

BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. CIV

AUGUST, 2026

NO. 8

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and Scriptural in practice.	OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all the world and preach the gospel.
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OUR AIM: Be it our aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

GODLINESS

And to knowledge temperance,
and to temperance patience,
and to patience godliness.

And to godliness brotherly kindness,
and to brotherly kindness,
charity.

II Pet. 1:6-7

For bodily exercise profiteth little:
but godliness is profitable unto all things,
having promise of the life that now is,
and of that which is to come.

I Tim. 4:8

But godliness with contentment
is great gain.

I Tim. 6:6

ISLAMIFICATION

It is said that Christianity is the largest religion in the world and that Islam is the fastest growing religion. In the mid-1980's, a high-school friend of mine who had recently been born again, told me these facts. That was the first time I'd ever heard these things, and I was not at all familiar with Islam or what Muslims believed, and I was certainly not alone. Fast-forwarding to today, Christianity remains the largest religion and Islam is still the fastest growing religion. However, as the global population of Islam is catching up to that of Christianity, the influence of Islam has been growing and spreading. Not surprisingly, the average American is now far more aware of Islam than they were 40 years ago.

With this change, you may have heard the term "Islamification". Islamification refers to the process of a society shifting toward the religion, principles, and resulting culture of Islam. It historically describes the spread of Islam into new regions, but in more recent times, it is often used to describe relatively rapid societal changes resulting from immigration and demographic growth. Some examples of Islamification, that you may have heard about have been occurring in Dearborn, Michigan, New York City, Texas and parts of Europe.

As we continue to watch these things unfold with the growth and spread of Islam, we might become concerned, as we should. While Muslims are religious people, their beliefs

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and culture, based on the Quran and Hadith, are very different from those of Christianity. Some people and cultures have different names for God, and some say that Muslims and Christians worship the same God. However, this is false. Jesus Christ is known by many names, but Allah is not one of them. In fact, Allah is clearly not the same as our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

So, as we watch Islamification occurring, we might be tempted to ask the Lord why He allows this to happen. I have considered this and can think of several possibilities.

First, I suspect that the adage that "Nature abhors a vacuum" can come into play when it comes to religion. With the notable decline of Christianity in Europe and the U.S. in recent decades, I have to think that the spiritual "vacuum" in these areas has strengthened. I also believe that God puts a thirst in people for deity, for their creator as David expressed in Ps. 42:1-2 *"As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God..."* If people's hearts are not filled with the Holy Spirit,

the "vacuum" may draw them to seek God through some religion or spiritual practice, whether it be true or false.

Secondly, in history, God has at times used ruthless empires, such as the Assyrians and Chaldeans as tools of judgment for His people and to draw them back to Him. Might he be doing the same with the spread of Islam into former Christian strongholds?

Further, in Matt. 28:19-20, Jesus taught to *"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."* Many Christians either cannot or choose not to go to the nations of the world to teach people about their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. But have you considered that perhaps the Lord is bringing those with false beliefs to areas where true believers live, so that they might hear the truth of God's word? That they might be taught of Jesus Christ and be baptized in His name, the Father's and

the Holy Spirit's? If the Lord has you involved with teaching and baptizing people from outside the true faith, either now or in the future, what a blessing for both them and you! Them in that they are born again and receive eternal life in the Lord Jesus Christ and you, in that God spiritually blesses you and powerfully strengthens your faith, as you obey Him.

These are just a few possibilities that I can think of regarding the rise and spread of Islam but knowing the Lord, He is probably at work in far more ways, situations, and lives than we realize.

When we see the growth of Islam in our nation and culture, perhaps we see it as an intrusion. After all, America is a wonderful land with a foundation of Christian principles, God has blessed us to live here and, historically, Islam has not played

a role of influence in this nation. But let's not forget that we are citizens of two kingdoms, and may we let our primary identity be in our citizenship in the Kingdom of God.

As we continue to watch the world change before our eyes, our reaction may be that of fear. But brothers and sisters, our *"God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."* Therefore, *"Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord...but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began."* II Tim. 1:7-9

K. Brock

GOD'S WORD SHALL NOT RETURN UNTO HIM VOID

"I heard about Jesus there," the mother told her young son.

A woman that I recognized had come into the public library where I work, accompanied by her two children. As we talked,

she told her son that she had known me twenty-five years ago when she was a child, and her great-grandfather had taken her to the Plevna church on Sunday mornings. After he passed away,

several from the church made sure that she and her sister got to church for VBS and other services.

Now she recounted to me that after many difficulties in her life, she had turned to Jesus, been baptized, and was taking her children to a Bible-believing church. Her great-grandfather was a quiet, unassuming man, and most would have thought that he did not make much of a difference. Yet he had influenced into the fourth generation...so far.

Some years ago, I heard a preacher give his testimony. As a young boy in an abusive home, he had gone to summer Bible school with his neighbors. His family then moved, and he lost track of the neighbor children. In his teen years, he got in trouble and ended up in jail.

After getting out of jail, he determined to turn his life around but did not know how. He remembered the neighbor family and the stories he had learned about Jesus at their Bible school, so he hunted up that family. They invited him to church and mentored him, and he is now a preacher in a conservative Anabaptist church.

At Plevna, we are a

small congregation, but we do have some children. They hold a vital role in the church, encouraging us all with their enthusiasm, sharing of memory verses, and even asking for gum after services. We are currently holding our Vacation Bible School, and we are averaging thirty-some children in attendance. The words all of these children are hearing, the verses they are memorizing, and the stories they know about Jesus can influence them throughout their lives. They can also impact those around them for Christ now and later in life.

Isaiah 55:11 says, "*So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*"

We may not always realize the impact of sharing the Gospel, and we may not even see it in our lifetimes. But God promises to use the words that are shared. And some day, may the children of the third and fourth generation remember that they heard about Jesus there.

Karen Birt
Wabash, IN

DOG ATTACK

In the 1980's, I had the opportunity to tour Spain with my parents. My trip got off to a rocky start when I joined my group for a day trip to a mountainous Spanish town. After our tour guide was done talking to us, he left us go on our own to explore the town. I was walking along and came to an area where there were a lot of very small houses. The houses were only a couple feet off the street, so it was easy for me to talk with some of the people who lived there. It was a pleasure for me to talk with them in their native language and practice the Spanish language that I had studied in high school. This was a dream come true for me.

The houses in Spain feature brilliant white stucco walls that reflect the intense sun, paired with a rich natural color of terracotta roofs built for enduring comfort. The towns, nestled up on the hills in front of the mountains is a beautiful site from a distance.

I kept walking and exploring in this particular town until it faded into the countryside, where I encountered a sign featuring a dog with a scowling

face. Paying little attention to this sign, I walked past it. Shortly after I passed the sign, a large, aggressive police dog charged directly at me. He stood within arm's reach, facing me. Rooted to the spot, I managed to force myself to turn away, but the moment I turned my back, he attacked me.

That evening at the hotel, my parents and I debated our next steps regarding the dog attack. The next morning, we found a nearby clinic, but they couldn't handle the injury and sent us to a city hospital along the coast. They instructed us to find the dog, so we returned to the original town. A local police officer informed us that all dogs there are vaccinated annually, which was a relief but still left us uneasy. Finally, we located the owner and confirmed the dog was up-to-date on its rabies shots. It was a stressful experience, particularly navigating the language barrier. I was certainly glad for my knowledge of the Spanish language as it helped me get through this dilemma. I could have saved myself a lot of headache and not gotten

attacked if I would have paid attention to the sign I came across.

There are signs we encounter in life sometimes that we should not ignore. There are physical signs that we see with our eyes like I saw, and there are less obvious signs that are harder to recognize. There are warning signs dealing with our physical health. Losing weight without dieting or exercising or significant unexplained weight gain can indicate thyroid issues, diabetes or even certain cancers. An intense, radiating or persistent discomfort in the chest area is often an early sign of a heart attack.

There are warning signs dealing with our spiritual health as well. When a Christian begins to drift into sin, the Holy Spirit provides an internal feeling of uneasiness or guilt. It is God's gentle nudge, telling you that a thought, action or relationship is not right and is pulling you away from Him. God sometimes uses closed doors to redirect you. If you are heading into a situation that poses a spiritual danger, it might be God's way of intervening to protect you from harm. There are other

signs of spiritual decline as well. You might begin to tolerate or rationalize behaviors and habits that you once felt guilty about or previously convicted against. Behaviors and habits that once brought deep conviction are now justified as "it's not that bad." Or perhaps there is an increased tolerance or a numbing to worldly entertainment. A withdrawal from mature believers or church communities often happens because they are seen as judgmental or intrusive. Tolerating small compromises gradually strips away a person's defensive armor making them more vulnerable to more moral and ethical failures.

The phrase "sign of the times" is the sudden unavoidable integration of something new. A clear example is the shift toward generative AI or widespread cashless businesses as primary methods of interaction. It is when actions, once considered extreme or unusual, become universally accepted. This could include the mainstream embrace of remote work or revolving norms in workplace culture.

This year marks the 250th anniversary of the signing of the

Declaration of Independence for our country. During that time, the nation has gotten more liberal and compromised with scripture. In 2010, the common core standards dropped the requirement that cursive handwriting be taught in public schools. Some studies indicated it was a sign that deprives kid's brains of an important exercise that strengthens the integration of sensory perception and muscle movement. That's why around 27 states have decided to pass laws mandating or encouraging the return of cursive instruction to the classroom.

This year also marks another anniversary. That is the 100th anniversary of the existence of the Dunkard Brethren church. The Dunkard Brethren, unlike that of our country, has remained steadfast to the teaching of scripture. We hear a lot about the importance of searching the scriptures, but we are also expected to follow them. I Cor. 16:13 says *"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."* There

are people in the world who respect and admire the Dunkard Brethren for their commitment to follow the scriptures, rather than satisfy man. If a doctrine is no longer taught it will lead to confusion in the future. I met up with a worldly, elderly woman who somehow knew something about the Dunkard Brethren. She explained to me that the reason they are called Dunkard Brethren is because they dunk when they baptize. She understood the teaching of Jesus is to dunk into the water for baptizing, and who we are. May the steadfastness we had with scripture the first 100 years of our existence follow us through for the next 100 years if the Lord shall tarry. Jesus clearly showed us the physical way of baptism, as he came up out of the water in Jordan's river. My prayer is that we not only baptize in a way that we feel is valid, but that we continue to do it the way Jesus taught us.

Raymond Weidman
Ephrata, PA

THE TWELVE GREATEST THINGS

(John 3:16)

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | The Greatest Lover | God |
| 2. | The Greatest Degree | so loved |
| 3. | The Greatest Company | the world |
| 4. | The Greatest Act | that He gave |
| 5. | The Greatest Gift | His only Begotten Son |
| 6. | The Greatest Opportunity | that whosoever |
| 7. | The Greatest Simplicity | believeth |
| 8. | The Greatest Attraction | in Him |
| 9. | The Greatest Promise | should not perish |
| 10. | The Greatest Difference | but |
| 11. | The Greatest Certainty | have |
| 12. | The Greatest Possession | everlasting life. |

The depth of truth contained in this verse will never be adequately plumbed. No other verse has been preached on as much, yet no verse remains so unexplained.

Every young preacher has used this text, but the older we get, we realize that the meaning of John 3:16 must be felt and meditated upon rather than spoken.

God loved the world of sinners lost,
And ruined by the fall;
Salvation full, at highest cost,
He offers free to all

Oh, 'twas love, 'twas wondrous love!
The love of God to me;
It brought my Savior from above,
To die on Calvary.

Martha Stockton

Lynn H. Miller
Newmanstown, PA

THE GLORIOUS DELIGHT OF INTENTIONAL PEACE

You cannot turn on television today without somebody pontificating about peace, usually world peace. Often their idea of peace has little to do with real peace. Their idea of peace is what it takes to get along with them or forcing peace on somebody.

To have peace in our world you need policemen trying to “keep the peace.” They are sometimes referred to as “Peacekeepers.” Yet, there is little lasting peace in our world today. Just when you think the world cannot get any worse, something else happens.

I date back to the “Hippie” era that was responsible for what they called the peace movement. Their peace movement fell to pieces very quickly. Their peace had to do with doing whatever they wanted to do, whenever they wanted to do it, without any consequences to their action.

As Christians, we understand in our world are two kingdoms. Each kingdom has a different definition of peace. It depends on what kingdom you are part of as to what you believe peace to be. There is first, the kingdom of this world. We are so familiar

with that because it is all around us. Many people are trying to supervise peace in this kingdom and are having quite a time doing it. How many wars have been fought in this kingdom to bring peace to the world? World War I was said to be the war to end all wars. Actually, it was a war that began additional wars. There has never been a section of time since that time where there has not been war somewhere in this world.

There is another kingdom many people are not aware of. That is God’s kingdom ruled by none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. His kingdom really matters. God’s kingdom is not ruled by peace rather, peace is a result of Jesus Christ ruling. *“These things I have spoken unto you,”* Jesus said, *“that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world”* John 16:33. This is good news for us who sometimes are overwhelmed by the world around us.

God’s peace is not something that can be negotiated. It is always on His terms and His terms never change. The world

has a limitation, but God has no limitation, which means, whatever God has set down is still in operation today. That being so, it is rather strange that the kingdom of this world is looking for reasons to condemn Christianity. Christianity is on trial because the world wants to be the one setting the rules.

What would it be like if the world was really at peace, according to God's standard of peace? What would it be like to have a world without hate and crime and prejudice? That world is coming our way. That world is the kingdom of God.

I know that as a Christian I must do everything I can to propagate God's kingdom in the midst of the world's kingdom. And I know that I have the god of this world against me. But the thing I really take comfort in is that the devil can discourage me, but he can never defeat me. I am a part of God's kingdom that will overcome this present world.

Imagine a world without the so-called keepers of peace. Imagine a world where the love of God is the primary attitude and motivation in each individual. Of course we are not going to see that in this world. We will see little

bits and pieces of it among those who are a part of God's kingdom.

Teddy Roosevelt used to say, "Speak softly but carry a big stick." The world operates that way. That is the way the world thinks they can bring peace to a situation. The bigger the stick you have, the more you can control the environment.

All I have to say is, "How's that been working?" Not too well.

Jesus will rule this world and what a marvelous, wonderful world it will be. It will be a world filled with the delight of intentional peace. A world where hatred will be a thing of the past and there will be love one to another.

There will be no police force. No hospitals or doctors. The military will be a thing of the past. King Jesus will be ruling and out of His rule will come a peace that will engulf the world in righteousness and holiness and purity. The hymn writer said, "There's a peace in my heart that the world never gave, A peace it cannot take away."

What a world we have to look forward to.

James L. Snyder
Ocala, FL

FROM THE PAST...

Below is an article from the October 2010 issue of Salt of the Earth, by its author, Maddy Cordrey (Brock) at age 15. Salt of the Earth was a youth paper, published every other month between 2009 and 2011.

What's So Great About Writing?

Since not long after the creation of the earth people have been taking thoughts from their heads and translating them into letters that are chiseled into rock, carved into wood, scratched onto pottery, painted on an animal skin, written down on paper, cranked out of a typewriter, or punched into a computer. No matter what method or language was used, it was still writing just the same.

As we think back through time it is easy to see that if people long ago hadn't taken the time to write down their discoveries and experiences, we would not know anything about the history of the world. And what men before us learned and found out has been, and will always be, very important to the progress we make today.

I think that today people don't write much because they aren't expected to write. Writing is a skill that has to be learned with practice. The more you do it, the easier it is. And if you used

to write but haven't for a long time, you may be a little rusty. I learned that the hard way!

And, when you think about it, writing should be a lot easier than talking. You don't have to worry about stuttering, sneezing, or hiccupping when you're trying to get your point across. Your computer screen can't snub you if you say something wrong. You have time to sit there and think up clever ways to put things. And if you make a mistake all you have to do is hit BACKSPACE! Viola! :)

In Strong's Concordance I looked up a few scriptures about writing. Again and again God came to certain people and commanded them to write down what He told them to write. I know that I have never heard God call out loud to me, "Maddy! Take up your pen and write what I will tell you!" But of course, it's still possible that someday He might. And sometimes you will have something happen in your life or maybe a friend's life that just begs to be written down and shared.

Another thing that I find wonderful to think about is how that when men were writing the Bible, God was there, leaning over their shoulder, dictating the words to them. God is the greatest author there ever was! I think of how awesome it would be to have the Lord placing His hand over mine and guiding me as I write. And sometimes, I have to wonder if maybe He was and that the words I put down weren't from this thick head that is sitting on my shoulders. Other times, I'm pretty sure that that's exactly where they came from.

As a child I had to do a little writing assignment almost every day and would crank out awkward, unrealistic paragraph after paragraph. But Mom always read them and praised me for doing my best. God is the same way. He is the loving Father who looks at our clumsy attempts and tells us we've done a good job. So don't give up! I love being part of this newsletter and am really encouraged and inspired by the things that you have sent in. Let's find a reason to make our heavenly Father proud!

ETERNAL LORD

I will walk with my Saviour
As He guides me on my way.
"Oh, but I cannot see Him"
Is what my friends all say.
But by faith, I can see Him,
In His robes oh so fine,
With His staff He will guide me,
To a land that is sublime.

There will be no more sorrow,
There will be no more tears,
As we walk the streets of gold.
We won't even need to count years,
For eternity is before us,
As all men live in peace,
The ages will roll on,
All unrest, it shall cease.

There will be no need of sun,
Neither stars, nor a moon,
For Jesus is the light there,
And we will not there know gloom.
There the angels surround the throne,
As they worship our King,
And in the courts of eternity,
Alleluias shall forever ring.

Doris Compton
Carlisle, PA

BE LIKE THE BIRD

Be like the Bird,
That, pausing in her flight,
A while on the boughs too slight,
Feels them give way,
Beneath her and yet sings,
Knowing that she hath wings.

Victor Hugo

Submitted by Susan Nolt
Romulus, NY

CONNECTIONS

As members of the Bible Study Board our hope in writing monthly articles related to the Adult Sunday School Lessons is that we all see afresh different points of connection that reveal the Word made flesh.

Jesus said in Matthew 16:18 *"I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."* The book of Acts records the beginning

of this building project that is only expanded as the opposing forces try to stop it. In account after account, the Holy Spirit is unstoppable and the building

presses on. In Acts 1:8 Jesus says *"Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth."* We can be certain that when Jesus uses the imperative words 'will' and 'shall' that this building will continue exactly the way He has planned.

Acts chapters 8 & 9 give specific details of Jesus' word being fulfilled in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the uttermost part of the earth. In Jerusalem, Stephen witnessed for Jesus and was martyred. This had the effect of many believers being scattered abroad, preaching the word as they went. Phillip went to Samaria preaching Christ, causing many to give heed and be baptized, though Simon the Sorcerer misunderstood the Holy Spirit's power. The angel of the Lord then gave instruction to Phillip, *"go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza"*. In this area of the Judean desert, Philip witnessed for Jesus to a foreign dignitary, who was seeking the Lord by reading His word from the prophet Isaiah. Upon proclaiming belief

by faith in Christ, the Ethiopian eunuch was compelled to be immediately baptized. As the Holy Spirit moved further out into the uttermost part of the earth, Saul was struck down on the road to Damascus and converted. Then He sent visions to both Ananias and Saul, drawing the two brethren together to build one another up in the faith.

The Holy Spirit enacted the words of Jesus with unstoppable power back then and used people who believe by faith to do it. He gave the churches edification, comfort, and rest as He multiplied them. He is still building up the church today and calling people into God's kingdom. It is a proven certainty that Jesus' words will come to pass and believers can rest in that. We are filled with the Holy Spirit, so let us follow Jesus' words and be used by Him to do His will. Then we can, as the writer of the Hebrews says in Hebrews 4:11, *"labor therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief."*

On behalf of the Bible Study Board
Bro. Kidron Crist

UPDATE FROM THE NETHERLANDS & INDIA

Brother Praveen is from a town in the southeast of India. He has a heart for spreading the gospel message among the Telugu people who live there and also wants to see his own church of about 45 families live closer to scripture. There are a few others in the church that share his conviction to live much as we do in the Schwarzenau brethren, Amish and Mennonite churches, but the nearest anabaptist church is a 5-hour drive away. Moreover, the commission of our Lord has been made very dangerous by the recent passing by the Uttarakhand congress of an amendment to the Freedom of Religion Bill that outlaws “portraying the practices, rituals, and ceremonies of any religion or any integral part thereof in a prejudicial manner in relation to any other religion; or glorifying one religion as against another” - in other words, to make a distinction between the true God and false gods is now illegal. Christian preachers have already been jailed, and often on vague accusations or social media posts alone, as they encourage people to live in accordance with God’s will. Please, join us in praying for Bro. Praveen and others in their church, that they not faint but continue to spread the gospel in spite of government persecution.

II Tim. 3:12: “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.”

If you know of other Christians in India, so that we could connect them for encouragement, or you know someone who would travel over there to encourage the churches, please reach out to Bro. Tama McGlinn at t.mcglinn@gmail.com. There are several churches already in India, but we will not publish full names or contact details here, to not attract the attention of the authorities unnecessarily.

We are reminded how blessed we are to live in countries that have a clear distinction between church and state, even as Jesus intended, when he said *“my kingdom is not of this world”* (John

18:36). In the Netherlands, we have been quite worried about the possibility that the government would outlaw homeschooling, but our worries are small in comparison to those needing to stay hidden just for being Christians at all. We heard last week that the Dutch “office of the attorney general” issued statements indicating they are not going to prosecute the cases that have come up in the past few months in regard to homeschooling, so long as the law is not changed, so we are a lot less concerned now than we have been. Thank you for your prayers.

May God bless you,
Love,

Tama McGlinn
Friesland, The Netherlands

WEDDING

Lukas Rice and Kylie Zook. Lukas, son of Zac and Carla Rice and Kylie, daughter of Bruce and Gina Zook were united in marriage on June 20, 2026, at Warfordsburg, Pennsylvania. They reside in Piqua, Ohio.

BIRTHS

Paxton & Katie Martin of Newmanstown, Pennsylvania welcomed Stetson Tate on June 17, 2026.

Dallas & Alyssa Brown of West Unity, Ohio welcomed Declan Edward on June 23, 2026.

OBITUARIES

Jim Eberly

James D. "Jim" Eberly, 72 of Lititz, Pennsylvania, lived a life dedicated to the Lord and on Friday June 19, 2026, that faith was made sight when he was welcomed home by his Savior following a courageous battle with cancer. He was the loving husband of Frances (Cease) Eberly, they would have celebrated 54 years of marriage this August. It was the joy of his life to walk beside her and their marriage was a testament to the gift that union is when surrendered to God's design.

Born in Ephrata, he was the son of the late Allen and Martha (Stauffer) Eberly. Jim's unwavering faith in the Lord impacted every area of his life. His desire was for everyone to come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and often stated that he wanted his life and cancer journey to be one that is a witness of the goodness of God. Family and friends alike were impacted by Jim's calm and kind nature that brought much encouragement and comfort to their lives. His grandchildren will remember his keen interest in their activities. Jim also enjoyed literature and extensively studied church history. He was a skilled craftsman of plumbing and was noticed by all of his customers for his friendly professionalism and work ethic. He was a longtime partner of the

Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church where he enjoyed pastoring & serving the congregation. His service to others included mission trips, fostering children and being a member of the Terre Hill Fire Department.

Surviving in addition to his wife Frances are their children, Christina wife of Nathaniel Nolt, Lititz, Shannon husband of Rebecca Eberly, Terre Hill, Janelle wife of Russell Zimmerman, Minerva, OH; 12 grandchildren; 6 great grandchildren; four siblings, Roy (Sandra), Darla, Lori and Krista; a sister in law, Alma; and a brother in law Michael. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother Ricky Eberly and a son in law Jay Weiler.

A service was held on June 23, 2026, at White Oak Church of the Brethren, Manheim.

Kenneth Fosberg

Kenneth "Kenny" Fosberg, 81, of Medway, Ohio, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loved ones on December 20, 2025. He was born on December 18, 1944, in Beverly, Massachusetts, to Kenneth L. & Barbara L. (McKinnon) Fosberg. He was a 1965 graduate of Tecumseh High School; Kenny was a Boy Scout and reached the status of Eagle Scout. He worked at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for 38 years and then went on to work for Avis for 13 years before retiring completely. He enjoyed camping, fishing, and traveling to visit family. Kenny went to Waffle House daily to enjoy a cup of coffee. Kenny will be remembered for his golden heart, his generosity, and for always helping those in need.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Bernice Fosberg; daughter Loretta Klein; son, John (Jennifer) Fosberg; 8 grandchildren; 6 great grandchildren; Mother Barbara Fosberg; siblings, Cynthia, Linda, Martha, Timothy, and many nieces, nephews, other relatives, and friends. Kenny was preceded in death by his father, Kenneth, in 2003. A service was held on January 17, 2026, at Trostel, Chapman, Dunbar & Fraley Funeral Home in New Carlisle.

Joyce Heisey

Joyce Elaine (Houser) Heisey, age 83 of Troy, Ohio, passed from this life to her eternal life Friday, March 13, 2026 at Ohio's Hospice of Miami County. Joyce was a miracle who has lived with a heart pump/LVAD for almost 12 years when survivability is five years. She appreciated the Ohio State – Ross Heart Hospital for her wonderful care.

She was born in Greenville on October 1, 1942, the firstborn to the (late) William R. & Neva K. (Sargent) Houser; was a graduate of Bradford High School, Class of 1960; graduated with her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education in 1964 from Manchester University in Indiana; and in the early 80's graduated with her Master's Degree in Education from the University of Dayton. Joyce had worked at Covington School System, St. Patrick's School in Troy; and then she found "her home" at Miami East School system where she taught until her retirement, in 1996, after 34 years of teaching "my kids".

She was baptized into the Brethren faith at an early age and was a member of the Troy Church of the Brethren where she served as a Deacon, served many funeral meals and helped on many committees throughout the years. She was also a member of the Retired Teachers Association. Joyce kept busy after retirement with traveling, reading, cooking, entertaining and helping others, plus some of her hobbies were creating greeting cards, cross-stitching baby quilts for family, and canning garden produce.

Preceded in death by her parents; infant sister, Marcia Kay Houser; brother, William Robert "Bobby" Houser II; and sister-in-law, Delores Ann Heisey. Joyce is survived by her loving husband, Larry E. Heisey, whom she married on August 21, 1965. Larry was a classmate of hers at Bradford High School in 1960 with 60 years together. She is also survived by her brother, Christopher "Chris" Houser of Sidney; her in-laws, Duane & Dixie Heisey of Arcadia, FL, Dale & Connie Heisey of Goshen, IN, Jan & Mary Ellen Heisey of Taylorsville, MS, Paul & Dianne Heisey of West

Unity, OH, Karen & Stephen Blocher of Bradford, and Steve & Renee Heisey of West Unity, OH; special friends, Karen & J.B. McBride, Jesse & Kathy Allen, Cindy & Lou Buttino; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

A funeral service was held at Troy Church of the Brethren, Troy, on March 21, 2026, with Pastor Jon Keller officiating, followed by interment at Miami Memorial Park Cemetery, Covington.

NEWS ITEMS

CornerStone, Ohio

All are welcome to join us in person and in prayer for our annual Revival Meetings August 5-9 with Bro. Brad Wertz, from Quinter, Kansas. Services will be held at 7 p.m. each night from Wednesday to Saturday. Sunday School will be held at 9:30 a.m. Sunday morning followed by preaching service at 10:30 a.m. and a carry-in meal following.

We also invite you to our Harvest Meeting Weekend September 26-27, with Bro. Keith Snyder, from Lititz, Pennsylvania as our guest speaker. Services will be held Saturday evening at 7 p.m. with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. and preaching at 10:30 a.m. with a carry-in meal to follow. Please join us in person and in prayer.

Arlene Rolle, Correspondent

Dallas Center, Iowa

The Dallas Center Dunkard Brethren plan to host fall revival meetings August 21-23. Bro. Jeff Davison from the Garnett, Kansas congregation will be sharing the Word with us for the weekend. Services will begin on Friday, August 21 at 7:30 p.m. On Saturday, services will be held at 10:45 a.m. and 2 p.m. Love Feast will begin at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will come to an end on Sunday. Please hold Bro. Jeff in prayer as he prepares to share the Word. All are welcome to join us.

Julie Meyers, Correspondent

Pleasant Ridge, Ohio

The Pleasant Ridge congregation would like to invite you to our Harvest Meeting on August 23. Bro. Bob Carpenter from the Berean, Indiana congregation will be our speaker. The morning services begin at 9:30 a.m. with a potluck lunch to follow. There will be an afternoon service at 2 p.m. Hope you can come worship with us.

Teresa St John, Correspondent

Women's Retreat

Ladies...don't forget to mark your calendars for Women's Retreat October 2-3 at Lake James Christian Camp and Retreat Center in Angola, Indiana. Please join us for a time of spiritual encouragement, fellowship, worship (and excellent food!). This year's theme is *"Hospitality in Jesus' Name"* and the speakers are Mary Sue Moss, Melissa Davison and Kathy Schaurer. The brochure and registration information will be emailed in August. Contact Melissa Brock (at 419-515-3460) if you would like to be added to the email list. Please pray for this year's retreat and for the speakers as they prepare.

Minutes in One Volume

The updated Minutes from General Conferences are now available on the Dunkard Brethren website. With this update, Minutes from all the way back to the beginning of the Dunkard Brethren Church are digitally available. This single volume includes General Conference Minutes from 1927 to 2025.

To see the Minutes in One Volume, go to the Dunkard Brethren Church website and:

- Scroll down to "Publications"
- Click on "Learn More"
- In "Dunkard Brethren Church Minutes", click "Download"

This digital version of the Minutes is quite useful as it is not only organized by topic but is also searchable. For example, if you are interested in seeing the history of conference decisions on topics such as Baptism or Missions, simply refer to the Table of Contents

and review the appropriate section which provides a chronological history of decisions on the topic. Alternatively, you can search for words such as “Baptism” or “Missions”, etc. to find what you are looking for.

A special thanks to Bro. Marvin Lorenz for the many hours he has invested in this project.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR August 2026

Aug. 2 - Acts 8:34-40 - Phillip Evangelizes, A Eunuch Proselytizes

1. Of whom do the prophets of the Old Testament speak?

2. How would a person begin with Isaiah 53:7-8 and teach Jesus?

3. Upon believing the gospel of Christ at the direction of the Holy Spirit, is there any reason to delay obeying Him in the act of baptism?

4. Is there any unbelief in your soul that hinders you from being fully immersed in Jesus?

Aug. 9 - Acts 9:1-9 - Saul Blinded by the Light

1. Why was Saul so zealously against the disciples of the Lord?

2. What is the meaning of “kick against the pricks”?

3. When the gospel light shines with shocking brilliance into your life, do you ask the Lord what He wants you to do about it?

Aug. 16 - Acts 9:10-18 - Two Visions Lead to Saul's Baptism

1. Have you ever experienced an encounter with another person where the Holy Spirit had so clearly coordinated putting both of you on a course to come in contact?

2. Is it appropriate to tell the Lord what you fear when He has instructed you to do something that challenges you?

3. What could be the reasons that Saul was blinded?

Aug. 23 - Acts 9:19-25 - Saul Preaches Christ And Escapes Jews by Night

1. How does the Holy Spirit use Saul's past to reinforce the gospel message that he is preaching?

2. What message confounded the Jews?

3. What are the other instances in scripture where a person is let down from the city wall in their escape from those that want to kill them?

Aug. 30 - Acts 9:26-31 - Apostles Accept Saul

1. Has the Holy Spirit ever put a Barnabas in your life that brought you and other believers together?

2. How did Saul dispute against the Grecians?

3. How can the church today be at rest, be edified, and be multiplied?

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