climbed up the opposite bank, the waters began to flow again and overflowed the banks as before.7

Joshua’s next experience is a visit by an angel who, with drawn sword, presented himself as captain of the Lord’s host. Joshua could have justifiably considered himself as captain, but instead acknowledged the true Captain and submitted to the messenger of God. The conquest of Jericho was not to be accomplished by the army of Israel under his expert military leadership, but the victory over the great walled city was truly the Lord’s doing: “For I will not trust in my bow, neither shall my sword save me. But thou hast saved us from our enemies, and hast put them to shame that hated us. In God we boast all the day long, and praise thy name for ever.”8

Having received specific instructions on how to attack Jericho from God’s angel, Joshua immediately put them into action. As the seventh day’s march around the city ended, “… the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.”9

Archeological excavations bear out the biblical record: Jericho was surrounded by two concentric thirty-foot high walls that were substantial enough to support houses upon them. However, both of these walls had collapsed, having fallen outwards away from the city. Buried in the rubble were full grain bins and ovens with bread ready to bake, evidencing a sudden destruction of the entire city. Burnt and charred remains were everywhere, confirming the scripture, “they burnt the city with fire, and all that was therein”.10

Rahab staked her life on divine promises, so she with her family “perished not with them that believed not” when the walls all around her came crashing down. Rahab proved her faith by her works: “Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way?”10 She cast her lot with God’s people and later married Salmon, an Israelite, and as a result Rahab appears in the lineage of both David and Jesus Christ.11 May we take this same victorious path of faith exemplified by both Joshua and Rahab: “choose you this day whom ye will serve; but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD”. The destruction of Jericho was an event far surpassing any human capability, and the lesson remains today that “… the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds”12—no matter how formidable they may appear to us.

Endnotes:

1 Hebrews 11:30-31
2 Exodus 17:10-13
3 Joshua 1:5-6
4 Joshua 1:7
5 Joshua 2:9-11
6 Joshua 2:21
7 Joshua 3:15-17
8 Psalms 44:6-8
9 Joshua 6:20
10 James 2:25
11 Matthew 1:5
12 2 Corinthians 10:4
2 Timothy [1623]
This informative Bible study from the NavPress Life Change series has been adapted with permission by Apostolic Christian Counseling and Family Services. The study consists of eight lessons and can be done individually, in small groups, and congregationally. Topics included in this study: Historical Background -- Paul and Timothy, Map of the Roman Empire, Timeline of Paul's Ministry, Overview, Unashamed, Endurance, A Workman Approved, Rejecters of Truth, Timothy's Guides, Passing the Mantle, Personal Needs and Review. Price: $10.00

NT Characters [1619]
This engaging Bible study from InterVarsity Press has been adapted with permission by ACCFS. The study consists of 10 lessons and can be done individually, in small groups, and congregationally. Character studies included in this Bible study: Anna & Simeon: Growing Old with God, A Throwaway Woman: Redeemed by Christ, A Blind Beggar: Seeing Jesus with Open Eyes, Mary Magdalene: Loving Jesus in Practical Ways, Thomas: Disciple of Doubt, Simon: Bargaining with God, A Jailer: Getting Free from Internal Prisons, Priscilla & Aquila: Practicing Hospitality, Governor Felix: Saying "Wait" to God, Philemon: Bridging Barriers to Brotherhood. Price: $8.50

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— Continued from pg. 47

How can we, as children of God, give thanks in everything? How can we praise God and sincerely thank Him when we are hurting, either physically or emotionally, so much that we think we can’t go on? There are also many Scripture passages that provide us with encouragement and promise us God’s help.

If we make even a brief search of the Scriptures, we find many reasons to be thankful, even in the most difficult situations. The Bible teaches us that “...having food and raiment let us be therewith content” (1 Tim. 6:8). Giving thanks or being thankful is referenced over 100 times in the Scriptures.

Too often we overlook the very simple and basic needs of life and neglect to be thankful for them, perhaps not realizing that a significant percentage of people in the world do not have even these basic needs. We have been so surrounded by an abundance of material blessings that we tend to take the “basics” for granted and think that if we have not been bountifully supplied that we have not been blessed.

If we would take the time to sit down and write a list of all the things we have received from God and then give Him thanks for all His goodness, we would undoubtedly be overwhelmed by the task of making the list.

It is true that a child of God may be asked to carry a heavy load. It is also true that Satan can come and bring discouragement. When these occur, we must look to the promises of God to sustain us and to help us put the events of our life in order. “We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;” (2 Cor. 4:8-9). Surely the faithful promises of God make it possible for His people to say “O give thanks unto the Lord; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever” (Psalm 136:1).
and God said, “Don’t worry about it; you just go to this place, and I’ll take care of you.” Think of Daniel, of what God asked of him and some of the things he wrote down. It’s powerful. God used them in mighty ways.

So often we say belief and grace and faith. All those work together, and it causes us to desire to serve, to just be surrendered, and that’s the mystery. Explain that to someone that’s never heard of Jesus. It’s hard. It’s hard to get them to understand. Walk up to a stranger and say, “Do you trust Jesus?” and maybe they’ve never gone to church. Then you say, “You mean you don’t know the mystery?!” Can you explain the mystery? Can you explain to them that if you become dead to yourself and alive in Jesus, you can have joy? Our lives should be the evidence of that. It should be the evidence of that mystery.

“He didn’t give King Saul a second chance. Saul kept back, he wasn’t obedient, and he asked whether it was better to sacrifice than to obey. No, you need to obey. Why wasn’t he given a second chance? we don’t know these reasons.

We don’t know why God does what he does, but He’s in control. There was a time when it wasn’t as it is today. Today we know there’s going to be no excuses. No excuses. If you’re here tonight, and you think you’re going to claim an excuse that you didn’t know, it’s not going to work. It’s not going to work.

“That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel.” (vs 6) We are all Gentiles. We were given the opportunity to learn about salvation, to learn the gospel, the good news, the message of hope. That’s what Paul was telling them here.

“That which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the spirit.” (vs 5) We are so blessed today. We have the Holy Spirit, and he works in us today. He guides us, directs us, teaches us. It was different back then. There were still those that God used in mighty ways. He taught them. Why did God give Nebuchadnezzar a second chance? Christians. I don’t know the percentage but there’s not very many. We have a responsibility. We need to share, and he’ll help us. He’ll help us. Just the simplest of words you can say can cause people to stop and think.

Just last week I was at the Lincoln post office, and while I was waiting, there were about three people in line. There was a gentleman in front of me, and he turned around and said, “Sir, you can go ahead of me; it’s going to take me a while.” I said, “Oh, that’s very kind.” He said, “I’ll tell you this right now, I’m not kind. No one would call me kind.” And he went on and on about not being kind. I said, “Well you just showed me kindness.” I wasn’t going to give up that easily, but he said, “I’d call it respect.” I thought, that’s fine; in my mind it was kindness. I had to think, just simple words like that. Often, I’ll say, “Have a blessed day” to a waitress or gas attendant, someone like that, and you’d be amazed. They will just about always say, “You too.”

Those are opportunities. You don’t have to preach a sermon. you don’t have to say, “Do you know Jesus?” Just ask them a simple question or just ask the question, “How are you today?” Ask it that way. Instead of asking, “How are you today?” say “How ARE you today?” and mean it. God wants
us to be used to his glory, so that his name can be glorified.

Verse 8: “Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints is this grace given…” You know, I feel that same way at times. Many times. Last of the least. I know why Paul felt that way; Paul kept going back and remembering his past. I can’t help but believe he remembered standing there when Stephen was stoned. He knew he was forgiven and he praised God for that, but he recognized once God revealed that to him how wrong he was.

He felt totally blessed. Do you feel that way tonight? Blessed to know about God? Why did he choose you? Why did God choose me? We should think about those things, dear ones. Don’t take it for granted. Don’t take it lightly. “Less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ.” (vs 8) The riches of Christ. Jesus! – the best of heaven, the very best of heaven, the only begotten son of God the Father. Jesus Christ came to this earth he helped create. He was there in the heavens when God said, “Let there be light” and there was light. He came here among you and me, beaten, spit on, bruised; Paul says the unsearchable riches of Christ. Think about that tonight – unsearchable riches of Christ.

“And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ.” (vs 9) God knew all along from the very beginning of time. When Adam and Eve sinned, God had a plan. God said, “I’m going to send someone to crush the head of the serpent. I’m going to send someone that’s going to be victorious over sin.” But for years he used animals; he taught the people the importance of a sacrifice, of a payment for sin. That’s why he did it. Death is a gruesome thing, and in seeing the lifeblood flow out of an animal, he wanted to teach the people the seriousness of sin. So, when we’re going through life, sin should sicken us. God hated it from the very beginning, but he wanted us to get it. He wanted us to understand that sin causes death. That’s why they had to kill all those lambs. Can you imagine the children as they watched those animals being killed? It made an impression. That’s why God did it. He knew all along that Jesus was going to have to come; he knew all along that those lambs weren’t significant enough.

Our time’s almost up, but I want to talk a little bit about this prayer: “For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.” (vs 14-15) We’re all named. I love this verse: “of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.” (vs 15) What’s our name, dear ones? Christians. Christlike. Little Christs – I think it was said here recently.

“That he would grant you according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man.” (vs 16) He was pleading this for these people. This was his prayer. This was one of the prayers that Paul had for this church: “That Christ might dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love…” (vs 17) I just want to stop with that “rooted and grounded in love.” God showed it first; God said, “I love you enough that I’m going to give you the very best. I’m not going for second best.” He gives the very best to show us his love, and now he says to you and me, “be grounded in that love, first for God the Father and Jesus, and then second, for you, my brothers and you, my sisters.” Be grounded in that love – that love will bind us together. Get to know each other. Learn each other. That’s what God said, that’s what Jesus said, and then love. Love.
In reviewing the files for the church history work on “Marching To Zion,” there are many historical gems for this generation. God has been with our people and worked among them over the generations.

God’s Work in Wichita
On June 14, 1924, a group of approximately twenty members and friends gathered for one of their regular meetings at the home of John Schrock. Although they had never attended the meetings previously, the three sons of Alfred Lambert — Frank, Ernest, and George — were present that evening. After an evening of singing, Alfred Lambert took the Scriptures and opened to St. Matthew, Chapter 24. He began reading, and when he came to verse 15 and got to the word “Daniel,” he suddenly slumped and began falling out of his chair. His son, George, recalled that, “We brothers caught him and gently laid him on a bed, and he soon went to sleep.” Because of his death, they realized if they were ever to see their father again, they must repent for their sins and become converted.

George Lambert further remembers, “It was then that the dear Lord entered our hearts and by faith we believed.” The evening must have been an unforgettable one of those present, the death of an older brother-in-faith and the spiritual awakening of his three young sons in the span of a few minutes.

These three young men were “taken up” at the church at Burlington, Oklahoma, in December, 1924. With the consent of the congregation, Elder Gottlieb Kurz proved all three brothers at the same time.

George Lambert recalls the example his father Alfred set for the family. He said his parents were strict and demanded discipline. His father prayed and read the Bible after every meal, often explaining the meaning of what he had read. He remembers, when the family attended the Burlington church, sitting on the front bench with his brothers while his father watched closely so his sons would not be found talking, sleeping, or doing other “foolishness.” He remembers the trial of sitting still amid stifling summer temperatures, sometimes as high as 100 degrees, with stiff, starched shirts and a hot, steaming, celluloid collar (without a tie). George Lambert later became a minister in 1952.

Historical Facts From Elgin, Iowa
The practice of footwashing sometimes took place at Elgin. Men performed this rite in the assembly room, and the women in a downstairs room. This occurred in approximately 1906.

Changing the worship language from German to English was not without difficulty in Elgin. The church was evenly divided on this issue.

The common term, “taken up” (referring to a convert being proved, baptized, and received into the church) stems from the Swiss word Aufgenommen. It means being “taken in.”

Members formerly carried their personal songbooks to church. These books had their owner’s names engraved on them. This was a common practice among all the Apostolic Christian Churches.

Membership in Elgin peaked in 1904 when the church had approximately eighty to ninety members. During this year twenty-two persons were baptized on two successive days by Elder Gottlieb Maibach (then of Pulaski, Iowa).

-By Perry Klopfenstein
The two words “atonement” and “reconciliation,” as used in the KJV New Testament, are directly connected because they are translations of the same Greek root word, “allasso.” The meaning of this word is “to change, adjust, or restore,” referring to our relationship with others and with God.

The word “atonement” occurs 80 times in the Old Testament. For example, Moses instructed the priests, “And thou shalt offer . . . a bullock for a sin offering for atonement: and thou shalt cleanse the altar, when thou hast made an atonement for it, and thou shalt anoint it, to sanctify it.” Exodus 29:36

And Paul wrote to the Romans, “And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.” Romans 5:11

In both instances, a blood sacrifice was needed to absolve a person from sin and restore their relationship with God. Prior to the advent of Christ, this was accomplished by the sacrifice of animals. But in the Dispensation of Grace, only through Jesus’ sacrifice can a person obtain forgiveness of sin and restoration of their relationship with God.

The primary concept of “atonement” or “reconciliation” refers to the change in a person’s relationship with God, which He offers only through the sacrifice of His Son. There are two components of reconciliation, and both of them are essential in order to gain the heavenly inheritance.

1. Forgiveness of Sin

A small child is innocent of sin’s judgment until they can understand the consequences of violating God’s divine laws. But when a person with sufficient understanding does commit sin, the penalty for sin is (eternal) death: “For the wages of sin is death;” Romans 6:23a.

Before Christ came, God instructed His people to sacrifice animals in order to obtain forgiveness of sin. “For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.” Leviticus 17:11

But out of grace and love, God sent His only Son, Jesus, as the one and only remedy for sin:

“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

This cleansing from sin is accomplished when a soul believes and trusts in the sacrifice of Christ, confesses their sins, and repents or changes their lifestyle to conform to God’s Word.

2. Peace and Harmony with God

Sin separates us from God and causes our relationship with Him to be broken: “For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.” Romans 5:10

God cannot permit a sinner’s relationship with Him to be changed or “reconciled” until they have been redeemed by the sacrifice of His Son. When that happens, He adopts us as His children:

“And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ;” Romans 8:17a.

**Conclusion:** Atonement or reconciliation is the restoring of the right relationship with God bestowed on those who have been redeemed by His Son.

“To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them;” 2 Corinthians 5:19a.

-by Ron Heiniger
By and by the harvest,
and the labor ended,
We shall come rejoicing,
bringing in the sheaves.

Bringing in the sheaves,
bringing in the sheaves,
We shall come rejoicing,
bringing in the sheaves.