

HERITAGE CENTER FOUNDATION

Fall 2010

Issue 8

...This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.
Isaiah 54:17

"A Great Reunion: The Story of the Fetzer Family" tells the incredible story of how Yugoslavian brothers found themselves on opposite sides of the conflict during World War II and how their family, which was scattered all over the world, eventually was reunited in the United States.



Fetzer Account Display at the Heritage Center Library

Free Downloads Available

Several items from the Heritage Center Library are now available as free downloads from melttheheart.com. Hard copies can also be made at the library.

- 1) "A Great Reunion: the Story of the Fetzer Family (display pictured above)
- 2) "God Provides for the Starving" by Erica Toth
- 3) Froehlich sermon of 1-1-1830 (described on page 3).

Third Edition *Zion's Harp* Received

Thank you to the brother who has loaned an 1869 *Neue Zionsharfe* to the Heritage Center. With this addition to our library collection, we were able to send copies of various songs to a brother in the Ukraine who is working on a new Ukrainian translation of the *Zion's Harp*. We hope this has been a help to his efforts and can be a blessing to visitors to the Heritage Center.

Historical Materials Available from the Heritage Center

Stories of Faith and Courage, Vol. 1 \$10.00, Vol 2, \$10.00, Vol. 3, \$12.00
Stories of Faith and Courage, Audio Book, 20 CD's, 23 hours listening time \$35.00
Stories of Faith and Courage, Audio Book, MP3 Flashdrive, 23 hours listening time \$20.00
History of the Church Time Line, Large \$25.00, Small \$17.50
Lighting a Candle Booklet \$5.00
Heritage of Faith Church History Course CD \$25.00

Contact Heritage Press at 309-249-6281 or email heritagecenterfoundation@gmail.com

1866 Geistlich Diary – Soon to be Printed

Follow the steps of Henry Geistlich, a Swiss elder who sailed to America in 1866 and journeyed through the eastern half of the United States. His daily diary from May to October reveals his thoughts as he traveled across the country and visited newly-established Apostolic Christian Churches. Geistlich also describes his observations of rural America at that time and gives an interesting glimpse into history.

Expected print date of January 2011

To reserve your copy of the Geistlich diary, call Heritage Press at 309-249-6281 or email heritagecenterfoundation@gmail.com.

Marching to Zion

The Heritage Center has been given a number of *Marching to Zion*, first editions. If you would be interested in one, please contact Sally Fehr at sfehr@fairviewhaven.org or call 815-848-3422.

Next *Zion's Harp* CD Available

The second *Zion's Harp* audio CD, with hymns 17 through 32, is now available from various Rejoice Distribution distributors and retailers. The price for each CD is \$15. To order CD's, please call 309-376-6001 or email sales@rejoicedistribution.com.

Booklet Inside

Many brethren have expressed how much they have enjoyed listening to the *Stories of Faith and Courage* audiobook. Have you seen the booklet that is located inside the front of the case? This booklet lists the names and running times for the stories on each CD and also includes a map of Eastern Europe.

Original Hungarian Letter from 1846

Have you written an encouraging letter to someone lately? Below is a translation of a letter over 160 years old, written by one Hungarian believer to another in 1846. This was shortly after the establishment of the Nazarene (Apostolic Christian) faith in Hungary. The letter of encouragement to be faithful in trials and sufferings was written to Imre Hencsey, one of the first believers in Hungary. It was found in an old Bible in the home of the grandson of an elder who shepherded the flock at Monoszlo, Hungary. Still in readable Hungarian, the original letter is displayed at the Heritage Center Library.

Lentzburg, June 4, 1846

From my heart beloved brother in the Lord! The love of God and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with us all and the communion of the Holy Spirit Amen!

My soul rejoiceth that the Lord kept you in His grace and you remain true to Him. Oh, my beloved brother, stay true until the death. So will the Lord give you the crown of life who knows how soon can come our last hour because our life is like a flower which just blooms and soon fadeth away. Even though there are many trials and sufferings in this world, but there is no struggle greater than the grace of God toward us and there is no suffering so great that we could not bear it through the power of God. Even though it seems as our strength would fade away and our heart get tired in the struggle, even then we will proclaim with the songwriter: Thou art the blessed Saviour; Thy coming we would see! ZH 134 song, v. 4.

Did you know. . .

When Samuel Froehlich preached, or when he wrote down his notes afterward, he did not utilize the Luther translation of the German Bible. He was such a very talented and educated man that his practice was to utilize either the Hebrew (Old Testament) or Greek (New Testament) and translate instantaneously into German as he went along. Consequently, the Scripture quotations in his writings are not the standard Luther translation— they are Froehlich's own. This practice was probably also consistent with Froehlich's desire to proclaim and teach what the Scriptures actually say. While Luther was admittedly a courageous reformer of his day, Froehlich did not necessarily wholly accept Luther's translation, or whatever subtle biases or viewpoints Luther may have introduced into his translation.

Translators Needed

As new discoveries of untranslated historical materials are being uncovered, the need for translators continues to be great. Anyone who is knowledgeable in German/Swiss, Hungarian, Romanian, or Croatian could be very helpful in the translation effort, even if not considered completely fluent in these languages. If you are able and willing to give even a small amount of translation time, please contact the foundation at heritagecenterfoundation@gmail.com or phone at 309-249-6281.

Newly Discovered Writing

Recently discovered in Europe and translated from German to English is a complete sermon on Genesis 15:1-6 delivered by Samuel Froehlich on January 1, 1830. This sermon is unique in that it contains the very words that Froehlich spoke, different from the sermons in the books of Froehlich's writings which were notations written by Froehlich after each service.

It is not known who recorded the 1830 sermon, which was presumably given in the Reformed Church of Switzerland in Leutwil during the time when Froehlich's beliefs were being scrutinized by the state church council. Having repented in 1825 and holding beliefs contrary to the doctrines of the Reformed Church, he was dismissed from his ministry in June of 1831. Froehlich later continued expounding the Word of God, and as a result, the Apostolic Christian Church came into being.

A short excerpt from the New Year's Day message is given below. The complete sermon can be downloaded from melttheheart.com, or copies can be made at the Heritage Center Library in Fairbury, Illinois.

A Selection from History

The following words were spoken by Bro. Samuel Froehlich on **January 1, 1830**:

If it would happen to you like this, my dear ones, namely at this important entry into the new year- where heavy thoughts would come, as anxiety, doubt, worry, and care; when one hoped for a long time, and the Lord still did not reveal- so take an example by the leading of the father of the believers [Abraham], and see how the darkness came and rushed at him. When could a true and sincere heart sooner be overtaken by fear than at the thought of the future, as on the New Year, when one is thinking about the past and the future and examines himself before the Lord? But what comfort, when one can admit, "Thus far the Lord has helped me and He will help me further more."

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“Encouragement to Faith’s Battle”
Zion’s Harp #51, verses 5 and 7

Spirits of the just made perfect
Bid us to be strong and brave,
Saying, “Brethren, in His service
Be ye faithful to the grave.
Hallelujah! Stand in union
To the end of earthly strife,
Till you sing the song of triumph
With us in eternal life!”

Cheer up, then, and strive, ye ransomed,
In this toilsome, trying time;
God will comfort and reward us
With eternal rest sublime!
Only he who is victorious
Shall the crown of life receive;
Then prevail in prayerful watching,
Love, endure, hope and believe!