

New Library Location: 120 North Main Street, **Eureka, IL**
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Heritage Center Foundation Newsletter

FALL 2023 | ISSUE 26

This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord,
and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.

ISAIAH 54:17

New Legacy of Faith Book Now Available

This new Heritage Press book contains letters, writings, and meditations of many brethren written down in the early years of the Froehlich fellowship in Western and Eastern Europe as well as in North America.

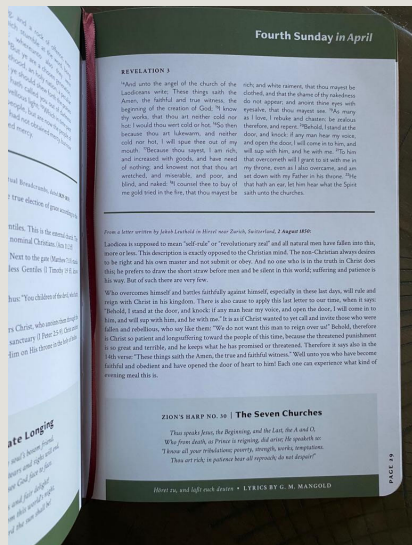
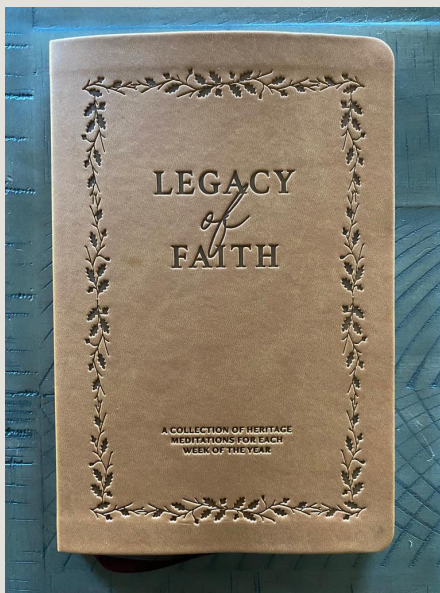
Brethren whose writings and meditations are included: Joseph Bella, Christian Blaser, J.A. Braun, Johann Diebold, Heinrich Dotterer, Peter Eichenberger, Samuel Froehlich, Heinrich Geistlich, John Gerber, Lajos Hencsey, Christian Hoerr, Adam Imthurn, Anton Knippilt, Kaspar Koch, Jakob Leuthold, Kaspar Leuthold, August Lung, G.M. Mangold, Jozsef Notter, Andreas Rapp, Johann Schlipf, a brother Schmidt, Heinrich Schurter, Johannes Unsicker, a brother Wälti, Benedikt Weyeneth, and Rudolf Witzig.

Brief biographical sketches are provided at the end of the book for each of the individuals listed above.

Each entry opens with an appropriate Scripture selection (usually the central Scripture of the meditation excerpt) and closes with fitting verses from the Zion's Harp. The book is also laid out in an optional but easy-to-follow weekly schedule that synchronizes you with other readers.

Legacy of Faith is now available for \$15 and can be ordered directly from the Heritage Center (contact information above), or through Melt the Heart (melttheheart.com) or by calling or texting 309-249-6281.

An excerpt: *"Take courage, my beloved ones, and be not afraid of the adversary; but be steadfast, manly, and strong through the power of Jesus which is given unto us; and let the pure love of Christ freely flow, which is a good guidepost and never fails: for the inner man, the love of God, and for the outer being, the fear of God."* -Benedikt Weyeneth



Heritage Center Library Updates

An improved display of items belonging to G.M. Mangold and his family is now finished. We have also improved labeling and organization of the Zion's Harp display, which now includes a first-edition (1855) *Zionsharfe* as well as a precursor hymnal that was used by the Froehlich congregations prior to the Zion's Harp.

Two new (and very old) items at the library:

- From **1841**: An original pamphlet circulated in Bern Switzerland by a Protestant state church pastor, criticizing Froehlich and his beliefs.
- From **1842**: An original first edition printing of Froehlich's treatise "**Die Ehe...**" (published in English under the title "Matrimony").

Items available for personal use:

- 55 English "long books" (same as the German *Heft* songbook except for two songs) are available in wooden carriers to check out from the library for singings.
- Some duplicate materials are set aside and labeled as available to take home (permanently) for your collection.



The updated Heritage Center Library in Eureka.

Updated Electronic Collection of Samuel Froehlich Writings

The latest version (v. 36) of this searchable electronic collection is now available on a **flash drive** for \$10 each.

The updated version 36 includes two major updates: **(1)** Samuel Froehlich's meditations on Romans and **(2)** Spiritual Breadcrumbs, Samuel Froehlich's earliest known writings which were published for the first time in 2013. (Hardcopy versions of both books are also available from the Heritage Center or from Melt the Heart.)

The electronic collection is in PDF format and is **2,374 pages**. Searching by Scripture or topic can be helpful.

If you have had problems using previously purchased versions of the electronic collection, please contact the Heritage Center and we will replace it (heritagecenterfoundation@gmail.com or call/text 309-249-6281).

DID YOU KNOW?

In our baptismal vows we hear the convert is to "erect a covenant," a phrase that is unusual in the English language. The unique phrase comes from a translation of the baptismal vows used in the original German, specifically the phrase **einen Bund aufrichten** (literally, to erect or set up a covenant) which is used in the Luther Bible (Genesis 17:7). **Aufrichten** can literally mean to "erect" something like a wall or a building but is also used figuratively (as in Genesis 17:7) to mean "establishing" an arrangement, contract, or covenant.

A Selection from History

*In years past the Silver Lining included occasional entries titled **Know Each Other Better** based on an interview with one of the older members in each congregation. Below is one of those entries from Princeville, November 1961:*



“One of our older brothers, William Elsasser, was born on November 9, 1877, in Unterbrettach, Germany. He came to this country with his parents, arriving here on February 15, 1892. They migrated to Morton, Illinois, where he worked for Chris Belsley for eight months, earning \$15.00 a month. He worked four years for John Huette, earning \$17.00 a month, and because hard times came, he looked for work elsewhere. He went to Roanoke and worked two years for Jacob Schlipf for \$20.00 a month. For four years, he worked for Peter Hodel in Metamora for \$25 a month, and while here, turned to the Lord in repentance and was baptized by Elder Brother Fehr in Roanoke in 1901.

While in Germany, he was privileged only twice to attend the church of our faith, but in this country had the opportunity to learn more of it. He worked one year for Ernest Feldman and came to Speer, Illinois, to do some fall work. While there, he had a chance to rent a farm for himself. On December 2, 1903, he married Sis. Marie Hoerr in the old church on Streitmatter Prairie near Princeville, Illinois. Their honeymoon was spent at Pulaski, Iowa. There were nine children born to them: Ernest, Chris, Lena Rumbold, Anna Streitmatter, Phillip, William Jr., Emma Knobloch, John, and Marie Seidel. All but one have been converted and attend church at Princeville, with the exception of Ernest, who lives in Peoria. Their mother died on February 20, 1946. There are thirty-seven grandchildren, eleven of them converted, and eleven great-grandchildren. They all attend Princeville church, but one granddaughter, Sis. Marie Rumbold Knobloch, who lives in Lester, Iowa.

When Brother William was seventy-nine years old, he went by air to Germany and Switzerland, accompanied by Brother Peter Weber and Brother Emil Hoerr and wife of Peoria. While there, he visited with cousins, old schoolmates, and friends, and wherever he went, he spread goodwill by doing his share of charity. At eighty-four, he is hale and hearty, and his greatest pleasure is doing good for the poor with sincere love and humility. He says that God has been good to him, and he has been greatly blessed spiritually, as well as financially and materially. He is a landowner, so he feels it is his duty to share with the less fortunate. He makes his home with his daughter and son-in-law, Sis. Marie and Bro. Richard Seidel, and family near Wyoming, Illinois, but where there is work among his children, he is there, for to do for others makes him happy, and he enjoys being busy. He is a great asset to our church and loved by everyone.”



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Close to Thee

Hymns of Zion #223, verses 6 and 7

Verses by Philip Gutwein, Jr. of Crvenka, Serbia and Francesville, Indiana

Dead to sin, I am now buried,	Planted with Thee in Thy dying
From its curse forever free;	Risen like Thee I shall be;
Buried with Thee in baptism,	By the Father's might and glory,
Saviour, let me rest with Thee.	Saviour, let me rise with Thee.