

And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre?

And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great.

And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.

And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: he is risen; he is not here: behold the place where they laid him.



"....the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever."

THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

CHRIST, THE MORNING STAR

Samuel H. Froelich

Thursday, October 22, 1846
Revelation 22:16 to end (Scripture basis for meditation)

In the conclusion, as in the beginning, Jesus testifies that He is the originator of the revelation, in order that we believe and deal with it with all reverence.

He calls Himself the Root and the Offspring of David (the God-Man), and the bright Morning Star. As the morning star is the harbinger of day, rising before the sun, so was also Christ in His first appearance the announcer of a new day, which will dawn with His second appearance in glory. As Morning Star, by His Holy Spirit He rises in the hearts of the believers, so that they may have a certain testimony from Him for the future glory; the anchor of their hope would enter into the inner part of the curtain.

As the tabernacle had two sections, divided by two curtains and separated, the first curtain to the Holy Place for the priests, and the other for the All-Holiest or Holy of Holies, for the high priest, so also has the glory of Jesus Christ two revelations, in the spirit and in the future resurrection of the body.

The first revelation is to the second what the rising of the morn-

ing star is to the rising of the sun. Peter says: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts".

"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."

The full day of eternity will reveal this with much greater clearness of fulfilment than we are now in position to comprehend, because of its mystery through the dark glass (I Corinthians).

There is also the difference between the present and the future, as the difference between a bride and a wife. A veil has already been lifted in order to be able to see, in spirit. In the revelation of the glory of Christ, however, the second veil will be removed.

The prophetic word has been given to the church of believers and saints; and as the Spirit of Christ calls from earth to heaven, **Come, Lord Jesus!** thus we hear the echo of this cry in and out of the hearts of the believers (of the bride): **Yea, come, Lord Jesus!** The answer of the Lord comes from heaven, **Yea, I come soon!**

Whoever belongs to the bride of Christ and through the Holy Spirit is assured of His return from heaven, cannot do otherwise than long and groan thereafter. Not so the godless; they do not say, **Come, Lord Jesus,** although they also would like to be saved. Therefore, it is not merely an outward hearing, when we read: "And let him that heareth say, Come". Whoever would truly be saved, to him the way is shown and opened: Let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. That is the Holy Spirit, with Whom Christ adorns His bride and seals to the day of redemption in His coming.

Through Christ's first coming in the flesh and in the Spirit, we become children of God, and through His second advent we are exalted as heirs of God.

The physical hearing is meant when it says: **I testify to every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book. If any man shall add unto these things or take away . . . God tries man with His word, if they will accept and keep it as He has given, or if they believe the devil, who as he did in Paradise would steal God's Word from us, so that we may not be saved.**

HOLY FIRE

Bro. Ben Hartzler

Jesus said, **I am come to kindle a fire upon earth, and how I wish it were already burning.**

Doubtless there are many ways that these words of the Master have been explained. The scriptures refer to fire many times, in many different ways. John mentioned fire as a means of destroying the chaff. The Master mentioned fire as a burning up of the tares, or in other words consuming something evil or worthless.

At other times He used the word "fire" as a means of giving light or expelling darkness. Still in other places He mentioned fire as a pun-

ishment for a wasted or unfruitful life, or one of sin and ungodliness.

There is another way in which fire is used. That is the medium by which God's people, and in particular His servants, have been motivated and inspired to go and labor in the vineyard of the Lord, the field of this world. How were the apostles of the Lord changed and inspired, when at Pentecost those cloven tongues of fire appeared, as if from nowhere, and rested on them. They seemed instantly to be transformed from a frightened band of fugitives, hiding from the wrath of evil and ungodly men,

into a united group of bold and fearless men, unafraid to carry out the mission and labors which their Master had commanded, even in defiance of the Jewish leaders and the might of the Roman empire, and in the face of threats of imprisonment, torture or death.

That mighty rushing wind and those cloven tongues of fire did something to those men, who then became the builders of the Christian church. From that humble beginning it has spread far and wide over the world.

Many times since that little band of men were inspired, through faith

in God and their Master, the Christ. The church has been threatened by the powers of evil. There were always again men who were inspired to stand up for the truth and their faith in God. We believe this faith has been kept alive to our day.

Today, this church is again threatened from without and from within. There is a mighty power in the world which seems to deny the very existence of God. That power is putting forth a terrible effort to indoctrinate the peoples of the world with its ideologies. There is that invisible power that is trying to make God's people indifferent to the dangers and needs around them. The Master spoke of another condition that we will have to guard against, the ground where thorns grew up and choked the good plants, that they were unfruitful. These thorns, the Master said, were the cares of this life, the

deceitfulness of riches and the lusts of other things. Where is there a servant of God who does not think of these things?

As the Master said, how He wished that fire would be burning already in His day, how great is the need in our day for men who can be dedicated and willing to work in the vineyard of the Lord, the fields of the world.

Those early Christians worked against such great obstacles, and still seemed to be motivated by a sense of urgency and need, even to the extent of giving up their life. Today, we are protected by our government; we have means of communication and transportation that the world never before had.

Perhaps the Lord often looks down upon us and longs for that fire to be rekindled again today.

People are subjected to so many ideas, doctrines, philosophies and opinions, via newspapers, maga-

zines, schools, colleges, radio and TV, that we need to be aroused, imbued with godly zeal to meet this challenge. The adversary, Satan, has always challenged the church of God in many different way. Now it is up to us who labor in God's vineyard to be alert and active, not only to look back and try to do as was done fifty or seventy-five years ago, but to work today, combat the enemy of today.

There are many children growing to manhood and womanhood. Life has become so complex and difficult, that we surely need the church as a place where people can go and find good, wholesome spiritual food and divine guidance, for if God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever would believe on Him should not perish, but have eternal life, it surely behooves us also to give of ourselves, out of love for them.

ON HIGH SEAS

Journey of Bro. Geistlich, 1866

The Lord is a fort in the time of affliction. Blessed is he who can trust in Him. The Lord cares for us and reveals Himself unto us, wherever we may be. His Father heart is open in Jesus Christ our Lord, who loves us and gave us an everlasting consolation and hope. How good it is when a man must go through many trials and provings and call to God, who has promised His help.

Here on the sea is a real proving, where in storm, life and death are tied close together. If it be God's will, so is the bodily death only a passing over to the eternal life. Today, I felt good in body, soul and spirit, and if I were parted from

the children of God with my body, I was united with them in the spirit.

Sunday, May 20 . . . To suffer is also good. I am here in the cabin, but in the spirit I am at home, where today there is church. O that God would bless them and carry them, as He has always done to them that call to Him with all their heart.

Monday, May 21. Weather fair; sea quiet. If only we could long for that Fatherland, as a man longs for land on the sea. How far are we yet lagging in this?

I often think of Noah, saying in my heart, Noah's ark long drifted on the surging flood, but eyes up-

lifted, trusted he in God. As the ship did rock, his courage did not fail. Often my courage seems to fail, but I can console myself, as the Lord is strong—we are weak.

Also, this verse often comes to my mind:

Though the waves of life's great ocean

Harass us from far and near,
Would humanity's commotion
Plunge us into sore despair,
Though the Saviour holds His peace,

Seems to sleep and rest at ease,
Naught shall move your faith in Jesus.

Soon the storm and flood decreases!

JERUSALEM, THE NEW

Henry Souder Jr

"And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife."

Home is where bright dwellings glow and draw. Holy page is with glorious warmth. It is amazing, the depth, the outside and inside. Expression finds nowhere comparison.

Home is authentic, to the finest

detail. We now cherish the fellowship. Love's blaze is warmth that continually brings satisfaction. It is in beautiful white, pure of all sin, blameless.

"And he carried me away in the

spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God:"

Our city will have family closeness. Peering through, as in a glass, darkly, we see wondrous view. Ties that treasure through these fleeting years unfold in full beauty. Real faces, real people . . . love that reaches and enfolds . . . deep friendships, forever in His circle . . . that is home.

A great and high mountain . . . what ponders marvellously open for hope. Always there is thoughtfulness. What far-off splendors await our wondering vision? What horizons, beyond any picture-window view, open, away and beyond. What color!

"and her light was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;" Priceless privilege! Time must go! A precious gem is known by the light it shows. It radiates its rays!

Jasper is of marvellous color. The appearance of almighty God is as the appearance of fire. To look upon Him was "like a jasper and a sardine stone". This city has fine colors . . . Sunset and glory . . . what glorious color will radiate from that city!

"And had a wall great and high, and had twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and names

written thereon, which are the names of the twelve tribes of Israel: On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates."

There will be directions. There will be angels. Face to face meeting and enjoyment is discovery that awaits wondering eyes. Good hearts from ancient times, rich personalities, will be there. Amazing, how God will provide so much, in so many ways, for happiness without end.

Time is a watch word, with numbers. There, nothing will interrupt. Unceasing, the soul is completely satisfied.

We have seen time creep, or time flee. The soul has qualities not of time. There we will participate with the great, eternal God.

"And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and in them the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb." Our God loves unity. There is theme, a coherence in His plans. The outward beauty harmonizes, blends with the inward radiance. Beloved brothers will provide joy just to be near and hear, always.

"And the city lieth foursquare, and the length is as large as the breadth: and he measured the city with the reed, twelve thousand furlongs. The length and the

breadth and the height of it are equal."

It is said, 1378.97 miles. Snow-white garments will be the enduring beauty. Those miles will become intimately known. Unspeakable joy, with never the slightest thought to take away, will be ours. An unbroken sky of glorious light, fair and bright, will be for always.

"And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel. And the building of the wall of it was of jasper: and the city was pure gold, like unto clear glass."

Wondrous skyline, soaring dream-beauty. Loveliness, high in the sky! Surprise, joy past all limits. Perfection!

God knows how. He is the same yesterday, today and for ever; with Him is no variableness. He will arrange His dwellings, His city, so it radiates perfectly with the inside. Remember, family closeness, fellowship ties, friendship bonds are His ideas. He brought them about. Our heart grows along His inmost thoughts. We are His children!

That skyline . . . the outward perfection that will become intimate, will be for His family, gathering in all the welcome splendors of ageless home.

Best of all, we can see God face to face, and be with Him for ever!

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Dianne Emch

Among the students here, we can surely say that this year has been a year of Harvest, and we can rejoice once again with the news that our friend, Ralph Bauer of Cissna Park, has turned to the Lord. We pray that many other friends will be permitted to repent, before the Door of Grace is closed.

Bro. Art Gudeman of La Crosse visited us March 11 and used as his text Acts 27. He extended a warm welcome to our friends, saying, "There is a God, loving and waiting to see if you will come." Bro. Lowell Stoller closed with a prayer.

Bro. Maurice Frank of Chicago read I Corinthians 3 as his text, March 18. Among many other things, he pointed out that life is a one way path, and Christ is the door. Bro. Leroy Huber's closing

remarks stemmed from Acts 8:5, as he emphasized the importance of remaining true.

March 25 brought Bro. Al Fisher from Chicago. He read St. Matthew 10:5-20. He warned that God is the Supreme One who wants our praise one hundred per cent. The closing prayer was by Bro. Frederick Knapp.

Our student teachers this nine-week period are Gene Hodel (Eureka), who is at Pekin in the Math department; Bob Reutter (Cissna Park), at Bloom in the Business field; and Sis. Gloria Leman (Morton), at Limestone teaching Home Economics.

PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS Ruth Ricketts—Anna Marie Baer

A number of relatives surprised Bro. Reuben and Sis. Natalie Feucht on their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary, March 3.

Sue Beamer of Laura, Illinois, and Ronald Eberle, son of Bro. William and Sis. Marie, were united in marriage March 7. A large number of relatives and friends attended the reception, following the ceremony. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they journey through this life hand in hand.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Bro. Joe Klopfenstein, as well as to the entire Gridley congregation. We know he will be sadly missed, yet one can look forward to a joyful meeting, after the cares of this life are over.

Our sympathy is also extended to the family of Bro. Paul Rumbold, yet, one can indeed be thankful he could be relieved of his burden and find rest in the Lord. Bros. Ezra and Roy attend our congregation.

Sis. Marie Musselmann has been hospitalized the past few weeks

with a broken leg, received in an auto accident. We hope she will soon be able to return to her home and assemble with us again.

Bro. Edward Woertz returned to his home, after spending several weeks in the hospital, following surgery. He is able to be out a little, but must still take care.

Sis. Rose Marie Streitmatter, daughter of Bro. Burton and Sis. Martha, was one of a class of twenty-four to receive her cap, at impressive ceremonies. She is in nurses training at Cottage Hospital at Galesburg, Illinois.

Bro. Karl Stichling was honored on his 91st birthday, March 18, when a large number of his family went to his home. He is enjoying good health, is very alert, but his legs are stiff, so he cannot get about as he desires.

Joyce Ellen is the name of the new daughter born to Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Donna Martin on March 28. She has two sisters, Brenda and Becky, to welcome her.

Funeral services for Sam Streitmatter were held March 30, with Bro. David Kieser and our other ministers conducting the services. He was laid to rest in the Streitmatter Cemetery. Sam went to work as usual Saturday morning, and didn't know the death angel was right beside him, as he died of an apparent heart attack about 8:30 A.M. He was born October 21, 1904, a son of Samuel and Carolina Rumbold Streitmatter. He married Edna Streitmatter, who survives, as do a son, Virgil, and two daughters, Ruby Hietter and Betty Hornback. Also surviving are six sisters, four brothers and a number of other relatives. Sisters Julia Miller, Lydia Seidel, Bessie Martin, and Leila Elsasser and Ben are all of our congregation. Our sympathy is extended to the entire family.

We were richly blessed with visitors, for which we are always so thankful. We are so ready for the "manna" which our visiting ministers so freely give. Bros. Edmund Kloter of Fairbury, Paul Fehr of Morris, Wendell Gudeman and Lester Huber of Francesville all labored in the Lord's vineyard for us. May they be richly rewarded for their efforts. We were thankful for willing brothers to assist in the Sunday School, which we feel is important, too. Bros. Nate Gutwein, Willis Gudeman and Wayne Huber of Francesville

offered their services, as well as one of our former teachers, Bro. Nathan Stoller of Bradford.

There are many ways that joy can be given to the shut-ins and unfortunate. We are thankful for those who do something for them. From time to time, groups of young folks go to sing for the older people who are shut in. What a joy it brings to both the ones who give and the ones who receive. A group of young sisters packed boxes for the servicemen for Easter. We are sure they will receive great joy when they receive them. Still others gather to sew garments for needy children, which we also hope will bring joy to them. Still others take time to visit the sick and write, so all have a part in sharing with each other.

A reception was held March 28 at the home of Bro. Edward and Sis. Lucille Knobloch, honoring their son, Bro. Jack and his new bride, Sis. Nancy (Fehr). Many attended, to extend best wishes to the newly-married couple. We all wish them the Lord's blessings. Bro. Jack has been enjoying a furlough from his army duties and will again return to Phoenixville, Pennsylvania, where he is stationed. He and Nancy will live in an apartment.

FT. SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS Leland Plattner

"Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." Taxes are not the only thing that is due to Caesar. God asks our hearts and all that is spiritual only, so all that is included in our material possessions is subject to the powers that rule. A time of service is also asked from some of us. This short period of time is ordained of God.

Words to the soldiers were, "Do violence to no man . . . and be content with your wages." This service to our government should not be regarded as vain. Our hearts can be in Heaven, even though our situation may be uncomfortable, and the time seems long. "Waiting is to be our earthly schooling. Which here with our first breath takes its start, Never ending till by God's own ruling, Our faint spirit shall in peace depart." No. 244 in Zion's Harp. This great battle of time can be a great victory, if we put our will into the care of God.

The servicemen's addresses are

printed for a reason, so instead of just glancing over them, pick one out, and write a few lines. It will be appreciated, I'm sure. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Galatians 6:9-10.

We had several visitors, including Bro. Noah Miller from Winthrop, who spoke the Word of God to us on March 14.

UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY August Mueller

Sunday, March 7, we had Bro. Harry Frauhofer with us. He spent a few weeks in the hospital, but now is all better, thanks be to God, who alone can heal all sickness.

It is a blessed thing when one can sit down at the Lord's table and hear the word of God proclaimed. All our meals are delicious for those that hunger and thirst after righteousness, as we heard today. We also heard of Job, whose patience was tested so that he wished he never was born, but he lived many years after that. He was found faithful, and the Lord gave him double the amount what he had.

We are going to the highest school, where our Lord Jesus Christ is our teacher. He came into our midst and gave us our lesson for the coming week. It is up to us now to do what He told us. It is my prayer that, when my time comes to depart from this world, I can take a good report with me, that I will not be left back or rejected. We heard that we are the salt of the earth, that we have to be careful not to become useless. I will bless the Lord all my life and sing praises unto Him while I have my being.

Last night, I read about that poor widow who lost her only son. There were many people weeping and sympathizing with her, but no one could bring her son back to life. Then along came a man. He came from a different town. He did not tell them who He was. He did not make a long speech. He told the mother not to weep. Then He told the men to stand still (at that time the dead were carried to the graves). He said, Young man I tell you arise, and the young man sat up and started to speak. Then the

sorrow was turned into joy and gladness. They believed on Him and gave Him the honor.

How many that know the way are sleeping in sin and are being carried to the grave from whence there is no return. It is our prayer that they could be awakened, even as that young man was awakened, and live for the Lord. The man that called the young man back to life was none other than our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. He is willing to help all those that ask Him for help.

Sunday, March 14 . . . The time we spend praying is well spent. We will never feel sorry or regret it. We could feel that the Lord hears our prayer. He came into our midst with His holy word and His blessing. Just to meet and greet one another is a blessing in itself. How fortunate are we that we could answer His call in this time of grace, that we can eat His flesh and drink His blood while we are in this world and time. It is the bread and water of life. We can never find words enough to thank our heavenly Father for His love and mercy which He bestowed on us. He looks down upon us from day to day and provides for body and soul. When we review our life, we find that He indeed loves His children, that He at all times is ready and willing to help where help is needed.

We were very glad to have Sis. Ida Knecht with us. She was absent for a long time.

Sunday, the 21st . . . Our visitors were Sis. Norma Henrickson from Goodfield and her cousin, William Henrickson. He is stationed in Baltimore, in the Navy. We thank them for the visit.

Bro. and Sis. Ed Aeschliman were blessed with a new baby boy, born March 15. They named him Philip Carl. He has two brothers and one sister.

Yesterday afternoon, spring arrived. Thanks be to God, who created heaven and earth and divided the year into seasons. If the year would have the same temperature, we could not enjoy the good fruit and all the good things which the earth brings forth. The Lord knows best what is good for the people. Unto Him belongeth all honor, praise and glory. Amen.

As the earth awakened from her deep slumber, so we pray that a great awakening could take place among all mankind, especially

among the children of believing parents, that much good fruit may be brought forth in these last days and times.

Sunday, the 28th we heard that it is very important to be in this world, that we know not when our Lord and Master will come, and that we should watch and pray not only for ourself, but for all mankind. We should remember the sick, the afflicted, those in high age, in trials, in tribulation, in hospitals, those that can no longer find words to pray.

We have work to do; we can not leave it to the next brother or sister. We are like a chain. Every member is a link, and only through prayer can this chain stay unbroken. May God grant that many more links may be added unto this chain in these last times and days. Amen.

Who is He that cares and watches o'er our soul's estate? Who is He that thus has drawn us? Christ alone; His love is great.

ALTO, MICHIGAN

Loretta and Myrna Steffen

This past month, Fred and Sis. Katherine Grauburg celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. We wish them many more to come. An anniversary lunch, with cake and ice cream, was held, after singing.

Sis. Anna Bahler of Remington is recuperating at Burleson Hospital in Grand Rapids, after surgery. Bro. Erwin is staying in Grand Rapids and attending church in Alto, until Sis. Anna can return home.

Ferd Grauburg has moved to Detroit and is working as a barber there. We wish him God's blessings.

Ground-breaking for our new church is scheduled for April 10, the weather permitting.

BURLINGTON, IOWA

Mrs. Rekie Anliker Mrs. Dorthy Taeger

A baby boy, Anthony Allen, born March 28, came to bring happiness to the home of Bro. Ronald and Sis. Janice Rinckenberger.

Cla Scheitlin, age 7, son of Bro. Kenny and Sis. Charity, is ill with hepatitis; his stay in the hospital is indefinite. A Sunshine box is being prepared for him.

John Kuntz slipped and fell on ice recently. It required stitches at that time, but he is getting along nicely now.

The betrothal of our brother Adolph Massner, and Sis. Lillian Landes was announced April 4. Sis. Lillian now lives at Phoenix. We wish them God's blessing.

Mindy Taeger, 4 years old, gave her parents, Bro. Richard and Sis. Dorothy, some anxious moments recently, when she slipped outdoors, without coat or scarf, in a 16 degree, snowy day. She wandered along the roadside and got stuck in a snowdrift. A little later a trucker drove by, the snow was blowing his windows over, but thought he noticed something in the snow, and was prompted to turn back some distance. He found little Mindy, cold, and frightened, but otherwise all right. We join the parents, being thankful to God for watching over her.—He watches over His own—

Rosie Massner added to fold

Rosie, or better known to all as Rosella, gave her testimony and was baptized by Bro. Noah Schrock. This holy act of baptism and laying on of hands now being sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, was very precious to our dear sister and all who witnessed it.

This always renews our experience, and often renews us to a closer communion with God and fellowship with our brethren.

FRANCESVILLE, INDIANA

Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich Mrs. Edison Gutwein

Heavenly Father, help us to be a Christian, in all we do, say, and think. We had the blessed privilege of having ministers come from near and far, Bro. George Yergler, Bro. Edwin Bahler and Bro. Norman Stoller.

Our dear Bro. Perry Neihouser has "Godliness with contentment", as he again had to be in the hospital for eye surgery, and is gaining nicely. At the same time, he and his wife were blessed with an adopted week-old son, named Marty, who will be a playmate to his adopted sister, Penny.

Sis. Cordia Leman and Ivan Pelsy are in the hospital. We pray that God will grant His healing Hand upon them.

Bro. James and Sis. Marian Gutwein had the wedding of their daughter, Diane, to Ronald Vogt solemnized in their home by Bro. Wendell Gudeman. We certainly wish them God's richest blessings.

A large number gathered one evening to see pictures of the island of Haiti, and talks were given by Bro. Wendell Gudeman, Bro. Pierre Neihouser and Bro. George Erb about the Heifer project and the recent shipment to Haiti. Their need certainly is great spiritually and physically.

We will close with a prayer that a visiting college student gave in our assembly. We are so thankful for these young brothers who so sincerely speak and pray for our children and grandchildren, teaching them this glorious path.

"As we now bow our hearts to Thee, our Divine Father, we reflect upon the Heavenly beauty of our trip to church this morning. . . .

Our God had clothed the hills in a beautiful, soft white garment that was pure and clean and unspotted, glistening in the morning sunlight. Then as we continued further, we began to see that, where men traveled, this coat of white became tracked. . . .

And so, as we pray to Thee, Father, we are very thankful because we know that, in a close parallel, through the warmth of Thy love and the light of Thy Holy Word, with the quiet intercession of Thy crucified and risen Son, the stains on our garment can, likewise, be melted and washed away, and Thou can again make our garment white.

We pray, then, Father, for a humble, a sincere, and an upright heart, that our Christian walk can daily be purified and whitened and made to always shine as a garment of soft, new snow; unspotted, and pure for Thee.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen."

GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS

Marian Wiegand Edith Tanner

March has been a stormy and snowy month in Illinois. We received a near-record snowfall.

After the uncertainty of each storm, the sun shown brightly, and the barren earth and bleak trees were covered with a glistening, white blanket which was a sight to behold.

It reminds one of repentance and conversion—after the inner turbulence, remorse and regret, God sends His peace. There is a beauty like that of fresh, fallen snow on a peaceful valley—the heart is clean and pure; quietness and peace is there.

We are thankful that three dear

souls are seeking this peace—Eileen and Norman Musselman and Steven Wiegand. It gives us joy to know that they can enjoy the blessedness of His love and care, as they surrender all to Him.

Dennis and Carol Martin are the parents of a son, Darin Scott, born March 23. This is their first child. The maternal grandparents are Bro. Henry and Sis. Persida Wiegand.

We are so happy to have Bro. Jim Hohulin home again, after spending about a year in Korea with the armed forces.

Bro. Earl Banwart chose Philipians 2 as the text for services, when he ministered to our congregation recently. We were warned of deception, so that we do not find ourselves as little lambs who are quite lively and scamper around freely, not realizing the danger of the enemy (I Peter 5:8), who is ever lurking near by. Then, if we walk carefully, we can hope for the "grace to live in this fast and rushing world, so that we can be blameless when we stand before God on judgment day".

The engagement of Ann Hohulin, daughter of Bro. Ben and Sis. Esther Hohulin, to Jerry Binkele, son of Bro. and Mrs. Henry Binkele of Morton, has been announced. A fall wedding is planned.

We were grateful for all our visitors on April 4, particularly those brothers who prayed that God would "help us put away our superior airs" and that He would "never grow weary in supplying us with grace sufficient."

As we think of Easter, we are again reminded of the price that was paid for our salvation, so that we can find the way to heaven. "Ask ye what great thing I know that delights and stirs me so? . . . Jesus Christ, the Crucified." May His blood not have been shed in vain for you, dear reader.

MORTON, ILLINOIS

Rose Getz

We were blessed with many precious teachings brought to us by our visiting ministers, Bro. Gehring of Burlington, Iowa; Bro. Vernon Leman of Eureka; Bro. Don Sauder of Roanoke, Bro. Ed Hohulin of Goodfield, and Bro. Jim Ringger of Bradford.

Bro. Silas Leuthold was here to assist Bro. Getz with the proving and baptism of Bob Kaiser, Jake

Plattner and Harry Schmidgall.

Walter and Emma Schupbach and Sam and Claretta Staker will bring their testimonies before the congregation in a few weeks.

Bro. Arthur Heiniger was elected trustee, to fill the expired term of Bro. Chris Knapp.

Funeral services for Bro. Paul Rumbold, 80, were held March 27. Bro. J. A. Getz officiated. Surviving are five sons and two daughters. He had been in failing health for some time, and made his home with his daughters, Sis. Irene Farny and Sis. Marie Moser.

Sis. Lydia Getz (Mrs. Sam L.) was able to have the cast removed from her arm.

Sis. Nancy Miller is confined to her bed, having suffered a stroke.

Sis. Matilda Kuntz Hauter (Mrs. Ben S.) is a patient at the Abraham Lincoln Hospital in Lincoln, Ill., where her son is a doctor.

Sis. Matilda Frank is a patient at the Methodist Hospital in Peoria.

Sis. Linda Seidel is able to be home, after having had an appendectomy.

Jay Wiedman, son of Bro. Albert and Sis. Wilma Steiner Wiedman, who was injured in a farm accident some months ago, is back in the hospital for further treatments.

Sis. Ruth Hermann (Mrs. Fred) had major surgery at the Methodist Hospital.

Bro. and Sis. Eli Leman of Fairbury have moved to their new home, 140 N. Montana Avenue, Morton.

Bro. and Sis. John Teubel have moved to their new home at 309 E. Madison Ave. Sis. Rose is able to be home, after having had major surgery.

A baby daughter was born to Bro. Robert and Sis. Rosemary Huette Frank on March 27.

Bro. Herman Menold is now teaching our Sunday School Bible Class.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Emily Tanner

Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

Bro. James and Sis. Virginia Hoerr are the parents of Nathan Richard, born March 5. They now have three daughters and three sons.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Betty Miller are happy to have a son. Robert Joseph was born March 27. He has two sisters.

Our sympathy goes to Bro.

George Huthmann and the entire Huthmann family. His father's funeral was March 11. Bro. Roy Sauder held the services.

Announcement of the engagement of Maryanne Ebling to Wayne Eilers was made recently. Wayne is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Eiler.

Sis. Lillie Hohulin and Bro. Will Luthi were united in marriage March 17, by Bro. Roy Sauder. We will miss Sis. Lillie. She was so faithful in her duties at the A. C. Home, where she was for over 25 years. We hope and trust the Lord will bless their union. They plan to live in Morris.

We're thankful Bro. Michael and Sis. Emma Weyeneth returned home safe, after spending several months in Florida.

Truly blessings of God were the visits of the ministering brothers—Henry Grimm, Frank Woertz, Joe A. Getz, Leroy Huber, Silas Leuthold, Elmer Bucher, Merle Bucher, Robert Grimm, Edward Alt, Benjamin Fehr, and Donald Sauder.

One of the brothers pointed out, we should give glory to the risen Lord every day, not only at Easter time.

Sis. Hulda Martin was in the hospital, and now is home recuperating. Sis. Emma Plattner and Bro. Fritz Pfaffmann are in the hospital. Bro. John Sinn is in intensive care, at Rest-Mor in Morton. Let us remember these dear brethren in our prayers.

Bro. Roy Sauder conducted services at Rest-Mor, Thursday evening, April 1. Bro. Howard Herman led the choir in song. There are services every week, with different churches alternating their services.

Ollie Metz has repented and was announced for proving. We're thankful she could heed the invitation. If the Lord wills, plans are to prove and baptize her at home.

The Prairie Choristers assembled with us April 4. They stayed for our hymn sing in the evening. We enjoyed their visit and derived many blessings through fellowship and song.

After serving four years in the service, Max Koehl and Duanne Koehl have been discharged and are home again.

SARDIS, OHIO Ruth Headley

Funeral services were held at

the church April 2 for Sis. Ada Rigenbach. She was 90 years of age. She had three brothers, Dan, Dave, and Ben, and three sisters, Lydia, Rosa, and Ida, preceding her in death. She leaves three brothers, Harry of Rittman, Ferd of Sardis, and Lewis of home; and one sister—Ella of Sardis, among a host of relatives and friends.

Noah Bauman and Joe Ramsier held the services. "Whether Sis. Ada had gained much or little in this life would mean nothing to her today." How she had conducted her life was the important thing. Those of us who knew her well believe she lived a life of self-denial and can rest assured that she passed from life into life. If we should be called today, would we be prepared?

WOLCOTT, INDIANA Arles Kropf

On March 14, our friends, Jane Hitz, daughter of the Clyde Hitzs, and Larry Nuest, son of Bro. and Sis. Lester Nuest of La Crosse, were united in marriage by Bro. Irvin Lehman, at the home of the bride's parents. After a trip to Florida, they are at home near Kouts. May God bless their life together.

Bro. Art Gudeman was also with us that day, bringing us many good teachings from God's Word.

We have had several singing practices during the past month, to become more familiar with some of the more unfamiliar hymns in the Zion's Harp.

Our new dining room tables have arrived, and we are enjoying using them.

A new little son, Kevin Wayne, was born to Bro. and Sis. Ted Hofstetter on March 22. His brother, Steven, also welcomes him.

While cleaning house recently, I ran across some old issues of the Silver Lining, printed back in the 1940's. There was much interesting reading in them and thought it might be interesting to our readers today to also enjoy some of the little "Thought Gems" that were printed then.

* * *

Would our religion make us a golden tomorrow? Let us make it a golden today.

* * *

Faith is to believe what we do not see; and the reward of faith is to see what we believe.

The first steps toward happiness are the church steps.

* * *

Many accept the Christ of the cross, but reject the Cross of the Christ.

AKRON, OHIO

Grace Schuckert & Florence Graf

Hearken to the Lord and let His love rule your life, for therein lies happiness and contentment"—this is the inspired thought left with us by Brother Henry Sabo of Mansfield when he ministered to us. The Lord has made His power felt in our congregation in various ways in recent weeks—surely we must trust His wisdom.

A daughter, Christine Lynn, was born March 8 to Walter and Ethel Ritzman. She is their first child—grandparents are Brother Forrest and Sister Marie Ritzman.

Several from our congregation were hospitalized, but are now home—surely examples of the Lord's mercy. Russell Kauffman suffered injuries, following an automobile accident; Ladimir Cerny underwent minor surgery; Sister Emily Greenbank also underwent surgery. We hope the Lord will grant swift and complete recovery to all.

At this writing, Susie Coombs is a victim of multiple sclerosis and is in a Cleveland hospital. Susie is the sister of Sister Becky Coombs. May the Lord be with Susie and grant her a rapid recovery.

At a recent business meeting, Brother Charles Novotony was elected to head and administer the World Relief Fund. May we all be inspired to share what the Lord has given us with those less fortunate.

Brother Robert Beer of Mansfield brought forth the thought and desire "that we should grow more like Him. His Word and love are all-powerful—therein can we find strength."

ALABAMA Clara Heiniger

Spring has come, with its thunderstorms, tornado warnings, and rains, which brings forth the lovely flowers. Gardens are in the making. The lovely dogwood blossoms are lovely sight at the Easter season.

We all extend our sympathy to the Tom Letson family and Bro. and Sis. Junior Hale, during the time of the loss of Sis. Manlie's

father, Tom Letson, Friday, March 9. He had been very sick a short while, in the hospital.

Bro. and Sis. Junior Hale gather together the young Bible class students and others in the Mountain Home area every other week, for a precious time of singing and fellowship around the Word of God. Refreshments are served, before they return home.

Sis. Martha Evans and Sis. Pearl Stricklin have been shut in for many months, and would appreciate hearing from anyone, to help bring cheer during their lonely hours. There has been much sickness and flu in this area. Some are in hospitals.

Meetings and worship services were held in the Landersville area, in the homes of Billy and Shelby Dutton, Mr. and Mrs. Edd Harville and Mr. and Mrs. Cully Norton. These are held on Friday nights; a blessed time of fellowship is enjoyed by all.

Sis. Bessie Drake's son, Cleveland, had been in the hospital with a broken back and is now recuperating at his home.

We are thankful that Sis. Bertha Harville has been able to again attend worship services with us every Sunday night.

John and Betty Byars have a precious little boy, John Andrew, born March 9. Betty is the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Opal Frost.

Tommy and Milquay (LouAllen) Craig have an increase in their family, with a little boy born March 24. Their oldest girl is Emily Jo.

In the Landersville area, Bro. Jr. Hale and Bro. Carl Naylor work with the young people every other week. All enjoy a blessed time of fellowship around the Word of God.

Bro. and Sis. Richard Frost and son, David, have been very sick with the flu; David also has bronchitis and has been in for several weeks.

March 14, Our elder brothers, Noah Bauman and Rudy Graf, of Ohio, spent Saturday evening with the Athens congregation, in hearing the testimonies of Milton and Joyce Ray and Louise Haggenmaker. On Sunday, all witnessed the precious baptismal service of these loved ones, being thankful for God's blessings in bringing them into His fold.

Bro. Lavoyd Moore and Bro. Lynn Klopfenstein have gathered the

young folks of the Athens church, for a time of singing and hearing of the Word of God every other week. All enjoy fellowshiping together, and having refreshments before returning home.

The meetings and worship services have been held in the home of Bro. Frank Haggenmaker and, alternating every other week, at the home of Bro. and Sis. George Kelly in the Prospect Tenn. area.

Sis. Zelma Young has been sick for some time, but is now able to attend church services.

ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

Doris Graf Jeri Minger

"And they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus. And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments: And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again." Luke 24:3-7.

As Christ was crucified and arose so long ago, men have in the years since then died to their sinful lives and arisen from the waters of baptism to a newness of life. Our congregation rejoices in the announcement that our friend, Joyce Minger, has been granted peace and wishes to present her testimony to the church.

We were privileged this month with the visit of ministering brother William Cottrell, of Taylor.

Not until the loom is silent
And the shuttles cease to fly
Shall God unfold the canvas,
And reveal the reasons why
The dark threads are as needful
In the Weaver's skillful hand
As the threads of gold and silver,
In the pattern He has planned.

BERN, KANSAS

Mrs. Morris Edelman

Mrs. Leonard Baumgartner

Hospital patients this month for surgery were Bro. Amos Strahm and Bro. Eldon Plattner. Sis. Katie Grimm and Sis. Lydia Hanhart also spent some time in the hospital. Others on the sick list were Sis.

Rose Ulmer, Sis. Lena Baumgartner, Sis. Esther Moser and many others, ill with flu. Sis. Minnie Schrock, a resident of the Apostolic Christian Home, was also sick for some time, during which she celebrated her 85th birthday. Many children in our community are having measles, and missing school and Sunday School.

Singing practices with the Zion's Harp songbook were held at the homes of Bro. Leonard Baumgartners and Bro. Lester Hartters.

We thank the visiting ministers, Bro. John Rokey of Goodfield and Bro. Eugene Marti of Sabetha, for visiting us. Evening services were held when Bro. Noah Miller of Winthrop stopped on his way to San Antonio. We certainly appreciate our home ministers, but it renews our spirit to hear visiting ministers. Our congregation gathered at Sabetha one evening, when Bro. Emmanuel Gudeman of Cissna Park preached God's Word to us.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Hulda Strahm celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 14. They have one daughter, Sis. Reva, wife of Bro. Leon Waibel of Wolcott, and three grandchildren.

Easter is a time of new life; Jesus is indeed the Heavenly Gardner; Every flower that blooms was once a thought in His mind. It is high time for all the people to thank God.

BRADFORD, ILLINOIS

Mrs. Martha Kieser

Spring is officially here, but the cold of the winter seems to hesitate to leave.

Bro. William Elsasser and the rest of us here feel quite fortunate, following a near tragic accident. The chain saw he was using pinched, jumped back and struck him across the forehead. Thirty stitches were required to close the wound, which very narrowly missed his brain.

Sis. Lucille Kieser is home & recovering, following exploratory surgery at Mayo's in Rochester.

Eight-month-old Michelle, daughter of Larry and Sandra Guingrich, is required to wear a brace, to correct her hip socket, which is not forming as it should.

We welcome Ronnie and Sue Eberle and Jordan and Sharon Elsasser, both couples newlyweds. They will attend church here. We wish them much happiness and the

blessings from above.

Bro. Josh Broquard, Fairbury, Bros. Dan Koch and August Bol-liger, Tremont, were recent guest ministers. We found much food for thought, and welcome them to come again. Bro. Paul Fehr was a recent evening guest. We certainly enjoyed his being here.

Bros. Lowell Stoller and Dave Kieser, Princeville, visited us on different Sundays, too. It made our church here seem more like home. We thank them for their efforts.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Louie Rumbold and his family, in the death of his father, Bro. Paul Rumbold, of Morton.

Dan Endress is home from the hospital and able to attend church again.

We express our sympathy to the family of Bro. Joe Klopfenstein and to the congregation he so faithfully served, in their great loss.

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

Mrs. Raymond Roth
Kathryn Miller

We were pleasantly surprised when Emanuel Gudeman of Cis-sna Park called us from Tucumari, New Mexico, saying they would visit us on their way home from Arizona. Bro. Gudeman had very inspiring services here, the evening of March 12.

Gayle Murrow, daughter of Gerald and Sis. Murrow, and Jim Stevenson were united in marriage, in the home of the bride's parents, March 12.

Hospital patients this past month were Sis. Mary Armbruster, a shut-in for some time, who fell and broke her hip (requiring surgery to set the bone); Joann Schrock, for a tonsillectomy, and Sis. George (Beatrice) Diel, for medical treatment.

Funeral services were held here April 4 for Bro. Timothy Farney of Wichita formerly of this community. Bro. Tim, as he was called, was 74 and died suddenly of a heart attack, April 1. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Hattie; a son J. C., and daughter, Mrs. Lucille Cessnun, both of Wichita; six grandchildren; one great-grand-child; one sister, Sis. Martha Roth, Kiowa, Kan.; and four brothers, Bro. Sam—Phoenix, Joe—Missouri, Pete—Kiowa, Kan., and Bro. Reuben of Maywood. Funeral services were conducted by Bro. George Lambert of Wichita.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Louise Steffen
Katie Kachelmuss

We had another time of rejoicing. Lena Vege was baptized and taken into the Fold. It is surely a day of blessing for us all, when this holy act is performed. We hope God will go on calling sinners to repentance in these latter days, before the day of grace comes to a close.

"Joy here alternates with woe."

Two days later, we laid to rest our sister in faith, Mary Groh Huber, wife of Bro. Charles. They had been spending the winter weather in Florida, and she fell and broke her hip. She seemed to be getting along well, when suddenly she was called out of life into eternity. Little did we think when they left for the South that we would not see Sister Mary alive again, but we know what God does is well done. Sis. Mary taught Sunday School for many years. She will be missed among us.

Bro. Ed. and Sis. Carline Haas have a son, John Herman, born March 12. Bro. Herman and Sis. Della Kellenberger are grandparents of John Herman.

Bro. and Sis. Jesse Schrock visited here a couple of days with son, Melvin, and family.

Carl Schmidgall had surgery, is home again and recovering well. He thanks all for the cards and gifts to him during his illness.

Editor's note: A correction in the Elgin news. "We recently were privileged to have in our midst Bro. Uriel Gehring and Bro. Dan Koch." Bro. Dan Koch's name was omitted. The mistake is the editor's.

Crucified With Him?

By Bro. Nathan Steffen

To rightly appreciate the triumphant resurrection of our blessed Lord Jesus from death and grave, on the first Easter morn, we must rightly understand the cross, its meaning to Jesus, and its application to us. As children of the fallen Adam, and therefore partakers of his human nature and sin by inheritance and choice, we have become unworthy of God and separated from His love, His peace, and His presence. Sinful nature or flesh cannot gaze on the holiness of God; hence a mist or a veil has fallen over the face of the whole earth. The veil that covered the face of Moses, the veils of

the tabernacle and temple speak as one, of our human nature, under the power of sin, that separates man from God.

Jesus, out of unspeakable love to us, left the Father's house to dwell with us here, outside the veil; "the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us". Being found in the likeness of sinful flesh, yet without sin, Jesus humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. When Jesus, hanging upon the cross, cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?", He tasted eternal death and separation from God for each one of us. God saw the travail of His soul and was satisfied. The veil of the temple was rent in two, from top to bottom. Christ as our high priest, with His own blood, has entered through the rent veil, into the heavenly holy of holies, the presence of God, and thus purchased for us eternal redemption.

This is the only way that we must take home to the Father's house—the way of death unto life, the way of the cross. "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Our flesh must be crucified with Christ; through repentance and faith, God grants us grace to die to sin, self and the world. It is a faithful saying, "For if we be dead with him, we shall also live with him: . . . if we deny him, he also will deny us". Refusing to die to sin and self, we become as the rich young ruler who turned away sorrowful. He chose the pleasures of his earthly possessions, enjoyed but for a season, and gave up the eternal riches in Christ Jesus. Jesus said, **If ye love anything more than me you are not worthy of me.** If we love the world, the love of the Father is not in us. "For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever." If we refuse to die to self and sin in this life, eternal torment, anguish and separation from God will be our portion in the life to come. ". . . whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken, but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder." When we arrive at the point of a broken

spirit and a contrite heart, the mist rolls away and the veil is rent. The rays of God's love, forgiveness and peace then shine into our hearts, and a new life in Christ begins. Paul could say, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."

Christ's resurrection then becomes our blessed hope, knowing that He which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise us up also by Jesus. This hope we have as an anchor for the soul, both sure and steadfast, for Jesus, our forerunner, has entered into the Father's house within the veil. He is there, preparing for us a home, that where He is, there we may be also.

EUREKA, ILLINOIS

Cathryn Wettstein Salome Walter

March 6, four friends were given their chance to give their testimonies of their repentance before the congregation. They were Debra Roche—Bro. Harry and Sis. Lydia Roche's daughter; Nancy Blunier—Henry and Sis. Wilma Blunier's daughter; Connie Cawley—Dallas and Sis. Madalyn Cawley's daughter; and Mary Ellen Hartter—Bro. Dan and Sis. Dorothy Hartter's daughter. Bro. Herman Kellenberger from Elgin, Ill., and Bro. J. A. Getz from Morton assisted Bro. Leroy Huber. The next day being Sunday, their wishes were fulfilled by baptism.

March 2, two more friends testified of their repentance and conversion. They were Mary Kay Anliker, Bro. Walter and Sis. Wilhelmina Anliker's daughter, and Beth Hodel, Bro. Harold and Sis. Mildred Hodel's daughter. Bro. Geo Sinn from Latty assisted Bro. Huber. They were baptized the next day. May it be that many more souls will seek the Lord, while He is yet to be found and before it is forever too late.

Bro. Al Fisher from Chicago spent one Sunday with us, and preached the word of God in its truth and sincerity.

Sis. Bertha Walder remains a patient in Eureka Hospital. Mark Roche, 14-year-old son of Bro. Harry and Sis. Lydia Roche, had the misfortune to cut three fingers in a saw, so he is a patient in Eureka Hospital.

The family singing was held as usual the fourth Sunday of March. A large crowd attended. A group of brothers from Morton, "The Morton Aires", sang several selections.

It would be worth mentioning that two of our oldest couples recently had wedding anniversaries. They are Bro. John and Sis. Mary Roche, who celebrated theirs on Feb. 12, 66 years. Will and Sis. Lena Grusy celebrated 60 years together on March 3. This is a long married life together. May God bless them further on.

FORREST ILLINOIS

Nancy Honegger—Martha Stoller

Six more of our new converts gave their testimonies and were baptized recently. They were Bill and Susan Kupferschmid, Don and Velda Hish, Betty Ifft, and Dennis Koehl. Assisting Bro. Kilgus in this work were Bros. Silas Leuthold, George Gramm and Josh Broquard. Bro. Joe Schrock from Congerville was also with us, bringing us many good teachings. Often, our friends feel that they have not had a calling to come unto the Lord. Bro. Schrock explained that every time one reads or hears the word, he is receiving a call.

Three of our members have been hospitalized this past month, but all have again returned home. Bro. Julius Miller was hospitalized with leg injuries, Sis. Luella Sohn with bronchial infection, and Sis. Persida Huber was a surgical patient.

Funeral services were held April 6 for Mrs. Louise Alexander, 90, Santa Barbara, California. She is an aunt to Bro. Harold Honegger and Sis. Anita Sohn.

Bro. Alfred Bahler, Wolcott, ministered to us recently. When a farmer starts to plow a field, he sets a mark way off on the other side. Placing his eyes on this mark, he drives straight, looking neither down nor to the side as he goes along. He can then look back and see he has plowed a straight furrow. Likewise, Bro. Bahler stated, if we become not entangled with the pleasures of this world, but set eternity as our goal, we shall also be able to plow a straight furrow for our Master.

JAPAN

Yoshio Yamazaki

"For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers

appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come . . ."

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

It is a very beautiful season that the Lord, our Father in heaven, provides for us on such a wonderful earth and He glorifies all of the world. Here in Japan also we receive such a wonderful grace of God.

We are very thankful to God, for our loving brothers Ehnle's and Klaus's families are all well, and that Lord gives them much grace.

From the outside looking in Japan is very fine and developed since after the second World War, but the spiritual situation is worse, it is true. Another thing is many different religions caught many people's mind, because they emphasize we will have much blessing in this world.

In Shioda church, Bro. Willis is teaching Sunday School, because two of our Sunday School teachers resigned, and the other one, Sister Asakawa, is returning to her country. She is a very old lady.

We have meetings at Brother John Klaus's home at Fuchu city, every first and third Sundays. It is very good, and there is pretty good attendance. There are mostly young boys and girls join with them from Bro. John's English class on Friday nights.

Bro. John has been planning to have Sunday School at his home, and he asked me to work together with him for work there around the countryside more often, after he is free from his language study. I am surely anxious to have a children's class and let them know more about Jesus Christ, and help them and teach them simple English study. I believe their parents might be very happy for that and open the door for me to have the children's classes.

On March 21, Sunday afternoon, Bro. and Sis. Kaufman visited our church here in Tokyo. We had good Christian fellowship with them. They are a very fine couple and faithful brother and sister.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Diane Olson

Inspiring messages were received by our congregation from Bro. Earl Banwart, West Bend, on March 14, and Bro. Elmer Schmidt, Winthrop, March 28.

Sis. Esther Lienemann had been

hospitalized, after suffering a heart attack. She is now at home, convalescing. Everett Olson underwent surgery, and is now recovering very nicely at his home. We wish both a speedy recovery.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA Velta Laukhuf

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Michael Weyeneth, John Bahler and Floyd Weiland. We are certainly thankful to the Lord for the blessings that we enjoy and the inspiration we receive from these ministering brethren. We trust that God will richly bless them for their efforts.

Our congregation was saddened by the recent accident and sudden death of our beloved sister, Mary Huber. Visitation and a brief service was held at the funeral home in Bradenton, Florida, with Bro. John Bahler conducting the service, after which the body was returned to her home at Elgin, Ill, for further services and interment. Sister Mary will certainly be missed by the whole Sarasota congregation. We must feel that our loss is God's gain, and it will only be a few more years until we will all join her in those heavenly mansions above. We wish to express our deepest sympathy to Bro. Charles, for they have assembled with us for a good number of years.

A birthday supper was held on March 7 for two of our members; both were 81 years of age. The group wishes many more happy years to Sis. Clara Virkler of Castorland, N.Y., and Bro. Chris A. Sauder of Peoria.

The month of March and April is always a time of deep concern, for it is the parting time for the different families, to return to their respective places of abode in the North.

Bro. Phil, our minister, and Sister Fern Wingeier would like to thank everyone that attended the Sarasota church for their deeds of kindness, good co-operation, love, and hospitality, and all those who so generously contributed to their needs, to the visiting ministers, for their kind words and efforts they made, to come and help with the worship services.

The last service of the season was held March 28. May God grant it, if it be the Lord's will, services will be held again in 1966.

TAYLOR, MISSOURI

Mrs. Eli Sutter Mrs. Bill Heimer
Bro. Fred Grimm went to St. Louis for consultation with a doctor concerning his health, and was a hospital patient for several days in Quincy for tests. We are glad to report that nothing serious was found, and he is feeling much better, for which we are thankful.

Bro. Will Butikofer, who is confined to the hospital with a broken hip, is getting along quite well and hopes to return home soon.

The Sunday School teachers and pupils are practicing for the Easter program, which will be given on Good Friday evening.

Only Trust Him

Oft when Satan comes to tempt
me,
Brings to mind the doubts and
fear;
Can I hold up—do His will?
Can I serve my Saviour here?

Then the promise brings
assurance—
Strengthens once again my faith.
I am with you and will keep you
Are the words to me He saith.

When you can go on no longer,
When your strength and faith are
spent
You will find the grace
sufficient;
From the Father it is sent.

Do not worry, then, He saith,
If you give your all to me.
I will help you when you falter;
I will set your sad heart free.

So when days for you are dreary,
As on earth life's path you trod,
Give to Him your life, your love.
Trust Him—Know that He is God.
Written by Sis. Sue Cottrell

WINTHROP, MINNESOTA Linda and Melva Messner

As spring arrives, and our thoughts turn to getting the soil prepared to sow the grain and later reaping for our material gain, so should we prepare our hearts with loving care, so we can be gathered into that Heavenly harvest. It reminds us of two verses of the hymn "Sowing and Harvest", from the Zion's Harp.

With correction God remindeth
Every child that it must be;

And the more of fruit he findeth
On Christ's branches, fair to see
All the more the shoots that hinder
He doth prune with watchful eye,
That more fruit each branch may
render

For His kingdom there on high.

As the sultry days of summer
Swiftly ripen earthly grain,
So in days of dire affliction
Shall our faith its growth attain,
And beneath this heat and burden
Shall the Christian be prepared
For his happy home in heaven,
Where God's bliss and joy is
shared.

Allen Messerli, son of Bro. Cornelius and Sis. Delores Messerli, was married to Cheryl Kline on March 6. We wish them a happy married life.

REMINGTON, INDIANA Anna M. Waibel and sisters

Recently enjoyed was the fellowship of brothers and sisters, including Bro. Edmond Kloter and Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss.

A reception was held at the home of Bro. Herman and Sister Ann Waibel, in honor of their son, Ralph, and his wife, Helen, who were married March 7, and have come here to live from California, where they both worked. Relatives from Cissna Park and Princeville were also present. We welcome them to our congregation and wish them God's richest blessings.

Johnny Schieler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Schieler, was married Sunday, April 4, to Nancy Pitstick of here. Johnny is in service at Ft. Knox, Kentucky.

Bro. Elmer Bucher favored us by being with us for midweek worship.

Larry Pitman, son of Bro. Odell and Sis. Marjorie was married March 21 to JoEtta Lehe of here. They will live at Lafayette, Ind. May God's blessings go with them.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Marie Schieler are grandparents the first time, by the birth of Julia Marie April 5 to their son and his wife, Willard and (Susie Beer) Schieler, who moved to Milford recently. May the Lord guide them daily in the rearing of their little one.

Tommy Clauss broke his arm at school. He's the son of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Lorene Clauss.

Sisters Marie and Nathalia Schini have taken a lady into their home as a house patient. We are

glad they have started in this work, as they are both well qualified. May God bless their efforts and help it to grow, as the need for these homes is necessary.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA John Isch

The love and fellowship that we enjoy, when meeting together to hear the words of life opened for us, is a joy little known by the world.

We wish to express our thanks to the Francesville congregation for providing the ministers and many members and friends. Their support is always very encouraging to all of us, especially the students. As we assembled on March 21, Bro. Elmer Bucher brought us many precious teachings. The singing was led by Steven Bucher from Purdue. We were reminded on April 4 by Bro. David Bertsch and Bro. Lester Huber of Paul's teachings to the Hebrews, Chapter 2. Thought was given to the third verse, "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation . . ."

We were happy to have Bro. Herman and Sis. Helen Norr and their daughter, Sis. Elaine, with us again. Sis. Becky Combs has recently returned from Ohio to brighten our congregation.

MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA Julie Dapper

Once again the season is here where we all rejoice together for the wonderful gift of salvation, which has been so unselfishly given unto this human family. As it is written in the Word of God " . . . Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things." St. Luke 24:46-48.

Our congregation rejoiced with the visit of Bro. Wm. Cottrell. He left many sound teachings to help and aid us during our life here on earth. We pray that the Lord will richly bless him and his family for their visit here on the West Coast.

Our dear friend, Kenneth Muehlhauser (the husband of Lavina Dapper Muehlhauser), was hospitalized and submitted to surgery. He is now home, and is recuperating very well. Sis. Helen Gerber

was hospitalized and submitted to surgery. At this writing, she seems to be improving nicely, and I'm sure she would enjoy receiving a cheerful message from anyone who would so desire. Her address is: Mrs. Helen Gerber, c/o Don Barrow, 11805 South Goldendale, La Mirada, California.

May God be with all those who have become shut-ins and cannot go in and out so freely, and may He comfort them in their lonely hours.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY West Lafayette, Ind. Mr. and Mrs. Keith Honegger

For our meeting on March 24, Bro. Wendell Gudeman was our minister. He meditated from St. Matthew 11:21 . . . and correlated this chapter with his visit in Haiti. How thankful we are that we have been taught and have learned to know the true God, rather than believing in false gods, as many of these people do.

As we returned to our classes, following a welcome spring vacation, it was a pleasure to see that spring had finally arrived. On our walks through campus, we can again observe and feel the beauty of God's creation. In the cool breeze, our hearts "feel lighter", as we know another school year is coming to a close.

St. Luke 22 was the text from which Bro. Orville Ringger meditated on April 8. We heard about the Passover. Bro. Ervin Lehman concluded the sermon. Both ministers informed us that we were not there to hear something new, but rather to hear an old story. We then closed with the song, "Tell Me the Old, Old Story."

An Easter Thought

Our kind and loving Jesus,
On the morn of Easter Day,
Rose from His darkened tomb,
To ever light our way.

He suffered long upon the cross,
With forgiveness in His Heart
For those who crucified Him
Their vengeance to impart.

He left us hope and faith and
prayer
That we may always live
In sunlight and brotherhood,
Ready to forgive.

Tenderly He watches us
From heaven high above,
And should we need His guiding
hand,
He offers it with love.

Easter is a blessed time,
When all the hearts of men
Should join in reverent prayer,
To thank Him once again.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, ILL. Ben Blunier

Bro. Irvin Lehman, Wolcott, brought us the old, old story of Jesus and his love, and once again we found it refreshing and uplifting. Though it is an old, old story, it is ever new and blessed to the heart that opens, hears and believes. In the afternoon, Bro. Irvin taught us how we must necessarily be a separate people. We are really blessed when we are hated, reproached, and separated for His name's sake—our reward is great in heaven (St. Luke 6:22,23). How comforting for those of us who sometimes meet such conflicts in our occupations and daily contacts. May the Holy Spirit ever lead us.

A large group was in attendance, the first Sunday in April, to hear inspiring teachings by Elder Bros. Henry Kilgus, Forrest, and Emanuel Gudeman, Cissna Park. Their words on Holy Communion were especially meaningful and so timely. Our Lord willingly shed his blood and gave his body to be broken for us. Let us re-dedicate ourselves each time we are privileged to partake of Holy Communion, that Christ can live in us. He is **Risen**, and hereby has given that glorious hope for life everlasting in heaven to His followers.

Our son, Thomas, recently submitted to an appendectomy and at this writing is doing well.

MANSFIELD, OHIO Aaron A. Sauder

As everything on this earth grows old and passes away, so it is with our old house of worship, where we had many blessed hours, where many souls found their blessed Lord and Saviour. We had our last services in this house Sunday, April 4. Elders Rudolf Graf and Noah Bauman were in our midst. This day of service was a blessed day, as three souls were baptized and added to the fold of Jesus—Earl Hoffman, Linda Morrison, and Martha Enderle. We are glad

and rejoice for each soul that finds his Saviour. After the baptism, we partook of the Lord's Supper . . . And as Jesus was longing for the last Supper before He departed from His disciples and died on the cross, so we also had this last supper, before we left for our new place of worship. We will have services in the new church Sunday, April 11, hoping and trusting that the Lord of love and peace will bless us, for all would be in vain if God would withhold His blessings.

James Laylan and Sue Long were married March 5. We wish them many blessings.

Carol Enderle, Sharon Sauder, and Sis. Clara Grossenbacher were in the hospital, but are all home again. Brother John Fuhrer is in the hospital at this writing, and Sister Aldine Fuhrer is quite ill at her home. We commit all the sick and afflicted into the hands of the great Physician, Jesus Christ.

O how lovely 'tis to be With our Lord in unity, And united voices raise, Him to bring our songs of praise!

On Sunday, March 28, we had the blessings of having Brother Joe Ramsier of Rittman and the Bremen choir with us. Brother Joe ministered to us the Bread of Life, the word of God.

In the afternoon we assembled again. All present sang several numbers. Then the Bremen choir sang many wonderful and spirit reviving songs to the Praise and Honor of God and for us, and then the Vesper Choir joined them in several songs. We closed our services with singing, "God be with You Till We Meet Again."

We thank God and all who took part in making this wonderful day of blessing and fellowship.

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

Delutha Moser Carolyn Gerber
As we kneel on Easter Morning,
May our hearts secure in Thee
Find a vision of Thy Beauty
And Thy risen glory see!

SHUT-INS: During the past month month were David Reimschisel, Bros. John L. Moser and Henry Isch, Sisters Mrs. Charles (Mary) Speheger, Mrs. William Neuenchwander, Mr. and Mrs. Olen (Esther) Geisel. ". . . he careth for you." — I Peter 5:7

Love . . . the golden key that

opens the palace of eternity.

ENGAGEMENTS: On March 7, the engagement of Sister Jean Isch, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Harold Isch, to Brother Phil Moser, son of Bro. and Sis. Harold Moser, was announced.

On April 1, Friend Carmi Steffen, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Obed Steffen, announced her engagement to David D. Speakman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard R. Speakman of Decatur, Indiana. The couple is planning a summer wedding.

On April 4, the engagement of Sister Jenny Gerber, daughter of Bro. and Sis. David Gerber, to Brother Stanley Isch, son of Bro. and Sis. Ervin Isch, was made known.

May God bless you all, and may he always be with you along life's way.

During the past month, we were privileged to have ministering Bro. Walter Rehklau of Toledo worship with us. We are always glad to have visitors come to Bluffton.

BIRTHS: On March 17, a daughter, Connie Jean, to Friends Ralph Baumgartners. On April 2, a son, David Cliff, to Bro. and Sis. David Booker, and April 5, a daughter, Jodi Lane, to Friends Arlen Gerbers.

WEDDING: On April 4, friends Carolyn Schlatter, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Joe Schlatter of Latty, and Tom Heyerly, son of Bro. and Sis. Clifford Heyerly, were united in holy matrimony.

PROVING AND BAPTISM:

Christ hears the cry of the penitent who looks to him for mercy and forgiveness.

On April 1, we were privileged to hear the testimonies of our dear friends Don and Carolyn Steffen. On April 4, Sunday, we witnessed their baptizing rites. May God bless them richly in their new walk of life.

Love is indestructible.
Its holy flame forever burneth;
From heaven it came, to heaven
returneth.

GIRARD, OHIO Karen Stoll

With the coming of the Easter season, our thoughts are turned to the risen Lord, the hope of all mankind. His victory over death and

the grave is our salvation. Even though his atonement was universal, not all men believe. Our prayers should be for those who are still without hope. May God grant them grace this Easter season, that they may learn to know the risen Christ and share the blessings of eternal life.

St. John 11:23-27 — Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto Him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this? She saith unto him, Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

CROGHAN-NAUMBURG, N. Y.

Mrs. Lawrence Farney—

Mrs. David Schamback

Sister Dorothy Herzig and Brother Joseph Ebersol are convalescing at their homes, after undergoing surgery, and Sister Leah Herzig, from a painful fall in which she sustained broken ribs.

Elder Brother John Widrick is hospitalized, and underwent surgery on Friday, April 2, from which he is recovering nicely. He expects to return to his home soon.

Friends Allan and Myrtle Farney are the parents of a son, Gary Lynn, born March 7. The new baby's grandmother is Sister Huldah Farney of Croghan.

On March 19, friends Nathaniel Virkler and Sheila Robinson, were united in marriage by Brother John Widrick. Nat is the son of Brother Theodore and Sister Amelia Belle Virkler.

Sister Lena Virkler wishes to thank everyone for the many cards and messages of sympathy and comfort sent her during her sorrow, in the death of Brother Jonas. They were very much appreciated.

CONGERVILLE, ILLINOIS

Lorna Schrock

We have had quite a bit of illness during the past month.

Vernie Williamson, son of Bob and Sis. Doris, has rheumatic fever and will have to remain in bed for an indefinite period of time. He has been a very patient youngster, not complaining because he can't play with his friends.

Ron Schieber of Metamora, who the son of Bro. Carl and Sis. Lorene Schieber, underwent knee surgery at Mennonite Hospital. He has since returned home.

The seriousness of possible brain surgery caused friend Ruth Rinckenberger Lowery to give her heart to the Lord in repentance. We rejoice with her that the exploratory brain surgery performed in LaGrange, Ill., proved negative. She is currently recuperating at her home in Bloomington, Ill., and is enjoying her new-found peace with God.

On the shut-in list is Sis. Carrie Wettstein, who has not been feeling well for the past several weeks.

Our prayer is that all will experience the healing power of the Lord and the comfort of His presence.

We were privileged to have Bros. Joe Zimmermen and Don Sauder from Roanoke with us on Sunday a few weeks ago. Their visit was appreciated, and we hope they will return again soon.

Linda and Jabez Coggan of Clay City, Ill., have a new baby daughter. Myra Lynn was born on March 23, and was also welcomed by her one-year-old brother, Jabez. Linda's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Miller of Congerville.

NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA.

Mrs. Gus Weltz
Miss Della Witschey

Samuel A. Kaufman, aged 87, passed away on Sunday, March 21, after a lengthy illness. His wife, Bertha Kaufman, preceded him in death in 1963. He is survived by several neices and nephews. Funeral services were held in the Wharton-Ellis Funeral Home on March 24, and interment followed in Northview Cemetery.

Miss Ada Riggenbach, age 90, of Sardis, Route 2, passed away on March 30 at her home. She was the daughter of the late John and Caroline Riggenbach and was a member of the Sardis Apostolic Church. She is survived by a sister, Mrs. Ellen Eisenbarth, three brothers, Lewis of the home, Ferd of Sardis and Herman of Sterling, O., several neices and nephews. Brief services were held at the Rush Funeral Home in Sardis on April 2, and the remains were taken to the church for services and burial. Officiating ministers were Noah Bauman and Joe Ramsier.

Albert Riggenbach was taken to

the local hospital on March 28, and at this writing is still a patient there. A recurrence of his heart condition was given as the cause of his illness.

Mrs. Mary Burgess was honored with a family dinner on March 26 on the occasion of her 81st birthday, in the home of her daughter, Mrs. James Stewart. She is now spending several weeks with her other daughter, Mrs. John Partlow, in Monroe Heights, Pa.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams of Port Charlotte, Florida, visited the Barth families here, the first week in March.

Mrs. Robert Witschey of Charleston, W. Va., daughter-in-law of Dan Witschey, fell down a stairway in her home recently and suffered a broken back. She is back home from the hospital, in a heavy cast, and doing nicely.

Mrs. Elizabeth Isinghood, Mrs. Jessie Bleuer, Mrs. Elza Ritz, Mrs. C. O. Wade and Mrs. Gus Weltz attended the funeral services for Ada Riggenbach at Sardis, on April 2.

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Mrs. Albert E. Kipfer
Mrs. Lee E. Eisenmann

Sister Mary Eisenmann has been chosen to serve as my assistant writer for the Silver Linings.

Friend David Pulver, son of Bro. and Sis. Lester Pulver, was proved and baptized Sunday, March 14. Elder Bros. Sam Aeschliman and Theo. Beer officiated at this rite. We wish Bro. David the Lord's richest blessings in his new walk of life.

On this same Sunday, Julia Simon was accepted into the fold. Julia was brought up in Rumania and came to this country and settled in Wadsworth, Ohio. She was converted, and a member of the Apostolic Christian Church (Nazarene) at Akron. She has lived in Fort Wayne 24 years and had attended the Leo Church until the Ft. Wayne church was established. Julia has always been faithful in attending services, and her heart's desire was to unite with our membership. After hearing the testimony concerning her repentance and baptism, the members were well satisfied, and she has been accepted as our sister in the Lord.

Friend Eileen (Rager) Ross-wurm received severe lacerations to the face in an automobile accident Sunday, March 28. She was

confined in the Van Wert Hospital, but is now recuperating at the home of her parents, Bro. and Sis. Carl and Louise Rager. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Neil Stoller, son of Bro. and Sis. Norman Stoller, underwent surgery March 30, to correct the muscles of his eye, caused from a severe accident some years ago. The operation was successful, for which we give thanks unto the Lord.

Carl Pulver, son of Bro. and Sis. Lester Pulver, had a tonsillectomy operation recently, and is getting along nicely.

Billy Eisenmann, son of Bro. and Sis. Lee Eisenmann, is confined to his home with the chickenpox.

Friend Betty Schulz (Mrs. Leon Schulz) underwent major surgery April 1, at the Parkview Memorial Hospital. The hospital reported today that her condition is satisfactory, and she is able to have company.

We wish all our shut-ins a speedy recovery.

Easter

Oh, who among the sons of men,
By word, or deed, or song, or pen,
Can ever fittingly convey
The meaning of this blessed day.
It gilds the holy sacred page;
It brings to every clime and age.
To every people, tribe, and race,
The story of redeeming grace.

The blessed paschal feast of old
With mystic meaning does unfold,
For there the paschal lamb was slain

The Hebrew's safety to attain.
When angel saw the blood applied
Upon the lintel, doorpost wide,
Then he passed over every home,
In mercy, where the blood was shown.

Christ is the world's dear Paschal Lamb.

He is the great I was, I am.
Through Calvary's pain and dismal gloom,
He conquered over death and tomb.
He rose His own to justify,
And draws all men up to the sky.
If you have found the Christ—

His way,
Then you can keep this Easter Day.
Bro. Henry Beer

GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Mrs. Eldon Metzger
Mrs. Rudy Bahr

Funeral services for our dear de-

parted sister-in-faith, Lydia Bahr Kraft, were held March 26, with Bro. Loren Strahm and Bro. Sam Anliker officiating.

Lydia Bahr Kraft, daughter of Chris and Anna Morf Bahr, was born May 25, 1881, on the farm southwest of Gridley, and departed March 24, at her home in Gridley, at the age of 83 years, 10 months. She had been critically ill for the past three weeks, and was tenderly cared for in her home by Mrs. Mary Rodgers and her children. She was a faithful member of the Apostolic Christian Church for 65 years.

She was united in marriage to John Kraft, Dec. 19, 1899 (He passed away Jan. 24, 1951). To this union, seven children were born. Two children, Henry and Matilda, two grandchildren, and one great-grandchild preceded her in death.

The following children survive: Bro. Sam, Frank, Lewis, Mrs. (Emma) Aaron Ott, and Sis. (Ada) Ivan Beyer, all of Gridley, 22 grandchildren, 35 great-grandchildren, and one brother, Bro. Lewis Bahr of Sabetha.

Her parents, 4 sisters, and 5 brothers preceded her in death.

She will be sadly missed by her children, grandchildren, relatives, neighbors, and a host of friends.

In loving memory of our mother and grandmother.

Some time has passed
Since that day
The one we loved
Was called away.
God took her "Home",
It was His Will,
But in our hearts
She liveth still.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Leona Kraft spent some time in Claremore, Okla., taking treatments.

A number of our congregation, including the children, have been ill with mumps, flu, backsets, and glandular infection.

Sheryl Young, teenage daughter of Bro. Ephraim and Sis. Dorothy Young, was taken to the hospital with internal hemorrhaging. She hopes to be able to return home in a few days.

Sisters Tillie Beyer and Anna Raaf spent some time in the hospital, but we are glad to report that they are home and improving.

LAMONT, KANSAS Mrs. Bernie Emch Glenn Anliker

Sis. Glenn Anliker was able to be with us again after spending two days in the hospital, and home recuperating from a tonsilectomy.

We are concerned for the sick. Our prayers do go out for them. Bro. Roy Wernli spent some time in the hospital, being ill with a virus, developing the flu, pleurisy and a bronchial infection. May our dear Father's will be done, and that we all draw nearer unto Him. Let us live each day as though it would be our last one here on this earth.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA Eileen Yackley

Bro. Noah Miller from Winthrop and Bro. William Cottrell from Taylor church (Quincy, Ill.) were our visiting ministers this month. We wish Gods rich blessings of grace from our Heavenly Father, and the power of the Holy Spirit to continue to spread His Word—in season and out of season. It seems it would be easy to despair, when so few find grace unto repentance—but there is also this need of being a witness and to strengthen the ones that remain.

Our congregation is preparing to partake of the blessed sacrament—The Lord's Supper—the eve of Palm Sunday. In preparing ourselves, we are reminded of our Lord's sorrow, as He sat in that quiet room with His disciples, knowing He was to die for the sins of the whole world. Also sitting there with them was the one who would betray Him. Just imagine the Love our Lord had—even for him! It behooves us to become more like unto Him, and to purify ourselves for this great event, of which the Lord wants us as believers to partake.

Only we of this precious faith can realize the blessings to be enjoyed at one of our weddings in our churches. We were privileged to witness the ceremony of Bro. George Schuster and Sis. Christine Dubach—performed by Elder Bro. Roy Farney, who brought out in the ceremony the blessings, joys and responsibilities that come with the union God has ordained.

Bro. Roy Farney announced the betrothal of Sis. Lillian Landis to Bro. Adolph Messner of Burlington, Iowa. We will miss seeing Sis. Lillian among us every Sunday. We do

wish her the Lord's rich blessings.

Bro. Harry Roth and his family from Forrest are moving to Phoenix. Bro. Harry and son Gerry are already here. They have bought a home, and the rest of the family will join them after school is out. Bro. Harry has a bronchial condition, which has been greatly helped by the climate.

Spring is in the air! The beautiful notes from the birds, and sweet smelling aroma of orange and other citrus blossoms fill the city. We have been especially blessed this spring with rain. However, many of our winter visitors had the privilege to enjoy the many acres of Japanese flower gardens. God is so good to give us beauty all around. Each community has its beautiful spots. It seems like at times we get too busy with cares of this world to notice the handiwork of God.

Sis. Aerial Stevig has managed to raise salad vegetables on a 2-ft.-wide strip, alongside the back of the apartment in which she and Bro. Roy make their home. She raises enough vegetables for themselves, and a big salad for a church dinner occasionally. There was quite a large article about it and the organic gardening. This is quite unusual, as not many raise gardens in this area.

CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS Mary Young

We recently were privileged to have Bro. Walter Anliker with us, leaving us many good teachings.

Bro. Phil Aeschliman was hospitalized for a week, is home again, much improved. Bro. Phil and Sis. Leah feel they were so faithfully remembered with cards by their distant friends, that they wish to take this opportunity to express their appreciation to all who remembered them with prayers, gifts, and cards during his stay in the hospital and while convalescing at home. May God bless everyone of you for your deeds of kindness.

Others among those who were hospitalized are Bro. Wm. Farney, who is now home and some improved at this writing. Our friend, Bill Hofbauer, has a serious heart condition, is still in the Paxton Community Hospital—getting along as well as can be expected. Helen Bauer Janssen had surgery. Our friend, Vernon Martin, and Sis.

Shirley Bauer both had knee surgery.

We have one birth to report, a boy to Vernon and Joan Clauss on March 28. He was named James Michael.

On March 21, funeral services were held for Louis Eberhard, age 93, with Bro. Ezra Feller officiating.

Our friend, Franklin Allison, passed away after a long illness. Services were held at the Hamilton Funeral Home at Hoopston on April 6, Bro. Edward Alt officiating. His wife is the former Wilma Maul, daughter of Bro. and Sis. John Maul.

Bro. Fred B. Knapp is in the Carl Hospital at Urbana, suffering from complications.

Art Hoerr was hospitalized a few days for injuries received in a car accident; he is now convalescing at home.

We have seven dear souls announced to be proved and baptized. If it is the Lord's will, they will have their wishes fulfilled April 10 and 11. They are Daryle Hari, Wayne Drayer, Marvin and Dorothy Hodel, Sandy Rudin, Nade and Kay Baumgartner.

A group gathered at the home of Bro. and Sis. Sam Hari, to bring cheer by singing spiritual hymns. Sis. Mary has not been able to attend church services during the winter months.

Bro. Gus Meiss is being cared for at the nursing Home at Watseka.

Bro. and Sis. Cal Kaufman returned from a five-week world tour. They have expressed themselves, that their trip was a very interesting one, and they are very thankful to return home safely.

The teenage Vacation Bible classes are being held on Thursday night for 10 weeks. May God bless the efforts of the teachers and the students who attend.

The Sunday School children are planning an Easter Program.

The grave of Christ the risen Lord Is vacant where He lay.
The Son is victor over death;
Whoe'er believes is saved.

MILFORD, INDIANA Paul Haab

Our visiting ministers for the past month were Bro. Earl Zeltwanger from Bremen and Bro. Forrest Ritzman from Akron. We

thank them for sharing with us this precious Gospel.

We want to welcome Bro. Willard and Sis. Sue Schieler to our community, and wish them God's blessings in their new venture. Since moving here from the Valparaiso vicinity, they have welcomed into their home a baby girl (Julie Marie), their first child.

Also with a new baby girl (Patricia Sue) are Bro. Virgil and Sis. Nancy Zimmerman. This little girl should be well taken care of, because at home there is Beverly, Becky, Janie and Vickie.

After a long cold winter, the weather is turning sunny and mild. The farmers especially are thinking of the spring work at hand, and the rest of us are concerned with gardens, lawns etc. With these thoughts in mind, we think of the following poem entitled "Consecrated Hands", by Bro. Henry Beer:

Consecrated Hands
Waiting God's commands
Service to perform.
Blessings follow still
All who do His will,
Alike in sun and storm.

Humble though the task,
More He does not ask
That we do our best!
If in grace we live,
Service that we give
Truly will be blest.

Market, office, home
Or in labors lone
Prove the workman's brand.
Servants, nurses too,
May their work review,
Blest by higher hand.

Christians work, you see,
Not alone for fee,
Nor for mere reward,
But with single eye
Talents they apply
As unto the Lord.

Consecrated toil,
In workshop, home or soil
Finds its due reward.
All success we share
Sanctified by prayer,
Owe we to the Lord.

TOLEDO, OHIO Emily Frautschi

We welcome John and Karen Breitwieser and their daughter Sandy to our congregation. They are formerly from the Latty area.

Kenneth Newman, son of Warren and Lois Newman, is in the Navy, taking his boot training at Great Lakes Naval Base.

We are glad to report that the following are making good recoveries from their recent operations: Sister Pat Schlatter had a tonsillectomy; Sister Lena Rager had more surgery on her foot; and Bob Reineck is recuperating at home, after surgery on his knee. At this writing, Elsie Fetter is still in the hospital, after a week in the Intensive Care Ward. She has suffered years from multiple sclerosis.

BAY CITY, MICHIGAN Marlene Mosher

A daughter, Lori Ann, was born to Brother Dean and Sister Connie Pashak.

God would not send you darkness
If he felt you could bear the light,
But you would not cling to his
guiding hand

If the way were always bright,
And you would not care to walk by
faith

Could you always walk by sight.
Tis true He has many an anguish
For your sorrowful heart to bear,
Many a painful thorn-crown
For your tired head to wear.

He knows how few would reach
Heaven at all

If pain did not help them there,
So he sends you the blinding
darkness

And the furnace of seven-fold heat,
Tis the only way, believe me,
To keep you close to his feet,
For its always so easy to wander
When our lives are glad and sweet.
Then nestle your hand in the
Father's

And sing if you can, as you go.
Your song may cheer someone be-
hind you

Whose courage is sinking low,
And what if your lips do quiver?
God will love you better so.

LATTY, OHIO Mrs. Ray Sinn Mrs. Gale Stoller

Brother Robert Grimm from Goodfield ministered unto us recently. We thank him for his efforts.

Bill Rager, son of William and Sister Elsie, was in the hospital this past month, but is back in Sunday School again. Sister Esther Stoller (Mrs. Loren) was hospitalized, following an accident in her

home. May God let His healing light shine on all who are in need of it, according to His will.

Bro. Loren Stoller was recently ordained deacon. We trust that God will help him in this new duty, and may he, as well as our elders and ministers, feel the prayers for support from the congregation.

Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann Plummer have a new baby boy, Ricky Eugene. Dallas and Betty Stoller were blessed with a girl, Cindy. May God bless children and keep them in his tender, loving care.

Carolyn Schlatter and Tom Heyerly were married by our elder brother, George Sinn, at the home of her parents, Bro. Joe and Sis. Elsie. May God walk with them and bless them in their new life together.

ELGIN, IOWA

Mrs. George Butikofer

We are on the threshold of a new springtime. The songbirds are returning from their southland winter quarters, bringing us new hope and faith. When I think of this glorious season, I catch in my mind's eye a glimpse of the first Easter morning. What a thrill it must have been for our Master's friends to realize that, in reality, their Lord was alive again (Luke 24:1-19.)

We extend our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Shaffer, who were recently married. The latter (Sharon) is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Schupbach. They now reside on a farm near Wadena, Iowa. May God richly bless them in every respect, both in body and soul.

A daughter, De Ann (their first child), has arrived to bless the home of Dennis and Joann Butikofer. De Ann is a grandchild of Bro. Lawrence and Carolyn Butikofer.

The annual business meeting was held. Our trustees are Bros. Orville Moore, Lawrence Butikofer and Ervin Metzger. Bro. Jake Gehring is treasurer of World Relief Fund. Our substitute Sunday School teachers are: Bro. Ervin Metzger, Sis. Marie Schmid, Sis. Shirley Butikofer, Sis. Ruth Butikofer. The regulars are: Bro. Albert Butikofer, Sis. Gloria Frieden, Sis. Mary Metzger, Sis. Eleanor Butikofer.

A group of young folks from Lester were our guests on a recent week end. They represented a segment from their Bible and Junior

Bible classes. 'Twas indeed a pleasure to have this group in our midst. They were accompanied by Bros. Wilbert and William Knobloch and Philip Mogler.

Sis. Anna Schupbach has arrived home, after spending a few weeks in California visiting a daughter and a son, Margaret and Frederick, located at Anaheim and La Mesa, respectively. While there, her daughter and husband drove to our church at Maywood for services on one week end. They thoroughly enjoyed this fellowship.

FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS

Joyce Huber

New life showing forth in nature comes at the season we commemorate the resurrection of our Saviour. It is a life-giving occasion, and our Sunday School plans to present the Easter Story in a program on Good Friday evening.

Sis. Mary Traub was hostess to Roanoke visitors, including Bro. Ben Fehr and Bro. Joe Zimmerman, who ministered to us. They explained the difference between a nominal Christian and a child of God. Many profess to be Christian, but to be a child of God, and joint-heir with Christ is a precious standing.

There have been farewells for Kenneth Steffen, son of Bro. Ezra and Sis. Aldine Steffen, as he leaves for service April 20. We surely wish for him the best, and praise God that he has peace with God, who will care for him.

WEST BEND, IOWA

Anna Schmidt Marilyn Schneider

We have had a number of severe snow storms this past month. A number of people were stranded at various places.

Bro. Alfred and Sis. Mary Fehr observed their 55th Wedding Anniversary at the home of their son, Henry. Their children all attended the anniversary supper. Bro. Eli and Sis. Lena Grimm observed their 44th anniversary. Raymond and Lydia Wilson also observed their 40th anniversary. Their family, grandchildren, and relatives helped them celebrate this occasion at the home of Conrad Schmidts.

Larry and Marvella Wickman are the parents of a daughter, Julie Ann, born on March 10. Marvella is the daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Helen Zaugg.

It seems that we had so many

sick ones this past month. Those requiring hospital care this past month were: Sis. Sarah Kropf, who is convalescing at the home of her sister; she is able to get around some with the aid of her walker. Sis. Katie Alt was hospitalized for a fractured rib and pneumonia. Sis. Ida Fehr fell on the ice and was bedfast for a few days. She also had the flu, but is able to be up and around now. Bro. Richard Schmidt was hospitalized with a virus, but is home now and able to be up and around. Gary Schneider underwent surgery at Iowa City this past month. We trust and hope that all those that have suffered illness may soon gather with us again.

Janet, daughter of Bro. Walter and Sis. Esther Banwart, was united in marriage on April 4 to Roger Knobloch, son of Bro. Martin and Sis. Zelma Knobloch of Lester. The wedding took place in the home of the bride's parents.

Our community was saddened by the loss of our dear brother, Chris Luthi. Bro. Chris had been hospitalized, after he fell on the ice. He is married to Sis. Emma.

The following poem was submitted by one of our dear sisters:

Revelation

Listening in church
and hearing it said,
of the wonders awaiting
the quickened dead,
I caught a brief glimpse
of heaven today.

Concerning the songs
of praises sung,
By ransomed souls
who heaven have won.
Then did I see it.
Oh, brief perfection!

What must the joys of
Eternity be,
With such rapture unfolded
to least one like me?

BREMEN, INDIANA

Mrs. Earl Zeltwanger

Two baby boys have blessed the homes of their parents in the last month. They are, Chad, son of Don and Diane Meister, and Bart, son of Dwight and Sandy Laidig. Bart was also welcomed by his two brothers, Del and Mat. May the Lord bless these families and give the parents the strength to raise their sons to His honor.

Sister Kathryn Von Bergen went home to be with the Lord on April 1. She had been sick for the last three years and carried her cross like a true soldier. As Bro. Henry Souder mentioned during the services, it was always an inspiration to visit with her, and we will miss these visits, but we rejoice, for **to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord** (II Corinthians 5:8), and this was Sister Kathryn's desire.

The following poem is submitted by Sister Bertha Hueni Annis of our congregation. Sister Bertha has written many beautiful poems through the years that have been published in various periodicals.

The Complete Sacrifice

The inn was filled when Christ was born;

No room there was — no bed,
A lowly manger filled with hay
Was meant for Him instead.

The foxes of the earth have holes;
A bird, too, has a nest.
The Son of Man, however, owned
No place in which to rest.

To eat the supper at the last
He found an upper room,
A borrowed one, to break the bread
To tell His coming doom.

The guilt He bore was not His own,
Betrayed by Judas' kiss;
They nailed Him to a cruel cross,
Barabbas' cross, not His.

They laid Him in a sepulchre,
And it was borrowed, too,
But in compassion He was rich,
And Oh, what love He knew!

Through love for us He gave His
life
To set us captives free,
The wrongs and sins of all mankind
Had nailed Him to that tree.

The blood Christ shed upon the
cross
Can cleanse us all from sin;
Through Him we find our way to
God,
But we must let Him in.
Bertha Annis

FORT SCOTT, KANSAS
Annabelle Bahr Marie Zaugg

Kenneth Sinn, son of George and Sophia Sinn, was hospitalized a few days following flu and complications.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hawkins have a new baby son, Timothy, born March 24. This is their third child and second son. The paternal grandparents are Albert and Lydia Hawkins, who is the former Lydia Zaugg.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hawkins and their granddaughter, Alberta, have recently moved to Fort Scott, after having lived in the country for several years. Their new address is 518 Burke Street.

Last month, it was reported that Bro. Will Sinn suffered no broken bones in a fall injuring his shoulder. Later, X-rays revealed a fracture. He has been unable to assemble with us since. He is slowly recovering and hopes to be able to be out again in a couple weeks.

The monthly singing practice was held at the Bro. and Sis. Jim Bahr home. We had a good attendance.

The Sunday School classes are learning songs and recitations to be given in an Easter program.

God's Love

God's love is like an island
In life's ocean vast and wide,
A peaceful, quiet shelter
From the restless, rising tide.

God's love is like an anchor
When the angry billows roll,
A mooring in the storm of life,
A stronghold for the soul.

God's love is like a harbor,
Where our souls can find sweet
rest
From the struggle and the tension
Of life's vast and futile quest.

God's love is like a beacon
Burning bright with faith and
prayer,
And through the changing scenes
of life
We can find a haven there.

FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

Viola Gerber

At Easter, we go with Christ to the cross and suffer with Him, but what joy when we remember the words, **Why come ye at break of morning to the Lord's grave in such deep mourning. He is not dead; Rejoice, He Lives!**. Our Sunday School is planning an Easter Program.

Bros. John Bahler and Ben Maibach brought us inspiring messages. Bro. Mike Weyeneth has re-

turned to Peoria. The warm and sunny winter seemed to agree with him. We appreciate his ministering to us and wish him continued good health and God's blessing.

Upon leaving, Bro. Bahler said, "It always gives joy to meet all the loved ones here, but it truly is sad when we remember that Bro. Dave Mangold is not in our midst." All of us here truly miss Bro. Dave. He had spent the last five winters with us. Someone described him as a man of love. We can find no better expression of our feeling toward him.

One of our sisters went to waken her child. The child said, "But Mother, I just went like this," and she blinked her eyes to show that to her the whole night had passed as a blinking of the eyes. How often have we heard the expression, "Where has the time gone". The Lord said, A thousand years shall be as one day. Doesn't this give each of us something to think about? **How am I spending my time?**

Darrell Klopfenstein has been granted peace and is awaiting the time to bring his testimony before the congregation and be baptized.

ROANOKE, ILLINOIS

Irene Legel

Bro. and Sis. John Hodel celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with an open house, March 14, at their home. Bro. John and Sis. Minnie (Gudeman) were married March 10, 1915. They are parents of two sons, Bro. Vincent and Bro. Warren (Slim) of here, and four daughters, Viola at home, Sis. Audrey Rocke of Eureka, Shirley Baer and Gladys Hartwig of Morton. They have twelve grandchildren. We wish them much happiness together in the coming years.

Bro. Richard Fehr, who broke his foot from a fall, has had it in a cast for many weeks now. We hope he can soon be relieved of it.

Bro. Robert Luginbuhl, who had surgery on his knee which was quite painful, was laid up for several weeks.

Bro. and Sis. Everette Hari are parents of their first daughter, Gale Ellen, born March 12. She has one brother, Steven, 3 years old. Her grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Walter Hari of Cissna and Mrs. Linda Seggebruch of Onargo.

We were very happy to have three more dear friends give their

testimonies on Sat. night, the 20th, and baptized on Sunday. Bro. Geo Sinn of Latty was here to assist Bro. Leroy Huber with this work. Philip Leman of our congregation is the son of Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Lavina Leman; and goes to college at Champaign. We wish him the Lord's protection and guidance at all times.

Our old brother, Joe Leman, who took sick in Florida and flew home, is slowly recuperating in the hospital from surgery.

Bro. Jim Weyeneth, who got very sick at home, was taken to the hospital for surgery. He has had a few complications since, which has set him back. We certainly hope he can soon improve enough to be home again.

Bro. Dave Belsley, who suffered a light stroke, is improving slowly.

Sis. Priscilla (Jackie) Martin, who was in the hospital several weeks for surgery, is home now recuperating.

Sis. Dorothy Bertschi is home again, after being in the hospital awhile.

Bro. Ernie Diggelman has moved his Men's Clothing Store from 407 N. Main St. to 320 N. Main St., next door to the Shaefer Girls' Shoe Store. The building has been completely remodeled.

The announcement was made of the engagement of Melvin Blunier, son of Bro. and Sis. Harold Blunier, and Shelia Jean Gauwitz of Metamora. He works at Roanoke Concrete Co.

Julie Ann Hodel, little daughter of Eddie and Helen (Perdelwitz) Hodel, was injured. She fell, while riding the garden tractor, and it ran over her. She was taken to the hospital. We hope it isn't too serious.

With spring here and the warm weather coming, we are all anxious to see the progress of our church building. The basement is all dug out now, and when the weather permits, the contractors should be on the job. The contract was let March 4, supported by the whole congregation. We are so "Thankful" for this unity. May He ever guide and direct us to be pleasing and helpful in His sight.

Let me be patient and serene,
Gentle and kind and fair.
Help me to keep my record clean
Through all that I must bear.

Let there be something true and fine

When night slips down, to tell
That I have lived this day of mine
Not selfishly, but well.

RITTMAN, OHIO

Ella Mae Trent

Births to our congregation this past month include: a son to Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Jane Hartzler on March 29, named William Kenneth; a daughter, Jennifer Lynn, to Bro. Vincent and Sis. Jane Hartzler, born March 31; and a son, Gregory Allen, born to Bro. Edward and Sis. Marilyn Trent on April 6.

Able to assemble with us again, following hospitalization, are Sis. Jean Bauman, Mary Jane Winkler, Eddie Stoller, Sis. Esther Bachman, and Sis. Donna Young. Still hospitalized is Jim Rupp. Anyone wishing to send him a card can direct it to General Hospital, Akron, Ohio.

Sis. Georgia Widmer would like to thank everyone for the cards, gifts, and help which was given during her operation and recovery.

MORRIS, MINNESOTA

Mrs. Kenneth Zeltwanger Norene Koehl

Kathryn Koehl, student nurse at Ancker Hospital, St. Paul, was capped at their recent ceremony. She is the daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ephraim Koehl.

A son, Terry Allan, was born to Bro. and Sis. Lloyd Nohl on March 16. He has a sister, Sandra.

A daughter, Marsha Lynn, was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Goll Jr. on March 14. She is their first child.

On March 14, Bro. Henry Schmidgall passed away, at the age of 76. Funeral services were conducted on March 17, by Bros. Leo Moser and Paul Fehr.

He will be missed by his family and friends. Left to mourn his death are his wife, Sis. Emma; his sons, Bro. Wayne, Bro. Gilbert, Bro. Francis, Bro. Richard, Bro. Eugene, Bro. Hartzell, and Don; three daughters, Sis. Gladys (Frank) Messner, Sis. Stella (Calvin) Moser, and Sis. Darlene (Richard) Voeller; 40 grandchildren; two brothers and two sisters. As a faithful brother, Bro. Henry was with us the Sunday before his death, leading our singing. It reminds us that we must strive on, to preserve this faith and these

precious hymns, with the zeal that these brothers who have gone before us had.

The marriage of Bro. Jack Knobloch, son of Bro. and Sis. Ed Knobloch, to Sis. Nancy Fehr, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Paul Fehr, was solemnized on March 14 by Bro. Paul Fehr. We wish them God's blessings in their married life. Bros. Silas Leuthold and Dave Kieser were with us for this occasion, and we thank them for bringing God's word to us.

Sis. Martha Allenspach observed her 80th birthday March 14, and wishes to thank everyone who remembered her at this time.

The engagement of Bro. Dennis Schmidgall, son of Bro. and Sis. Wayne Schmidgall, to Sis. Ruby Fehr, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Paul Fehr, was announced March 24.

Friend Douglas Koehl, son of Bro. and Sis. Ephraim Koehl, has found grace unto repentance. May God give him the needed help and grace in this new way.

Our annual business meeting was held on March 30. Bro. Ernest Koehl was elected to replace Bro. Ephraim Koehl as trustee.

The Sunday School and Bible Class will present an Easter program Wednesday evening, April 14.

SABETHA, KANSAS

Mrs. Theodore Locher Leona Aeschliman

We were privileged to have Bro. Emanuel Gudeman of Cissna Park minister to our congregation. We were edified and, as always, grateful to ministers who proclaim the gospel. We thank Bro. Emanuel for stopping, enroute home from southern points.

I CORINTHIANS 13

12—For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

13—And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

Bro. Lewis, Sis. Fanny Bahr and immediate family attended the funeral service of Sis. Lydia Kraft on March 26, at Gridley, Kansas. Bro. Lewis is now the only remaining member of his family.

PROVERBS 31:30, 31

Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain: but a woman that feareth

the LORD, she shall be praised.

Give her of the fruit of her hands; and let her own works praise her in the gates.

Bro. August Grimm has been released from the hospital and is now a resident of the A. C. Home.

Bro. Roger and Sis. LaVonne Aberle are now worshipping with us. We welcome Sis. LaVonne in our congregation.

Bro. Theodore and Sis. Cordelia Locher have returned home from Phoenix, where they spent the winter months. We are thankful Bro. Theodore has gained a measure of health.

Again we will commemorate the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour. This is a joyous season. May we always be willing to worship Him.

Sis. Mary Metzger passed away at the St. Anthony Hospital on April 7. The service will be held Saturday morning, April 10, at 10:00 A.M., burial at the Sabetha Cemetery. Bro. Charles was buried on February 28, so Sis. Mary could follow soon after, which was her wish, and God's will.

ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT Carlton J. Lanz

It is in truth heart-warming to witness, such as we are at present, a revival or an awakening of so many friends here and elsewhere. There were four that were baptized here on Sunday, March 29, and to hear their testimonies it was felt that this was decisively the work of the Lord. When they were asked, "What motivated them to make this decision to repent?", their reply was, "they were without hope and were separated from God." We, having gone through repentance, made this self-same experience, and those before us, our parents and others told of their conversions and provings, differing little from ours of today. It lifts our hopes to new heights with this evidence that God is still in our assemblies and with us. The new converts were Bros. Donald Schneider, Peter Hany, Sherman Lanz and Alden Reutter.

After the evening services, we commemorated the agonies of the Saviour on the Cross at Golgotha, when Bro. John Bahler, with the help of Bro. John Widrick of Croghan, served communion.

Bro. Norbert Steiner, who accompanied Bro. Widrick, spent Sunday with us.

Bro. Don Gudeman and Herb Frank (in Service) were here for the week end.

Brother Corbin Bahler and his wife, Virginia, spent a little time at the camp where Bro. Don is stationed. We can be sure that this personal visit was welcome. We thank Don for the greetings he sent with Bro. Corbin.

TREMONT, ILLINOIS Esther Schmid

We have been refreshed in the spirit this past month by the following ministers who visited our congregation: Bros. Fred Grimm, Taylor; Philip Sauder, Cissna Park; Arthur Gudeman, La Crosse; and Joe A. Getz, Morton.

We were reminded how King Saul, after being annointed from God by the prophet Samuel, lost favor in the sight of God, and in time of distress and need God would not hear and answer him. He then disguised himself and turned to the woman who had a familiar spirit, and asked her to have Samuel brought up, but it was to no avail to King Saul. We should ever be watchful at the door of our hearts that we be not deceived by strange spirits, lest God would depart from us.

We also heard of Job. He didn't know of the talk between God and Satan. This proves how God will allow us to be used to set an example, and that true, born-again Christians can remain true and faithful when tempted by Satan. God, being all powerful, can keep us every hour if we learn to pray, "Thine and not my will be done", and place our trust and confidence in Him, not in the wisdom and power of man.

On March 21 a dear friend, Roger Sauder, gave his testimony of true repentance and conversion, was baptized, and is now a brother in faith. We are always uplifted by this holy act, and welcome Bro. Roger to the shelter of the fold.

Sister Louise Aberle was hospitalized for observation and treatment. Gary Moser, small son of Bro. Ray and Sis. Barbara Moser, was also a hospital patient, almost having pneumonia, and then she had the mumps. Many children have been sick with mumps and other children's diseases.

There were two births this past month — A boy, Kurt Alan, was born March 20 to Bro. Chris Jr. and Sis. Ruth Pflederer. He has two brothers, Kevin and Keith, and a sister, Karen. A boy, Scott Wesley, was born on March 26 to Bro. Sam and Sis. Rosemary Wegman. This little lad has four brothers—Larry, Steven, David, and Johnny.

We are looking forward to the Easter program, to be given on Palm Sunday by the Sunday school pupils, our church of tomorrow,

Spring is such a beautiful time of year, as plants spring forth to grow from the dormant season past, showing the great handiwork of our Creator, renewing the promise of the Lord after the flood, that while the earth remaineth, seed-time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease.

We are reminded of God's most wonderful gift to man, our Saviour, who lived among men, but was rejected and despised and finally nailed to the cross, where He shed His precious blood and died for the sins of all mankind.

LEO, INDIANA Mrs. Elias Souder

The Junior Sunday School classes enjoyed the afternoon and evening of March 21 at the Fellowship Center.

Aaron and Sarah Schwartz are home from their stay in Arizona, lending helping hands again with getting the Silver Lining ready for mail. There were perhaps 12 helpers sorting, folding, addressing etc., putting the 4700 papers in mail bags. There are approximately 7 or 8 mail bags used.

Sisters Leah Conrad, Nancy Klopfenstein and Dean Stoller all were at the Parkview Hospital in Ft Wayne. All are getting along as good as can be expected. Sis. Lydia Bollier is also on our sick list this month.

Two groups visited the Butler Rest Homes the first Sunday of this month. It surely makes one feel very humble when we see others so ill and bear up so well. One of our friends, who has both legs off and is blind, helped heartily to sing the hymn, "His yoke is easy; His burden is light. I've found it so. I've found it so!"

Our Sunday School children are planning an Easter program, Sunday evening, April 10.

The last Sunday in March, Bros. Sam Aeschliman of Bluffton and Theo. Beer of Milford spent the day with us. In the two services, the sermons were preached on Communion and the Second Coming of Christ. **Watch and Pray** was the watchword. The text in Luke foretold of the destruction of Jerusalem. It was foretold in Ezekiel. . . In Luke chapter 21, it was foretold of the desolation of Jerusalem, until the time of the Gentiles was fulfilled. There are things taking place our forefathers would never have believed could happen, such as exploring the moon. **Watch and Pray**; when one day He comes in the clouds, there will not be another day. **And O what a weeping and wailing, when the lost were told of their fate. They cried for the rocks and the mountains. They prayed, but their prayer was too late.** Now we should pray and then, even though we are under the sod, our prayers can be answered. Let us be faithful, so when Christ comes, He will say that where we have helped the least of His brethren, we have helped Him.

Christ desired to eat the Last Supper with His disciples. He instituted the Communion Service. The bread broken was a likeness of the spotless, sinless body, Christ's body, which was broken.

Communion is the cleansing of one's self first, and then leave our gift before the altar. Communion Services were after the second service in the afternoon.

Dinner was served to everyone at the Fellowship Center. The blessing of the day still lingers with us, blessings that will pass on over to God and be for ever.

LESTER, IOWA Emelie M. Knobloch

March 21, we enjoyed another enjoyable, blessed and impressive week end, with the provings of two more dear souls, and baptisms the following day. Adolph Moser and Susan Feucht gave their testimonies and were added to the fold. Due to the inclement weather, Bro. and Sis. Noah Schrock and Sister Eleanor Schrock were the only ones who were able to be present. When hearing testimonies of loved ones, it sure refreshes us and brings back memories of our own experiences.

We had two bad storms, one on March 1, and again March 17, but

we fortunately were able to gather every Sunday.

Births: To Bro. and Sis. Alfred Feucht, a daughter, Paulette Marie, March 14; and to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Meyer, a son, Denis Ray, March 18.

Among the ill: Sister Emma Meyer entered the University Hospital at Iowa City, where she will have back surgery April 8. Mrs. Adolph Moser is hospitalized following major surgery. We pray God will strengthen them to a speedy recovery.

On March 28-29, our Bible Class was at Elgin, Iowa, where they spent an enjoyable and blessed week end.

Following our Good Friday services, a few songs will be sung by the younger children in the Sunday School. It was also decided that an Easter program will be planned for next year.

OAKVILLE, IOWA Martha Steiner Mrs. Ada Banwart

A very unusual event has occurred in our community! Brother John and Sister Ursel Barth are grandparents of triplet boys, born March 15 to their son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Barth. The boy's names are Jeffrey Ralph, John Dennis, and James Leroy. The three boys are doing fine. They have a year-old brother.

Other births were a girl, Diane Kay, born to Brother William and Sister Phyllis Massner on March 15, and a boy, James Edward, born on March 10 to Don and Janet Bowen, who live in Iowa City. Janet is the daughter of Brother Noah and Sister Hattie Schrock.

On Sunday, April 4, we had with us Brother Walter Anliker of Eureka and Brother David Kieser of Princeville. We spent a blessed day.

Brother Dave Miller and Brother Eugene Gerst are both with us again, after being in the hospital. Sister Elizabeth Aberle was also in church Sunday.

Sister Minnie Freidinger is getting along better. Sister Leah Schaer is very busy caring for her aunt, Sister Minnie, and her own family. Several sisters from our congregation went to Tipton on Monday, April 5, to help Sister Leah. Tipton is about seventy miles from Oakville.

Sister Lois Heiniger is recuper-

ating at home, after spending several days in the hospital. Sister Lois had a virus, and also needed a brief rest from her many responsibilities in her work and at home.

On Thursday evening we elected two trustees, to fill vacancies left at the expiration of the regular terms. Brother Jess Grimm is our new church trustee, and Brother Floyd Rowell is our new cemetery trustee.

GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS Lydia and Eunice Kammerer

Sunday School Activities

Our Sunday School paid a very appropriate and beautiful tribute of respect to our late shepherd, Bro. Joe Klopfenstein, in presenting to the church a beautiful Bible, for the pulpit. We feel this is a living memorial to one who taught the word of God from this pulpit for a good many years.

The Gridley Bible Class and their teachers hosted the La Crosse Bible Class and their teachers, March 27 and 28. Seventeen students, accompanied by five couples including Bro. Ed Frank, came to Gridley on Saturday evening. A dinner was served at the Gridley Grade School that evening. On Sunday, all attended church and Sunday School, and Bro. Ed was our guest speaker for morning and afternoon services. He spoke on the importance of education, but also said, there must be a segregation between education and religion.

On Sunday evening the group enjoyed a dinner in the church basement. This was indeed an enjoyable day for the young people from both congregations, as well as for the adults. We hope they come again.

We questioned some of the Bible Class about this get-together, wondering whether they really liked it. They spoke very enthusiastically about it, telling us how much they really enjoy it, and what a wonderful time they had. We inquired of them whether they would like this to be an annual affair, and they answered, "Oh we would like it oftener than that." Another said, "We get acquainted with young folks we wouldn't meet otherwise."

So in summing it all up, their enthusiasm, their earnestness, we feel it is really worthwhile. What better, and more appropriate way

is there for young people to learn to know each other than through church and Sunday School activities?

The congregation, as well as the students, realize how much effort, time and planning this takes on the part of the parents and teachers both from Gridley and La Crosse. When we see how much it means to the children, it makes it really worthwhile. May God bless them all.

Bro. Rudy and Sis. Esther Miller and their daughter, Sis. Vera, spent several weeks in Texas with their son and brother, Bro. Orlan Miller, who has been stationed there for sometime. Bro. Orlan is enroute to Germany.

Bro. Henry and Sis. Hermine Miller, accompanied by Sis. Anna Miller, visited the formers son, Tom Miller, who is also stationed in Texas. Tom and Oran are cousins, so this was quite a pleasant reunion for the boys and their parents.

Bro. Frank Martin, who has been quite ill for a number of months, remains in a weakened condition.

Bro. Donald and Sis. Rose Gramm are the parents of a new little daughter, Pamela Sue. She is a sister of Sandy—3½, Judy—2, and Terry—1. Grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Louise Gramm, from Gridley, and Bro. and Sis. Pfister from Bluffton.

Easter Draws Near

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Oh sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble.
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?

Lo in the grave He lay,
Jesus my Saviour,
Waiting the coming day,
Jesus my Lord.

Up from the grave He arose,
With a mighty triumph o'er His foes,
He arose a victor from the dark domain,
And He lives forever with His saints to reign.
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah!
Christ arose.

In a sermon, Bro. George Gramm spoke about the Cross. How true

what he told us, we need not wear it around our neck, or where it would show, as each of us has a cross to bear. So why wear one on the outside, when we already have one on the inside. This to us was very impressive.

"Spring Is God's Creation"

How lovely, oh how lovely to wake up in the morn,
To see the world a glitter in the radiance of the sun;
The tree-tops and the meadows,
And all the velvet green
Are kissed by the shimmer of the golden gleam.

How lovely, oh how lovely to wake up in the morn,
To hear the birds singing in the gladness of spring;
Their sweet notes are echoing the whole world through,
And gives to all who hear them
A rapturous thrill anew.

How lovely, oh how lovely, to wake up in the morn,
To see the gardens fringed with many blooming flowers,
Their sweet and scenting fragrance
The balmy air does load,
And gives to every passer-by
A sense of sweet repose.

Composed by a sister of the Gridley congregation.

PORTLAND, OREGON

Mrs. Edward Unsicker

Mrs. Glenn Hackenjos

In His love, the Lord has enriched the lives of Bro. Bob and Sis. Nilah Fischer and their family, by giving them a new son, Brian Matthew, born March 20. Brian is also welcomed by Mark, Janet, and Karen.

A beautiful poem I read recently draws a picturesque comparison: we mold a piece of living clay—a young child's soft and yielding heart. Later, we look, but can mold no more—the impress is set! Christian parents, is there any greater, more important calling than the one that God has entrusted to us?

"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Heb. 11:1. Can we find any evidence more faith-inspiring than the results God has achieved in believer's lives? All who were once allied to the world's mad race for happiness, then "lift-

ed up" by God need no further proof that He is, and is a rewarder of them who seek Him. However, we cannot fully appreciate the gifts of God without ample time—we must take time, time to "speak oft with our Lord", time to listen to God's voice in His Word, time to glory in the Saviour's resurrection; and who can describe the rewards that result?

Perhaps some readers missed our previous announcement of services in Tacoma, Washington, the first Sunday of each month at one o'clock, in the chapel at Mt. View Memorial Park, Steilacoom Blvd. This very lovely meeting place was offered without solicitation, seemingly provided by God. Please tell any friends or relatives in the Seattle, Ft. Lewis, Tacoma area who might like to attend. Let us all be workers together for His Name's praise and glory.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Paul Rumbold and his family, in the loss of their father, Bro. Paul Rumbold Sr., of Morton, who had suffered a long illness. ". . . Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them." Revelation 14:13.

WICHITA, KANSAS

Mrs. Larry Farney

Mrs. Harvey Smith

"For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." I Thessalonians 4:15-18. These words were spoken at the funeral of our dear brother, Tim Farney, who passed away April 1, at the age of 74. Brother Tim is survived by his wife, Sister Hattie (Kiefer) Farney; a daughter, Lucille Cessnun, Wichita; a son, J. C. Farney, Derby, Kansas; a sister, Sister Martha Roth, Kiowa; four brothers, Brother Pete, Kiowa; Brother Sam, Phoenix; Brother Rueben, Maywood; and

Charles D Sinn
RR 5
Fort Scott Kansas 66701

Joe, Granby, Missouri; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Brother George Lambert officiated at the services, which were held at Burlington, Oklahoma.

Visiting ministers this month were Emanuel Gudeman, Cissna Park; Wayne Miller, Ft. Scott; Bill Cottrell, Taylor; and Elder Brother Sam Anliker of Gridley.

Brother Robert Young was in the hospital this month; however, he is feeling better and is up and around again.

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Coming next month, a new feature.

Are you changing your address? Send in ahead, letting us know when to change. Send zip. \$2.00 is suggested per yr. for the Silver Lining.