

THE SILVER LINING

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TEN REASONS FOR GOING TO CHURCH

Submitted by Theo. Beer

In this world, where men have abandoned and scoffed at, or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapid downgrade.

Church work and church attendance means the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility for others.

There are enough holidays for most of us. Sundays differ from other holidays in the fact that there are 52 of them every year. Therefore, on Sunday go to church.

Yes I know all the excuses: One can worship God in a grove of trees, or by a running brook, or in a man's house just as well as in church. I also know that the average man does not worship thus.

He may not hear a good sermon at church. He will hear a sermon by a good man, who with his good wife is engaged in making our lives a little better, and our work a little easier.

He will listen to some beautiful passage from the Bible, and if he is not familiar with the good Book, he has suffered a great loss.

He will take part in the singing of hymns.

He will meet, and speak to his neighbors. He will come away feeling a little more charitable toward all the world, even toward those young people who regard church-going as old-fashioned.

I recommend a man joining the church for the sake of showing his faith by his works.

Such a soul rejoices in the blessed hope, which at the sunset of life exchanges his cross for a crown of life.

BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE HISTORY AND DOCTRINE OF THE APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF AMERICA

Ernest Graf Sr.

(Submitted by Fred Grimm)

[Editor's note: Ernest Graf Sr. is now in heavenly circle. In years back, he was a shepherd of the flock. In printing this, we do not judge others. We would wish none would come short of heavenly happiness. We would urge each to look into the all-important word of life, and follow therein. Only the truth will stand.]

Although in most historical books the Apostolic Christian Church of America is not mentioned, we believe it is a continuation of that first body of Christians of which Christ was the Head, and by which was carried on the work which the Saviour began, continuing in His footsteps after He was taken from the earth.

By reason of many persecutions it was at times almost extinct, but at intervals God awakened and endowed men who gave new life and impetus to the work of saving souls. Thus the flame of its love was kept alive, and the purity of its faith continued unto the present day, which faith and testimony is summed up in the words of the Apostle: "... be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed

by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good,

There Is No Death

Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.

We Shall Know Each Other (Abraham is clearly known)
"Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad."

The body sleeps; the spirit lives.
"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord."

We shall have a new body, with vigor and outlook above our fondest dream.

"... we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

"I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness."

and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

About a century ago many congregations flourished in France, Switzerland, Germany and Holland. The first congregation in America was organized in Lewis County, New York, in the year 1847. A little later, more congregations were founded in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa, by brethren who emigrated from Europe. Today there are 60 churches in 15 states, with a following of about 10,000 members and friends (steady attendants who aim to become members) and an almost equal number of Sunday School scholars.

The church has no educational institutions or colleges. It has no paid ministry, neither do its ministers study or prepare their sermons. In preaching the gospel, they rely entirely upon the inspiration and revelation of the Holy Spirit. In this, they believe to be following the example of the apostles and early Christians.

Its teaching is that all men are by nature sinners, having inherited the old Adam's nature, which develops as one grows to the age of maturity...

That we must be born anew

though regeneration, crucifying the body of sin in true repentance, burying it in the death of Christ through the baptism of faith (not infant baptism), and arising with Christ unto newness of life . . .

That by the prayer and laying on of hands by the elders, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon such a cleansed and purified heart, to lead it upon the pathway of truth and righteousness.

Church discipline requires that all members adhere to and faithfully obey the teachings of Jesus Christ and the Apostles, exercising all Christian virtues as exemplified by these, abstaining from the lusts and pleasures of the world, from vanity and pride.

We believe that members should have their enjoyment in fulfilling the will of God as manifested by His Son, Jesus Christ.

Willful disobedience and degeneracy is punished by expulsion from membership, but unless the error is considered a sin unto death (I John 5, 16), such can be restored again after due proof and manifestation of amendment.

The members of this church are non-combatant, but are willing to perform any reasonable service for the government aside from using weapons of combatant warfare.

THE LAST MILE OF THE WAY

Elias Souder

While spending ten weeks in the hospital with heart trouble and pneumonia, these long weeks gave me plenty of time to ponder over things. The doctor, nurses and my own family got the feeling that I was possibly on the last mile of the way. The doctor said my help came from above. I realize that many prayers were offered before the throne of God in my behalf. Prayer changed things in the past and is possible yet today.

Dear readers, one and all, a life in the service of God and communion with Him is the most comfortable life that we can live. It's no child's play when we reach the last mile. Satan is very busy till the last breath. It almost seems as if we are forsaken of God. Christ made the experience on the cross. Isaiah writes: "For a small moment have I forsaken thee . . . In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the LORD thy Redeemer." Christ said, Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world.

Dear friends, for just a few moments of pleasure, why do you delay? Tomorrow may be forever too late. The judgment will be sharp and quick. What a terrible thing it would be to hear the answer: I know ye not. Read the true story about the rich man and Lazareth. Where will you choose to go? It's all up to you. The saying is that eternity is the longest word there is. This is true. My father used to preach, if a bird would come once in a thousand years and take a bill of water out of the ocean, with time the ocean would get dry, but from eternity to eternity will never end. You are bound

for heaven or hell—maybe very soon.

Remember, when you pass into eternity, it will be an angel or a fiend that shall greet your entrance there. My prayer was that if I could only get inside the gate, I would be satisfied. Now is the time to pray, not wait until you are so sick you can't pray. It is like the one who was very sick and told his friends to pray for him; he was too sick to pray.

How happy we will be when we see Jesus and meet all the loved ones waiting over there. What a glorious day that will be. Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man what God has prepared for those that love him. We shall take part in singing. While in the hospital, my wife and others said I was singing the song, "Grace Greater Than Our Sins". I do not recall this at all, but the song that I had mostly in my mind was "The Open Gate". The chorus reads: "It will open wide, yes, open wide. I'll pass thru its

portals free. I'll rest in peace on the other side. It will open wide for me". The last words on earth of the author of Pilgrim's progress were, "We shall meet ere long to sing a new song and remain happy in a world without end".

There is a song "What a day that will be, when my Jesus I shall see." What a glorious day that will be.

Just the other day we went to the funeral home, to see a young mother 34-years-old, leaving four small children. No tears, sorrow, sickness, crying, funeral processions and parting scenes are ever witnessed, and no good-byes are ever mentioned over there.

Why delay? Repent and live for Christ, else you will miss entering into that beautiful city, where the gates are of pearl, walls are jasper and the city and streets pure gold.

It's a city beyond human imagination. There will be a place prepared for you, if you will accept it.

If I walk in the pathway of duty,
If I work till the close of the day,
I shall see the great King in His
beauty
When I've gone the last mile of the
way.

Here the dearest of ties we must
sever;
Tears of sorrow are seen every day,
But no sickness, no sighing forever,
When I've gone the last mile of
the way.

When I've gone the last mile of the
way,
I will rest at the close of the day,
And I know there are joys that
await me,
When I've gone the last mile of the
way.

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Editor: Henry Souder Jr.

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News Correspondent: Ed Souder

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BEYOND THE SUNSET

Henry Souder Jr.

Sunset colors have their beauty. The glory round the throne is wonderful.

Our Lord spoke understandingly. He had come from home. Each inner room and each pleasant path were familiar. He brought sweet intimacy, the Father's closeness with Him. We have the immediate family tie. A far greater oneness is in the Creator.

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me."

The last divide makes its appearance, seems to loom large. (We cast about with the unfamiliar) Without help we would be troubled with the unknown.

A certain mother was going down the valley. The limbs were swollen, the suffering intense. Suddenly, her eyes opened. **Children, is this death? How beautiful; how beautiful.**

This life is like a tour of duty in the service. All things that really count are centered at Home. Home is life and light in a glorious glow.

"In my Father's house are many mansions: if **if were** not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you."

We have become acquainted with Jesus. We know the power that forgives. We have experienced His sweet peace. We know His joy.

We have become acquainted with the Father. (We found the world dark, restless, stormy.) From riotous living, home to the Father's embrace. We have really come home.

Jesus gives glimpse into heaven. In His Father's house is place without feeling of uneasiness. He fitted our inner peace; so will He have a

place prepared. How perfectly well will we be fitted in. Life is in many dimensions.

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am **there** ye may be also."

Beyond the Sunset is to be with Jesus. Paul says it is far better.

Our life is hid with Christ in God. Through His Spirit we have gained access to life of heaven.

When we pass away, we enter His glory foretold, "to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." The body, in a beautiful expression, fell asleep waiting for the good-morning. The believer shall never die.

"And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know."

CHILDREN

Bro. Elias Souder has submitted the followed beautiful look into the Beyond.

Little Willie, age 6 years went to heaven. How many mothers and fathers have experienced this very same thing. Their little blossom was laid away.

One day two weeks before Willie died, **Mamma, seems to me I wouldn't want to die.**

When asked why, he said, "O I wouldn't want to leave you But then I suppose I would be very happy in heaven, and mamma I would watch over you." His mamma clasped him into her arms. She loved him dearly, felt there is something wrong, the little lad talking like that. He said he didn't want a little lamb on his tombstone, only a little boy playing. (Such marks the little grave now.)

He was taken sick with scarlet fever, lived but two days. He was such a patient little sufferer thru' it all. When asked if he was not a pretty sick little boy, he replied, "No, not very sick, but I think Jesus is going to take me to heaven to live." An angelic look came over his face, with such a radiant smile. His papa was called. As he talked with him, the same glorious smile again illuminated. He then talked about the disposal of his toys, books, cards and papers. He spoke of his new hat, which he said he would not need now. His mamma talked to him about the beautiful crown awaiting him in heaven (although her heart seemed bursting with grief).

As we laid him back on the pillow, his eyes remained wide open and fixed. We felt his feet and found them cold. I hastened and warmed some flannel and wrapped them. We chafed his hands, although his finger nails were blue. How could we believe our little darling was dying, Willie our hope, the joy of our home. So it was. When the body, so beautiful and dear to us was lowered in the grave, it seemed I could not rise above the shock. It seemed as if he said, "Mamma, I am not here; don't cry. I am happy." I cannot think of him as anywhere but in that beautiful heaven where he longed to go.

Many children have gone on before and are waiting for mamma and daddy to meet them in heaven. In the last issue there was an article for children. You may experience the same thing with your sweet little darling. Read the last issue. Teach them about Jesus.

Glory of the Gospel Hymns

The following beautiful words of truth will be in the Revised Gospel Hymns. (They are from the original Gospel Hymns.) Notice how they tell of the life of our people.

While life prolongs its precious
light,
Mercy is found, and peace is given;
But soon, ah, soon, approaching
night
Shall blot out ev'ry hope of heaven.

From the land of hunger,
Fainting, famished lone,
Come to love and gladness,
My son! my son!

Not far, not far from the kingdom,
'Tis only a little space;
But oh, you may still be forever
Shut out from yon heavenly place!

Yes, the pierc-ed hand still
knocketh,

And beneath the crown-ed hair
Beam the patient eyes, so tender,
Of thy Saviour, waiting there.

. . . But my sins are many, my faith
is small,
Lo, the answer came quick and
clear;
Thou needest not trust in thyself
at all . . .
Ah, the world is cold, and I cannot
go back,

Press forward I surely must;
I will place my hand in His wound-
ed palm. . . .

Thy touch has still its ancient
power;
No word from thee can fruitless
fall; . . .

Now, ye needy, come and welcome;
God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance,—
Ev'ry grace that brings you nigh,—

Come to Christ, confession make;
Come to Christ and pardon take;

Depth of mercy! can there be
Mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God His wrath forbear
Me, the chief of sinners spare? . . .

The tempest's awful voice was
heard—
O Christ, it broke on Thee!
Thy open bosom was my ward,
It braved the storm for me.
Thy form was scarred, Thy visage
marred;
Now cloudless peace for me.

In the promises I trust
Now I feel the blood applied: . . .

High heaven, that heard the solemn
vow,
That vow renew'd shall daily hear,
Till in life's latest hour I bow,
And bless in death a bond so dear.

Ev'er since by faith, I saw the
stream

Thy flowing wounds supply,
Redeeming love has been my
theme,
And shall be, till I die.

Come, Holy Spirit, sent from God
the Father—
Thou Friend and Teacher, Com-
forter and Guide—
Our thoughts directing, Keep us
close to Jesus,
And in our hearts Forevermore
abide.

Come then, come, and raise the
joyful song!
Ye children of the wilderness, our
time cannot be long.
Home, home, home, oh, why should
we delay?
The morn of heav'n is dawning,
we're near the break of day . . .

He saw the golden city,—
His everlasting home,—
And shouted loud, Hosanna,
Deliverance will come! . . .

Then, castng his eyes backward
On the race which he had run,
He shouted loud, Hosanna,
Deliverance has come!

Praise Him! Praise Him!
Jesus our blessed Redeemer!
Heav'nly portals loud with
hosannas ring!
Jesus, Saviour, reigneth forever
and ever: . . .

Praise Him! praise Him! ever in
joyful song!

God may reward the government
for all liberties, freedom and kind-
ness which it extends unto the fol-
lowers of Christ.

Concerning swearing and taking
oaths: In regard to swearing and
taking an oath, we believe and con-
fess for the sake of confirming
anything it was allowed the fathers
of the Old Testament to take an
oath in the name of God, but when
Jesus Christ came into the world,
he forbade such and gave a com-
mandment not to swear or to take
an oath under any circumstances.
He taught that the word of His fol-
lowers should be yea to that which
is yea, and nay to that which is
nay . . . in all important matters,
as well as in minor things, it is for-
bidden for us to swear an oath.
Therefore in all our dealings, what-
soever we say or promise, should
be confirmed with the words "yea"
or "nay" only. Because we keep
our word and live up to our prom-
ises faithfully in all matters and
dealings, we do believe that every-
one should be willing to accept our
word—yea for that which is yea
and nay for that which is nay—
without an oath or any other con-
firmation. If our honorable govern-
ment will grant to us such favor,
we will accept it with heartfelt
thanks from God and our honorable
government. However, should our
honorable government refuse to
grant us such privilege and favor,
there is nothing else for us to do
but to take the consequence, as the
Apostle Peter writes (I Peter 4:15,
16), let no one among you suffer as
an evildoer . . . but if you suffer
as a Christian be not ashamed, but
honor God in such a case, and abide
in His fear . . .

We would add that the Bible, the
Holy Scripture of the Old and the
New Testament, is the only book
from which we read or teach . . .
for our services. We also have a
songbook, **Zion's Harp**, which con-
tains spiritual hymns that are in
accord with the holy scripture . . .
Whatever does not correspond
with the holy scripture we do not
acknowledge as truth . . .

Zip Code, is it on your address?

Moving? Send address 60 days
in advance. Send the name of the
city, state and zip code where the
address has been and the new ad-
dress.

We Believe

Christian Schlipf (Written 1878)

. . . Regarding marriage: We con-
fess and believe that in the church
of God there should be an honor-
able marriage between two free
persons, as God in the beginning in-
stituted this in Paradise with
Adam and Eve. Christ disapproved
of all the misuse of the married
state which in course of time took
place, such as separation, divorce,
turning to another one before the
one had died. Christ corrected these
evils and taught to bring every-
thing back, as it was at the begin-
ning.

Concerning the government: We
believe and confess that God has
ordained the government with au-
thority for the protection of the

law-abiding and righteous people,
and to reign over the world, land,
sea and cities . . . To keep good or-
der by policing the country (Ro-
mans 13). No man should despise
or slander the government, but
should respect and honor the same;
be obedient, and submissive . . . (I
Peter 2:13,14). Therefore we are
willing to pay tribute and taxes, and
support our government, as it is our
duty, just as the Son of God taught
His followers to do (Matthew
17:27; Matthew 22:20,21). We
should call earnestly to God and
pray to Him that we may, under
the protection of our government,
lead a just and peaceful life in all
godliness and honesty, and that

Attention to all servicemen stationed in Germany and France!

The Lord willing, we may expect two of our elders, Bros. Noah Schrock and Silas Leuthold to visit Germany in July. They will arrive in Zurich Switzerland July 12 and will be with us during this month. There will be church meetings scheduled for the servicemen (spoken in English) at the church at Neuuhuetten, which is 30 km from Heilbronn. Places to stay overnight will be provided for everyone by church people.

For any information, please contact Bro. Harold Steiner, stationed in Landstuhl, or myself at the following address: Irene Baer, Caecilienstrasse 39, 71 Heilbronn, Neckar. Phone 82955.

As we consider this a great privilege, everyone should try to put in for leave during this time. Anyone who is unable to get leave should let us know, so we can make arrangements in meeting at one of the chapels where the individual is stationed. May we all pray that the Lord will lead those brothers safely into our midst.

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA Mary Eisenmann — Marge Gerber "The Believer"

Our widowed sister with whom we spent a very blessed evening, states she has been a child of God for close to 50 years! Having been brought up in our faith, she had sought the faith as was given to her by her parents in her youth. She states her parents were devoted Christians and were always charitable and hospitable; therefore, they often had company in their home.

She relates, both her parents lived in her home the later years of their lives and were with her when their deaths came, about two years apart. She was glad to care for them and have them, as she remembered all they had done for her.

However, our sister experienced many years of continued prayer for her helpmate's salvation, which met with such fruits in his latter years, and certainly brought a great happiness to their home. I well remember the joy he expressed, while visiting with him during his repentance. Later, due to ill-

ness he was baptized in his home in the presence of a few close friends and relatives. His death followed about 2 years later, during which time he was unable to come to the house of God. Our sister stated that about 2 weeks before his death he remarked, "That when the Lord says, "Come", I'll go; for I am ready." He only wondered why he had waited so long.

Then the day came that God took him from this life to his eternal rest. Just that morning he was taken to the hospital. On the way he told our sister that he wouldn't be coming home again. Less than seven hours later, a prayer was held for him in his hospital room. Shortly after he said, "Sit me up; I can't breathe." Her beloved one went to his Eternal Rest!

This dear sister feels she has found joy and satisfaction in helping others, and finds a closer feeling to God and a stronger stand of faith grows with the years in serving God. She finds prayer is the best remedy when downcast—patience is taught through sickness—and sorrow brings a closer fellowship with God. For her life moves quickly. She feels obedience and cooperation can best help retain the faith of our church. She feels it is certainly worthwhile to deny ourselves the pleasures of this life, that we may have the hope of eternity.

Her only thought for those outside the household of God is that they not delay, but come while they yet are given the opportunity.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Normal, Illinois Dianne Emch

"Be strong and of good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the LORD thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

Our messengers of God during March have been Bros. Ben Maibach, Joe Schrock, Russell Rapp, Gene Bertschi, and Fred Knapp. May God richly bless them for their efforts.

Our annual Easter program took place the last Thursday night before Easter. It was followed by ten days of vacation, which we eagerly await each year.

We want anyone to feel free to join us on Thursday evenings, and we hope that our guests receive blessings also.

JAPAN

Yoshio Yamazaki

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

The world is becoming worse and worse. Many different religions are spreading around here and there, and trying man to be deceived from the truth. I don't know very much in America but here in Japan, especially our place in Kaneko is having many kinds of supposedly profitable religions, modification of Christianity, modification of Shinto, and modification of Buddha as Sokagakkai. They say, "Europeanized Christianity is unnecessary for us here in Japan. We should transform it into Japanese present situation. Actually we need real gospel through our Japanese people and should stand on the tradition from our ancestors." So lots of people jump into such religions; they are growing so fast. It is very sorry for them. Sometime we should think about the people who have a sinner's mind and are so zealous for their own duty. We Christians should stand on the promise and be more zealous than the evil-minded. We should ask God to send us Holy Spirit to work for us and give us strength against the world.

According to the paper it says, "On the average here in Tokyo, without sickness and natural deaths, 80 persons are killed by committing suicide in a month, 210 by traffic accidents, and 16.5 by murder." We should think about so many precious lives gone in just a moment of time. You know already that by the airplane accidents in Japan the first part of March, so many lives passed away in only a few minutes. Seems to me it is something wrong. However, just only one thing I know that so many lives died probably outside of God's mercy.

At Shioda church we make addition to dwelling house and build the new apartment in upstairs of church. Probably Bro. Willis Ehnlé and his family will move there sometime in June. He is really anxious to live there and try to help the country people to real salvation by the blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. These expenditures come

from the mission fund through the church of America. We really thank you for your praying and good support.

Now graduation time and many young students graduate from the schools, going to the world. However, I really am concerned about them to understand what they have for their slogan as to how to live? Most people get into the social mechanism and lose their first fresh hope or ambition. They will become like iron machines in the factory. We need more soldiers of Christ to try to lead such young people to the way of truth. **The harvest is plenteous but the labourers are few.**

FRANCESVILLE, INDIANA
Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich
Mrs. Edison Gutwein

Our brother, Sam Geyer, who has been in the hospital since New Years Day is slowly improving, but thinks he will still have to be there for a few more months. He cannot see to read, but his dear faithful wife, Sis. Tillie, reads his mail to him, which we know means a lot to them both. His address is Little Co. of Mary Hospital, San Pierre, Indiana. May God give them strength and courage to bear their cross in loving patience.

Bro. Chris Wuethrich is confined to the hospital, being treated for infection of burns recently received at his home. We pray it is God's will that he can soon return home.

We are happy to have our two smiling sisters back with us again, Lois and Edith Streitmater, after working in Milford for some time. They are living with their parents, Bro. Richard and Sis. Zura Streitmater, and have employment near them.

A remark was made from the pulpit. "Good unright brothers, they go good together." We had these upright brothers to visit us, George Yergler and Earl Kilgus from near us and Uriel Gehring from Burlington, Iowa. They gave words of comfort which were a joy to our hearts.

Another one of our good friends, David Ward, is stationed in Texas. We wish him, as is our closing thought, "Mind the Lord, and He will keep blessing you more."

PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS
Ruth Ricketts—Anna Marie Baer
 Larry Eberle is home, after

spending some time in California and Hawaii, after his discharge from the army. We are thankful, too, to have Robert Wieland with us again. Robert has spent the past eighteen months in the armed services in Germany. Before leaving the states he became convicted of his sins, repented and found peace with God, but was unable to get home before being sent overseas. He has been announced for proving and, God willing, hopes to have this opportunity granted in the near future.

While in Germany Robert had a number of week end passes and leaves he used to good advantage, and did extensive traveling. By learning the language he could converse more easily. He got along quite nicely.

Sisters Maryann and Mildred Fischer of Roanoke and Bro. Wendell Gudeman of Francesville showed pictures of the less fortunate in foreign lands and of projects of World Relief. It truly stirred the hearts and gives one more zeal to do all he possibly can to ease the pain and hunger. Perhaps the small things an individual can do would not go far, but united we can surely do something to relieve the suffering of many.

Bro. LeRoy Hartman of Peoria earnestly proclaimed the Holy Word to us, as did Bros. Edwin Ringger and Elmer Witzig of Gridley. We heard of the two kinds of wisdom—wisdom of this world and wisdom of God. What great gains we achieve if we obtain the wisdom of God. Then too we were warned about an unruly tongue. What a big spiritual fire can come from one little spark. Our tongue is a small organ; only God can tame it. We must indeed be careful.

Bros. Noah Schrock of Oakville and LeRoy Huber of Eureka came for a mid-week service. We were told about one of Paul's journeys on a ship which was being tossed about by the waves of the sea, the waves beating so hard the ship was broken. Those on board reached safety by holding to pieces of the broken ship. Our church can be compared to a ship being tossed on the sea of life, beaten on one side with the pleasures of this world and the other side by deception today beating very hard. What about the members? Will they remain steadfast in faith?

We could truly feel God was in our presence when a brother was to be sought out for the ministry. Each member was told to ask God to direct their thoughts, putting a name on paper. When the first ballots were counted, two brothers had the same number, with several others having some, but none enough for a majority. The congregation was asked to choose one of the two brothers receiving the most votes. When the elders came back after counting again, Bro. Schrock said that strange and miraculous things sometimes happen. It surely did. The two brothers had exactly the same number of votes the second time. All felt that God had spoken, that Bros. Joe Stoller and Arthur Baurer should share this duty. It was truly humbling to everyone; we can only pray for our dear young brothers that they may find courage. We feel that if they search with a humble and willing heart, God will give them and their families the grace to sustain them. We will greatly miss these brothers who have been faithful Sunday School teachers, but trust they can continue now in the upper room.

Bro. Albert Aberle of Tremont told us how important it is to be doers of the word and not hearers only. We are what we are by the grace of God, not by our own accomplishments.

We are thankful to have Sisters Nellie Woertz and Emma Streitmatter worshipping with us again, after being shut in several weeks. Our friend Elise (Lizzie) Stahl hasn't been in our midst for some time; we hope she will soon be present again. Her parents, Bro. Karl and Sis. Lena Stichling have not been with us for some time. Sis. Lena recently observed her 80th birthday and Bro. Karl his 92nd. Both are in fairly good health, but it is hard for them to get about as they wish. Sis. Lillian Stahl is making satisfactory recovery from surgery. Michael Martin, six-yearson of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Janet, was in the hospital but now is at home. He is suffering from a virus infection of the nerves, an affliction similar to polio but paralysis is not permanent. We trust God will hear the prayers of relatives and friends for these and make their lot bearable. May they all feel His healing hand.

SARASOTA, FLORIDA

Velta Laukhuf

Visiting ministers for March were Bros. Herman Kellenberger, Harry Sutter, John Bahler, and Irvin Stoller. We wish to thank these brothers for their deeds of kindness and welcome them back again.

The month of March and April is always of deep concern, for it is the parting time for the different families, to return to their respective places of abode in the North. During the winter months we become like one big family, and the parting brings serious thoughts. Will we meet here again? Or will it be on yonder shore? Only God knows.

Bro. Phil, our minister, and Sis. Fern Wingeier would like to thank everyone that attended the Sarasota Church for their deeds of kindness, good co-operation, love and hospitality that was shown to them during this winter season.

The last service of the season was held March 27. It says in the good book, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven". So it is with our blessed church, 1966 season in the sunny southland. It has now come to a close; may God grant that in 1967 we may all meet again.

TUCSON, ARIZONA

Jay J. Bertsch

Christian Friendship

There are friendships that we cherish

In our daily walk of life,
Friends with whom we meet and labor

In our earthly toil and strife; . . .
Friends among the aged and youthful

Friends that live from us apart,
Friends of higher rank and station
Find a place within my heart.

But I prize the friendship highest
Of the one whose heart is true,
Friends who live by truth and goodness

And who live in Him anew;
Friends whose hearts are up in heaven

Though their feet traverse this sod,
Find a place of highest merit
In our fellowship with God.

We've had many visitors from out-of-town this past month. Ministering Bro. Clarence Yackley and family from Phoenix assembled

with us also. We're glad they can come and be with us. Everyone is welcome.

Our ministering brother, Noah Herman, and family have a new address—3023 East Alta Vista, Tucson, Arizona, Phone 326-7366, for any who wish to get in touch with him.

UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY

August Mueller

I fully agree with David where he says in Psalm 107, "Oh that men would praise the LORD for . . . his wonderful works" which He bestoweth upon mankind. He led the children of Israel out of the house of Pharaoh. They were slaves; Pharaoh made work harder for them all the time. They cried unto the Lord and He heard their cry and helped them. O that more souls would cry unto the Lord today. How glad would He be if He could free them from the chains of darkness and lead them out of the prison to freedom, never to be slaves anymore.

We heard so many wonderful teachings today, especially from Jesus, how he was always ready to heal the sick and the afflicted. He walked many miles a day to help the poor and to preach the gospel.

The world is full of scribes and Pharisees that lay burdens upon the people, but themselves do not touch them with one finger. They like to sit at the head of the table, yea the place is reserved for them. They want to be called "father". They tell the people what to eat and when. They like to have the picture in the paper, and on the street they want to be greeted.

Our sympathy goes out for the family of Bro. Joseph Kloetzle, also for the family of Bro. Joe Getz. They worked hard in the vineyard of the Lord. What the Lord does is well done, even if it seems hard to bear. My dear wife passed away suddenly. I know how it feels.

Sweet hour of prayer. Yes, in truth it is a pleasant occupation to pray, what gifts derived from humble veneration, and unto pray'r the strength from God in heaven to us is given. We are not told how long we have to pray; we are told, when we pray it has to come from our heart. The Lord wants worshippers that call unto Him in spirit and in truth.

We rejoice that we can read the news of the congregations here in

the U.S. and in Japan. Some of the members have heavier burdens to carry than others, but none is unbearable if we put our hope and trust in the Lord. We can feel that the members are helping to carry the load. The poet made a beautiful hymn: Why grieveest my soul must thou suffer great pain. Trust in your dear Jesus He'll strengthen again Endure and be still, Believing it is thy dear Saviour's good will.

Sunday the 13th . . . O how lovely tis to be with our Lord in unity
And united voices raise. This we experienced today when four dear sisters from Rockville came to visit us.

We were reminded of the time which is being fulfilled before our very eyes. We hear of war and rumors of war, pestilence, famine, earthquakes. This should not discourage us to serve the Lord. We are told to rejoice for our redemption is nigh at hand. We know not when the Lord will call an end to this sinful world; my prayer to Him is that He would leave the door of grace open as long as there are souls seeking Him and enquiring after Him. We are very fortunate we can use this time of grace to bring Him honor, praise and glory, and to extol His high and holy name. Amen.

There is an old hymn. It goes something like this: While working or on journeys I love to sing Zion's hymns, yet nothing is as blessed than to sing songs of praise on the day of the Lord.

Mother earth awakens from her long and hard sleep, so she can in due time bring forth the good food, so essential to sustenance of man and beast. Wonderful is God, and great are all His works. He is Lord over the whole universe. Would God that many souls yet would awaken from their sleep of death and bring forth fruit of repentance to God's honour praise and thanks. Today again He invited the souls to come to Him, that He will give them rest for their undying souls. He is a merciful, kind and loving Father, but the day will come when His mercy will come to an end and the door of grace will be closed.

How thankful should we be that we hearkened to His call. We have heard today. Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God believe also in me. My Father and I are one. How many times could we feel His nearness and His helping hand.

Now that spring is here and mother earth has received new strength, let us pray to our heavenly Father that we may receive new grace and strength, so we can spend the rest of our life to His name's praise, honor and glory, be it long or short, and bring forth the good fruit which is required of us. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit will be cut down and cast into the fire.

How wonderful did the Lord ordain everything when He created the world. The wheat which is sown before the winter sets in is called winter wheat. There it stays all winter. It is very important. It cannot start to grow unless it dies first in the ground. Recently I was in Pennsylvania for a visit. We took a ride through the country. There I saw plenty of wheat fields, just like dark green carpets, wonderful; nothing else was growing. Earth was fast asleep yet.

Daniel was a great prophet. He was very young, yet the Lord filled his heart with heavenly wisdom. I read about him the other day, how he repented in sackcloth and ashes, not only for himself but also for the children of Israel. The Lord heard and sent His angel to comfort him. The angel told him to be of good cheer, that everything will be built again and that Jerusalem which was desolate will be inhabited again, and that the Lord loved him very much. The Lord kept his promise. Jerusalem is filled with people from east and west, from north and south. They plant vineyards. They sow, and harvest in due time. When we come to God with a humble heart and mind, He will not leave us comfortless, but will come to us according to His promise.

Come visit us in Union City, members and friends. You will not regret it. We always welcome visitors. The church is located between 24th and 25th St. Morning service starts at 10:30, afternoon, 12:30.

None lives himself, and none dies himself. Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. He is judge over the quick and the dead.

Mother, dear mother. how I wish you were here
To help me and give me hours of cheer,
But God has taken you to give you sweet rest.
Now all I can say, the name of the Lord forever be blest.

Greetings to all members and friends in the service.

VALPARAISO, INDIANA

Mrs. W. A. Jacob

Mrs. Harry Bucher

On Palm Sunday we were impressed by our young people of Sunday School, with their Easter Program, "The Cross and the Crown". We thank God for these young people. May God bless the teachers for putting forth their efforts in teaching them the true word of God, our belief.

The New Testament describes the believer's manner of life. In II Peter we read of some who walk after the flesh, meaning that some are controlled by unholy passions. Then again we read in Galatians, "Walk in the Spirit", meaning some are led by the Spirit of God. Which walk is yours? We must be very careful of our walk; our behavior should match our belief. Therefore let us look unto God for help and guidance.

Our friend, Alma Morris fell in her home and broke her arm. At the present time she is at Porter Memorial Hospital. She will appreciate and enjoy mail from anyone. Her home address is 829 East Lincolnway, Valparaiso, Ind.

WEST BEND, IOWA

Anna Schmidt Mrs. A. Banwart

"Dear ones, let us not murmur or complain over what has befallen us the past week, but much rather praise God that in these latter times He is yet willing to show forth His power and strength. With so many homes in quiet and silence, men have taken a little time to think and pray." This was the kindly advice of our elder, Paul Banwart, in a very impressive sermon, as we joyfully gathered the Sunday after a storm which took our phones and electricity out from a short while for a few—up to 90 hours for others. On Sunday March 20, we were informed, "God willing there will be services on Wednesday evening, as Bros. Art and Wendell Gudeman plan to visit us. All activities which were planned for Tuesday evening were cut short or cancelled altogether because of storm, high winds and interruptions in our electric service. By Wednesday evening the community was snowbound and thankful to be in shelter, even through heat was scant many places. Everyone was

grateful the temperature didn't drop to sub-zero conditions as so often happens with snowstorms. There was much anxiety and concern over loved ones not home.. Where and how were they spending the hours? What a precious privilege to place all things in the hands of a loving and gracious Lord. Our visitors arrived on Thursday afternoon. Only a few were able to gather at the home of Bro. and Sis. Silas and Ida Banwart for an enjoyable evening. May their efforts be rewarded. On Sunday, some from here went to Lester to be with the same visiting ministers.

Hospital patients were: Leann Banwart, daughter of Benjy and Betty Banwart, and Joan Bruellman, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Don and Verda Bruellman, tonsillectomies; Brent Bruellman, son of Bro. and Sis. Eugene and Evie Bruellman, for allergies. Sis. Anna Schmidt for minor surgery; Chris Schmidt with a heart condition. All are improving. Sis. Ida Metzger, wife of Bro. Wm. Metzger fell, but is feeling better. Sis. Katie Dogotch also fell, and is slowly improving.

Recent visits from former residents reveal that others share the ache we feel at the thought of disposing of our present house of worship. We rejoice that Bro. Paul and Sis. Anna Fehr could assemble with us the closing Sundays in our old church. Bro. Paul reminded us, "As the time for closing the doors to this church draw near, let us remember the building is all we are leaving—fond, cherished memories can go along with us to the assembly where, if we do what herein we have been taught, God will bless us even farther on."

Dear Father, now behold us
In prayer before Thy throne.
We plead for grace and wisdom
From Thee—and Thee alone.

Because Thou art all-knowing,
Our intent is known to Thee
To leave this house of worship
For another—soon to be.

Therefore with fear and trembling
We beg—and plead—and pray
For understanding wisdom,
As we approach that day.

Then let us all remember
With reverence and respect,
The old has served its purpose,
God's honor to effect.

As board from board is wrested
'Tis—as we can attest—
Like when the mortal body
Is gently lain to rest.

But the Spirit lives forever
In Christian—or in church;
And here we meet our challenge!
Let each his own soul search.

To Thee we look, dear Father;
May each begin anew.
Do hallow, bless, and sanctify;
With wisdom each imbue.

Show unto each his duty,
God's armour be our dress,
That when the new doors open
We're clothed in righteousness.

Then as we travel upward
On toward our heavenly goal,
Let each step find us purer
In heart and mind and soul.

WICHITA, KANSAS
Mrs. Ethel Smith
Mrs. Jackie Farney

Sunday evening April 3, the Sunday School presented an Easter program of song. The teachers' and children's efforts were appreciated by all.

It was nice to have Sis. May Aeschleman in church with us again.

Our hospital patients are: Sis. Emma Miller, who is undergoing some tests in the Susan B. Allen Hospital, Eldorado, Kansas. Almedia Treweeke entered the St. Francis Hospital for surgery.

Sis. Hattie Farney's granddaughter, Susie Conrad, is glad to be able to leave the hospital. May the great physician be ever near them.

Benjamin Lambert Dewey will be the newly adopted son of Mr. and Mrs. David Dewey. The grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Ernie Lambert.

WOLCOTT, INDIANA
Arles Kropf

Bro. George Yergler spent a Sunday with us recently, when we partook of the Lord's Supper.

Another blessed day was enjoyed when Bro. Merle Bucher and others from La Crosse were with us. It truly is a privilege to have those of like faith from other congregations assemble and fellowship with us.

A new little son, Ronald Lee was born March 16 to Harold and June Lehman. This makes 3 boys.

Our Sunday School classes pre-

sented the Easter Story in verse and song, on Palm Sunday evening. Even the little 3-year-olds could expound to us the wonderful news that Jesus died and rose for them.

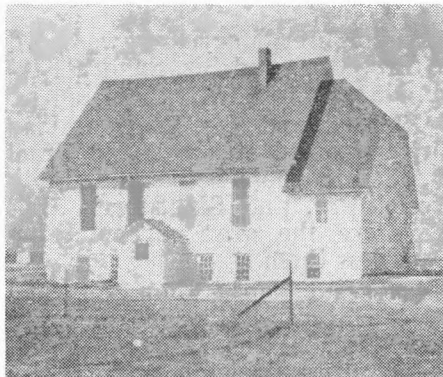
Sis. Jean Kyburz, who submitted to surgery, is able to assemble again. We thank God for the recovery of those who are sick.

Mumps, scarletina, and chicken pox have caused a large group of the children to be confined to their homes.

ALTO, MICHIGAN
Loretta and Myrna Steffen

Many of our elder brethren have often heard the story of the beginning of the Alto congregation.

A dear soul seeking to know the Lord was walking along a railway, pondering these thoughts deep within her heart. By the way she met two men, which were brethren and ministers of our most holy faith. They expounded the word of God more clearly to her, that she could see the Light of salvation. Soon after, she moved to Michigan, and that was the beginning of our Alto church.



The first edifice of worship was built nearly 50 years ago. This dear old sister's funeral was held in that building. Now it has been razed, and a new structure in which to worship our Lord has been erected.



We pray that we might continue to grow in God's love and nurture.

A farewell singing was held for John Grawburg, son of Fred and Sis. Katherine, who has been inducted into the service of our government. We wish him the Lord's protection.

John Wingeier passed from this life on March 18. We extend sympathy to his sisters and brother, Sis. Lydia, Sis. May and Bill, also his nephew, Robert Wingeier. May God comfort them in their bereavement.

Hospitalized and released were Bro. Dave Wingeier and Carl Steffen. Also hospitalized was Sis. Katherine Grawburg, who will be there a few weeks for regulation of a diabetic problem and a foot infection.

Hebrews 13:5 ". . . for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."

BAY CITY, MICHIGAN
Marlene Mosher

Bro. Ben Maibach and Sis. Lorene have been our guests, along with many others from Detroit, Cissna Park, La Crosse, Elgin and Chicago.

We have been blessed with a new sister to our congregation, Sis. Susan Ramseyer, who was taken into the fold this month. We are also very happy to have two more dear souls that have found grace to start repenting.

This is the time of year to commemorate the crucifixion of our dear Lord and Saviour, and His rising again. Remember, not only at this time of year, but each and every day, that Jesus Christ was hung on the cross in agony and shed His precious blood and rose again so that we might have everlasting life, if we but ask and do His will. Let us pray for many more souls to find this way, before it is forever too late and also for those who have found the way of the Lord, not to waver, but do His will. It seems as though it is getting harder all the time for us to stay close to the Lord. The devil is trying harder everyday, and it seems he is succeeding to such an extent. The evil one keeps everything in such turmoil, one against the other, that there are feuds, bickering and wars. The only way to overcome evil is to walk side by side with our Lord and Pray, Pray, Pray.

BRADFORD, ILLINOIS Mrs. Martha Kieser

We have been especially fortunate and blest this month, as many visitors have been in our midst. Bro. Wendell Gudeman and his family came on Saturday evening, and shared with us his slides of Haiti and the tornado and flood areas, which our World Relief money supports. We can surely see what little we are able to give can be put to good use. We thank him.

Bros. Bert Butikofer, Elgin, Iowa; Bob Grimm, Goodfield; Orville Ringger, Bluffton; Simon Wagenbach, Tremont; and Ed Lanz, Oakville, were also visitors. We are thankful for all who came and especially those from Bluffton and Elgin, who came on Saturday. We could learn to know these a little better. It really is a wonderful fellowship, isn't it?

Dan Endress has returned home from the hospital.

We are looking forward to the provings and baptisms of our friends, Loris Stisser and his wife, Lottie; and Clarence Bruell, who have been announced.

Randy Ehnle, son of Bro. Ben and Sis. Audrey, returns to Mayo's this week for a checkup. We hope they have a good report when they return home.

Bro. John and Sis. Margaret Tanner have opened their home to the sisters here, to work on the projects for World Relief. It proves to be quite interesting, as well as doing good for those who are in need. We can also enjoy each others fellowship each time we meet.

Bro. Leroy Streitmatter overturned his tractor and plow coming home on the road. He was pinned under it for a time, but reportedly has no broken bones. He is to have X-rays today, to determine if there are other injuries.

By the time this reaches you, we trust you have had a blessed Easter.

BREMEN, INDIANA Mrs. Robert Hueni

The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord.

On March 18, our congregation was saddened with the sudden death of Bro. Christian J. Zimmer, at the age of 62. Those he left who were dearest to him are his wife, Pauline; four children, Neal, Larry and Mary Lou Zimmer and Mrs.

Norma Balha; three grandchildren, Sheila, Todd and Cami; two brothers, Bro. Eugene Zimmer and Bro. George Zimmer; two sisters, Mrs. Herman Hueni and Mrs. Lou Gerber.

A son, Paul Earl, was born to Bro. Earl and Sis. Marge Zeltwanger on March 28. At home to give the little man a real welcome are five sisters and one brother.

Those hospitalized this month are Bro. William Zimmer, Sis. Alice Zimmer and Sis. Mary Heuberger.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS Louise Steffen Katie Kachelmuss

Ministering brothers who visited during the past month and served us with spiritual food and drink were Bros. David Kieser, Eugene Bertschi, Walter Anliker, LeRoy Hartman, Donald Sauder. May God continue to inspire his servants to proclaim His holy word in truth and sincerity in these days of confusion and perplexity, so that man need not despair but embrace the promises of God, that He will be with all those that call upon him and obey His word until the end of the world.

A daughter, Mary Kay, was born to Bro. Wm. and Sis. Sandra Kinsinger on March 25.

Richard and Sis. Norma Jean Utt welcomed six-weeks-old Traci Lynn into their home and family circle. Bro. and Sis. Morris Willaert are the grandparents. May God bless them.

We had our Sunday School Easter program. It was inspiring to hear the children sing and speak their verses, praising God for His unspeakable love to the children of men, sending Jesus to become a sacrifice for mankind, if they will avail themselves of the opportunity. May God bless one and all, for the efforts in this service in the Sunday School.

When the burdens seem so heavy
And the load is hard to bear,
Remember Christ will help you
If you but go to Him in prayer.

You may not get the answer
That you really wished to hear,
But the Lord knows what is best
for you
And you always find Him near.

And in the end, if you've been true,
He to you will surely give

His most prized and just reward,
A place in heaven with Him to live.

(By one of our young sisters in faith)

EUREKA, ILLINOIS Cathryn Wettstein - Salome Walter

Our visiting ministers the past month have been Bros. Henry Wackerle, Bay City; Leo Moser, Lester; Arthur Gudeman, La Crosse; Clarence Kackelmuss, Forrest. The Mortonaires were our special guests at our family night singing the fourth Sunday of March. All who enjoy singing are welcome to be with us at these singings and bring their friends and neighbors.

Births—Ruth Ann was born to Bro. Earl and Sis. Elsie Zimmerman on March 10; she has two brothers and two sisters at home. Sandra Rose was born to Allyn and Nathalia Getz on March 12; she has two brothers also. Timothy George was born to Willis and Margaret Hodel on March 21; he is the second child and second son.

Sis. Alice Kempf was a patient in the hospital, but has returned home. Larry Wettstein was in the hospital, where he had his tonsils removed; he is Bro. Robert and Sis. Verna Wettstein's son.

Wedding engagement—Loretta Kupferschmid, the daughter of Bro. Wayne and Sis. Laura, has announced her engagement to Allen Leman, the son of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Viola Leman. A late summer wedding is planned.

The evening of March 21, a large group of people from Roanoke and Eureka gathered at the church, to do housecleaning of the building. The next morning quite a few people assembled together and finished what didn't get done.

As we again observe Good Friday and Easter, may we ever look unto Jesus who died on the cross and shed his blood for the sins of all mankind. Then he arose from the grave and now intercedes to God the Father for you and for me.

Thank you note: I wish to thank everyone who has so kindly remembered me with gifts, cards and also those who quilted my quilts. May God richly bless all of you. Sis. Mildred Huber.

Oh, what a God we have to trust
A God of love and grace,
Who never will refuse the cry
Of those who seek His face.

Then may we oft, while here we wait

To meet Him in the air,
In earnest supplication spend
That hour, the hour of prayer.

FORREST, ILLINOIS

Martha Stoller — Nancy Honegger

Bro. Duane Schneider is making a satisfactory recovery, following surgery at Fairbury Hospital.

Visiting ministers recently were Bros. Ben Schlatter, Junction; Fred Knapp, Congerville, and Ernest Gerber, Rockville.

On Wednesday evenings, we have short services, and then sing several hymns from our **Zion's Harp**. We have started from the beginning of the book, singing two or three verses of almost every song, trying to become more familiar with the melodies that are used less frequently. Bro. Henry Kilgus has suggested that we read the remaining verses of these songs at home, as they hold such deep meaning.

Our Sunday School children presented an Easter program to the congregation, reminding us of Christ's death, suffering and resurrection. This is always an inspiration to us, as it was later stated, **True praise comes from the mouth of babes.**

GIRARD, OHIO

Jesse C. Emch

"Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain." Psalm 127:1

Since the last news item we have had many visitors, for which we are very thankful. Both Sunday evenings March 20 and 27 we enjoyed an hour of song service and fellowship.

I believe that we can all say that the Lord did build our house and our labors have not been in vain, inasmuch as our friend, Wesley Stoll, now 80 years old could find grace to revive a desire of long standing to give his heart to God, we might say in the eleventh hour of his life. This bears witness that the seed was sown by believing parents into the hearts of the children. On Saturday evening April 2, our Elder Bro. Rudolph Graf with others were with us for the proving. It is my belief that all who were present were deeply impressed by his testimony. The next day, Sunday, baptism took place by El-

der Bro. Noah Bauman. We welcome Bro. Wesley into our brotherhood. May God give him grace in his new walk of life.

Bro. Orrin Stoll was the last one to be baptized in our old church, and his own brother Wesley was the first to be baptized in the new church. We all enjoyed the impressive messages brought to us by Elder Bros. Rudolph Graf and Noah Bauman and Bro. Forrest Ritzman. We welcome all to visit us again.

Funeral service for Friend Wm. Hafely, age 87 years, husband of Sis. Anna Hafely, was held April 4. He passed away March 31. Service was conducted by Bro. Jesse Emch, assisted by Bros. Lorentz Emch and Robert Stoll. We extend our deepest sympathy and ask God's blessing to the family and especially to Sis. Anna.

FORT SCOTT, KANSAS

Annabelle Bahr—Marie Zaugg

Hospital patients this past month were Sis. Edith (Martin) Hohulin, who had minor surgery, and Thomas Sinn, who had a tonsillectomy. Tom is a high school senior and is the youngest son of Bro. and Sis. Gus Sinn. Both patients are recovering satisfactorily.

Our elder Bro. Sam Anliker, Lamont, spent a Sunday with us.

Mike Sinn and Eloise Chinn were recently united in marriage. A reception was held for them at the home of Mike's brother, Bro. and Sis. Chas. D. Sinn.

A breakfast was held for the Sunday School students by the teachers at the home of Bro. and Sis. Jim Bahr. An Easter program was given in the evening, attended by the parents and friends. The program was truly inspirational, reminding us anew of the cruel death, and then the glorious resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

MORTON, ILLINOIS

Rose Getz — Ruth Rapp

Many rich blessings were brought to us through the visiting brothers, Noah Schrock, Silas Leuthold and Mike Weyeneth.

The Roanoke Choristers sang many beautiful hymns at our monthly song service, April 3, including some songs in memory of Bros. Joe A. Getz and David Man-gold.

Bro. Ben Heiniger is very ill at this time and is a patient at the Pekin Hospital, Pekin, Ill.

Sis. Eula Grimm (Mrs. Wm. Jr.) had major surgery and is convalescing at home, as is also Sis. Viola Keller (Mrs. Roland).

Sis. Lavine Getz was able to return home, after having spent a week in the hospital.

Sis. Irene Stoller (Mrs. Walter) is quite ill at this time.

Funeral services were held March 19 for Mrs. Victor Kruse, mother of Sis. Ilene (Mrs. Robert) Haefli, of Peoria.

Marjorie Gerber, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Walter Gerber, and Gary Paulson of Peoria were united in marriage April 3.

Expression of Thanks

We want to express our very deep thanks and appreciation to each and everyone of the many congregations who so kindly remembered us with so many kind expressions of sympathy cards, many beautiful poems, telegrams, flowers and gifts, and the many kind letters that were sent.

We shall long remember your kindness in the hours of our deep sorrow in the loss of our dear husband and father, Joe A. Getz. May God bless you richly. Sis. Elizabeth Getz and family.

PEORIA, ILLINOIS

Emily Tanner

Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

We welcome to our assembly Bro. Don and Sis. Marie Wagenbach and their four sons and daughter. They moved to this area from Tremont, where they formerly assembled.

Sis. Clara Neukomn moved to Fairbury. We will miss Clara, as she assembled with our congregation faithfully for over 46 years.

Sis. Rose Barth is recuperating at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Bro. Russ and Sis. Marge Plattner. She fell down some steps backwards and broke both wrists. I imagine this passage of scripture is often in her thoughts: "In your patience possess ye your souls."

Sis. Anna Schupbach is recuperating at the home of her sisters, Sisters Martha and Rose Langjahr. Sis. Anna is from Cissna Park.

Sis. Cecelia Schupbach died March 16. Surviving are three sons, John, Fred and Ben; three daughters, Julia Powers, Cecelia Hunziker and Emilie Greiner; 24 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren.

The deliberations of the Brotherhood Conference were explained

to our congregation; assisting Bro. Roy Sauder were Bros. Silas Leuthold and Leroy Huber. Even though the pleasure of having Bro. Joe A Getz assemble with us is a thing of the past, we still have evidence of his works and love for our church as it was through his labors of love this report was compiled. He is truly deserving of his rest. We can have this assurance of faith **The Lord Will Provide** for all our needs. May we in humbleness and meekness ever strive to do the Lord's will.

We enjoyed the visit and message from Bro. Joe Zimmerman, too.

At our April Hymn Sing, we were privileged to glorify God in song. The Mortonaires were guest singers. Their harmony is so beautiful; it is always a pleasure to hear them. Their last song was dedicated to their dear departed elder. I think we all joined in spirit with "Precious Memories".

Note of thanks: The Silas Sauder family wishes to thank everyone for their expressions of love and kindness shown during the time of his wife's illness and death.

At this Easter season, there is a lot of reading material emphasizing the crucifixion, flowing of blood, death and resurrection of Jesus. We are glad to see this, although personally I enjoy reading this directly from the Bible. Still we cherish the fact that it is published at this time of year; perhaps it will stir souls to repentance. For ourselves, we can ponder over all this, knowing this was done for me! We have so much for which to be thankful.

AKRON, OHIO

Florence Graf

He is risen!!! Our Lord arose—Victorious over death was He. Let us arise—be up and doing, Busy in His service be.

Philip Webber Jr., son of Bro. Philip and Sis. Emma Webber, and Janice Glatt, daughter of Mark and Eloise Glatt, Western Springs, Illinois, are engaged to be married. The wedding date is June 18. We wish the young couple God's blessing and guidance as they plan their future lives together.

John and Martha Palitto and four children have moved from their west Akron home to a newly-built home in Stow, Ohio. Their new address is 2224 East Arndale Rd., Stow, Ohio 44224. We wish

them much happiness in their new location.

Kenneth Greenbank, son of Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank, has accepted a job with United Airlines in Los Angeles, California. Kenneth's address is Kenneth Greenbank, 9451 Kellyfield Ave., Los Angeles 45, California 90045. Kenny's presence and cherry hello will be missed in our congregation. We can only wish him success and the Lord's guidance in his new venture.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Ruth Knochel — Ruth Gudeman

One of our aged sisters, Tillie Hassler, passed away last month. She was ill for some time and was unable to attend church during her last years. Tillie was very faithful and will be missed by many.

ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

Doris Graf — Jeri Minger

"And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay."

St. Matthew 28:5,6

During this blessed holy season, may we never forget the true meaning of Easter and Christ's resurrection, and how He died on the cross for us.

Winter is gone, and with it are leaving our visitors who have lived here the past few months. We have rejoiced in the fellowship of these, our loved ones.

Sis. Helen Klotzle and her children wish to express their gratitude for the prayers, sympathy, and many cards and letters they received since Bro. Joe's death, Jan. 22. Sis. Helen has received over 300 cards and letters, which has helped to comfort them in their loss.

BERN, KANSAS

Mrs. Leonard Baumgartner

Mrs. Morris Edelman

Sis. Lydia Hanhart is back in church after major surgery, and wishes to thank everyone for the prayers, cards and letters while she was ill. Sis. Mamie Strahm was home a few weeks with a back strain.

The last singing practices of the year were held at Bro. Joe Rokeys and Bro. Edward Lehman's. The Bible class gathered at Melvin

Rokeys this month.

Bro. Emil Strahms announce the engagement of their daughter Ardena to Jack Kuenze. The young couple is planning a June wedding.

A group from the church surprised Bro. Lester and Sis. Ella Hartter for their 25th wedding anniversary. An evening of singing was enjoyed. A family dinner was held in their honor at the home of their daughter and family, Bro. Leonard Baumgartners.

Evening services were held when Bro. Henry Wackerle of Bay City was in our midst. Bro. Loren Strahm heard of his coming and was also present. The brothers warned us that we are living in the most dangerous time. We were told that Satan does not persecute us as he did the early Christians, but comes now as a Snake In The Grass. He now confronts us with prosperity rather than persecution.

Sis. Ida Esslinger, a resident of the Apostolic Christian Home passed away. A prayer was offered before she was taken to Gridley, her original home church. Sis. Ida was Bro. Pete Esslinger's mother.

Alan Rokey, Wayne and Dale Strahm were announced and will be proved and baptized on Easter Sunday.

We rejoice with Jean and Nick Ricketts of Topeka, who are repenting, and have enjoyed having them assemble with us several times.

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

Delutha Moser—Carolyn Gerber

Shut-ins: Sisters (Mrs. Jacob) Graber, Pearl Reinhard, Sophia Gerber, Lucille (Wren) Borrer; and Bros. Jacob Kaehr, Joe Aschliman and Henry Drayer.

Births: On March 18, Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn Steffen, parents of a son, Michael Don. On April 3, Bro. and Sis. Robert Landrum, parents of a daughter, Tamara Sue.

God is still calling dear souls! The following friends were recently proved and baptized: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Landrum, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fairchild, Lorin Frauhiiger, Joel Gerber, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Fiechter, Mr. and Mrs. Arlin Gerber, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Troxel, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Eisenman, Mrs. Emanuel (Jenny) Gerber and Mrs. Barbara (Gerber) Felger.

Funeral services were held April 6 for Sis. Viola (Henry) Drayer, age 69, who died of injuries from an auto crash on April 2. Surviving are the husband; a foster daughter,

Mrs. Jerry Gerwig; three sisters, Mrs. Chris (Rosina) Drayer, Mrs. Victor (Amelia) Sprunger and Mrs. Henry (Sis. Nova) Isch. Bro. Orville Ringger officiated the services.

The Blessed Dead

How blessed the dead who die in the Lord;

For their works do follow them, thus said His word.

Though we cry out in anguish and dark is the way,

We know that He giveth us strength for the day.

This comforts the heart, though tears dim the eyes

Of him who on God's precious promise relies,

So may we look upward, our hope fixed on God,

And follow the pathway our loved one has trod.

HWV

ELGIN, IOWA

Mrs. George Butikofer

God, the Creator of all good things, gives us much to enjoy this time of the year. At the moment I am reminded of the beauty of the crocus blossom which has already made its appearance near a white board fence. Everyday at this point we focus our eyes toward our martin bird-house, hoping that the purple swallows have arrived for their summer tenancy.

Sis. Evelyn Pulfer had the misfortune of falling, outside of her house, and suffering two fractured bones in her leg. She is, however, getting along real well and hopes to have a walking cast by the end of April. She spent a week at the Methodist Hospital at Rochester, Minn., at the onset of her trouble where X-rays were taken and the cast was put in place.

The slides shown by Bros. Wendell and Art Gudeman, depicting scenes of where some of the World Relief funds have been used, were indeed interesting. We hope that many of these folks who have need both for spiritual and bodily food will be feed and clothed with immortality. One can hardly believe our eyes when beholding some of the conditions found in the Dominican Republic, conditions of want and ignorance.

Bros. Paul and Earl Banwart read the memorandum. We feel that this is of much benefit to us, reminding us that strait is the gate and narrow is the way which lead-

eth unto life eternal. Then too, each person has a duty to perform, living as a light shining on a hill, helping others—not merely thinking of self.

We here at the Elgin church send Christian greetings to all of the Silver Lining readers.

Out onto Calvary's hill
Where Jesus died I'll go,
To hear the words He speaks,
To see Him in His woe.

How great the pains, O Lord,
Afflict Thee on this day.
**My God, my God, He calls,
Forsake me not I pray**

No vengeance fills His heart;
For them I hear Him plead:
**They know not what they do;
Forgive them for this deed.**

Now Mary weeps for Him;
In love He soothes her lot.
**See mother, thine own son!
Thou friend, forsake her not!**

The thief in penitence
Is pardoned, ere he dies.
**Today shalt thou yet be,
With me in Paradise.**

"I thirst", He cries in pain,
For there is no distress,
Which Christ, the Friend of Man,
Endured not at His death.

He bows His head and cries,
'Tis finished; all is done.
**O God, receive my soul.
Lifes' victory is won.**

FAIRBURY, ILLINOIS

Joyce Huber

Sis. Sally Schlipf had surgery, but is now home recuperating. Bro. Dan Meiss has been hospitalized. May they both receive their strength back soon.

Jerry Steffen, son of Bro. and Sis. Mannie Steffen was seriously injured in an auto accident and was taken to the hospital in Chicago. The Lord granted a speedy recovery. He is home from the hospital, and hopes to be resuming some of his high school classes.

We were happy to have Bro. Noah Schrock of Burlington, Bro. Jim Hoerr of Peoria, and Bro. Ernie Gerber of Conn. the past month.

Sis. Lydia (VonTobel) Bach, age 91, passed away April 1, and funeral services were held by Bro. Josh Broquard. She was married

to J. N. "Nick" Bach, who preceded her in death. Surviving children are Sis. Clara Kaufman, Kathryn Hanna, Carolyn Mohar, Alfred, Harry, C. Edward, C. Edmond, and J. N., 24 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, and 1 great-great-grandchild. One son, Robert, was killed in action in Belgium, during World War II.

Bro. and Sis. Josh Broquard were hosts to Bro. Silas Leuthold, Bro. Jim Ringger and others from Princeville and Bradford. May God bless their efforts in coming, and the Broquards for the invitation to bring about their visit.

The Sunday School classes are presenting the Easter Story in a program for Easter.

May God bless everyone for their prayers and thoughtfulness for mother and our family since mother's stroke (March 6). She is still very serious. We know God answers prayers. May His name be glorified.

Thank You

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all love, cards, deeds and thoughtfulness extended by our friends, neighbors, and brethren during the long illness and loss of our beloved husband and father. They will remain with us as a precious memory. Our heartfelt thanks. May God reward and bless everyone. The family of Bro. Dan Roth.

FT. SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

Larry Endress

We often wonder what God has in store for his people. Yet, let us not question His will when He lets the trials and tribulations come over us. It is for our good, so that we can be brought closer to him. Let us gladly accept the cross he places upon each of us. As I have received many letters from Bro. Dale Zahner in Viet Nam, God does truly grant a double portion of grace and strength to those who are in much danger.

As Bro. Dale often writes that he is thankful for the letters he receives, I would encourage you brothers, sisters and friends of the truth to write to those on foreign soil, whether you know them or not. A few words of encouragement can do much in their lonely hours.

We again give God the praise for bringing us many visitors this month. We were richly blessed and truly could feel the love and fellow-

ship of our beloved brothers, Ernest Graf of Akron and Herman Kellenberger of Elgin (Ill.), who were willing to bring us the word of God. Bro. Ernest's wife, Sis. Louise, and their daughter, Sis. Mary Ann Maibach were also here. Gary Maibach is in medical training here.

My aunt, Sis. Lucille Endress of Bradford visited her son, Dale, who is in medical training.

A day many of us will long remember, March 27th, brought Bro. Sam Aeschliman of Bluffton into our midst. We were warned of the uncertain future ahead, and the seriousness of living a sinful life. Pray the hearts of our many friends be moved in these latter days.

We are again thankful that Bro. Henry and Sis. Ida Wackerle of Bay City, were willing to spend a week-end with us. We could certainly feel God speaking to us through his servant.

Also visiting the 3rd of April was Sherry Sauder of Peoria; Sis. Sherry's husband, Bro. Kenny is in medical training here.

As we are vacating the present church apartment in search for a larger one, please send any mail to my service address until further notice (see address in another part of the Silver Lining).

GOODFIELD, ILLINOIS

Marian Wiegand—Edith Tanner

Bros. George Gramm and Roy Sauder assisted our elder in the reading of the deliberations of the conference.

Carl August was the name chosen for the son born February 24 to Bro. Marvin and Sis. Faith Fischer.

Bro. Ed Hohulin was installed as an assistant to Elder Bro. Frank Woertz. Bros. Silas Leuthold and LeRoy Huber assisted in the installation rites.

Graveside services were held for the stillborn infant of Bro. Pete and Sis. Janet Meiss.

Bro. Wm. and Sis. Lydia Hohulin are the parents of a daughter, Elizabeth Ann, born March 29. Two sisters and a brother welcome her.

Visiting ministers were Bros. LeRoy Hartman, Silas Leuthold, LeRoy Huber, Leo Moser, Art Gude-man, Geo. Gramm and Roy Sauder. It is indeed a privilege to be able to sit under the sound of the doctrine without any hindrances.

Ed Fehr has been sent to Fort

Holabird, Maryland, for further training. John Roger Rokey has completed his training with the Air National Guard at Amarillo, Texas. He will continue his training at Peoria, and will commute from his home.

Hospital patients during the past month were Bro. John Rokey, Karen Wiegand and Bro. Magnus Hartman. Bro. Magnus underwent surgery and is reported to be improving.

The following Sunday Schools were our guests at a Christian Endeavor Singing: Morton, Gridley, Peoria, Cissna Park, Eureka and Congerville. The theme of Bro. LeRoy Hartman's inspirational message was vacations. These are his words in part: "Before taking a vacation, we collect brochures and maps and learn all that we can about the routes, so that we will not get lost and will have the proper attire when we arrive at our destination. Who of us do not want to take a vacation in heaven? Therefore, study the scriptures so that you will find the way, and that your hearts will be properly attired when you meet the Bridegroom, and can enter into your beautiful mansion."

Charlyn Bauman, daughter of Bro. Louis and Sis. Norma Bauman, was united in marriage to George Meyer, son of Bro. Alvia and Sis. Emma Meyer. They will reside on a farm near Lester.

GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Mrs. Rudy Bahr Mrs. Eldon Metzger

Bro. Andy Young had an operation; his hearing is now restored.

Another one of our dear elderly sisters has gone on to her reward . . . she was one of the persons featured in "Know Each Other Better" several years ago. She had not been able to come to church for some time, but the children enjoyed sharing their songs at Christmas time with her (sometime during the yr.) and it seems they enjoyed it as much as she . . . being "Grandma Esslinger" to the little folks.

Sis. Ida Esslinger passed away at the Apostolic Christian home at Sabetha, at the age of 92 years. Bros. Sam Huber and Loren Strahm were in charge of the services. She was the mother of Sis. Rosa Bahr and Esther (Sam) Kraft of our congregation. Our sympathy is extended to her family. Bros.

Carl Hartman and Robert Young were here and held our morning church services.

This past Sunday, Bro. Sam Huber was ill with the flu, and Bro. Loren Strahm asked Bro. Roy Wernli to come and help . . . we had a blessed day with Bro. Roy and his family and hope they'll come again to spend the day with us. Tuesday (5th) Bro. Loren Strahm was taken to the hospital and is to be there about five days. He was hemorrhaging from ulcers.

A meeting was held at the Sunday School room to make plans for Bible School this coming year.

LAMONT, KANSAS

Mrs. Bernie Emch - Glen Anliker

In the old rugged cross, Stained with blood so divine,
Such wonderful beauty I see, For t'was on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
To pardon and sanctify me.

May our thoughts and minds be led to the cross and Calvary's hill, where Jesus suffered, bled and died . . . Then also to that glorious resurrection of our loving Saviour, making possible the way of salvation.

Sis. Katie Fankhauser was able to assemble with us again, after a time of absence.

Jerri, daughter of Lloyd and Joan Luthi had a bicycle mishap and broke her leg. She is able to get around with it in a cast, on crutches.

We appreciated having Bro. George Lambert with us and are thankful for his efforts and for the inspiration the word brought to our souls.

LATTY, OHIO

Mrs. Ray Sinn Mrs. Gale Stoller

In the hospital recently were David Klopfenstein, son of Bro. Floren and Sis. Maryella, Sis. Dolores Grant (Mrs. Tom), Bro. Henry Laukhuf and Sis. Renee Sinn (Mrs. Walt). All have recovered enough to be home. We do not fully understand why God sends sickness, but we know that all sunshine makes the desert; therefore leave all to God's will.

We laid to rest our older brother, Gustav Rager this past month. We will all miss him in our assembly, but we know his family will miss him most of all. His sons and daughters are Bros. Eli, Carl, and

Bill—Sis. Carolina (Mrs. Fred) Zeltwanger, Sis. Rose (Mrs. Albert) Zeltwanger, Sis. Elsie (Mrs. Joe) Schlatter, Lillian (Mrs. John) Schlatter and Sis. Anna Rager, from our Latty church; Bro. Carl from Ft. Wayne; Sis. Freida Rehk-lau (Mrs. Walter) from Toledo; and Sis. Marie (Mrs. Harold) Steffen from Bluffton. We are always thankful when a soul can die in peace, as Bro. Rager expressed himself as "ready to go home."

We were privileged to have Communion served to us. We thank visiting Elder Bros. Sam Aeschli-man, George Yergler and David Bertsch for helping with this holy act.

MANSFIELD, OHIO

Aaron A. Sauder

As we read in the Scriptures, there is a time for everything. "A time to be born, and a time to die..." Ecclesiastes 3:2

And so it is today. Births: a daughter to Tom and Martha Graszl on March 20, and a daughter to Donald and Debra Jones on March 20.

On March 21 our dear sister, Lena Ingold, suffered a stroke, and on March 27 she was called to her eternal rest. She was born in Monroe County, Ohio, January 16 1873, and reached the ripe age of 93 years. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her sisters, Elizabeth and Clara Grossenbacher, with whom she made her home the last 16 years, and also to her brother, George Grossenbacher of Seville, Ohio. We will miss her in our assembly, as she was a loving and kind sister. She is buried in the Monroe County Church Cemetery beside her husband, who passed away 25 years ago.

We have had a number in the hospital this winter, but all are released. Many are still confined to their homes. We commend them all to the great Physician, who is able to help and heal.

We had a very blessed day, when a group from the Latty Sunday School were here Sunday March 13.

Bro. Ben and Sis. Dorothy Stavenick visited their son Dwain in South America.

We are always glad and thankful for all who visit us. Our elder brother, Rudolph Graf was with us Sunday, March 27, and read the Memorandum. We enjoyed his services.

NEW MARTINSVILLE, W. VA.

Mrs. Gus Weltz
Miss Della Witschey

Virgil Frei has been ill for some time at his home on Limestone Ridge, but is slightly improved at this time.

Dan Witschey is somewhat improved, following a several days' illness.

Mrs. Myrta Gorby has been hospitalized for several days, but able to return to her home.

Ross Sidell, husband of the former Luella Bleuer is a patient in the local hospital and not feeling too well at this time.

Earl McIntire is confined to his home. He and his wife are being cared for by a very capable lady.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Witschey of Charleston W. Va., visited recently with his father, D. S. Witschey and family.

A baby girl was born recently to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Emch. It was taken to the Ohio Valley Hospital in Wheeling, where it will stay for several weeks. Two ounces of weight were added from when the 2½ pound baby was born. The baby is a great-granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Emch.

Mike Barth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Barth and a great grandson of the late Mrs. Emma Barth, left on April 5 for San Antonio, Texas where he will be trained in the U.S. Air Force.

Robert Bland, a grandson of Mrs. Elizabeth Isinghood left recently for a tour of duty with the U.S. Navy.

Pam Emch spent the Easter holiday with her cousin, Mrs. James Brennan and Mr. Brennan in New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Giles and children of Alfred, N. Y. spent the Easter holiday here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Riggenschach.

Miss Della Witschey is slightly improved with her painful arthritic condition of her hands and is able to care for herself, but still suffers much pain at times.

We were grieved to read in the March issue of the Silver Lining of the passing of Miss Maude Kauffman, on February 28. We knew when we met with her in the Monroe Church on Sunday, September 12, that she was very ill and her time here was brief. To Russell and the members of her family we express deep sympathy. May we say

as the poet has said, "God took her home; it was his will, but in our hearts we love her still."

We have our car back after the accident of February 26. It had been in for the repair job from March 4 until April 5, looks and drives as it did the day we bought it. We are more than happy and still very grateful that we were not seriously hurt.

RITTMAN, OHIO

Ella Mae Trent

It was the same story. Each of our visiting ministers confessed that they had nothing new to tell. Yet, God inspired each one to give further instruction for a believer's walk. We were visited by Bros. Lawrence Emch, Phil Sauder and Ed Alt of Cissna Park, Bros. Ben Stavenick and Bro. Robert Beer of Mansfield and Bro. Ernest Gerber of Rockville. One brought out that if we break down the word "atonement", we get **at one**, and it is through atonement that we become at one with Christ. Another related that when we take a journey, we eagerly ask for and rightly follow the directions given to reach our destination. Contrast this to the mass of humanity that thinks it has the best route to travel, destination uncertain, relying on itself to map the desirable course. How few care to travel or adhere to the directions as given in the Bible to reach a destination called heaven.

A wondrous lesson I've been learning,—

Let God my life direct and guide;
From right there'll never be a turning,
For He is ever by my side.

Those ill or hospitalized this past month include John McCreary, Bro. Donnie Stoller, Sis. Lillian Bauman, Harold Beery, and James Steiner.

Welcoming David Benjamin were Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lorene Blough. Bro. Everett Beery and wife Carol welcomed a son, Aaron Eric.

It was incorrectly reported last month that Dale Uhler was drafted. He can still assemble with us.

Two souls from our congregation are seeking Christ's saving grace. They and we can recall the prayer of David: "Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see of **there be any wicked way in me, and lead me**

in the way everlasting." From Psalm 139

SABETHA, KANSAS Mrs. Joe Steiner

Sis. Ida Esslinger passed away at the A. C. Home on March 25 at 1:30 A.M. Services were held at Gridley, Kansas, where she had formerly resided.

Both of our congregations were privileged to have Bro. Henry Wackerle of Bay City and Bro. Loren Straham of Gridley (Kansas) with us for mid-week services. We again derived much from their teachings. Bro. Henry and Sis. Ida were enroute to San Antonio.

Bro. Jake Plattner, a resident of the A.C. Home, is now a patient at St. Anthony Hospital. Bro. Lewis Bahr is a patient there also, having had a stroke. May they be granted much grace at this time.

Donald, son of Bro. Paul and Sis. Helen Strahm, has been a surgical patient at the K.U. Medical Center, Kansas City, Kansas. He has again returned to his home.

We had a most blessed day, this Palm Sunday. Our friends, Judy and Steve Aberle gave their testimonies following the afternoon service. The baptismal service was then held in the evening. We welcome these young converts as brother and sister in faith. Bro. Ben Maibach of Detroit, Bro. Lester Hartter of Bern, and Bro. Eugene Marti conducted the services. We are indeed a privileged people; **our cup runneth over.** We are grateful and rejoice together.

Evening services will be held on Good Friday.

A son, Bradley James was born April 6 to Clifford and Sis. Barbara Edelman.

TREMONT, ILLINOIS Josephine Schaefer Sharon Herman

As the little children sang, "Forbid Them Not" at our annual Sunday School Easter program, it was not hard to know that the efforts of the children must certainly have found favor at the throne of God. We can learn a lesson from the children, for it was evident that the songs came forth from the very bottom of their hearts, in all sincerity.

Bro. Merle Getz and Sis. Elizabeth Sauder were hospitalized the past month. We are very glad to re-

port that both are again able to assemble with us.

Judy Wagenbach and Vern Wettstein were united in marriage on March 20 by Bro. Roy Sauder, at the home of Judy's parents, Bro. and Sis. Simon Wagenbach.

We were not only happy for the bridal couple, but also for the fact that it brought four visiting ministers into our midst. They were Bro. Roy Sauder, Peoria; Bro. George Wagenbach, Princeville; Bros. John Wagenbach and Ed Lanz, both of Oakville. God richly provided, and we received many blessings from their ministry.

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to all the brothers, sisters and friends of the truth for the cards, gifts, and the prayers that were offered for me during my stay at the hospital. It was greatly appreciated. May God bless you for your kindness. Mary Bauer

WINTHROP, MINNESOTA Lillian Pfister - Delores Messerli

"And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, **do** all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." Colossians 3:17.

Dear Saviour, help me every day to love more dearly as I pray; I would walk daily by Thy side and trust in Thee whate'er betide. Help me to live so near to thee, Thy likeness may be seen in me. Make me so gentle, kind and true that I will do as thou wouldst do. To win some precious souls for Thee, my errand here on earth would be . . . And every day till Thou shalt come, to do some good to help someone.

Bros. Art and Wendell Gudeman brought us an unforgettable illustration of life as lived in heathen lands. We all heartily agree that gathering a second evening was well worth the effort.

Our great Physician has wondrously healed and strengthened our beloved sister in faith, Jerry Messner. She wishes to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt **thank you** to all who so bountifully remembered her with prayers and cards during her shut-in days.

Our ministering brother, LeRoy Messner reminded us to constantly remember to be conscious of our rich heritage through Jesus, and assured us there is plenty of room in heaven, because God can always create more.

Unhappy Unless . . .

We mutter and sputter, we fume and we spurt. We mumble and grumble, our feelings are hurt; we can't understand things; our vision grows dim, when all that we need is a moment with Him.

Never a trial that He is not there . . . Never a burden that He does not bear . . . Never a sorrow that He does not share . . . moment by moment I'm under His care.

The Right Road Home

"Is this the right road home, O Lord?

The clouds are dark and still.
The stony path is hard to tread;
Each step brings some fresh hill.

I thought the path would brighter grow,
And that the sun with warmth would glow,
And joyous songs from free hearts flow,
In this the right road home?"

Yes, Child! This very path I trod.
The clouds were dark for me;
The stony path was sharp and hard.
Not sight, but faith, could see
That at the end the sun shone bright

Forever, where there is no night,
Where glad hearts rest from earth's fierce fight.
It is the right road home.

The Believer

I talked with a dear sister who has been in the faith seventeen years, and asked her how she feels being a believer. "Hope has become richer through the years; every day with Jesus is sweeter than before." Her thought of love—"In giving I receive; love suffereth long and is kind." This family has converted children; her advice to the youth is, "Seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened . . . Forgetting those things which are behind and press ever onward and forward."

I asked for memories of her conversion, "We were going on this broad path, not mindful of the training we received in our youth. It comes to me now, A little child shall lead you. We felt our children should be brought to the House of God, and we always attended

church after they reached Sunday School age."

"The Holy Kiss is entirely sacred; it sets us apart as God's family. I remember Elder Bro. Schrock telling of an important man of the world who asked to visit our church. Later, this man expressed admiration for the holy kiss. To him it showed real brotherly love in our church."

"When sickness and sorrow come, we cling to our loving Lord and his precious promises. He has always shown us that there truly is a silver lining behind each cloud."

"Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in the light of thy countenance." Psalm 89:15.

The just shall live by faith. If we deny ourselves on earth, we'll be prepared to enjoy heaven. To me, Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people.

LEO, INDIANA Mrs. Elias Souder

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth."

With great joy we are reporting the news of two dear ones that have decided to consecrate their lives to the Lord. They are Sandra, daughter of David and Marie Bertsch, and Lillian, daughter of James and Marie Winzeler.

We received many blessings on Sun., March 20, when Bro. Norman Stoller of Ft. Wayne, ministered to our congregation.

The Sunday School children gave their Easter Program on the evening of Palm Sunday. Last year, on Palm Sunday many nearby places were struck with the devastating tornadoes. Bro. Verlin Stoller of the Ft. Wayne church was one of our visitors at the Easter Program. He reminded us, if Christ had not resurrected our faith would all be in vain . . . But Christ did resurrect and His promises stand sure. This foundation can never be removed, regardless what happens.

Edward Frautschi of Purdue University spent his Easter vacation with his parents, Albert and Marjorie Frautschi.

Our friend, Lowell Lantz has been ill. George Stieglitz Jr., son of George and Elizabeth, is critically ill with a heart ailment. May the Lord, the greatest physician

of all send His angels to heal and help these young men in all their needs.

We were pleasantly surprised to have Bro. Morris Frank of the Chicago congregation with us on Good Friday evening. He conducted our Good Friday church service, which was well attended.

On Good Friday afternoon, quite a group of young and old people visited the people at the Allen County Home. Hymns were sung and short church services were held.

"Pray One for Another"

(James 5:16)

I cannot tell why there should come
to me

A thought of some one miles and
miles away!

In swift insistence on the memory,
Unless a need there be that I
should pray.

Too hurried oft are we to spare the
thought,

For days together, of some
friends away;

Perhaps God does it for us and
we ought

To read His signal as a call to
pray.

Perhaps just then my friend has
fiercer fight,

And more appalling weakness
and decay,

Of courage, darkness, some lost
sense of right . . .

And so, in case he needs my
prayer, I pray.

Friend, do the same for me. If
thoughts intrude

Unmasked upon you on some
crowded day,

Give me a moment's prayer as
interlude.

Be very sure I need it; therefore,
pray.

And when you pray, dear friend, I
ask of thee,

That thou will seek of God not
mine own way,

Not what I want, but His blest
thought for me,

Do thou through Jesus Christ
implore, I pray.

BURLINGTON, IOWA
Dorothy Taeger Verna Woodward

Does the world know Christ?
The time of year has approached

again when the world pauses for only a day to recognize Him as Christ who died upon the cross.

Should not we feel as a privileged people, when we can with our trials and burdens take them to Calvary's hill and then realize the burdens that Jesus bore for the sins of the whole world?

Let us, as God's children not be carried away by the traditions of the world, where their faith seems to be of a seasonal nature, where for only a few days do they give any thought of the one who paid the supreme price for their sins.

We do not want to be like the world, but let us begin everyday at the foot of the cross where Jesus died, and then strive to do only His will, that we might someday be counted worthy to inherit that eternal rest.

How thankful we should be that Jesus did not stay upon that cross, but that he ascended, back to God the Father, where He can intercede for us. Only with his help and patience can we everyday improve in our life of faith.

The Power of Prayer

Lord, what a change within us one
short hour

Spent in Thy presence will avail
to make!

What heavy burdens from our
bosoms, take;

What parched grounds refresh, as
with a shower!

We kneel and all around us seems
to lower;

We rise and all, the distant and
the near,

Stands forth in sunny outline,
brave and clear!

We kneel, how weak! We rise,
how full of power!

Why therefore should we do our-
selves this wrong

Or others, that we are not always
strong;

That we are ever overborne with
care;

That we should ever weak or
heartless be,

Anxious or troubled, when with us
is prayer,

And joy and strength and cour-
age are with Thee?

BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA
Laverne Roth — Kathryn Miller

Bro. Elias Somerhalder, assisted by Bro. Ronald Nelson, officiated at the funeral services for Bro. M.

A. Kisling, March 14. Bro. M. A., aged 80, passed away at the Memorial Manor nursing home in Cherokee. He was born in Slabtown, Ill. At an early age he moved with his parents to Harper, Kansas, and in 1909 moved to the Burlington community. He was preceded in death by his wife Anna, a son John, five brothers and sisters. He is survived by his children, George and Elmer of Hazelton, Kansas; Sis. Marie Schurter and Bro. Frank of Burlington; Sis. Edna Reed of Carman, Okla.; Ralph of Nash, Okla.; Sis. Ruth Schurter of Elgin (Ill.); Mabel Bangarter of Leoti, Kansas; and Ada Goeken of Cherokee, Okla.; 23 grandchildren, and 24 great-grandchildren.

Louis and Sis. Katie Schupbach recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Kiowa citizens were awakened in the cold, early morning hours of March 23 by a screaming fire siren—to see a portion of the downtown district blazing, whipped by a 40 mile-an-hour wind gale. Eight business places were completely destroyed and a number damaged by smoke and water. The efforts of the fire department and other citizens would have been for naught if it were not for the fire-fighting equipment of all the surrounding towns. Wind carried burning embers to the southeast part of town, setting fire to some roofs and a number of yards, which were quickly extinguished by hose, buckets of water and wet gunny sacks or rugs. The night was bitter cold, and the task was one of severe physical endurance, but there were no casualties, in spite of the tremendous odds to the efforts of man.

Our ministering brothers likened the fire, that caused so much destruction, to the end of the world, evaluating the destruction as an extinguishable one in comparison to the end of time as God has promised in His Holy Word. Man has this time to make his decision as to what his eternal abode will be.

Hospital patients this past month were: Bro. George Miller, medical; Lynn Murrow, daughter of Bud and Sis. Helen Murrow, tonsillectomy; and Sis. Lydia Farney, foot surgery. All are improving.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Kathleen Schrock are parents of a son, Robert Ryan, born on Good Friday, April 8.

CISSNA PARK, ILLINOIS Mary Young - Margaret Rudin

Our visiting ministers this past month: Bros. Fredrick Knapp, Joe and Merle Kaisner. Bros. John Bahler, Noah Schrock, Joe Waibel, Silas Leuthold, and Noah Bauman were here on March 20 and read and meditated on the conclusions of the Brother meeting. It was prayerfully and in love explained to us. It should encourage every member to put forth more effort to be more obedient to our God and those that have the oversight. It truly was a blessed day; we thank them all for their visits.

Hospitalized this past month were Bro. Charles Bauer, who had eye surgery . . . Sis. Leona Knapp has been a medical patient . . . Sis. Emma Wahl had surgery. They are all home again. Sis. Lena Feller remains in the hospital as a medical patient.

A daughter, Teresa Kay was born to Bro. Morris and Sis. Kathy Zimmerman on March 8.

On April 3, Bro. Emmanuel Gudeman performed the wedding ceremony of Sis. Gloria Hodel and Bro. Doug Leman. May God richly bless them.

April 2; a world relief meeting was held here, well attended by committee members from a number of churches. Bro. Herman Norr called the meeting to order, and reports were given of different ways the money has been spent the past year. Later they wanted different one's opinions of how they should continue farther on, to help the needy. Bro. Kellenberger expressed himself, and said it is not easy to spend money that is entrusted to them. May they continue with their good works. It is a sign of growth in grace when we find more joy in giving than receiving. God loveth a cheerful giver.

As we come into the Easter season, how wonderful to know, "It is finished". "After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished that the scripture might be fulfilled saith, I thirst. Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with hyssop, and put it upon his mouth." "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

And if Christ be not raised, your

faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." I Corinthians 15:17

Good Fridays services were held Thursday evening. The Sunday School will recite an Easter program, Sunday evening April 10.

CONGERVILLE, ILLINOIS Lorna Schrock — Jeanette Knapp

Visiting ministers during the past month have been Bro. Frank Woertz and Bro. John Rokey of Goodfield, and Bro. George Gramm of Gridley. We're thankful for their visits and pray the Lord will bless them for their labors in our midst.

We are happy to report that our minister, Bro. Ben Zimmerman, is at home following major surgery. At his age recovery is slow, so we're thankful that he has progressed so well.

Sis. Mae Schrock was in an automobile accident, suffering head injuries, a crushed vertebra, and a cracked rib. She recovered remarkably well and has been able to assemble with us, since returning home from the hospital.

Mrs. Mike (Lydia) Miller was also hospitalized this past month for eye surgery.

Our congregation met with the Goodfield congregation to hear the report of the last Brother Meeting. Assisting our elder, Bro. Frank Woertz, were elders, Bro. Roy Sauder of Peoria and Bro. George Gramm of Gridley.

Judy Wagenbach, daughter of Bro. Simon and Sis. Louise Wagenbach of Tremont, and Vernon Wettstein, son of Bro. John Wettstein, were united in marriage at the home of her parents on March 20. Bro. Roy Sauder performed the ceremony. We wish them much happiness and the Lord's blessings, and want to welcome Judy to our congregation.

On April 1, Sandra Marie was born to Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda Knapp. Tammy is the new baby's sister.

Great joy was afforded our congregation when our friends, Kenny and Phyllis Knapp gave their testimonies on April 2. Bro. Kenny is the son of Bro. Fred Knapp. Conducting the provings were elders, Bros. Frank Woertz, George Gramm, and Leo Moser (of Lester). The baptisms took place on Sunday, April 3. We wish them the Lord's continued peace and guidance in the days to come.

As is our custom, communion

services were held on Good Friday evening. Bro. Frank Woertz was assisted by Bro. Joshua Broquard of Fairbury. It is humbling to be reminded so thoroughly of the great price that our Saviour paid, in order that we might be redeemed.

FT. LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

We were happy to have a visit in March from ministering Bro. Jim Hoerr from Peoria. We were thankful for his words of comfort, teachings and love.

Bros. Jim Hoerr and Bill Heimer from the Taylor church spent a little time with us, offer they returned from Haiti and the Dominican Republic, after they inspected the cattle and hogs that were shipped from Miami to help the needy. Bro. Herman Norr and several of the visiting brothers were in Miami for the shipment by air freight, and Bro. Harry Sutter offered prayer for the safety of the plane to its destination.

Bros. John Bahler and Earnest Gerber from Rockville were with us for several weeks; may God bless them for the efforts, as we were blessed with their visits . . . and hope they will return for another visit.

Billie Klopfenstein, wife of Bro. Darrel is seeking salvation, is willing to wait on the work of the Lord for further development. We hope she can find grace to soul's salvation and be united with us as a sister in the faith.

GRIDLEY, ILLINOIS

Lydia and Eunice Kammerer

Another blessed week end was enjoyed by the Gridley congregation, when Bro. George Gramm, assisted by Bro. George Yergler from La Crosse, proved and baptized three young people, Bro. Gary and Sis. Gloria Volk and Sis. Ruth Stoller. These three souls gave their testimonies on Saturday evening, and baptism followed the next afternoon. We welcome them into the fold.

We are always happy when brothers and friends who are serving their country can spend some time with their families and loved ones, and when they can assemble with us. Bro. Duane Witzig and his wife and baby son, who are stationed in Maryland, and Captain and Mrs. Dennis Stoller and their baby son, who are stationed in El Paso,

Texas, were home on leave. We were especially happy that they could be with us for the baptism of the three souls on Sunday, March 27.

On Sunday April 3, we held our second "Sunday Evening Song Service." As Easter is approaching, songs were dedicated to the "Crucified and Risen Lord" by the choir. The seventh grade also presented several numbers.

Susan, daughter of Bro. Arthur and Sis. Ruth Gramm, submitted to an appendectomy recently at Mennonite Hospital in Bloomington. She came through very nicely and is back in school and church.

Brenda, daughter of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Pat Ringger, had the misfortune of breaking her wrist, when the horse she was riding became frightened and threw her. She also is able to be back in school and church again. Sis. Mildred Schlipf is a patient at St. Frances Hospital in Peoria, having undergone surgery for removal of the gall bladder. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Bro. Barnhardt Ringger is a patient in Brokaw Hospital in Bloomington. We hope he will soon be able to return to his home.

Births: Bro. Richard and Sis. Louise May Kipfer are the parents of a son born April 6. He has a sister and a brother to welcome him. Twin daughters were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dick Daum of Sacramento, California on Friday April 1. The mother is the former Carol Kammerer (niece of these two reporters; she lived with them while teaching music in the El Paso schools several years ago.) Two little brothers welcome these newcomers into their home. Sally and Sandra are the names chosen for the babies. Mr. and Mrs. John M. Kammerer from Peoria are the paternal grandparents.

Bro. Aaron Funk, passed away at Mennonite Hospital, Wed. April 7. His funeral will be held Friday at 1:30, in Gridley. He had been residing in the Rest Home in Fairbury until recently, when he was taken to a Rest Home in Bloomington and then to the hospital, where he was a patient for about twelve days.

LESTER, IOWA

Emelie M. Knobloch

Floyd Wulf, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Wulf miraculously escaped death, after accidentally falling in an

auger wagon. He suffered several broken ribs, a punctured lung and lacerations of the arm. He is recuperating at home, after several days at the hospital.

Bro. Eugene Metzger had painful spinal surgery. A little child of the Wysongs was hospitalized for a couple days. May God be their comfort during illness and grant strength to return to church soon.

We were blessed on March 20 when Bro. Henry Sabo shared the precious teachings of food for body and soul. Sis. Sabo accompanied him here, but remained a while longer, getting acquainted with her new grandson.

Carl Meyer, son of Bro. and Sis. Alvia Meyer returned to Ft. Sam, after spending a few days with his family.

George Meyer, son of Bro. and Sis. Alvia Meyer and Charolyn Bauman, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Lou Bauman were married April 2 in the home of the bride's parents at Goodfield. Several from here attended the reception. After a trip to Texas, they plan to make their home on a farm here.

Births: To Bro. and Sis. John Gerber, a daughter, Cynthia Lee—March 8; to Mr. and Mrs. Orlan Kellenberger, a daughter, Jodi Lynn—March 16; to Bro. and Sis. David Tuebel, a son, Brian David—March 16; to Bro. and Sis. William Knobloch, a daughter, Beth Elaine—March 18; to Bro. and Sis. Wayne Gerber, a son, Grant Wayne—March 24.

Many students are home for a few days for Easter vacation. May all these loved ones realize the true meaning of this the Easter holiday. Children in the Sunday School wondered why we call it "Good Friday". Yes, it is true it should be a solemn day, when we give thought how much love our dear Lord had to suffer for the sin of all mankind, but praise be to God that the Saviour arose, so we too can some day enjoy a glorious resurrection. May we be humble and faithful, so we too can earn such a precious reward.

MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Julie Dapper

A blessed Sunday was experienced on March 27 when our elder, Bro. Carl Kinsinger, served our congregation Holy Communion. It truly does strengthen each of us when we can be granted such a wonderful and holy act and are

richly reminded of the suffering and death of our Lord. Even our precious Saviour instructed us that: ". . . as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." I Corinthians 11:26.

"And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." St. Matthew 28: 5, 6. Easter is such a beautiful time of the year, for not only do we experience the resurrection of the Lord's creation, when all that which has been laid dormant once again comes to life, but we are so richly reminded of the resurrection of our Lord. Through this resurrection, you and I were granted a gift of life everlasting.

MILFORD INDIANA
Marguerite Hoerr

Our Sunday School children, at our annual Easter Program, helped us all review the wonder of the Easter Story. As they sang, "Hosannah, hosannah, An angel bright Rolled the great stone away. On this glad morning He's living, we know, Living to help us today", it made our hearts rejoice that we have such a Saviour to love and intercede for us.

Bro. Ben Fehr of the Roanoke congregation spent Palm Sunday with us, thereby bringing an added blessing to an already special day.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Clarence Rassi and Sisters Betty Beer, Helen Sorg, Ida Graff and Leona Price, whose brother, Alvin Rassi, passed away unexpectedly.

Hagar's Well — Genesis 21:14-21

'Tis Hagar we see
With a child in her arm,
Her eyes filled with tears,
Her soul in alarm.
Her water-cruise empty,
No well is at hand,
She walks through the desert
And dry barren land.

Oh mother I thirst
Is the cry of the child,
As she runneth afar
In the desert so wild.
Wherever she goes
Is nought to be found
But the desert of sand
And dry barren ground.

She layeth the child,
So dear to her heart,
Down on to the earth
And is loath to depart.
The anguish and suffering,
The slow certain death
Is painful to see
As he struggles for breath.

Then sitting afar
There falls on her ear
The tones of sweet music
Like a stream flowing near.
Then out of the rock
The water comes streaming:
She looks all amazed
At the bright fountain gleaming.

The water-jar filled
At the fount of the Lord
Is given the dying,
And the child is restored.
What joy on the living
A kiss to bestow
And then on life's journey
They joyfully go.

Is there ever a mother
With a child in her arm
Who is burdened with sorrow
And her soul in alarm?
Oh cast all your care,
With your sin on the Lord.
Believing he'll pardon;
Your soul is restored.

Could not he who supplies
The sparrows own need
Who is able the young
Of the lion to feed
Be moved to regard
The child's plaintive cry
And open a fountain,
Its needs to supply?

Do you thirst for salvation?
Is your cruse become dry?
The well of the Lord
Has abundant supply.
From a rock in the desert
In dry barren land
Flows a well of salvation,
Struck by omnipotent hand.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA
Diane Olson

Patty Lanz, daughter of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Marilyn, is recovering nicely, after being afflicted with rheumatic fever.

We wish to extend a hearty welcome to all to assemble with us, as surely the privilege of fellowship is one of God's most precious gifts. Church services are held at the YMCA, 1845 East Lake Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Singing at

9:30, Sunday School 9:45, Services 10:30.

Let's Thank God

Thank God for a Saviour who
bought us
With treasure more precious than
gold;
Thank God for the mercy that
sought as
To give us a home in His fold..

Thank God for His love which
defends us
From all that could harm or molest.
Thank God for whatever He sends
us,
Because it will be for the best.

MORRIS, MINNESOTA
Mrs. Kenneth Zeltwanger
Norene Koehl

Diane Logan and Mark Kellenberger, son of Bro. and Sis. Ernest Kellenberger Sr. were married March 6, at the home of the groom's parents, by Bro. Paul Fehr. We wish them a happy married life.

John Schmidgall, infant son of Bro. and Sis. Floyd Schmidgall and Joe Koehl, son of Bro. and Sis. Jake Koehl underwent surgery. Both are home now and recovering nicely.

Our building and finance committee reported back to the congregation on progress so far. According to the Building committee chairman, Bro. Leonard Wulf, all of our contracts have been let and if the Lord wills, we will proceed with our building program as soon as the frost goes out of the ground. We pray that God will bless this undertaking, and we can go forward in love and unity to erect and fill our new house of worship.

We appreciated the visit of Bros. Arthur and Wendell Gudeman, who spent an evening with us and explained the Heifer project and showed the pictures of the island of Haiti.

As the Easter season approaches, we are again reminded of the price that was paid for our salvation through our Saviour's crucifixion, and the resurrection, so that all might be saved. The Sunday School and Bible Classes presented the Easter story through verse and song, the evening of April 6.

OAKVILLE, IOWA
Martha Steiner

Ministers visiting us this month

were Bro. Paul Banwart from West Bend and Bro. Harry Bucher from Valparaiso.

Our monthly Iowa City meeting was well attended by members and friends from West Bend, Pulaski, Quincy, Burlington and Oakville. Bros. Paul and Earl Banwart from West Bend and Bro. Harvey Heiniger from Oakville were there to preach the Word of God.

Bro. Art Gudeman from La Crosse and Bro. Wendell Gudeman from Francesville, accompanied by their wives, visited our congregation to explain the good works being done for World Relief. Bro. Jim Hoerr from Peoria and Bro. Bill Heimer from Quincy were also there to show pictures.

The Fischer sisters from Roanoke, Sisters Mildred and Mary Ann, gave of their time and efforts to show us the work they have done for World Relief, and explained what we can do to help. Surely those who share their blessings to help provide for the needs of the less fortunate will not go unrewarded.

New trustees were selected to replace those whose terms have expired. Bro. Ezra Gerst is our new church trustee, and Bro. Al Wiegand is our new cemetery trustee.

PHOENIX, ARIZONA

Mrs. Joe Beer — Mrs. Ervin Rokey

... "And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." I Corinthians 11:24, 25

With these words, our congregation partook of Holy Communion. Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger, from Altadena, assisted Elder Bro. Roy Farney in the serving of our Lord's Supper. There is certainly a strengthening and a renewing of our love for God and of each other when we can partake of this holy sacrament.

We enjoyed having ministering Bro. Henry Sabo and his wife with us for a short time.

Sis. Sarah Tanner, who has been staying with her daughter, Sis. Marie Beery, wishes to express her thanks to everyone during her visit in Phoenix.

Bro. Ernest Elsasser submitted to emergency surgery just six weeks after his wife, Sis. Lois, had major surgery. We are happy to report that they are both recuperating well.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Earl Sanders, whose mother died recently. They traveled to Kansas for the funeral.

One morning as I was walking along with my little daughter, I thought I smelled the faint fragrance of orange blossoms. Sure enough, as we strolled by an orange tree I spied several small white blossoms on it. Each day the fragrance has become more distinct, until now we here in the valley have the perfume of orange blossoms all around us.

One can never fathom the many beauties that God gives to us. He gives us a fresh new day, a new beautiful sunset, and a new view of the moon and stars. Then He gives us the fresh new beginning of each season, each having its own particular beauty. . . . "When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? . . . O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!"

PORTLAND, OREGON

Mrs. Edward Unsicker
Mrs. Glenn Hackenjos

We all rejoice with Bro. Melvin Hohulin and Sis. Shirley as they welcome their newest little gift from God, Ann Rene. Ann joins two brothers, Joe and Dougie, and a sister, Lynn.

The joy that transcends other joys is that of knowing that the Lord Jesus is still calling souls who will trade the husks of this world for life, love and peace everlasting! We have praised the Lord with other congregations as we have read of the friends there turning to Him; and we can never thank Him enough for His goodness in bringing His salvation to us, also! May we ever be found faithful, doing His will, and watching at all times. ". . . My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. . . ." II Corinthians 12:9

We from Silverton and Portland share in loving memories of "Grossmama" Bach, mother of our dear

sister, Clara Kaufman, who very often visited us from her home in Fairbury, always filling her visits with kind, thoughtful deeds. "Grossmama", Sis. Lydia, passed away last week at the age of 91.

Spring—the miraculous season of new life! On our neighbor's old, old cherry tree, one low twisted branch caught my attention. The whole length of its gnarled, ugly brown was pierced by eagerly bursting clusters; a very small portion of God's incomprehensible power shown, and yet, something no man can do. I stood gazing with awe and reverence, and my heart humbly cried, "Thy will be done, dear Lord, every tiny bit of your perfect plan will materialize; only let me never stand in Thy way—just help me to watch for the times when I may be used of Thee, by Thy grace.

TAYLOR MISSOURI

Mrs. Eli Sutter Mrs. Bill Heimer

Visiting ministers the past month were Bros. Elmer Witzig, Gridley (Ill.); John Wagenbach, Oakville; Don Sauder and Gene Bertschi, Roanoke; and Bert Butikofer, Elgin (Ia.). May the Lord bless the brothers that take of their time to bring us His holy word. We enjoyed their visit and those that came with them.

Bro. Bill Cottrell, son of Bro. William and Sis. Ruth Cottrell was called into the service and left March 15. We pray the Lord will protect him while it is necessary to be away from home.

Bro. Bill Heimer, in company with Bro. Jim Hoerr, Peoria, spent several days in the Dominican Republic and Haiti to evaluate the work being done in these two countries by the World Relief committee. We are all thankful for their safe return. They were very pleased with the way our shipments are being handled. Let us be willing to do as God would direct us, in providing for those who are deprived of the blessings that we have in abundance.

On March 30, the marriage of Donna Lee Green and Ron Hodel, both of Quincy, Ill., took place at Las Vegas, Nev., where Ron is teaching in the Las Vegas High School. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Green, and he is the son of Henry and Sis. Loida Hodel. Ron has accepted a position with IBM in Huntsville, Alabama.

"We would like to thank everyone for the cards, gifts of love and for the prayers during my recent illness. God has truly been good to us and answered the many prayers. The power of prayer is a very precious gift. May God richly bless all is our wish and prayer. Sis. Emma Dee Hoerr.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, ILL.
Ben Blunier

Thanks to Bros. Roy Ehnle, Bradford; Ed Hohulin, Goodfield; and Vernon Leman, Eureka for their visits this month to our Sunday services, and to Bro. Jim Hoerr, Peoria, for his visit at a Wednesday Bible Class. The Lord provided bountifully.

Bro. Jim also gave a very interesting account of his recent tour of the Dominican Republic and Haiti. How great is the need there. We wonder why we are so materially blessed in this country, that our every basic need is nearly taken for granted, whereas there are so many in the world that don't even know from whence their next meal is coming. Surely it is part of God's plan—perhaps to indicate the great destructive force of sin—and perhaps, too, to make us more grateful and more compassionate. We are our "brother's keeper", and this is one of those mountains where **faith as a grain of mustard seed** will remove. Let us support every good work to relieve the suffering of the masses.

We rejoice. Larry Oberlander, a college freshman from Morton, is seeking the Lord in repentance.

In May we look forward to Francesville and Elgin (Ill.) to provide ministers at our Sunday services.

JUNCTION, OHIO
Mrs. Alvin H. Manz
Mrs. Ben Manz

Sis. Naomi Rehkla, who has been ill for some time has been admitted to the Paulding Memorial Hospital. Her condition is not improving. Sisters Pricilla and Lydia Rehkla, who have also been ill and shut-in for some time, are about the same.

Our young friends, Bill, son of Bro. Richard and Sis. Juliet Schlatter, and Sam, son of our ministering Bro. Ben and Sis. Esther Schlatter, have turned to our Saviour in repentance and now rejoice in their new-found peace. We rejoice with them and wish them

much grace. God is **STILL** calling our young people, and we pray that many more will be gathered in while it is yet the day of grace. The time of their testimony and baptism will be announced at a later date.

Robert Manz, 4½-year-old son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty Manz is suffering from rheumatic fever, but is responding to treatment and doing much better.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Lafayette, Indiana

Suzanne Bucher

In magazines and radio, today, has come the question — is God dead? We find that many people are questioning. What can we give as answers to this question?

Each born-again believer knows that God lives. We can feel him speaking to our hearts. We cannot believe **otherwise**.

To the person who wonders, we can only say to look around, especially now at the beauties of the earth, and you will know that all this was created by God. Further evidence of His existence can be seen in the perfect order of the universe and the structure of atoms. Man has discovered this and many other things, but we must realize that God has always known all things, and he is now only **letting** man discover them.

As we increase our knowledge in school, we are increasing our knowledge and faith. Wednesday night services the host churches were from Bremen and Bluffton.

REMINGTON, INDIANA
Anna M. Waibel and Sisters

Sis. Kay (Dave) Eisenman wishes to thank everyone for all the love and kindness shown her and her family while she was in the hospital and since returning home.

Bro. Phil Getz is home from the hospital the second time, having had a backset . . . hope and trust all our sick will be much better, with spring around the corner.

We've heard the recordings of the conference and were especially blest when three elders, Bros. John Bahler, Joe Waibel and Noah Bauman, spent an evening with us, dwelling upon the most outstanding subjects brought up at the conference and the importance of all working and living together in unity and obedience.

The Good Friday program was

well attended. The poems and songs reminding us all **He rose again**, gave all the hope, faith and assurance that the new birth can be real, as spring bursts forth with all its new life and beauty . . . all nature seems to sing as it is revived again, symbolic of Christ's resurrection.

Bro. Andy Nussbaum's barn at the hatchery burned. The origin is unknown.

What is Charity?

It's silence when your words would hurt.
It's patience when your neighbor's curt.
It's deafness when a scandal flows.
It's thoughtfulness for others' woes.
It's promptness when stern duty calls.
It's courage when misfortune falls.

To praise God for our miseries ends them: to praise God for our blessings extends them.

Abiding, not striving and struggling, is the secret of joy and power.

Abide in the fullness of His love, abide in His power, abide in quietness, abide in trust, abide in prayer, abide in fruit-bearing—abide in Him.

When thou hast thanked God for every blessing sent, what time will then remain for murmur or lament?

The fortress of God's keeping power is unlocked by the key of faith.

The church is the gathering place for the soldiers of God. It is the barracks, where inspection takes place, where men are given their equipment for the daily battle!

A Christian is one who
Loves His church constantly,
Hears God's word and believes it,
Has repented of sins sincerely,
Is eager to grow in faith and grace,
Seeks first the kingdom of God,
Takes a lively interest in church work.

Is diligent in good works,
Longs to point sinners to Christ,
Never neglects his Christian duties.

Collapse of conscience and the corruption of character are the re-

sults of a closed Bible. When the word of God remains a sealed book, men do not know God and His power, or themselves and their frailties.

A source of comfort does us no good if we, like disobedient children refuse to be comforted and continue our worrying way.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

John Isch

Services were held twice during March here in our city, with the Leo congregation being in charge. Their efforts are deeply appreciated; we trust that God will reward them for their service toward us. The Milford church will be our guest during the month of April.

Hank and Sis. Norma Zeller and their family plan to move to the Louisville area in the near future, as Hank's occupation is taking him further south. We surely hate to see them leave, but they still plan to make this their home church, and frequently come to worship with us. We hope and pray that their new location will work out well for them in every way. They have certainly been a great help in getting our church started here, and we hope that their schedule will allow their continued support.

ROCKVILLE, CONNECTICUT

Carlton J. Lanz

The suddenness in the death, on April 9, of Bro. Arnold Lanz is again evidence of the uncertainty of the destiny and time of man here. Complaining of severe abdominal pains early Saturday morning, a doctor on being summoned advised that he (Arnold) be admitted to the hospital. An ambulance was called, but before it had arrived to take him —instead of what was first thought to be a case of indigestion—he succumbed to a heart attack. For 44 years he had been with the railroad, retiring only last September. Bro. Arnold was of a peaceful nature and had many friends. He leaves besides his wife, Sis. Elsie, one daughter Sis. Muriel Fellows; two brothers, Bro. Siegfried and Otto Lanz; and two sisters, Sisters Lena Luginbuhl and Clara Kupferschmid. Burial will be in Ellington Center Cemetery. He was 65.

Our elderly sister, Lena Gottier lies in the hospital with a broken hip, as the result of a fall in her

home. Her condition is not good. She is in her high eighties.

Bro. Gottlieb Zahner fell in his home, resulting in a bad bruise on one side of his face. He is still able, however, with the help of his sons to attend services. He is 89.

A baby boy, on March 10, was born to Bro. Ben and Sis. Glenna Moser. Steve David is his name. Also born was a little girl to Bro. and Sis. Wilbur Schneider . . . no name yet at this writing.

The great events that took place centuries ago, the sufferings of the Saviour and His triumphal resurrection on Easter morn were well covered in the sermons of Good Friday and Easter Sunday. This great event offers opportunities to salvation to all who would avail themselves of this wonderful gift of God.

SERVICEMENS ADDRESSES

The bold type letters on right on some of the addresses are part of the name of the congregation the serviceman is from.

Pvt Dillar O Ames Jr 2232522 **Valpo**
Platoon 362 L Company 3rd RT Bn
Marine Corp Recruit Depot
San Diego Calif 92140

Pvt William R Cottrell US55871610
CD 3d Bn USAMTC Class 19B **Tay**
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

SP/4 Richard J Diggelman US51543275
Co D 2nd Med Battalion 2nd Inf Div
APO San Francisco Calif 96224

SP/4 James W Domnick RA16780489
9th Signal Bn
Ft Riley Kansas

Lt Frederick A Domnick
100 Whitewood Way Apt B-6
San Antonio Texas 78242

Pvt E-2 Charles W Dunham Jr 52649762
1st Medical Company
Ft Knox Kentucky 40121

PFC Jerry Emch US56379427
PO Box 96 **Phoe**
APO New York N Y 09757

[Frankfurt Germany]

Pvt Larry L Endress US55832423
Hq & Hq Co USAMTC
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

Pvt Charles Frauhiger US55822757
64th Med Fld Hosp
APO Seattle Washington 98749

Pvt Byron R Frieden **Valpo**
Co B 17th Bn 5th tng Bde
USATC Armor 4th Plat
Ft Knox Kentucky 40121

Pvt Stanley N Gasser US52636426
Medical Co US Army Hosp [4010]
PO Box 476
Ft Polk Louisiana 71459

Pvt Michael L Gerber US55844673
Co 3rd BN USAMTC
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

Pvt Herbert R Gerst US55799840
DC 71st Maint BN **Tay**
APO New York N Y 09696
[Nurnburg Germany]

Dean Hartzler, Arthur Riggenschach
and Dennis Miller
4050 Warrensville Ctr Apt 6
Warrensville Hts Ohio 44122

Pvt Bruce R Hohulin US55886921
Co D3 3rd BU USAMTC Class 18B
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

Pvt Steven A Kaehr US55844035
Co E 3rd BN USAMTC Class 157A
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

Pvt Larry E Maller US55844031
Co E 3rd BN USAMTC Class 157A
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

PFC John A Martin US55822482
Co Hq & Hq A 25th Med Bn
APO San Francisco Calif 96225

Pvt Earl F Meyer US55839617
Co B 2nd Bn USAMTC Class 165A
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

Pvt Steven L Nohl US55863428
Co E 2nd Bn 4STB USATC
Ft Leonard Wood Missouri 65473

Pvt Kenneth Sauder US55884000
Co B 2nd Bn USAMTC Class 165A
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

Pvt Larry Schlupp US55791272
H H Co
US Army Armor & Eng Board **Morr**
Ft Knox Kentucky 40121

Pvt Harvey W Steffen US55862383
Co E 3rd Bn USAMTC Class 157A
Ft Sam Houston Texas 78234

A/3c David A Ward **Fra**
AF 16844423 -3766- 55 Box 9304
CMR 2
Sheppard Air Force Texas 76311

Pvt E-2 Mike Zimmerman Jr US55843447
Med Det 5027
US Hosp Ft Benjamin Harrison
Indianapolis Ind 46216

Travelling dreams! Snow-capped grandeur—out over beauty—tremendous distance . . . sparkling, sun-rippled waters, mirror of color above—awesome depths of color-changing canyon walls. They are real and beautiful.

Combine vacation dream and home . . . add much more to the best, the most beautiful spot on earth . . . and heaven is still beyond our fondest dreams. There is joy in eagerly participating in its preparation. Leaf through God's view of that cloudless hereafter: the tearless joy . . . the abounding sense of satisfaction . . . the unbroken dream, glowing in glorious eternity, in lovely reality.

We are glad that **Gospel Hymns Revised** provides view through the mist to that sun-lit horizon. The blue does edge the storm . . . Many a lovely song will be the traveller's joy: The Open Gate, Over The Sunset Mountains, Beyond the Sunset's Radiant Glow, The Upper Garden . . . more.

Like the new bridge going in, each task is done that will become a planner's view.

This work proceeds. The proofs of the new songs have come through, been returned. The time is coming when voices will blend in those lovely reaches of spiritual song. How the room will ring with heavenly happiness!

Please be patient.

We know they're lovely, very bright,
For we have heard and seen.
We know they'll bring great delight;
Their glow has golden sheen!

For information write Gospel Hymn Publishing Co. Inc., Box 74, Grabill, Ind. 46741. More news will be coming in the Silver Lining, including an approximate date anticipated in the next issue or two.

FOOTSTEPS ON THE SANDS OF TIME

More from Bro. Geistlich

We find in the Revelation, they rest from their labours and their works do follow them . . . and in Psalm 126, they sow in tears and shall reap in joy and bring their

sheaves rejoicing. Paul says in the Romans, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."

How glad we will be when the Lord will wipe the tears from our eyes, and we can peacefully rest with our Lord in all eternity. There will be no sorrow, no pain and no tears, only joy, peace and glorious living.

Friday, August 17. At Leo. . . The past night I slept very good. I had a good bed by the dear brethren. This is a good place to live. The hospitality of these brethren reminded me of Abraham, how he said to Sarah, to go and make ready three measures of fine meal, knead and bake, and dress a tender calf and prepare it. . . I really had blessed hours with the brethren here.

Saturday, August 18. At Leo. . . Today many brothers of all the churches assembled here. I enjoyed their arrival and presence. If we enjoy meeting each other here on earth, how much more will our joy be when we meet in that heavenly home, after we have won and overcome that last battle.

Sunday, August 19. . . Leo. . . The goodness and mercy of God was revealed to us in such a manner that I cannot thank God enough for it. Before our assembly this morning I had to say to Bros. Weyeneth and Bella that I feel not gifted from the Lord today, and as forsaken as I felt, so richly and greatly did the Lord help and bless me, which was a great enlightenment to me. O how good and merciful is the Lord everyday through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

Monday, August 20 (1866). At Leo, Indiana. Today we had a conference or brother meeting. Brothers were assembled from far and near. We opened our assembly with singing and prayer. We talked about many important things concerning the welfare of the church.

Tuesday, Aug. 21. At Archbold, Ohio. Bro. Bella myself and 16 brethren arrived here, . . . Bros. Schwartz and Conrad taking us to the depot . . .

Wednesday, August 22 . . . Archbold . . . The 5th Psalm became a

special blessing to me. We can find how David in the spirit could see the promises of the New Testament. We first learn to know the scripture if we must go through the many experiences in this life. . . . The experience of it is as wine and oil; from it comes strength and life.

Thursday, August 23. At Mansfield . . . Today I saw another large fire here at Mansfield. This is the second one I saw on my trip. The thought came to me that if the fire of love would be burning like this fire at Mansfield, then God will be glorified and the people would be burning for God and Jesus, who gave His life for all.

Friday, August 24 . . . Akron.

Saturday, August 25 . . . The dear brethren Bakodi took me to Chippewa, where there will be church service tomorrow . . .

Sunday, August 26. At Chippewa, Ohio. Today quite a few people came here to church. I had a blessed day. . . .

Monday August 27 . . . We traveled from Chippewa to Girard. Here there is a brother named Blumenstine . . .

Wednesday, August 29. At Nellsville, Ohio. How many times have I been tired on my trip, so that I had no rest day or night, and yet we cannot let our courage fail. . . .

Thursday, August 30. At Monroe County, Ohio. Today there was church here. . . .

Friday, August 31 . . . We visited a sister who lives eight miles from Bro Gering.

Sunday, Sept. 2 . . . Monroe County . . . we had church three times, also the Lord's Supper . . .

Monday, Sept. 3 . . . Monroe County . . . We had church in the forenoon, and in the afternoon a proving and baptism. . . . I was blessed today in this our last meeting in America. I was delighted with the dear brethren here. In our parting we sang the 114th hymn . . .

We tarry in this blest and tranquil union . . .

Ye loved ones, now the parting hour is nearing . . .

Our hearts are yet in close communion beating,

In Jesus' name we bid the farewell greeting.