

# THE SILVER LINING

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## GOSPEL HYMNS

Another large group of hymn-books have been completed. Today, as before, the gospel hymns go winging their way with power into hearts. They are treasures. They are with power, because they are based on and contain the blessed truth. It is the good news in song.

\* \* \* \*

The song "The Gate Ajar for Me" (Gospel Hymn 12) was sung. A young lady was present, Maggie Lindsay. Those seated by her side heard her exclaim, "O heavenly Father, is it true that the gate is standing ajar for me? If it is so, I will go in." . . . Scarcely a month later, on Jan. 28, Maggie took a train for her home. It was at Manual Junction. A collision took place between a mineral train and the one on which she was riding. A number of passengers were killed, and Maggie, all crushed and broken, was found in the wreck. In one of her hands was a hymnbook, opened at her favorite hymn, "There is a gate that stands ajar". The page was stained with her blood. She was carried into a cottage near the station, where she lingered a few days. She was frequently heard to sing, on her dying couch, the chorus of the hymn so dear to her, "For me, for me! was left ajar for me!"

In commemoration of this event, which touched Sankey deeply, he wrote his first hymn, "Home at last", (Gospel Hymn 99) and set it to music.

\* \* \* \*

Someone called at a house, where two aged people lived. They were invalids. On this occasion, the hymn was sung, "There is a gate that stands ajar." At the chorus, "Oh depth of mercy," a tear was seen in the old lady's eye. She said, "Go on; that is a nice song." Before the song was finished, she burst into tears, asking, "Is that mercy for me?" She was told about Jesus, and there was prayer.

One day, when the poor woman was dying, her husband told her the visitor had come. She said: "I want to see him; tell him to come in." She could hardly speak, but she said in a whisper: "Do sing my favorite." He knew which one she meant, and sang very softly:

Oh depth of mercy! can it be  
That gate was left ajar for me?

She tried to join in singing, but fell back quite exhausted. She could not be talked with much; she was so weak, but held the hand with a firm grasp, still repeating the words, "Oh, depth of mercy! can it be?" She passed away, happy in the Saviour's love, and singing as well as she could that beautiful hymn.

\* \* \* \*

In China, a company of gamblers were in a back room on the upper floor of a hotel. At the table was an American about 20 playing with an old man. While the gray-haired man was shuffling the cards, the young man in a careless way sang a verse of "One sweetly solemn thought" (to different notes, it seems). Several gamblers looked up in surprise. The old man who was dealing the cards gazed steadfastly at his partner in the game, and then threw the pack of cards under the table.

"Where did you learn that song?" he asked. The young man pretended that he did not know that he had been singing. ". . . no matter", said the old man, "I have played my last game, and that's the end of it. The cards may lie there till doomsday, and I'll never pick them up." Having won a hundred dollars from the young man, he took the money from his pocket and handed it back. Downstairs at the door the old man was still talking of the song . . .

\* \* \* \*

Tears came to the eyes of a cer-

tain man. "I want to be a Christian, but I am afraid that I am too bad." On the previous Sunday evening, the hymn "Substitution" (Gospel Hymn 39) was sung. He was so overpowered by the thought of what the Lord had endured for our sins, that after the first verse he could not sing. The solemn words were fixed in his memory, and had troubled him, until he came to the great Burden-bearer.

\* \* \* \*

About 12:00 one frosty Saturday night, when the winter wind was driving all indoors who had a home, a poor woman in utter misery and despair was pacing up and down along the Thames. She had wandered into a hall during the evening and had restlessly come out . . . these lines from a hymn still sounded in her ears (Gospel Hymn 339):

I've wandered far away o'er moun-  
tains cold;  
I've wandered far away from home.  
O take me now, and bring me to  
Thy fold;  
Come, Great Deliv'rer, come.

She cried aloud. But there is no deliverer for me. Divine love was revealed to her. She came to the feet of Jesus. She said: Things since then have been up and down with me, but I have never lost the peace I found . . .

\* \* \* \*

The conversation could have went something like this or did: . . .

"Was Mr. Bunyan in jail when he wrote that, Daddy?" the little lad asked his father.

"Yes, son, he was. But it wasn't the first time the great preacher has been imprisoned, but the third."

"You mean he was put in jail three times?"

"Three times," his father answered.

"Why?" the lad continued . . .  
 ". . . he was one of the most brilliant men of his day. But he was put in jail because the king of England refused to let men like John Bunyan preach without a permit, and he didn't give him a permit when Bunyan asked for it, so he went ahead and preached anyway and was arrested and put into prison . . ."

"Do you have to have a permit to sing, Daddy?"

"Oh, no," Phillips explained, "This is the United States of America, and here we enjoy freedom of religion and no one has to get a permit from any kind of government official to preach the gospel like some men do, or sing it like I do."

"Didn't you sing for the king once, Daddy?"

"Not the king, son. We don't have kings here in America. But I did sing for the president, whose name was Abraham Lincoln."

"Did he like your song?"

"He must have, because he asked me to sing it again at the close of the meeting."

"Which song was it, Daddy?"

"I sang Mrs. Gate's song, *Your Mission*".

"She's the woman you asked to write that new hymn, isn't she?"

"Yes she is. In fact, her letter came just this morning, and I am curious to know what she wrote. You see, I asked her to write a new hymn based upon these words from Bunyan's famous book, *Pilgrim's Progress*, and that was the reason I was reading the passage to you a moment ago. I wanted to see what Bunyan had in mind so we can compare his prose with Mrs. Gate's poetry.

From *Pilgrim's Progress* (part printed):

Now I saw in my dream that these two men went in at the gate; and lo, as they entered, they were transfigured: and they had raiment put on them that shone like gold. There were also those that met them with harps . . . Then I heard in my dream that all the bells in the city rang again for joy, Now just as the gates were opened to let in the men, I looked in after them and behold, the city shone like the sun . . .

"Now, let us see what she has

done with it."

Eagerly picking up the letter postmarked New York City, 31-year-old Philip opened it, took out the letter which he set to one side and began to read the poem which Ellen Huntington Gates (1836-1920) had enclosed. His little son listened quietly as his father began:

I will sing you a song of that beautiful land  
 That far away home of the soul,  
 Where no storms ever beat on the glittering strand,  
 While the years of eternity roll.

When he finished reading her stanzas, (*Gospel Hymn 15*) Phillips was so deeply moved that he immediately turned to the little organ in the room that fateful day and still balancing his little son on his knee, began picking out a melody . . . Soon he was singing Mrs. Gates new words to this new music, while the boy looked and listened in silence . . . He captured the simple serenity of the poem in the equally simple and moving mood of his music . . .

The lad who sat on his father's knee suddenly passed away. The beautiful hymn was sung at the little one's funeral.

"You see that I am still in the land of the dying," wrote Philip Phillips, *The Singing Pilgrim* shortly before his death in Delaware, Ohio, "Why I linger so long is to me a problem. The precious Saviour is more to me than I ever expected when I was well. Often during the night seasons I have real visions; I am walking on the banks of the Beautiful River, and getting glimpses of the bright Beyond. The lines that come most often are these:

We speak of the land of the blest,  
 A country so bright and so fair,  
 And oft are its glories confest,  
 But what must it be to be there?  
 (*Gospel Hymn 160*)

Blessed be God: I shall soon know. What a singing time we will have when we get there!"

Fill the mind with good . . . some from *My Garden Of Verse*, by Bro. Henry Beer, Milford . . . 162 poems . . . the 3rd edition is now available.

**AKRON**  
**Katherine Ries**

There is beauty all around, when there's love at home.

There is joy in every sound,  
 when there's love at home.  
 Peace and plenty there abide,  
 smiling sweet on every side;  
 Time does softly, sweetly glide,  
 when there's love at home.

April 15, Elder Bro. Rudy Graf officiated at the wedding of Bro. Randy C. Miller (Sterling) and Sis. Carolyn Palitto. Their home address is 3315 Pikeview Drive, Norton O. 44203.

We are so thankful for the words spoken by visiting ministers, Joe Ramsier, Ben Hartzler, and Gary Maibach of Ritlman.

"Oh Lord, look in mercy on me. Come O come and speak peace to my soul." Our Friend Glen Greenbank has found peace and is awaiting baptism.

Sis. Elizabeth Heib (Leo) had major surgery April 26. Her home address: 4725 State Rd., Cleveland O 44109. Sis. Frida Gruenig is now at home: 615 Copley Rd., Akron O 44320, after undergoing surgery.

**ALTADENA**  
**Judy Cremer**

Easter is a time for rejoicing! For all who have the risen Christ living in their hearts, this blessed holiday brings songs of praise and thanks upon our lips. Many gathered from Maywood and Altadena for Good Friday. Only in meditation of these scriptures can we begin to understand the depth and majesty of God's love. "Greater love hath no man than . . . to lay

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down his life for his friends." He suffered the most cruel of pain and agony, both to His physical being and His burdened soul. Jesus death and shed blood paved the way. The day is very "good" in that we are offered the best gift ever—life eternal in Christ Jesus! Bro. John glanced at the clock and said, "There are still a few hours left in this day." Then addressing the unconverted, said, "You can make this day be the best day . . ."

On Easter morning, at 8:00, a small group of brothers, sisters, and Sunday School students gathered on the hillside of Chaney Trail, on the mountains overlooking the Pasadena area. We shared songs and scripture, and surely could hear the cry, **Jesus lives!** ringing in the morning air.

The day of April 1 brought a lasting blessing to my new husband and I. Bro. Don Cremer and myself were united in Holy matrimony as one in Christ Jesus! We rejoice in our new life together. Truly, Christian marriage is a joy . . . our new address is: 414 S. Fifth St., Alhambra, Ca.

Our prayers are with Bro. Bill Schwarz as his cancer condition is remaining the same. They wish for their thanks to be extended to all who are remembering them with prayers and cards during this time. Our Sister, Connie Frautschi (wife of Bro. Ed) was suddenly taken ill with pains on her left side. She was found to have pneumonia and pleurisy.

### ALTO

Joyleen Blough

Oh Jesus look upon  
My helpless situation;  
My heart feels deadly fear,  
My spirit, condemnation.  
Within me is the wish  
But not the power to do,  
Because my weary soul  
Is full of grief and woe.

Four souls have stopped, turned around, and started up the path towards Heaven. Sandy Gabbard, from Dessie Scott who is now living with Bro. Tom and Sis. Joanne Schrenk; Dale Dunham, formerly of Latty; and Paul and Margaret Jackson—Margaret's parents are Bro. Lyman and Sis. Vivian Feldman. You cannot repent too soon,

because you know not how soon it will be too late.

"Suffer little children to come unto me . . ." On April 15, the home of Fred and Donna Oesch was blessed with their first precious gift from heaven. A son, Frederick Joseph, was born to them. Frederick is also the first grandchild to Bro. Joe and Sis. Melva Oesch.

We are happy to welcome Bro. Ron and Sis. Penny Erismann to our congregation.

### AMES

Carol Schmidgall

Bro Earl Banwart of West Bend was our minister for our April meeting. Many friends and visitors were there to hear the word of God.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Gail Massner are happy to announce the birth of their firstborn, Rachel Renee. Her grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Kay Eisenmann and Bro. Earl and Sis. Ada Massner of Oakville.

### ATHENS

Irene Haggermaker

"Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh:"

As spring comes again, and we look around us and see the wonder and beauty of God's great work of art with the flowers and the new birth of the trees, we can't help but think of all the dear lost souls that need to be born again of God's great and wonderful saving grace. How many of us take time out of our busy daily life to speak to some lost soul of God's great love for all people?

We were blessed with a visit from the Peoria choir on the 29th. They labor so faithfully for the Lord, as they honor His name in song and deed. They sang at all four Alabama churches in the two days they were here.

Bro. Henry Perry has been very ill. We surely miss him in our assembly.

### BERN

Esther and Stella Moser

On April 15, Margaret Ann Rokey, daughter of Bro. Joe and Sis. Lila, was united in marriage to John Hundley, Bern. Elder Bro. Lester Hartter conducted the service at the Fellowship Center, Sabetha. They are at home in Bern.

Bro. John Rokey, Goodfield, was our guest minister on a Sunday. Bro. Louis and Sis. Lena Baumgartner are now in their farm home, after spending the winter months at the A. C. Home. Elsie Wittmer Olsen is a new resident of the home.

We had quite a number hospitalized; some stays were short, and most are able to be at church again. Arlene Bauman suffered a broken wrist in a car accident . . . Albert Plattner (medical) . . . Sis. Frieda Strahm (Bro. Aaron) medical . . . Eldora Isch (Elmer) . . . Lila Plattner, small daughter of Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary . . . Leon Stoller (Sis. Tillie), missed several Sundays at church due to illness . . . Sis. Lydia Hanhart (broken hip), Sis. Mavis Meyer (Bro. Louis) are still hospitalized

On April 18, our ministers conducted services of Apphia Marti Aeschliman. Apphia was born to Adolph and Mary Wenger Marti near Bern, April 13, 1883, and passed away April 16 at the age of 89 years. In her early youth, Apphia turned to her Lord and cheerfully shared all His blessings with others. In 1947 she was married to Joe Aeschliman. Joe passed away in 1962. Among the survivors are two sisters, Emma Marti of A. C. Home, and Minnie Meyer (Will) Bern.

### Mother

God took the fragrance of a flower

The majesty of a tree

The gentleness of morning dew

The calm of a quiet sea

The tender care of an angel

The faith of the mustard seed

Then God fashioned from these

things a creature like no other

And when His masterpiece was through

He called it simply, mother.

### BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Eunice Schupbach

Kayleen Heiniger

How we rejoice! "The Lord again has given His counsel and His will." Several weeks ago, sanction was granted for the erection of our new church. This long-awaited event is an answer to many a prayer; it humbles us to picture it a reality.

On the warm, sunny, windy morning of April 15, many gath-



ered at the new church site for the groundbreaking ceremonies. Bro. Everett Hari conducted the services, followed by the shoveling of the first earth by Bro. Melvin Sorg, who has resided in this area the longest, more than thirty years. Then the members of the building committee, Bros. Alden Nussbaum, Al Stoller, and Carl Frautschi, each turned a spadeful.

God oft gave beyond all  
expectation  
More than heart had wished for to  
behold;  
Should not this give us new  
inspiration  
To await what His word has  
foretold?

Several from our congregation were hospitalized, but all are feeling much improved. Sis. Lona Elsasser and Sis. Sue Kupferschmid each spent several days in the hospital; Bro. Edwin Schupbach fell from a scaffold at work, but his injuries were not serious; and Laurie Young, daughter of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Annemarie Young, underwent an appendectomy.

The first child, a baby boy named Mark Alan, was born to Bro. Ron and Sis. Kayleen Heiniger on April 25. Grandparents are Bro. Leo and Sis. Beulah Funk of Gridley and Bro. Art and Sis. Verena Heiniger of Morton. Mother and son are already home and doing very well.

Visiting ministers include: LeRoy Huber, Eureka; Arnold Gerst, Chicago; Walter Rehklau, Toledo; Ed Alt, Cissna Park; and Edmund Kloter, Fairbury. Since we so often need to be refreshed with spiritual food, we are most grateful for their time spent with us.

Our annual Easter Sunday School program was held April 15. Due to the combined efforts of the teachers and children, their well-organized program caused us to reflect on our Lord's glorious resurrection. Bro. Walter Rehklau's concluding message reminded the youngsters that they are our future church. Watching their intent faces, it made us wonder if we are prepared to meet our Saviour, for it follows that we are today's church.

On Easter, we had numerous visitors in our midst, including Bro.

Ed Alt, who said that "the soul knows its eternal destiny the moment we close our eyes in death." Would it make a difference if we knew our destiny while still treading our earthly pathway? How indebted we should feel that He died and arose, overcoming sin and death, and that this is now offered to all mankind through grace.

A reminder that April is Bloomington-Normal's collection month for the **Silver Lining**. The \$2.00 suggested may be paid to either reporter or sent directly to the **Silver Lining**. Let us know the names and addresses of anyone who is not receiving **The Silver Lining**, but would gladly do so.

#### BLUFFTON

##### Melanie Gerber — Donna Drayer

We were richly blest during the the month of April to have Bros. Rudy Graf, John Bahler, Herman Kellenberger, Ezra Feller, Noah Schrock, Theo. Beer, Merle Bucher, Alfred Bahler, Edward Frank, Andrew Virkler, Edwin Bahler, Edwin Ringger and George Ringger.

An infant son, J. B. Lamar, was welcomed into Bro. Gene and Sis. Elaine Baumgartner's family circle on April 2. We share in the family's happiness.

A summer wedding is being planned by Bro. Leon Gerber and Sis. Pat Reinhard. Bro. Floyd and Sis. Gladys Gerber and Bro. Alphonie and Sis. Lucille Reinhard are the parents of the couple.

The following loved ones have spent some time in the hospital and are now home again. They are: Sisters Berniece (Melvin) Maller, Susan (Arlen) Gerber, Bonnie (Robert) Gerber, and Bros. Herbert Frauhiger and Wendell Gerber. Bros. Nelson Moser and Emil Reinhard are still patients in the hospital.

The Bluffton choir traveled to Peoria the first week-end in April. A very blessed week-end was spent in their midst, and we want to thank all who so graciously opened their homes and hearts to us.

As our precious Saviour was placed into the grave and arose to a new life, so many of our dear souls were also placed into the watery grave of baptism and arose to a newness of life. Our new brothers and sisters in the Lord are as follows: Steve (William) and Irene (Ted Kaehr) Frauhiger, Bert

(Walter) and Karen (Kenneth Troxel) Aeschliman, Bob & Beverly (Howard Baumgartner) Jolloff, Debbie (John) Liby, Greg (Frederick) Gerber, Steve, Lela, Sam (Sylvan) and Becky (Liddy) Ringger, Rodney (Robert) and Barbara (Robert) Maller, Sharon (Howard Schwartz) Merritt, Scott (Lester) Schwartz, Bob (Robert) Meyer, Rex (Harry) Gerber, Terry (Harry) Longenberger, Joan (Harry) Reinhard, David (Lewis) Smith, Dean (Alvin) Fiechter, Diane (Leonard Bertsch) Green, Ann (Richard) Jones, Kay (Russell) Moser, Linda (James) Geisel, Dean (William) Frauhiger, Lynn (Sylvan) Frauhiger, Sue (Eugene) Heyerly, Ed (Harry) Baumgartner, Brenda (Ervin) Moser, Dennis (Herman) Drayer, Mark (Alvin) Gerber, Cindy (Harry) Steffen, Greg (Wallace) Leman, Peggy (Vernon) Kaehr, Bill (Raymond) and Kathy (Arnold) Stoller, Jerry and Mike (Jerome) Rauch, Donn (Elmer) Steffen, Melissa (Wendell Gerber) Smekens, Elizabeth Schaefer, Keith (Everett) Schladenhauffen, Joyce (Everett) Geisel, Victor (Alphonie) Reinhard, Robin (William Gene) Moser, Suzanne (Earl) Gerber, Carol (Roy) Reinhard, Dan (Max) Steffen, Keith (Robert) Aschliman, Loretta (Millard) Aschliman, Ernie (Ervin) Schwartz, and Russell and Bonnie (Clarence Steffen) Mulkey.

#### A Mother, To Her Child

I do not ask that you repay  
The hours of toil and pain.  
The sacrifice of youth and strength  
Shall not have been in vain.  
I do not ask for gratitude  
But only this, my child,  
That you shall live your life so well  
My gifts be not defiled.

The nights I watched beside your  
crib,  
The years of love and care  
Will amply be repaid if once  
I see you standing there . . .  
An upright honest soul  
On whom success has smiled,  
That I may say with humble pride  
. . . "THAT is my child!"

#### BREMEN Pauline Laidig

It was a blessed day when Mike and Marge Mangold joined the **Family of God**. Bro. Wendell Gude-

man, assisted by Bro. Earl Zeltwanger, conducted the testimonial service, giving timely advice, which was beneficial to all. Wendell recalled Mike's heritage in the teachings and walk of his grandfather, Elder Bro. Dave Mangold and great-grandfather, Elder Bro. Mike Mangold. (I fondly remember both, having been under their ministry and guidance for a number of years). The baptisms followed the afternoon service, and then Bro. Mike and Sis. Marge were lovingly greeted by the congregation. Bro. Ben Fehr and Don Sauder of Roanoke ministered to us so inspiringly during the worship services. The fellowship with the many relatives and friends, who came for this special day, was enjoyed by all.

On Sunday, April 15, we were happy to meet many relatives and friends of Bro. Carl and Sis. Minnie Zeltwanger, who came to wish them well on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Bros. Theo. Beer and Harold Gramm (Morris) were guest ministers. They brought us stirring messages, and both knowing Carl and Minnie well, remarked of their having begun their married life in the Lord, and that they have trusted in Him down through the years, in trials as well as joys.

Carl and Minnie have five children, Richard of Wakarusa, Don of Bremen, Ministering Bros. Earl and Harold of Mishawaka, and Sis. Maryann (Gene) Witzig of Morton, all of whom are married. The family circle has been enlarged with the arrivals of 22 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Later in the afternoon, a reception was held in the Fellowship Hall, at which time the family enjoyed meeting many relatives, friends and neighbors, old and new. Carl and Minnie wish to thank everyone for the cards, messages and gifts they received, and for just helping to make their Golden Anniversary such a memorable one.

Even though our thoughts and hearts were sobered in recalling the sorrow and suffering of our dear Lord at Calvary, they were made glad on Easter by the joyful messages, in word and song, of our risen Saviour, and His promise of salvation to all who will come to God by Him.

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above

rubies. . . Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and . . . praiseth her." These words naturally make us think of our mothers, who have done so much for us. We are happy for those who can be with theirs on Mother's Day, but for those of us whose mothers have passed on, we must be content with treasured memories, and hope to meet again.

In speaking of mothers, my thoughts turn to Sis. Annie Leman, who is the oldest mother in our congregation. With God's help, Annie has weathered the storms of life well. Some years ago she told me that when the youngest of her nine children was small she wasn't well, and would pray that God would spare her long enough to raise this little daughter to womanhood. Her prayers were more than granted, for she has also seen grandchildren and even great-grandchildren reach maturity. We have noted the love and respect shown her by them all. Perhaps it is because she looked well after the ways of her household, and spoke to her family with "wisdom" and "kindness". Many outside of the family circle enjoyed the hospitality of Sis. Annie and Bro. Will during bygone days. Annie still enjoys visitors. She has been able to assemble with us fairly often, but hasn't felt quite up to coming for a few weeks. We hope to see her there again soon.

There are a number in the hospitals. Bro. Verne Lehman had surgery on his arm; Sis. Clara Klopfenstein is soon to have eye surgery; Mathew Zimmer, son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Ann, is to have surgery, and baby Jeffrey Feldman, whose parents are Bro. J. N. and Sis. Karen, is having surgery tomorrow.

#### BURLINGTON, IOWA

Edna Pohl — Elaine Eisenmann

"Remember his marvellous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;"

In spring we find our faith renewed  
In everything we see—

In flowers so sweet and rainbow  
hued,

In every leaf and tree—

In spring we feel the bright new  
hope

Of Easter's promise too . . .

Even so, at this springtime many are flooded from their homes, as the heavy rains continued this spring. Is God trying to tell us something? Or has man caused the disruption by disturbing? But those with faith in God receive strength to endure such trials and testing.

Our sister, Lena Kuntz, is now in a nursing home at Mediapolis, Ia. She needed extra care, with her failing eyesight and throat difficulties. We made the 3-mile walk once to visit her . . . then rainy weather, we drove over.

In all the rains and high water the basements are draining, including our church, for the first time. That meant no noon fellowship, but home and back for those not too far. The ground is so soaked it can't hold anymore, and seeps into the foundations.

May 12, our congregation hopes to share with Oakville members in partaking of Holy Communion, that sacred sacrament in remembrance of our Lord's suffering, that we might have mercy and forgiveness of our sins.

#### BURLINGTON, OKLAHOMA

Janice Springer — Janice Frieden

It was alone the Saviour prayed in  
dark Gethsemane;

Alone He drained the bitter Cup,  
and suffered there for me.

It was alone the Saviour stood, in  
Pilate's judgment hall;

Alone the crown of thorns He  
wore, forsaken thus by all.

Alone upon the Cross He hung that  
others He might save. . .

How can we ever thank God enough that we don't have to bear our cross alone. Besides having the help of God, we have the wonderful fellowship of those of like faith, as we did when Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mary Kisling opened their home for our monthly singing on April 1.

Bro. Richard Guthrie underwent surgery in the Kiowa Hospital, but we are very thankful that he is now able to worship with us again.

We extend our deep sympathy to Sis. Minnie Schrock and family at the passing of her brother, Bro. George Hodel of Eureka.

Are you changing your address? Send in ahead, letting know when to change. Send zip number.

## CHICAGO

## Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein

"Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober." We were richly reminded of the times we are living in and our grave responsibility to ever be awake and prepared for our Lord's return, as Bro. George Lambert from Wichita ministered to us Sunday, April 29.

Other visiting ministers we were privileged to have with us during the month were: Philip Sauder from Cissna Park, Edmond Kloter from Fairbury, and Ezra Feller from Cissna Park.

Our friend, Matthew Strahm, has found peace with his Creator and is looking forward to baptism. We rejoice with him in his new-found faith. . . Whenever we see a soul turning to God, we are reminded of our own time of repentance and conversion, when our spiritual eyes were finally opened and our great Savior miraculously provided deliverance from the pitiful, lost condition of our former lives. How thankful and appreciative we can continually be for God's great love and mercy!

CISSNA PARK  
Margaret Rudin

The Sunday School presented us with an Easter Program. We are so thankful He is Risen. It was enjoyed, from the youngest to the oldest that took part. Because He lives. . . We too shall live.

God knew that each of us would need

A warm and cheerful smile,  
A hand to do those special things  
That make life more worthwhile,  
A very faithful, loving heart  
That's filled with tenderness,  
To help us with our problems  
And to share each small success—  
And so God in His generous way  
Gave us the blessing of Mothers.

Born to Sis. Donna and Bro. Max Yergler, a boy, Derek Jon. He has two brothers and a sister to welcome him. Bro. Ben and Sis. Arvilla Yergler and Sis. Mary Baurer are the grandparents.

We are thankful for our visiting ministers that share the word with us. They were Bros. David Wiegand, Clarence Kachelmuss, Frederick Knapp, Alfred Bahler, Edwin

Bahler, Bob Grimm, Maurice Frank, and Everett Hari.

It is with regret that I report the death of my co-worker. Sis. Mary Young, age 71, passed away at Iroquois Hospital April 10, after a short illness of acute leukemia. Survivors include her husband, Bro. Jeff; one son, Raymond; two daughters, Mrs. Alvin (Dorothy) Rudin and Mrs. Gordon (Aldine) Winger; two sisters, Minnie Farney and Sophia Funk; two brothers, Charlie and Sam Farney. Funeral services were held April 12. We shall miss Mary in our midst. She was always ready to lend a helping hand and visit the sick. Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family. . . The family of Sis. Mary Young wishes to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy, the many cards they received and other helpful deeds of kindness during the illness and loss of their loved one.

Note of Thanks: Sis. Elsie (Mrs. Elmer) Bauer wishes to extend her thanks and appreciation for the prayers, cards and acts of love and kindness while she was in the hospital and since she is home.

Our sick: Our friend, Loren Anderson, is a hospital patient, having had a coronary. He is making satisfactory improvement. Sis. Aleen Otto was a hospital medical patient. Bro. Wm. Rentach is a medical patient. Sis. Jan (Mrs. Daryl) Hari is a patient at Wesley Memorial Hospital. We are happy to report she is making improvement each day. Her address is: Mrs. Jan Hari, Wesley Memorial Hospital, 250 E. Superior St., Chicago Ill 60611.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA  
Jan Blunier

My definition of a true friend was hard to match. My friend would have to love me just the way I am all the time. Because I wasn't perfect, my friend would have to forgive me. My friend would have to be with me all of the time, because I get lonely so easily. My friend would have to show me something to live for, because I didn't know what I was living for at that time. My last unconditional requirement was that, once I found this friend, he could never leave me or forsake me. And then I met Him.

He loves me all the time. He never leaves me. He gives me something to live for that lasts forever. He not only promises to be my friend forever, but also that our friendship will last forever. But there is one thing this friend did that I didn't even ask for: He gave His life for me so that I could come to know Him. My perfect friend is Jesus Christ. All I want to do is tell others about Him, because I know He loves them, too.

On April 11, we held our annual church meeting. Bro. Virgil Metzger was elected Sunday School Superintendent; Bro. Howard Leman, trustee; and Sis. Kai Alt, Sunday School teacher.

On April 18, the Easter Program was given in honor of the glorious occasion of Christ's death and resurrection. The young children, as well as some special groups, helped in telling the Easter Story.

Our visiting ministers were Joe Kaisner of Forrest, Joe Schrock of Congerville, Jim Ringger of Bradford, and Lenny Meyer of Chicago.

So often we forget to thank the faithful ones in our own home church who labor to bring forth the word for us. So we would like to take this opportunity to thank Bro. Dave Wiegand and his wife, Sis. Ethel, for the work in faith and love they continually share with us.

## CONGERVILLE

## Linda Knapp — Arlene Banwart

A heavenly blessing, Scot Alan, was born March 31 to the family of Bro. Rusty and Sis. Joyce Zobrist. His sister Debbie and brother Mike help care for him. Grandparents are Bro. Marion and Sis. Esther Miller, and Sis. Clara Zobrist of Goodfield.

The Bible is condensed; it doesn't contain everything Jesus said and did; therefore we need to search the Scripture, for every word has meaning.

We can't realize how much the Lord suffered for us on Calvary's hill. As a Christian let us be thankful each day for what Jesus did for us.

Wonderful teachings were brought to us by Visiting Bros. Josh Broquard (Fairbury), George Lambert (Wichita) and Kenneth Knepp (Roanoke).



"Kindly heaven smiles above, when there's love at home." We rejoice with Bro. C. E. and Bena (Guedman) Steffen, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary April 22. Their children, all converted, are: Eldon, Cissna; J. E., Congerville; Duane, Carlock; Jerry, Lyle, and Phyllis (Howard) Zobrist, Goodfield; and Ida Mae (Eldon) Roche, Eureka. "O there's One who smiles on high, When there's love at home." Their son, Bro. J. E. and Sis. Mary Steffen were married 25 years on April 11. **Thank You:** We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the cards, gifts, prayers and visits on our 25th and 50th wedding anniversaries. The J. E. and C. E. Steffen families.

April 29, our dear Sis Lula (Ben) Zimmerman passed away at the Apostolic Christian Home in Eureka, at age 91. Funeral service were conducted by Bros. Joe Zimmerman (Morton), George Yergler (LaCrosse), Joe Schrock and Bob Walder. We will remember her as a quiet, humble, meek sister, a good example. Surviving are a son, Bro. Orville, Carlock; three daughters, Sis. Alma Schieber—Carlock, Sis. Verna Schurter—Peoria, and Sis. Fannie Schieber, Congerville; a brother, Walter of Ponca City, Okla; two sisters, Sis. Lewis Bahr and Sis. Leona Aeschleman, both of Sabetha: The family of Lula Zimmerman wishes to express their sincere thanks for the deeds of kindness, love and prayers during the loss of their dear mother and sister.

The Lord willing, this coming week-end two of Lula's grandchildren, Mike Schieber and Tim Zimmerman (who is in the service), are to give their testimonies of faith.

#### CROGHAN—NAUMBURG

Alice Virkler — Eleanor Herzig

Bro. John and Sis. Lucy Hany celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with an Open House at Bender's Home for the Aged, where they both are now residing. They have been unable to assemble in our congregation for some time.

The first son, Matthew James, was born on April 2 to Bro. Ronald and Sis. Eleanor Herzig. He is also welcomed by his grandparents, Sis. Charlotte Virkler and Ted and Gert Herzig.

Sis. Clara Merz is hospitalized as the result of a fall in her home. Sis. Lena Virkler (Naumburg) was hospitalized several days for tests.

We have enjoyed blessed fellowship with visitors from Rockville, Akron, Rittman and Oakville.

#### ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Louise Steffen  
Katie Kachelmuss

So delightful it is here, when in  
Christ's way we appear,  
And in unity do stand . . . all to  
Him look hand in hand.

. . . And it was in unity that some of the brothers of the World Relief committee met here and discussed the various projects. That same evening, quite a group of us went to the YMCA Building, where Bro. James Hoerr of Peoria showed us pictures taken on his trip to India, which were interesting and informative. Then Bro. Ed. Haas showed us pictures which were taken when he and Bros. Alexander Bako of Akron and Pierre Neihouser of Francesville were on a trip during the month of March to Hungary, Yugoslavia, Romania and Czechoslovakia. They told us that in Hungary they have complete freedom of worship. There are about 3312 members in Hungary. In Yugoslavia they also have freedom of worship, and there are about 9500 members there. In Romania, persecution is very evident. There are 59 churches which have been locked for 25 years, and they are forbidden to worship. There are about 1800 members there. It is forbidden to discuss religion, even with their own little ones. The Communists have many ways to gather information. The school teacher may ask the innocent children if any of them know about the Bible, and if one should raise his hand in the affirmative, the parents are swiftly arrested. In pre-communist times, they had over 10,000 members. In Czechoslovakia there is also heavy persecution; they have almost extinguished the church there, less than 300 members, and they are mostly old. Ed says the trip was quite an experience, enlightening, humbling and also a joy to see the faith that the people exhibit. They deserve to be remembered in prayer and they are deserving of aid.

Bro. Charles Graf has left the hospital and is now at the Americana Nursing Center at 180 S. State St., Elgin Ill 60120. Sis. Lydia (Otto) Stettner has returned to her home, R. 1 Box 63, Elgin Ill 60120, after a short stay in the hospital.

William, husband of Mary Schiffrer Spohr, 396 Oak St., South Elgin Ill 60177, passed away suddenly at his home. Besides his widow, he is survived by his daughter, Lucille (Alfred) Knobloch, and his son, Leslie Spohr, R. 2 Box 64, Elgin Ill 60120.

Our guest ministers were James Hoerr of Peoria, Jesse Schrock and Joseph Schrock of Congerville, and we appreciate and thank them for their efforts in bringing to us the living bread of heaven.

Sis. Ricka Stettner wishes to thank all who remembered her on her 90th birthday April 13. Friend Minna Knupper thanks all who remembered her on her 90th birthday April 27. Sis. Karoline Kuehner thanks all who remembered her on her 95th birthday, May 4th.

We are happy to report that Alma (Herman) Haas, R. 1, Box 60, Elgin Ill 60120, gave her testimony, was baptized and taken into the Fold. We were so happy to welcome as our dear sister in Christ, and pray that more would take advantage of becoming a lamb of Jesus' flock.

A birth: Born to Bro. (Dr.) Jerry and Sis. Kay Cargill a son, Daniel Lee, May 6. They live at 994 Marlene, Elgin Ill 60120.

Sis. Rose Steffen wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and gifts during her hospitalization and recovery period at home.

#### ELGIN, IOWA Eleanor Butikofer

Some of the sights greeting us are pasture areas appearing lush with grass, elm trees leafing, snowball shrubs leafing and budding for blooms, and the most spectacular are our three bush cherry trees loaded with beautiful pink blossoms. A pair of bluebirds are nesting in one of the new houses put up this spring on a post. We are delighted that we have them so close to our home, for they are most interesting.

This day also He will guide us,

In our work His help provide,  
And on wisdom's ways He'll lead us,  
Standing ever by our side,  
That on this whole blessed day  
No mishap can come our way,  
And that under His rich blessing,  
Night will find us sweetly resting.

Mother went for a check-up at the Mayo Clinic, and was there informed that her hip fracture was completely healed. She has attended church services since that time.

Two of our Bible class students will be high school graduates May 23. They are Eunice Metzger, daughter of the Ervin Metzgers, and Trudy Pulfer, daughter of the Paul Pulfer's. The former's future plans are indefinite. The latter plans to attend school at Kirkwood, taking a course to become an operating room technician.

We enjoyed having Bro. Uriel Gehring during part of his Easter vacation. He expounded the scriptures for us for the Good Friday services.

Bro. John Schupbach and his wife, Sis. Janet are now located on the old Schupbach farm home. George Schupbachs have moved to a farm home nearby.

#### EUREKA

Cathryn Wettstein  
Salome Schumacher

Our visiting ministers were: Willis Wiegand, Goodfield; Joe Schrock, Jesse Schrock, Congerville; Dan Koch, Tremont; Edmund Kloter, Joshua Broquard, Fairbury; Robert Grimm, Goodfield.

Births: A baby boy was born to Bro. Simon and Sis. Lavonne Wagonbach Feb. 18. His name is Jonathon Paul. This is their third son. April 5, a son was born to Bro. William and Sis. Judy Cottrell. He was named Brent Richard. He has a brother, John Eric. April 16, a baby girl was born to Bro. Robert and Sis. Charlene Schumacher. She is named Debra Ann. Four brothers, David, Daniel, Dennis and Dale all say welcome.

April 10, Sis. Martha Wettstein (my mother) passed away at her home after a long illness. She was 77 years old. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Charles; three daughters and five sons: Sis. Cathryn at home, Sis. Lulu Zimmerman of Carlock and Sis. Wilma Pulfer

of Pekin . . . Bro. Arthur, Harold, and Bro. Robert, of Eureka, Leslie of Congerville, and Willis of Bloomington; three sisters survive. Her funeral was April 13, with Bro. Leroy Huber in charge. Burial was in Mackinaw Dells Cemetery.

Broken is the family circle;  
Our dear one is passed away,  
Passed from earth and earthly  
darkness

Into bright and perfect day,  
But we all must cease our crying  
O'er the grave of her we love,  
Strive to be prepared to meet her  
In a better world above.

The Easter program was held on April 18, with all the Sunday School children taking part. A few songs were given by the large group of Bible class students from Roanoke church . . . a very blessed evening for all who attended. Good Friday services were held April 20, conducted by Bro. Edmund Kloter from Fairbury.

Bro. George Hodel, age 77, passed away April 20 at the Methodist Hospital. He was hospitalized about nine weeks. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Rachel; six sons and five daughters: Richard and Willis of Metamora; Robert of Cincinnati; Don, Washington; Ross, Aurora, Ill. . . Mrs. Betty Trotter, Metamora; Mrs. Marjorie Potter, Aurora; Mrs. Joyce Duchein, East Peoria; Mrs. Joan Summer, Washington; and Sis. Jean Hohulin of Eureka. His funeral was April 23, conducted by Bro. Robert Grimm of Goodfield, burial in Roanoke Church Cemetery.

Bro. Mike Schmidgall, who had a severe hand injury while at work, was in Methodist hospital but is now out . . . Sis. Martha Grusy, Bro. Alf's wife, is in Methodist Hospital as a medical patient.

Three more souls were given their chance to tell of their conversion April 14. They were Christine and Patricia Rocke, daughters of Bro. Richard and Sis. Marjorie Rocke, and Sam Blunier Jr., son of Bro. Sam and Sis. Elizabeth Blunier. The next day they were baptized and added to the fold of believers in Christ. Bro. Dan Koch from Tremont helped Bro. Leroy with this important work.

Sis. Emma Grusy is our newest

resident at the "Home." She is formerly from Gridley, Ill.

#### FAIRBURY Joyce Huber

We are rejoicing that some of our young people have turned to the Lord Jesus. They are Joan Huette, daughter of Bro. Lyle and Sis. Edith Huette; Donna (Steffen) Hoffman, daughter of Bro. Ezra and Sis. Aldine Steffen; and Ron and Barbara (Wiegand) Schafer. Barb is the daughter of Bro. Dick and Sis. Betty Wiegand.

The engagement of Sis. Donna Hartman and Bro. Dale Banwart was announced. Donna is the daughter of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Pat Hartman, and Dale is the son of Bro. and Sis. Earl Banwart of West Bend. Dale has been residing with Bro. Homer and Sis. Virginia Blunier of Forrest, and we are glad Dale and Donna plan to be at home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kaisner were blessed on April 1 with a baby girl, named Kara Marjorie, for her grandmother. Kara has a brother, Dean Merle, named for his grandfather. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Merle Kaisner. Great-grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Joe Kaisner and Bob and Sis. Louis Zimmerman.

Retta Grace Steffen arrived April 9, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Steffen. Retta has a brother, Aaron. She is named for her mother's college roommate, Retta Baer, and her maternal great-grandmother, the late Grace Strode. Grandparents are Bro. Alph & Sis. Fannie Steffen and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Ward. Mr. and Mrs. Brian Wiegand are the parents of a baby boy, Neon Ray. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Dick Wiegand and Ted and Myrna Creamean.

Ann Hartman and Jim Kachelmuss were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents, April 26. Ann is the daughter of Bro. Warren and Sis. Louise Hartman, and Jim is the son of Bro. and Sis. Clarence Kachelmuss of Forrest. The newlyweds work in Bloomington and will make their home there.

Our Sunday School presented an inspiring Easter Program on the evening of Palm Sunday.

We are sorry that Bro. George Broquard was hospitalized, Sis. Kay Thames and Sis. Lucille Meiss



had surgery, and Mike Kelson's arm got broken.

### FORREST

Juanita Schneider  
Eleanor Honegger

God knew that everybody needs  
Someone to show the way;  
He knew that babies need someone  
To care for them each day . . .  
He knew they needed someone  
sweet  
To soothe their baby cries,  
To teach them how to walk and  
talk,  
And sing them lullabies . . .  
That's why God made mothers.  
He knew small children need  
someone  
To lend a guiding hand,  
To answer all their questions  
And to smile and understand,  
As they grow up and all their lives,  
God knew that everywhere  
All children need a mother's heart  
To understand and care . . .  
That's why God made mothers.

Bro. Eli Walter spent a few days in the Pontiac Hospital; Bro. Ernie Gerber and Mary Bradley were patients in the Fairbury Hospital a short time. Sis. Anita Sohn remains a patient at Fairbury Hospital, after a fall in her home wherein she suffered a broken hip.

Bro. Jim Hoerr, Bro. Edwin Ringger and Bro. Joshua Broquard visited us, bringing God's word in full abundance.

The Leonard Riegers announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathleen, to Dennis Davis, son of Wayne and Verla Davis of Fairbury. The engagement of Sis. Peggy Stoller, daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Rosetta, was announced to Bro. Terry Young, son of Bro. and Sis. William Young of Rittman. Also, the engagement of Sis. Donna Hartman, daughter of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Pat of Fairbury, was announced to Bro. Dale Banwart, son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Edna Banwart of West Bend. Dale is employed here at Forrest.

Bro. Joshua Broquard united in marriage Ann Hartman and Jim Kachelmuss, at the home of the bride's parents, Bro. and Sis. Warren Hartman. Jim is the son of Bro. and Sis. Clarence Kachelmuss.

Our older Sunday School children brought the suffering and death of our dear Saviour on the

cross and the rising from the grave. This was done by our Saviour's love for us, that all may have a way to reach the golden gates on heaven's shore.

God has two dwellings: one in heaven and the other in a meek and thankful heart.

### FORT LAUDERDALE

Kathy Sutter—Henry H. Schwartz

What glorious state to be a lamb  
of Jesus,  
To feel the faithful Shepherd's  
loving grace . . .  
In all the world there is no higher  
standing  
Than this, to follow in the  
Saviour's ways.

Four new lambs were added to our small flock, after testifying that they had truly felt the Shepherd's loving grace working in their lives in the past few months. It was a real inspiration to hear the testimony of Faye Gerber of Purdue and Sue Gerber, daughters of Bro. Ed and Sis. Vie; Brenda Beer, daughter Bro. Vic and Sis. Dorothy; and Peg Troxel, daughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce Troxel. We are grateful to Elder Bros. John Bahler of Rockville, Ben Maibach of Detroit and Wendell Gudeman of Francesville for making the effort to be with us for this occasion. We most certainly received a blessing from their labors. We will long remember this week-end for the inspiration and renewal it afforded us, and for the many hours of treasured fellowship we enjoyed. The converts and our visitors were special guests at a supper at the home of Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce Troxel on Friday evening, at the home of Bro. Bud and Sis. Billie Klopfenstein on Saturday night and at the church on Sunday night.

Bro. Ben Maibach told us of two young girls who answered the call of the Lord and turned away from their life of sin. They explained to their friends that they were no longer interested in their former sinful pursuits. Nevertheless they received an invitation to a party; they pondered over their answer and finally remembering the Scripture, "How shall we that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" wrote this note: "We cannot come. We are dead." If temptation beck-

ons to our young precious lambs, we pray that they too will find the grace to refuse the invitation.

Our winter residents have returned to their homes up north. We appreciate all the help and support they gave us while they were here through our busy winter season.

We enjoyed the program presented by our Sunday School on Easter. They told us through song and verse, of the cruel death and glorious resurrection, through which we gained our hope of salvation. We hope the simple words will leave a lasting impression on those tender hearts, that they may never forget, the true meaning of Easter.

We received many blessings from the messages delivered by Bro. Ervin Stoller and Bro. Phil Wingeier (Sarasota).

### FT. WAYNE

Pam Steffen — Eleanor Stieglitz

At the singing of the month, Bluffton was our host. We want to extend a special thank you to their choir for the meaning and beauty of the songs they shared with us. We have the promise that, Because He lives I can face tomorrow; because He lives all fear is gone; because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living, just because He lives.

Our Easter program combined singing, a chalk talk, and Bible verses. The children reminded us to "STOP" and tell what the good Lord's done for us. The Star, the Cross, the Stone, and the Cloud were presented as a chalk talk about Jesus' resurrection by Bro. Norman Stoller. His drawings were accompanied with Bible verses read by Sis. Marty Moser and songs by our adult choir. We felt the Lord's presence as Bro. Norman's picture developed through the Easter story.

We welcome Chris Pulver back, after his illness of rheumatic fever. Sis. Florence Pulver was a surgical patient at Parkview Hospital. Karen (daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Sharon) Pfister was ill with tonsillitis.

Our visiting ministers were Carl Kipfer (Bluffton), Ben Manz (Paulding), Elmer Hartter (Milford), and Jack Bollier (Leo). We thank them for their loving and strengthening words from the Lord.

As this is the time of the year when we especially honor our mothers, we would like to offer the following for your appreciation.

### A Mother's Beatitudes

Blessed is the mother who understands her child, for she shall inherit a kingdom of memories.

Blessed is the mother who knows how to comfort, for she shall possess a child's devotion.

Blessed is the mother who teaches respect, for she shall be respected

Blessed is the mother who treats her child as she would be treated, for her home shall be filled with happiness.

Blessed is the mother who answers simply the startling questions, for she shall always be trusted.

Blessed is the mother who has character strong enough to withstand the thoughtless remarks and resentments of the growing child, for in due time she shall be honored.

### GARDEN GROVE, IOWA Don Clark

The way of the Lord is mine to be. His strength passes the time for me.

Through faith I will walk the narrow way.  
Until that great and notable day. When He will come to take his bride away.

We have had many visitors in the past few weeks. We have enjoyed the fellowship that could be had with each one. We do thank God for the love of heart that all do share with us, and hope it will serve to strengthen the faith of all mankind.

### GIRARD Kathryn Emch

May is a month of planting. Jesus said, "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." Jesus gave us this story that we might understand that we must die unto sin in order to live the abundant

life in Him. We rejoice that He arose from the grave that we might have hope.

We were blessed by visits from Bro. Ben Hartzler, Bro. Paul Gasser and Bro. Rudolph Graf. We thank them for bringing God's word to us in rich measure.

Bro. Carl and Sis. Frieda Gasser are home again. They enjoyed a visit with their relatives and friends in the West.

Sis. Caroline Emch is now at home in Rittman. She is truly missed in our congregation.

### GOODFIELD Elna Grimm

One more mother home at last. Trials, gloom and woe are past; Joy and peace are hers.

Many years she toiled and prayed, For her heart on Him was stayed; Thus her strength was found.

For a while she helpless lay, Wondering why she had to stay, When she longed to go.

So she prayed, Thy will, not mine; Make Thy face on me to shine . . . And He heard her pray.

Now she's surely gone to rest; She's finished well her earthly quest, And rest, sweet rest is hers.

Sis. Fannie Witzig passed away on Friday April 13 in the Eureka Hospital, where she was a patient for a day and a half. Until then, she was in her home in Goodfield, where Sis. Hulda, her daughter, cared lovingly for her. Fannie had many, many very sick spells, and Hulda labored day and night to see that she was given the best of care.

Sis. Fannie is survived by three sons: Harry and Glenn, both from Normal, and John, from Pontiac . . . three daughters: Sis. Hulda, Goodfield; Sis. Francis Geiger, Eureka; and Mrs. Carl (Lydia) Lehmann, West Covina, Calif. Her funeral was Monday, April 16 at the church.

Bro. and Sis. Don and Peggy Heinold from Eureka had a baby girl, Cori Ann, on April 5. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Melvin and Mary Helen Heinold, R.R. Deer Creek, and Bro. and Sis. John and Dorothy Bittner, Eureka. Also on

April 5 a baby girl, Aimee Sue, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hofmann of Deer Creek. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hoffmann, Deer Creek, and Mrs. Clifford Wilhelm, Pekin. Great-grandparents are Mrs. Rose Hofmann, Morton, and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Debolt, Deer Creek.

A baby girl, Sarah Lea, was born to Bro. and Sis. Larry and Betty Bauman, RR Eureka, on April 30. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Lou and Norma Bauman, RR Eureka, and Bro. and Sis. Ezra and Velda Schlipf, Roanoke. Great-grandmother is Mrs. Silas Hodel, Roanoke.

Our hospital patients have been Sis. Gerry Plattner, Bro. Ernie Diggelman, and Friend Shirley Debolt (all at home again). Sis. Louise Teubel pinched her leg in a car door, and was confined to her home for a couple of weeks.

We were happy to have Bro. Ed Ringger (Gridley) with us on Good Friday Evening. After his message to us, he assisted Bro. Ed Hohulin in the serving of Holy Communion. Other visiting ministers this past month have been Bro. LeRoy Hartmann, Peoria; Bro. Henry Grimm, Morton; Bros. Walter Anliker and Vernon Leman, Eureka; and Bro. Cleo Rinckenberger, Pulaski.

We happily welcome Sis. Jan Bolliger Wiegand to our congregation. She was married to Bro. Roy Weigand on Sun. April 29.

### GRIDLEY, KANSAS Edna Somerhalder—Wilma Young

Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine; Lord, I will forever and always be Thine, For Thou hast created and purchased me too, Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou makest me new.

Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart assisted our Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker with the proving and baptisms of Rose Ann (Terry) Schesser and Julie Strahm, daughters of Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten. It was a blessed day with several visiting ministers: Roy Wernli, Al Langhofer and Samuel Huber.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Leona Kraft in the passing of Sis. Lizzie Remm, 91, the sister she has been caring for.

We're thankful to see Sis. Sarah Beyer back in our assembly, after an absence of 8 weeks. She returned from Tulsa, where she recuperated in her daughter, Mary Ann (Hoyt) McCurry's home. Other hospital patients are Sis. Dorene (Eldon) Metzger, due to a throat infection . . . Doris (Roy) Bahr, for tests and observation. Glad to report, both have been able to return to church.

We assembled with the Lamont congregation to hear the deliberations of the memorandum. May the Lord bless Elder Bros. Samuel Anliker and Raymond Banwart, who were willing to give their time to share the same.

Regular midweek services have been discontinued for the summer. In times like these . . . we need much spiritual food which shall be missed on midweek . . . also the fellowship with the Lamont congregation.

Graduates are: Debra Bahr, daughter of Sylvan and Helen (granddaughter of Sis. Lydia Bahr) is graduating from Emporia State Teachers College. High school graduates: Sis. Paula Bahr, daughter of Bro. Rudy and Sis. Eileen; Richard Beyer, son of Vernon and Rose Marie, grandson of Bro. Frank and Sis. Elizabeth Beyer; Philemon Strahm, son of Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten. Eighth-grade graduates: Vicki Beyer, daughter of Bro. Ivan and Sis. Ada; Roberta Rodgers, daughter of Robert and Mildred (granddaughter of Bro. Jacob Beyer), and Tina Strahm, daughter of Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten.

We share with Sis. Lena Strahm the joy that her son, Mathias has found it worthwhile to heed the call to repentance, and is awaiting the opportunity to give his testimony of faith. Mathias, his wife Dorothy, and their children, Jeannine, Michelle and Brett of Crystal Lake Ill visited here Easter week-end.

Goldie Johnson, Sis. Wilma Young's mother, surprised us by attending church, as she said, "I surprised myself." She has been a resident of the Golden Age the past four years, her health not permitting much going.

Are you changing your address? Send in ahead, letting know when to change. Send zip number.

### K. S. U.

Libby Meyer

We enjoyed our final picnic get-together for this semester at Tuttle Creek Dam. The earth is full of color here, after rains and sunshine.

Bros. Roy Wernli and Sam Huber were with us this past month. We want to thank all of those who served us faithfully this year, as well as all who attended our meetings.

Quite a number of our group are graduating this spring. We will sure miss those who do not plan to return next fall, but we hope and pray that God will bless them and lead them onward in His ways.

### LACROSSE

Gwen Bucher — Lorene Moser

Visiting ministers during the month of April were Harold Schmidgall, Gridley and Elmer Bucher, Francesville, on the 15th; Arnie Gerst, Chicago and Gene Lehman, Wolcott, on Easter. Ed Alt and Ezra Feller, Cissna Park, were here for Good Friday services and Bro. Ezra helped serve us Communion following services.

Sis. Sylvia Banwart is home again and assembling with us. Sis. Leona Heinold had surgery and is recuperating at home. Bro. Sam Frank is hospitalized. Our hearts and prayers are with Sis. Janet Hari and her husband, Daryl, from Cissna Park and her parents, Bro. Ray Heinolds. Janet was raised in our congregation and is hospitalized in Chicago.

**Be strong, and of good courage; dread not, nor be dismayed.**

In the common round of duty  
Lift thy heart in praise,  
For the Lord hath surely promised  
Strength for all thy days.

Sincere thanks to all for prayers, visits, cards and gifts while I was in the hospital and since returning home. Melva Bucher.

### LAMAR

Mrs. Art Banwart  
Mrs. Raymond Braker

Sis. Corrine and Bro. Dale Marti have announced the engagement of their daughter, Terri Lyn, to Jim Duncan, son of Robert and Lois Duncan. The engagement of Ted Frieden, son of Sis. Berneice and Bro. Virgil Frieden, was announced

to Debra Peters, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Peters.

Sis. Elizabeth (Lizzie) Remm departed this life for her eternal home April 9, at the age of 91. She is survived by two sisters, who cared tenderly for her in her last illness, and one brother. They are Sisters Carrie Lehman and Leona Kraft, and Henry Lehman. Bro. Sam Anliker and Lester Braker conducted the services. She had been in failing health and unable to attend church for some time. She will be missed by all of us who loved and knew her.

As we assembled on a beautiful Easter morning to hear anew of our risen Lord, we also heard the glad news of two of our young friends who have surrendered their lives to the Lord in repentance. They are Carol Braker, daughter of Sis. Bonnie and Bro. Leonard Braker, and Sandra Marti, daughter of Sis. Alice and Bro. Charles Marti. We wish them much grace in this new and serious step in their lives.

### LAMONT

Betty Wernli

And ye, the church's members,  
truly

Are folded in my heart's embrace!  
In Christ ye are my brethren duly;  
We share salvation through His  
grace.

We drink one cup; we break one  
bread;

One Saviour suffered in our stead.

As we did come together to break the bread and partake of the cup, this was truly our heart's feeling, that we might be always as one. Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart came and helped our Elder Bro. Sam to expound unto us the memorandum of the conference . . . does behoove us all to do better, for we can never do enough for Christ, who gave His all for us.

Bro. Al Langhofer spent a Sunday morning with us, and we could feel the Lord's presence in his message.

### LATTY

Connie Stoller — LeAnn Laukhuf

On April 6, Carol Plummer and Gordon Pried were united in marriage. Carol is the daughter of Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann. Sis. Elizabeth Kupfersmith and Bro. Oliver Span-



gler (Junction) were united in marriage on April 8.

We are happy to report that Dale Dunham has decided to surrender his heart to the Lord. He is the son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Laura. We're thankful that God's grace is sufficient for souls seeking their salvation.

On April 21-22, seven souls gave their testimonies of faith and were baptized. They were Mardel Stoller (Bro. Delmar and Sis. Marguerite), Carol Sinn (Bro. Carl and Sis. Tootie), Joyce Klopfenstein (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen), Tom Laukhuf (Bro. Ken and Sis. Marge), Karen Klopfenstein (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary), Diane Stoller (Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvene), and Betty Stoller (Bro. Dave and Sis. Irene). We were happy to have with us Elder Bros. Ed Frank and George Yergler from Lacrosse to share a very uplifting week-end.

Hospitalized were Bro. Bill Eisenman, Sis. Diana Stoller, and Stan Sinn. They have all returned home.

Latty completed its World Relief Sewing Project for the season on April 17.

#### LESTER

**Alice Metzger — Donna Metzger**

We were bound anew to the Lord when we were privileged to partake of the blest sacrament of communion. We are thankful that Elder Bro. Leroy Huber came and shared in this service with Elder Bro. Leo Moser. Bro. Walter Anliker accompanied Bro. Huber, and they both brought us messages for the good of our undying soul. Other ministers in our midst were Elder Bro. Herman Kellenberger and Bro. Noah Miller.

As Mother's Day is observed, our thoughts turn to the upright and sincere mothers who have done so much to influence our love of God and church. The older we get, the more we appreciate parents who took their responsibility as a duty to God. Do our children see in us the light we saw in our mothers?

We pray that the dear, young souls who graduate from high school will look to the Lord for guidance as each embarks upon a life in the adult world. This year's graduates are Jeryl Mogler (Bro. Phil and Sis. Lydia), Darlene Wulf (Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona), Pam Knobloch (Bro. Alfred and Sis.

Lucy), Karen Knobloch (Bro. Dale and Sis. Mary Ellen), Jack Metzger (Bro. Eli and Sis. Alice), Mike Metzger (Bro. Emil and Sis. Flora), Rosella Feucht (Ernie and Sis. Martha), Becky Leuthold (Bro. Paul and Sis. Betty Jean), Jenell Wulf (Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice), and Chuck Knobloch (Gilbert and late Sis. Joan). Sis. Gayle Knobloch and Sis. Joyce Mogler are graduating from vocational school and will soon enter into new positions in the work-world.

Hospital patients were all very young, and we are happy they are getting along fine. Jill Metzger, six-year-old daughter of Bro. Gene & Sis. Dolores, underwent corrective eye surgery. Jerome Knobloch, three-year-old son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Vera, was hospitalized for a bronchial problem. Wade Kellenberger, one-year-old son of Leroy and LuElla, was a medical patient.

Two dear, older sisters are taking therapy treatments. Sis. Lydia Knobloch is at Younker's Rehabilitation Center, Des Moines, because of partial paralysis due to a stroke. Sis. Rose Moser is at Sioux Valley Hospital, Sioux Falls, for treatment of her leg, which was broken in the car accident.

Ernie and Sharon Gerber have moved to Custer, South Dakota, where his business has taken him. We miss them and their three little tykes.

This extreme corner of Iowa was spared from the heavy snows and rains which plagued much of the state the past few weeks. Field work is progressively nicely, and we have had welcome rains.

Paul Moser, son of the late Chris and Sis. Emilie Moser, passed away unexpectedly. He was born in 1900 and was the oldest grandchild in the original Knobloch family. Thank you for cards, memorials, gifts of food and acts of kindness at the time of our bereavement. Mrs. Paul Moser and family, Mr. and Mrs. John Giesel, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Moser, Mr. and Mrs. Jule Moser, Mr and Mrs. Ed Moser, and Lee Moser.

#### MANSFIELD Aaron A. Sauder

"... and, lo, I am with you always..." What a wonderful promise at any time, but it was especially comforting to me when I underwent surgery. It was my first ex-

perience as a hospital patient, and the wonderful word of God was a constant source of strength during this period. I am indeed thankful to our Heavenly Father for His love and protection, and I also thank each one for their expressions of love in prayer, gifts, cards and visits. Aaron Sauder.

Others who also had hospital experiences were Bro. Dave Beer, Joe Sabo, Sis. Wilma Sauder (Robert) and Sis. Mary Sabo.

Our loving sympathy is extended to Bro. Donald Cordrey and family on the death of his mother, and to Carl Weiss and family on the death of his sister.

The Sunday School children presented their annual Easter program on Palm Sunday evening. It is truly a joy to watch the happiness in the faces of our youngsters, as they sing, exalting the Risen Saviour!

To our Mothers, we again give our love and thanks as we remember them on Mothers' Day.

#### MILFORD

**Sandee Price — Sue Schieler**

As dawn broke on Easter morning, many of our Sunday School children, members and friends attended a very impressive and inspirational sunrise service at our fellowship hall.

Steve and Marcy Haab were doubly blessed April 2, when twin daughters, Roberta Ann and Rebecca Sue, were born. Happy grandparents are Sis. Emma Furrer of Wolcott and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Esther Haab of our congregation.

Bro. Uriel Gehring worshipped with us on March 15, and we are thankful for the message Bro. Gehring brought to us.

Members and friends gathered for annual church cleaning and repair. When so many work together in love, much can be accomplished and many blessings received.

Bro. Henry Beer informs us that the third edition of *My Garden of Verse*, a book of spiritual and inspiring poems, is now completed and available by contacting him.

#### MINNEAPOLIS

**Kathryn Olson — Karen Metzger**

We enjoyed the visit of Ministering Bro. Duane Metzger from West Bend. We are thankful for

brethren who put forth their efforts to bring us the true word.

. . . was nice to have Sis. Sophie Sigaphara assemble with us Easter. It has been a long time since she has been able to attend church. She is convalescing at the Fridley Nursing Home.

John and Barbara Olson are parents of a new baby girl, Lynn Terese, born April 2. She is welcomed home by Daniel and Kristine.

Patience, love, and understanding  
Are some things we humans need—  
These would solve so many  
problems  
Caused by bitterness and greed.

Love would help us work together,  
Patience, help us understand,  
And by understanding others  
We could then work hand and hand.

#### MORRIS

Ann Meiss — Esther Schafer

"Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing." We did cheerfully praise the Lord with our brethren. Thirty-nine brothers and sisters and friends in the ages of 15 through 75 years boarded a bus on the Gridley churchgrounds early on the morning of April 7, to travel the many miles to worship with us on Sat. evening, and Sun. April 8. We so much enjoyed the singing of the men's group and the choir. We joined them in one accord to praise our God on High. Bro. Vernon Lehman of Eureka and Bro. Elmer Witzig expounded God's word unto us. Tears rolled down the cheeks of many faces as we sang, "Blest Be the tie that Binds," just before their departure at 4:30 Sunday afternoon, to return to Gridley.

We gathered with our Sunday School children on Wed. evening April 18 at our House of Worship. Our Lord's suffering, death and resurrection was made real unto us through word and song. We love to hear our children express their love for Him; we hope it will be an everlasting blessing unto us all.

Our Easter worship was blest with the presence of many visitors, and especially were we thankful to have Bro. Robert Pohl of Burlington Iowa with us. Together we went to the empty tomb and rejoiced to find that our Lord had risen as He said He would.

Bro. Dennis Schmidgall narrowly escaped with his life on March 30, when he was injured in a farm accident. He suffered the loss of his right arm just below the elbow and several fingers on his left hand. He was taken from the Morris Hospital to one in Willmar, where he spent about three weeks. He is able to be home again, and altho' he still suffers much pain, he is improving miraculously. . . We wish to thank everyone for their many deeds of kindness and prayers expressed for us while Dennis was in the hospital and at home. Bro. Dennis and Sis. Ruby Schmidgall.

Our friend George Luthi has been transferred from Willman to the Morris Hospital, where he remains in a weakened condition. He has expressed a desire to seek His Lord in repentance. Our friend, Gerald Fuechtenberger (son of Bro. Joe and Sis. Emma) and his wife Karen have surrendered their hearts to the Lord, and also Doris Koehl (daughter of Bro. Werd and Sis. Lillian).

Michael, the small son of Bro. Lyle and Sis. Marilyn Zeltwanger is recovering, after having corrective surgery on his eyes. Bro. Carl and Sis. Helen Joos were shocked to hear that their daughter, Rhonda's husband, Michael Asmus, had been injured in a car accident. After spending a week in the hospital, he is again at home.

A daughter, Laurie Lyn was born on Easter Sunday to Aldean and Charlotte Luthi. Albert and Myrtle Luthi and Virgil and Mildred Sauder are the grandparents.

We welcome Bro. Lyle and Sis. Irene Rich to our congregation, as well as Eleanor Popkes and her children, who live near each other in the Alexandria resort area. Bro. Noah Anliker of West Bend has been staying with his daughter, Irene Rick, and we are happy to have him assemble with us.

The 6th Annual Ft. Sam Reunion for GI's and their families with ETS between Jan. 1, 1967 and Jan. 1, 1970 will be held at Morris on Labor Day week-end Sept. 1 and 2. All GI's are cordially invited to attend. Hosts are Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Nohl Jr. and Bro. and Sis. Neil Schmidgall.

**Moving?** Write . . . Let know both new and old addresses.

#### NEW MARTINSVILLE

Mrs. Gus Weltz  
Miss Della Witschey

We are still having rain, after several weeks of rainfall. Very few crops have been planted because of the wet ground, with a heavy freeze on April 12 and three inches of snow . . . the fruit crop is heavily damaged.

The annual all-day meeting at the country church will be held on Sunday, June 24, beginning with a song service at eleven o'clock and lunch served at noon. The afternoon service will begin at one o'clock, with visiting ministers with us for the day.

Mrs. Elizabeth McGuier, niece of Miss Della Witschey, is quite ill at her home in Washington, Pa., and will likely have surgery within a few weeks. Everett Schupbach of Hannibal, O., is a patient in the local hospital and is quite ill. Elza Ritz was a patient in the local hospital on April 5-10, with a touch of pneumonia.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Barth of Parkersburg have returned from their winter stay in Florida and spent April 22 and 29 with the Barth Families.

Miss Jessie Hassig of Akron visited with relatives during April.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade attended the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams in Akron on April 15.

Mrs. L. W. Witschey and son, Paul and daughter, Thelma of Moundsville visited with Miss Della Witschey on April 22.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams of Akron, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Williams and family of Bradenton, Florida, were the guests of the Barth families on Good Friday.

Mrs. Edna Hart and son Jack of Brownsville, Pa., were the guests of her brother, Gus Weltz, and family on April 18.

#### PEORIA

Emily Tanner  
Mrs. Michael Weyeneth

Sis. Martha Peters gave me the following in memory of her dear mother, Sis. Bertha Peters. As my mother was awake in the night, the words of this song came to her, which they sang when she lived in Switzerland; she mentioned it in the morning, said, "If I am able, I will sing it tonight." She did.

I am awaiting the Master  
 He will call me by name,  
 And let me view Heaven's splendor,  
 The many, many that went on  
 before . . .  
 Come, and lead me by the hand,  
 Take me onward to Father's House.

The next day she had a stroke, soon went into a coma, and died on Easter morning April 2, 1972. (Martha told me this is something they did every evening, sing hymns together.) Precious memories!

The April Hymn Sing was enjoyed at the Fellowship Hall on a Saturday night. A group of Bluffton brethren spent the week-end in Peoria. The hymns selected and sung by the Bluffton Choir were very inspiring, and blessed fellowship was experienced. We thank all who came, and appreciated having Bro. Orville Ringger proclaim the word to our congregation on Sunday morning. In the afternoon we had the privilege to sit under the sound of God's holy word while Bro. Ben Hartzler from Rittman had the services. A very blessed day. The last Sunday in April, Bros. Jim Leman and Joe Kaisner lent themselves to proclaiming the gospel messages.

On Palm Sunday, our ministers and elders so graciously served Communion to us. We're very thankful to God this was again granted us, to partake of this holy rite. In the evening, our Sunday School classes presented the Easter story of Christ's crucifixion, death and resurrection, in readings, verse and song. We really appreciate the efforts the teachers and Sunday School Classes took to present this.

Two more dear friends have repented and are awaiting baptism, Mrs. Sara (Getz) House and Sherri Robbins. We're so happy for both of these dear souls . . . Sara is blind and up in years, so glad she could see the Light, and Sherri was not raised in our faith, but we've thankful she saw an example in a friend of hers, who is a sister-in-faith, was interested in her soul's salvation, and has found a place of worship with us.

The engagement of Sis. Connie Lynn Menold, daughter of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Marie Menold, and Bro. David Willam Hoerr III, son of David Jr. and Sis. Hattie Hoerr, was announced to our congregation. Bro. George and Sis.

Joan Koehl announced the engagement of their daughter, Beth Ann, to Gerald L. Fabish of Normal, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Williams of Peoria. Announcement was made of the engagement of Barbara Schwendenman by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schwendenman, to Ronald Rocke, son of Mr. Norman and Sis. Emma Rocke.

Married on April 8 at the Apostolic Christian Fellowship Hall were Ann Kathryn Unsicker and James Ray Kellenberger. Parents of the couple are Bro. Leslie and Sis. Eunice Unsicker and Mr. and Mrs. Gene Kellenberger of Sabetha. The couple will reside in Normal.

Married April 21 were Laura Ann Stranz and Michael D. Schmied. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Lewis W. Stranz of Elmwood and Sis. Louise Schmied of East Peoria, and the late Jesse Schmied

Bro. Harold Koehl is a hospital patient.

Our sympathy to Sis. Verna and Bro. Clarence Schurter. Sis. Ver'na's mother, Sis. Lula (Mrs. Ben) Zimmerman, died April 29.

#### PHOENIX Mrs. Allan Freed

Many good teachings were left us by ministering Bro. Al Langhofer of Wichita. Bro. Al and Sis. Judy came here to meet their son, Eric, who had returned from Thailand where he was stationed with the Air Force.

We miss our son, Bro. Tom Freed, who is attending Lincoln Technical School in Indianapolis.

We are thankful that Bro. Carl Blumenschein's hospital stay had taken him over another hump in his continuing battle with emphysema. Carl has made the remark that he has to work harder just to breathe than most men do on their jobs, so we know he is grateful for every bit of relief that is available.

Bro. Ron Hoerr was a hospital patient for eye surgery and is able to be back at work again. Our dear Sis. Emma Moser is hospitalized, after breaking her hip in a fall. She seems to be doing well, considering she has a severe arthritic condition.

We were happy that Drenda Turner was able to assemble with us one Sunday, on a pass from Veteran's Hospital, where she remains a patient.

We are looking forward, the Lord willing, to hearing the testimony of June Tooley, who was announced as having peace with God.

Bro. Clarence and Sis. Gerry Beyer were surprised at a 25th anniversary reception, on the eve of April 22, at the home of Bro. Clarence and Sis. Vera Yackley.

#### PORTLAND Art and Betty Metz

We were blessed with lovely weather, as we gathered together April 28 to clean the church and to work on the yard and flower beds. In the duties pertaining to the physical needs of the church, as in the spiritual, it is a joy when brethren can work in harmony and unity.

Friends Ted and Elsie Dreyer and family of Mulino have lost their home in a fire. Elsie is the daughter of Bro. Ray and Sis. Margaret Banwart. They are living in a mobile home until they can rebuild. Trusting in the Lord, He does provide for our needs.

Friend Ernie Affolter was laid to rest Wed. April 25, after suffering a heart attack. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Laura and family.

As summer is approaching, we are looking forward to visiting brethren and friends from the various churches. We invite any who would be traveling in the west to visit our Portland congregation, and to call Ministering Bro. Robert and Sis. Pearl Miller (771-7834), or Ministering Bro. Garth and Sis. Connie Steffen (761-4531) for information or assistance. Our church is located on 7447 SE. Holgate. Services begin at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, and 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

#### PRINCEVILLE Ruth Ricketts

"Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations . . ."

One Sunday, Bro. Joe Schrock of Congerville spent the day with us. Many were the afflictions of Paul, yet by the grace of God he could endure, and knew by the undeserved gift of divine power he could endure.

On the morning of April 15 the



pleasant announcement of the engagement of Sis. Connie Menold, daughter of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Marie, and Bro. David Hoerr III, son of David II and Sis. Hattie of Peoria, was made known to the congregation.

Bro. Joshua Broquard visited on Palm Sunday. Following regular services, a goodly number of members remained and in all quietness and solemnity partook of the Lord's Supper. We were reminded how this was a command for all members. How privileged we are to be able to share with one another, and by so doing show we are looking forward to the Lord's return.

At the close of the service, Bro. Dave Kieser spoke a few words of appreciation etc., and then told the sad news of the death of Levi Koelling of Bradford. Funeral services for Levi were held in our church, where he used to worship with his parents. His family now attend Bradford church, as they live in that community.

Bro. Jim Ringger spoke kindly words. He said, we are not gathered to speak to Levi, but to the mourning family and friends. He was well liked by all who knew him, and was one the family looked for advice since the death of his parents. Bros. Dave Kieser, LeRoy Ehnle and Joe Stoller also took part. Levi was laid to rest in our church cemetery near the graves of his parents, that of his mother only four months old. His survivors include his wife, Mary, two sons, Victor who is with the US Air Force in Taiwan (home in time for the funeral); and Albert, at home; three daughters, Dorothy of Dixon, and Rosemary and Martha, who is a little girl especially close to her daddy . . . four brothers, Carl, Samuel, Daniel and Frank; five sisters, Hulda Koelling, Lillian Miller, Esther Graham, Clara Reed and Frances Mlekowski.

The last Sunday in April we were blessed with young Bible Class folks, their teachers and Bro. Ed Alt, who came by bus to spend the day with us. Bro. Harvey Grimm was with us to share the blessed day. The Easter story was reviewed, and many touching and heart warming thoughts brought out. Indeed we have pleasant memories and treasure this day.

Many came in the evening to share in the inspirational program of the Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship, presented by the young people of Cissna Park, Normal, Fairbury, Forrest, Gridley, Peoria, Princeville and Bradford young folks. The Lord must surely be pleased when He looks down to see so many young folks, who spent an evening in praising Him with song and harmony.

Mr and Mrs. Cleon Streitmatter are rejoicing over the birth of their first child, a son, Gregory James, born April 5. His happy grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Anna Streitmatter. Grandparents also, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Pearson of Peoria, and great-grandmother, Sis. Frieda Streitmatter.

Bro. Silas Leuthold received a good report when he made a trip to Mayo's. His knee is steadily improving from surgery, and he has laid aside his crutch that he used for so long. We are thankful he can be with us.

We regret that Bro. Will Huber isn't so strong and not able to worship as he used to. Sis. Ida, too, hasn't been so well, and for a time was unable to feed herself, but that has improved to a degree and she can now help herself somewhat. We admire those like these two who accept their lot and look to the end.

Sister Frieda Streitmatter, who resides at the home in Eureka, spent the day with us. As I talked with her, she said how grateful she was for all the cards sent her for Easter, and she sincerely thanks everyone who remembered her. Have you sent a card or called on a shut-in lately? Only a few minutes with someone, who cannot come and go as we, appreciates it so much, and we find it rewarding and uplifting for ourselves.

Sis. Lydia Feucht hasn't been feeling so well, but was able to come to church recently. Sis. Pauline Knobloch spent some time in the hospital, but is now in her room at the A. C. Home in Peoria. Bro. Chris Elsasser, who has been in the hospital the past several weeks following a stroke, is now receiving therapy treatments.

Emanuel Streitmatter is able to be about again and has worshipped with us a few times following a stroke. We are so glad he is improving.

## PURDUE

Kris Leman

Milford hosted our Easter services on April 11. Bros. Walt Steffen and Elmer Hartter brought the real meaning of Easter and left with us a question to ponder—If we had a chance to talk face to face with Jesus, what would be our first words?

A pot-luck supper was held April 24 to honor our graduating seniors: Charlie Baumgartner, Sam Habegger, Ken Manz, Mike Rinkenberger, Mick Culp, Lois Kipfer, Bev Kipfer, Faye Gerber, Joni Gutwein, Linda Pfladderer, and Lynell Bahler. A diploma folder was presented to each by Bro. Edwin Bahler, with this verse enclosed: **Be strong and work; for I am with you saith the Lord of hosts.**

To close this semester's church services, Bluffton was our host on April 25. We want to take this opportunity to thank our ministers, parents, visitors and everyone that had a part in making our mid-week services a special blessing to each of us. Bro. Carl Kipfer closed our meeting with these words which seem so fitting, as some part and we know not what lies ahead: "May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all."

## REMINGTON

Anna M. Waibel

A group from Tremont and others were with us . . . always enjoy visitors from other congregations.

. . . Hope and trust all of our sick will be up and about soon. They are Melanie Knochel (surgical), daughter of Bro. Al and Sis. Evelyn, Sis. Velma (Loren) Wilson, Sis. Beverly (Terry) Miller.

Lilly Bahler, daughter of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois, and Sharon Leman, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Edna, were announced to be proved in the near future.

A large congregation gathered to hear the Sunday School Easter program on Good Friday.

Our prayers and sympathy goes out to all at Quincy, Ill., or wherever the people live who are in the flood and storm areas, especially the parents of Vicki Sutter (Roger Steffen), where the first floor is full of water. We hear and read of these things, but really cannot even imagine what it means until it strikes someone we know.

### The Beautiful Gift

What can a mother give her children

Greater today than this one great thing,

Faith in an old, sweet, beautiful story,

A star, a stable, a new-born king?

Carry it high like a lamp in the darkness,

Hold it for warmth when the day is cold—

Keep it for joy when youth goes singing.

Clasp it for peace when you are old.

What can a mother give her children

More than a faith that will not dim?

Take it, my dear ones—hold it forever:

A lamp for a lifetime—faith in Him.

#### RITTMAN

##### Florence Hartzler

A very blessed week-end was enjoyed by all as eight new lambs were added to the fold. They are now brothers and sisters in Christ: Vic and Jerry Bauman, Bob Dotterer, Matt Steiner, Gail Gasser, Connie Hartzler, Sandra Ramsier, Martha Dysinger . . . "Glory be to God in heaven, praise to Christ, our Saviour great. By the power of Thy Spirit a new man Thou didst create. Angels see in joyous rapture God's own word in deed fulfilled, And amid our glad embraces is this child of God revealed!"

We want to thank Bro. Eugene Fetter for bringing us the word of Life. We never grow tired of hearing of God's love which was sent us through His Son, who gave His life that we might have life eternal.

It seems that the waters are truly troubled, as two more friends are seeking their Lord in repentance. We are so happy Mark and Sue Steiner have need for something greater in their lives, such as taking Jesus with them as the third Guest in their home. Parents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Eldora Steiner and Bro. Jim and Sis. Dorothy Ramsier.

Little Dean Arthur Ramsier, infant son of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Terry, spent a few days in Chil-

dren's Hospital at Akron. Sis. Elda Indermuhle is able to be around again, following recovery from a knee injury. Sis. Margaret Marty, Bro. Noah Bauman, Sis. Dorothy Zollinger, Russell Mathys, and Bernie Hilty all required hospital care . . . "Then as a child draw nigh; He hears your every sigh; you shall not leave His face without His blessed grace."

Jim Laukhuf, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Catherine, is stationed at Ft. Bliss for a few weeks. His address is Pvt. James A. Laukhuf 276 50 1944, A-4-1 (AD) Class 1073, Ft. Bliss Texas 79916. He also wants to thank everyone for the getwell cards and gifts he received while in the hospital and at home, and for remembering him with cards on his birthday.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Ralph and Sis. Ellen Weber and Frank and Marjorie Weber, at the passing away of their father, Solomon Weber. Funeral services were in Woodsville.

"Love of all gifts is the greatest which the Spirit does bestow . . ." Two engagements were announced. Bro. Terry Young, son of Bill and Sis. Donna, to Sis. Peggy Stoller, daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Rosetta of Forrest. Bro. Bruce Maibach, son of Bro. Alph and Sis. Helen, to Sis. Lois Schlatter, daughter of Sis. Esther of Junction.

Are we living in the last times? It seems like the 21st chapter of St. Luke is being fulfilled, especially from the 25th verse on, where our Lord said there shall be signs in the sun, moon, and stars, distress of nations with perplexity, sea and waves roaring, men's hearts failing for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth; and in the last verses He tells us to watch and pray, that the day of the Lord will not catch you unawares. This certainly gives us a lot of work to do, for it takes work to watch at all times, praying faithfully. Let us be up and doing!

#### ROANOKE

##### Doris Mangold — Erma Moser

Most of all the other beautiful things in life come by twos and threes, by dozens and hundreds. Plenty of roses, stars, sunsets, rainbows, brothers and sisters, aunts and cousins, but only one

mother in the whole world.

Our sympathy goes to Josephine Beer Lambert, whose husband, Ed, passed away unexpectedly on March 30. Funeral services were held the following Monday.

Bro. David and Sis. Ann Hodel have returned from Rochester Minn., where they have been for three weeks. "Happy" underwent hip surgery and is recovering satisfactorily. We are happy to see them in church with us again. **Thank you:** We wish to express our sincere thanks to everyone who remembered us with cards, gifts, prayers during the time spent at the hospital and since returning home. Happy and Anna Hodel.

Sis. Anna Heiligenstein fell in the basement of her home and broke her hip. She is now in the Eureka Hospital and is getting along nicely. Sis. Lena Martin has returned from the hospital and is living with her son, Bro. and Sis. Lyle Martin in LaSalle, Ill. She has been able to again assemble with us on Sundays.

On Palm Sunday, Elder Bro. Al Fisher, Chicago, spent the day with us and helped with the Blessed Sacrament of Holy Communion. We enjoyed a wonderful day.

On Wednesday evening, our Bible Class participated by singing at the Eureka Sunday School Easter program. Many from here enjoyed the evening.

On Sunday, April 22, Bro. Lenzie Meyer of Chicago spent the day with us. We enjoyed hearing his inspiring messages. Elder Bro. LeRoy Huber and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall from Eureka and many Eureka brethren spent Wednesday evening here in worship and fellowship, which was enjoyed by all.

On Sunday, 29th, we spent a blessed day, hearing the word of God by Bro. Elmer Bucher of Francesville. After services, a group of brothers sang several songs (and also the Gospels). All were from Francesville. Following the program, we all partook of the annual church supper. It was indeed a rewarding day. Wednesday evening we were pleasantly surprised to hear Bro. George Yergler's inspiring message.

The engagement of John Diggle and Kathleen Nichols of Northbrook, Illinois was made known by Bro. John and Sis. Sara Diggle. A July wedding is planned.

**ROCKVILLE****Carlton J. Lanz**

There is reason for happiness in a Christian home, when a child, son or daughter comes to the bedside of their parents at a late hour at night and says, "Mom and dad I want to repent!" I can think of nothing more touching for parents to receive than a message of this kind. This is good news! It gives one a sense of good feeling and moves us with compassion and love, when our dear friends come to this point in making this decision.

It has been often said that the turning away from a wretched life in the past is one of the great miracles of our time; this must be considered so indeed, for the Scriptures bear this out, where it tells us that the angels of God observe this and rejoice if but one sinner repents. In his sermon here at Rockville, Bro. Arthur Gudeman emphasized this, when he told the congregation that any position or office held in this land, high as one may be considered to be, cannot be compared with that of a newly-converted Christian's standing. There are several in this community who are moving in this direction. This confirms our faith that God still hears prayers and is calling the sinner.

The church enjoyed a very blessed Sunday with the visiting brethren, Elder Edward Frank and Bro. Art Gudeman, who came to be present from LaCrosse at the testimony and baptism of our dear friend, Erva Jean Luginbuhl. Her parents are Bro. Ervin and Sis. Viola (Vi) Luginbuhl. The evening following was devoted entirely in the commemorating of the Lord's Supper, a reminder of His bitter agony and sufferings for the atonement of man's salvation. The attendance was gratifyingly large.

On the 4th of the month a little girl, Lori Ann, was born to Bro. Paul and Sis. Roberta Foote. They have two other small children, Paul Jr. and Rosalie. Also born this week to Bro. Chester and Sis. Pamela (Pam) Luginbuhl, a son, Jeffrie Lee. They, too, have a couple other small children, Carl and Chad.

We are again in the time when we can see how perfectly creation has been designed. Everything moves with such precision. Anywhere one turns he sees the beauti-

ful spring at work. Buds are bursting, grass and lawns are showing life, getting greener by the day. We thank God our eyes are able to appreciate these wonders, and for the mind He gave us to understand what we have here.

**SABETHA****Mrs. Joe Steiner**

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." Bro. Lester Hartter assisted Bro. Gene Marti in serving us the Lord's Supper.

Bern and Sabetha congregations assembled together here in Sabetha for Good Friday services.

Our Sunday evening song service started again on Easter, at the Bern church. They will be held every two weeks, alternating between Bern and Sabetha. They begin at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome. Midweek services are now discontinued for the rest of the year. They will resume at the beginning of the year.

Carl and Sharon Strahm are the parents of a son, born April 17. He has been named Troy Allen. He is welcomed by a brother, Thomas Jay, 2½, years old. We are thankful that Carl and Sharon have given their hearts to the Lord and are waiting for that day when they can bring their testimonies before the congregation.

Sis. Irene Griggs, 83, of Salina, Kansas, passed away April 22 in a Salina rest home, where she had been since September 1968. Funeral services were held in Sabetha on April 25, with Bro. Carl Hartman and Bro. Joe Aberle conducting the services. Survivors include two sons: Eugene Griggs, Salina, and Wyman Griggs, Topeka. Burial was made in the Sabetha Cemetery.

We sympathize with Bro. Aaron and Sis. Hulda Moser on the death of their granddaughter, Sheila Strahm, who passed away May 1 after a lengthy illness.

**SARASOTA****Phil Wingeier**

The Easter season is again past: It always reminds us of our risen Lord. We can all feel assured that He lives, and if we do the Father's will, we can likewise live.

The month of April is indeed interesting, when the trees and fields

again begin to show forth there is life.

The Sarasota congregation wants to express their sincere thanks to Bro. Darrel Klopffenstein of Ft. Lauderdale for bringing the good gospel unto them, one Sunday in April. Elder Bro. John Bahler with Bro. Harry Sutter visited in and around Sarasota one day in April.

We thank them and may God richly bless them.

Our building committee is fast at work planning and making arrangements for our new church here. Hopefully, we will be able to write more about this in our next issue of the *Silver Lining*.

**SHIODA, JAPAN****Willis R. Ehnlé**

I ate supper with several men from my company. They asked me different questions which led from one to another, among which was the question, "How do you know when you repent?" I told them that you must first feel and understand that you are a sinner, and then when you are determined to repent and believe on Christ, you must tell someone. This is followed by confession of sins to a responsible person in the church, restitution for wrongs and baptism. When this happens you know you have repented, and you then pray every day and have a wonderful life, knowing that you have been made clean, because Christ paid for your sins.

I was told that my explanation of repentance was exactly the same as that of Junko Hatsuomi, a sister in our church who worked for this same company at one time. It is a great joy to know that our testimonies agree when someone "asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you . . ." I Peter 3:15

On April 10, I was sitting in the lobby of a large building in Tokyo, waiting to see someone, when I heard a loud noise that sounded like a muffled explosion. I turned my head to see a man wearing laborer's clothing, reeling away from the glass wall separating the entrance area from the lobby. Several persons were coming to help support him and to take him away for first aid treatment. They were trying to figure out that he must have had a problem with the automatic glass doors, but I had noticed a spot on the glass wall beside the



doors where the man's head struck as he rushed into the building and headed for the lobby, without noticing that he was headed directly for a solid wall of glass which was spotlessly clean.

I thought how much this is like our spiritual lives; we are in danger of rushing right into a very dangerous situation without even knowing it exists. It sends us reeling, and if there is not a brother or sister there to catch us it may prove fatal. "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."

We are in need of a teacher for our elementary or kindergarten for this fall. Our church and home is in a beautiful grape and peach-growing area of Japan, just 45 minutes by auto from Mt. Fuji. The teachers apartment has running water, a shower, and modern conveniences. Teacher or not, if you have the faith to come, see your elder and write to Bro. Ben Maibach. 14726 Fox Rd., Detroit Mich 48239.

The Bro. Dale Hunziker family of Peoria visited us over Easter, and we had a very blessed time. See them for a report on Japan.

#### SILVERTON Judith Knecht

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

Following services on April 22, Easter, the Sunday School sang hymns of praise to our great God and recited pieces from memory. May the true meaning of Easter be deeply impressed on the hearts of our dear children.

As vacation season draws near, we wish to extend an invitation to all coming west to visit our church at Silverton. Sunday services begin at 10:30 a.m. (DST), and 1:00 p.m. (DST) . . . Wed evening—7:30 pm. (DST). You may contact Sis. Margaret Werner, S. Water St., Silverton. Phone, 503-873-6546; Bro. LeRoy and Florence Leman, RR 1, Silverton, Ph. 503-873-6416; Bro. Clarence and Sis. Mildred Dietrich, R.3. Box 141B, Silverton, Ph. 503-873-2582; or Bro. Ed and Sis. Judie Knecht, R 1 Box 241, Mulino, Ph. 503-632-3570.

#### TAMAHATA

##### Akito and Marie Inoue

When the Lord talked with the disciples after His resurrection, they felt their hearts burn within them as the Scriptures were expounded unto them. So may our hearts and minds be stirred with new zeal to serve our Lord better, each time His word is explained and taught to us in the House of Prayer or in our homes. We were reminded of the blood shed for our sins and the plan of salvation that was completed in the resurrection. A message reminded us recently that we have not done our duty each day until we have thanked the Lord for the sacrifice and atonement He accomplished for us.

Our singing was held at Sis. Tamino Inoue's home. We always enjoy a blessing in singing together. This was our first opportunity to meet Sis. Betsy Erickson, who came to Shioda to teach in the schools. Betsy has not had much formal teacher training, but is willing to learn and be used wherever needed, which is one of the prerequisites for her position. She is formerly of our Rockville assembly.

While Bro. Dale and Sis. Barbara Hunzicker and daughters, Sis. Chris and Sue (Peoria) were in the Tokyo-Yokohama area, we enjoyed an evening of fellowship with them. Bro. Dale spent some time in Japan when he was in the service, and wanted to share some memories with his family.

The Lord willing, the writers of this column and Bro. Toru Saegusa of our assembly plan to visit our family in the States this summer. We hope to visit several churches also and are looking forward to our trip with joy.

#### TAYLOR

##### Elizabeth Sutter—Marie Butikofer

On Palm Sunday, the children gave their Easter Program. It is inspiring to hear the children tell of the wonderful event of our risen Lord. May we often think all through the year how our Lord suffered and arose so that some day we, too, will arise to be with Him. We appreciated the time and efforts our teachers put forth.

That same Sunday, Bro. Kenny Dietz visited. We are always glad to have Bro. Kenny minister to us God's precious word.

Quincy has many dogwood trees

bursting in bloom at present. It is a beautiful sight.

Looking across the river, our hearts are saddened by the flood. On Easter, we had services only in the morning, because many of the men were working on the levees. After the services, everyone who was able helped either at the levee or helped people move out. Monday was also spent on the levees and helping people move. By Tuesday, most of the bottom ground east of Taylor was flooded.

We should pray for those who are suffering such a terrible loss. Only when the water goes down will we see the extent of the destruction. It is the biggest flood this part of the country has ever experienced.

On Friday, April 27, Jody Sutter and Danny Meyers were married. Bro. Dick and Sis. Charlene Sutter and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Meyers are their parents. Bro. Roy Grimm performed the marriage.

Bro. Albert Wuthrich from Pulaski ministered to us on April 29. We appreciate his willingness to serve us.

#### TOLEDO Lydia Meister

O, Lord Thou livest for us now,  
Our Lord and Jesus Christ art thou.

This precious promise was impressed upon our hearts at our Easter service. The beauty of our Lord's resurrection is ever with us, but Easter brings a renewal of all Christ has done for us through His sacrificial death and Victory over it.

The Easter Program in poem and song brought forth the Lord's deep love for all mankind. Visitors from the Detroit Church were with us, which added to our pleasure. Thank you, Detroiters; come again.

April 1. Elder Bros. Ben Maibach and Joe Waibel were with us to hold Communion Service. They reminded us of the privilege and duties of being children of the most high God. It is the priceless jewel—the precious possession! May we with our Lord's grace hold it fast!

Sis. Emma Schick is home, convalescing. Sis. Chloris Burkholder gains in strength each day.

The B.J. Zieglers are back, af-

ter a winter's stay in Florida. Their coming back to us is one of the joys of spring.

#### TREMONT

Mary Jane Leuthold  
Lydia Rassi

Our dear sister, Lizzie Dill, passed away at her home April 5. How her husband, Brother Henry, and her family mourned their loss, but they can all see how much better it is over the river, and will now strive to meet her there. Her children are Henry Jr.; sisters, Wilma (Floyd) Bliss, and Margaret (Adam) Maurer, and Brothers Glenn and Ken Dill. Services were held Sunday April 8, and as was brought out in the afternoon services, one servant has gone to her rest, and Gary Post was received into our fold that day to fill her vacant place.

Bros. Steve Rinkenberger, Cissna; Harold Zeltwanger, Bremen; Nathan Steffen, Elgin; and Willis Weigand, Goodfield shared the word of God with us. We thank them for their visits and would invite them back soon.

Sarah Kay arrived in the home of Bro. Dick and Sis. Ann Steiner April 9. Jeff, David and Ruth Ann are also sharing in the joy of a new baby.

We extend our sympathy to Bro. Les and Sis. Wilma Pulver in the loss of her mother, Sis. Martha Wettstein of Eureka. We also extend our sympathy to the Bill Carius family in the sudden death of Dr. Leonard Becker, husband of Anna Lou Carius Becker. When our life span is to the end, feeble man can only stand helplessly by and watch God's plan fulfilled. Then let us make sure that when this time comes for us, what we have accomplished here on earth is for our spiritual welfare.

Sis. Lena Knapp was hospitalized and is now home, awaiting an opening in Indianapolis for further treatment. Donnie Kaiser, son of Bro. Mel and Sis. Marlene, had the misfortune of getting his hand in a mower, and had to have some skin grafting done.

Richard Woerner, son of Bro. Chris and Sis. Wilhelmina, was married April 14 in Columbus, to Susan Papp of Cleveland.

We held our Easter program the 15th of April, and we are always eager to hear our youth tell of our

crucified and risen Lord. Might we even be as our little children, humble, innocent and willing to do the will of our Lord.

We welcome Bro. Bill and Sis. Marilyn Huette and family into our midst.

Bro. Roy Weigand, son of Bro. Willis and Sis. Betty of Goodfield, and Sis. Jan Bolliger, daughter of Bro. Harlan and Sis. Caroline, were united in marriage April 29.

Thank-you notes: We wish to humbly thank all for the prayers, food, cards and the many acts and deeds of love and kindness shown unto us in the loss of our loved one. The family of Lizzie Dill . . . We wish to express our thanks to our many friends and relatives for the gifts, cards and food that were sent while my stay at the hospital and my convalescing at home, also the ministers that came to see me and the many prayers. Bro. George and Sis. Lena Woerner.

#### TUCSON

Mrs. Loren Knapp

After all the intense rains we had this last winter, we now have beautiful warm, clear days, bringing a sudden beauty to the desert, never seen before by many. I recently came across this poem which seems appropriate:

Rain, rain beating against the pane.  
How endlessly it pours, out of the doors

From the blackened sky; I wonder why!

Flowers, flowers, upspringing after showers,  
Blossoming fresh and fair, everywhere!

Ah, God has explained why it rained!

The sudden changes in temperatures lately has put a couple of our loved ones in the hospital for a short time. Bro. Jack Sutter is now home, feeling much better, and Friend Grace Haller was also able to return to her home. The Lord is always near us to strengthen us both physically and spiritually, when we ask for His help.

On April 4, we again enjoyed the monthly potluck and fellowship, along with many visiting brethren and friends.

Bro. Henry Schrenks have moved to a new location. Their

new address is 4820 N. Harding Ave., Tucson 85704.

Our friend, Mike Stickling was called to serve his country. He will complete his basic training and continue on to Ft. Benning, Georgia, and plans to finish his duty in the Army National Guard Reserve, sometime in July or August. Mike is the son of Sis. Mildred Stickling. We miss him in our congregation. His address is: Pvt. Michael Stickling 482-56-8430, Co. D, 8th Bn., 2nd Bct. Bde., 3rd Platoon, Ft Jackson, South Carolina 29207.

Change of Mid-week Worship-Time: From Thurs. 7:30 PM, to Wed. 7:30 P.M.

#### UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY

Karen Martin

The East is a blaze of blossoms! At Valley Forge Park near our home, there are thousands of dogwood trees, and each one is perfectly beautiful. In almost every yard there seems to be a blooming azalea bush.

We've had a wonderful month here in Union City. Bro. Dave Roberts was proved and baptized, and we welcome him into the fold.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Gail Gasser are parents of little Nathan, born on April 9. What a miracle the birth of a new baby is, and we rejoice with Nathan's parents to have him with us.

Easter was a day of joy and beauty, and how thankful we are that our Lord died for our sins so that we might be saved.

#### VALPARAISO

Camille Feller

May all praise and thanksgiving be unto the Lord. On April 15, it was indeed a privilege bestowed upon us by God to hold Holy Communion. Through the ministry of Bro. Harry Bucher of here, Visiting Ministers Bro. George Lambert of Wichita and Bro. George Yergler of Lacrosse, everyone was further acknowledged of the death our Lord Jesus Christ suffered on the cross, that we may live and have promise of eternal life. Surely God made evident His love for this world.

Our dear Bro. Ray and Sis. Marie Heinold are encouraged to hear that through the grace of God their daughter, Sis. Janet Hari, is re-

covering nicely from a cerebral hemorrhage.

We are pleased to hear that our dear friend, Mary Stump, has recovered from a heart ailment. She will testify that she has been a recipient of God's love and mercy.

We are all very much comforted and inspired when we read the Beatitudes of our Lord in His sermon on the mount. Some Beatitudes in the Psalms:

"Blessed is he that considereth the poor. . ."

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD. . ."

"Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD. . ."

"Blessed are they that put their trust in Him."

#### WEST BEND

Mrs. Melvin Fehr

Mrs. A. Banwart

The engagement of Sis. Donna Hartman, daughter of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Pat of Fairbury, to Bro. Dale Banwart, son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Edna, has been announced. Dale has been employed in the Forest area for some time.

Employment has taken Bro. Lyle and Sis. Irene Rick and Bro. Noah Anliker from our congregation to their lake resort near Alexandria, Minn., for the summer months. We miss their presence, but wish them the Lord's blessings with their new job.

Our services on Good Friday evening were well attended. Bro. Robert Pohl of Burlington brought the story of this impressive event to us, which we appreciated. May we keep these teachings with us all year.

Those of our hospital patients that are able to assemble with us again are Sis. Lucille (Dwayne) Schmidt, their daughter Lynn; Alfred Fehr, son of Eldon and Verdell, and Joel Kellenberger, who suffered foot injury. Raymond Wilson is still confined to his home, and his improvement is very slow. May we count our blessings for the good health the Lord has blessed us with so many times.

#### WICHITA

Glennis Allenbach

May I share some thoughts with you? I love to read the Old Testament. The historic accounts of God's people are very interesting

to me. I think surely if God took care of His people through all that, then he certainly will do the same for today's believers if we do His will. It's wonderful to read how he took care of the children of Israel, even to their garments, by causing their clothes and shoes not to wear out in all those 40 years. And when they cried for meat he sent groves of quail.

But they did not the Lord's will and had to suffer for that.

The story of the fall of Babylon should be a good example to us. As today, the people themselves were the cause of the downfall. They had become sinful and were given to celebrating in lawless confusion and drunken revelry, when the handwriting on the wall foretold their downfall.

So it is today with us. If we stray too far in revelry of one kind or another, the enemy may slip in when our armor is down.

Our church building is progressing, and we are all anxious to see what's being done.

Our brothers came last week to present the story of the proposed Children's Home.

A blessed time was spent in the giving of a bridal shower for Lavilla Zaugg, bride-to-be of Marty Langhofer.

#### WINTHROP

Delores Messerli — Carol Messner

A blessed week-end full of Christian fellowship was enjoyed hearing the testimony and seeing the baptism of Candice Pederson (Jerry). Elder Bros. Leo Moser and Paul Fehr were here to carry out the Lord's work. On Palm Sunday, after the baptism, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was served, always praising and thanking the Lord for giving up His life so we may have eternal life. What an appropriate time of the year to have Communion.

New babies were welcomed in our church circle. A son, Scott, was born to Dick and Nancy Van Deest. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Hazel Schmidt. Mike and Jenny Morohn are the parents of a son, Eric. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Jerry Messner.

Eldon Stresemann has been hospitalized for observation. We enjoyed the fellowship of Bro. Terry and Sis. Bev. Miller, while she

is undergoing tests at the Mayo Clinic.

Bob Messner, son of Robert and Margie, was home on leave, visiting family and friends.

High school graduation is near. Our graduates are: Russel Messner, Ronnie Messner, Delphine Jacobson, Lance Nelson, and Philip Messner. May you ever be aware, as on earth you trod, That knowledge comes from learning, and wisdom from God.

The annual house-cleaning for our house of worship was accomplished this past week.

Tho't. . . It is not smart to ignore truth just because we do not like it.

#### WOLCOTT

Marjean Lehman - Arles Kropf

Give of your best to the Master;  
Give Him the strength of your youth.

Clad in salvation's full armour,  
Join in the battle for truth.

Our dear friends, Robin Littleton and Yvonne Schwab have heeded the above words and have found that precious pearl, Peace, and have been announced for proving in the near future.

A new baby girl, Melissa Ellen, was born March 29 to Mike and Sis. Glenna Minniear. She has a big sister, Michelle age 2, who welcomes a playmate.

Bro. Ben Manz of Junction was our visiting minister on April 1.

The week-end of April 14 and 15, Bro. Ed Hohulin of Goodfield was with us and assisted Bro. Alfred with proving and baptism of Connie and Jana Lou Schieler. We truly welcome them as our new sisters in faith.

Sis. Leah Farney, who has been hospitalized twice during the recent weeks, is again able to be in her home.

Our Sunday School classes and young people told us the blessed Easter story in verse and song on the evening of April 18.

#### BRADFORD

Rebecca Endress

Funeral services for Levi Koelling were held at the Princeville church on April 18, Levi was suddenly taken ill, and was hospitalized in Iowa City. Only a few days after brain surgery to remove a



tumor, he was taken from this life.

He and his family attended church faithfully here at Bradford; we feel the loss of a dear friend, and sympathize with his wife, Mary, and children: Dorothy of Dixon, Ill.; Albert, Roemary, and Martha at home; and Victor, with the Air Force in Taiwan.

The family wishes to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, food and gifts, and all acts of kindness given them during the illness and loss of their dear husband and father.

Mary has been laid up since then, because of trouble with her legs. We hope she'll be up and around soon. It is nice to see Nathan Herencjar in church again, after a long confinement in the hospital and at home.

We received many blessings on the day Bro. Noah Schrock (Oakville) spent with us and served Holy Communion, along with Bros. Dave Kieser and Silas Leuthold. Bro. Joe Braker, Morton, also spent a Sunday with us. We thank these brothers for their service to us.

#### DETROIT

Bonnie Popp

Without a cause He stooped from  
heaven's glory,  
Became a man and walked by Galilee,

And felt the bitter pain of human sorrow—  
Without a cause but love for you  
and me.

Without a cause He felt the bitter  
anguish  
Of that black hour in dark Gethsemane,  
And drank the cup that should  
have been my portion—  
Without a cause but love for you  
and me.

The message of the Easter season has poured upon the earth. Many hearts have felt the truth that lies therein. How many hearts have realized the great price of sacrifice and how many really know why. . . How many have expressed their love in return by following the way of the cross. "Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free? No there's a cross for everyone and there's a cross for me."

Bro. Jim Ramseyer, Bay City, was able to be with us Easter. His words of truth reminded each one of the great things God has done for us.

May every Christian sing of this wondrous story. Let us be willing to be an example of one who truly knows the message of the cross.

#### FT. SCOTT

Ida Sinn

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Mrs. Rosa (Zaugg) Crane in the loss of her husband. Bro. Raymond Banwart conducted the services. Burial was in National Cemetery.

We were privileged to have young folks from Eureka (Ill.), Gridley (Kansas) and Lamar gather with us for the week-end of April 28 and 29. Bro. Ronald Nelson, Kiowa, Kans., was with us to bring God's message.

Elder Bro. Sam Anliker visited with us for mid-week services and shared with us the letter from the last conference.

Bro. Joe Banwart has been a hospital patient. He is improving and is home again.

#### FRANCESVILLE

Mrs. Herman (Chris) Wuethrich  
Mrs. Otto Wuethrich

Greisty (Greetings).

This is "Good Deed" month:

. . . When you can return home safely from a five-week trip and find you received a letter from a dear old sister-in-faith. (Dankaschan. Sis. Lena and companion.)

. . . When you can look in the back seat of a car and on the floor, and see them filled with paper plates of home-made cookies and some fruit to be delivered to shut-ins, widows or older people. The group that made these felt it was done at Christmas-time, so they would do it again.

. . . When you can receive a "Surprise Single Rose", which was delivered in "Love".

. . . When three of our church families can have the Christian blessing of caring for a new baby girl, the Bro. Larry Nuest's, Larry Lemans, and Roger Overmyers (who adopted a two-week-old girl).

. . . When a Thank You can be given from Sis Louise Anliker, who had eye surgery, and Sis. Evelyn Pelsy,

who has been in and out of the hospital many times, but always comes out with a smile. A doctor once said he can tell if his patient is a Christian.

When you can say, Behute dich Gott (God protect you).

#### IOWA CITY

Joan Mogler — Patty Stoller

Meet today and part tomorrow,  
Smiles of joy and tears of sorrow,  
Such is human life. . .  
Christian friendship is a treasure,  
Pure in nature, rich in measure,  
Filling us with heavenly pleasure,  
While the moments last. . .  
If tomorrow tears are starting  
At the tender hour of parting,  
Brief will be the pain;  
Time on rapid wings is flying,  
Christians on their Lord relying,  
Present. absent, living, dying,  
Soon will meet again.

Our small congregation is saddened to see Bro. and Sis. Ed and Patty Stoller and their daughter, Cris, leave the Iowa City area. Ed has found employment in the Burlington, Iowa area. Even though we will greatly feel the loss, we still hope to see them from time to time and trust that our almighty God can lead us all to Heaven someday, where the word "farewell" shall never be heard.

"When temptations confront us and trials burden us down, let us remember the agony of the cross." These are words we heard when Bros. Duane Metzger (West Bend) Noah Schrock and John Steiner (Oakville) brought us God's holy message in April. When we have a few burdens to bear, and feel them weighting us down, if we could only think of Christ on the cross, our burden would immediately seem lightened.

#### JUNCTION

Betty Manz — Henrietta Manz

Bro. Oliver Spangler and Sis. Elizabeth Kupfersmith of Latty were united in holy matrimony at the Latty church, April 8. We surely are happy for them and so glad to welcome Sis. Elizabeth back to our congregation.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Lois Schlatter, daughter of Sis. Esther Schlatter, to Bro. Bruce Maibach, son of

Bro. Alpha and Sis. Helen, of Rittman.

Bro. Kenneth Manz, son of Bro. Elias and Sis. Evelyn, is now finished with his college work, and we are happy to have him with us again in our services.

Friend Margaret Aufrance is again able to assemble with us.

The last Sunday in April we were privileged to partake of holy Communion with our Elder Bro. Loren Stoller and Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman, who with Bro. Earl Gerber came to share in this day from Forrest. We thank them for their love and their messages, in coming to us from so great a distance. Bro. Isaac Dotterer and Sis. Martha Laukhuf was also able to share in this work.

Many of us gathered at the church the first Saturday in May for spring housecleaning. It was a beautiful day, and as the old saying goes, "Many hands do make light work."

### LEO

#### Al Frautschi

Bro. Homer Reineck and Toledo Sunday School visited Leo. It was very nice to have Homer and Dick Fetter and their families and the Sunday School children; this we should do more of.

Palm Sunday, it was brought to our attention how frail we are when the elements of nature are loosed. The Sunday School Easter program was held this evening. The readings, poems and songs by the young people was inspirational.

Easter services started at 6:30 A.M. with sunrise services at the Leo Fellowship Hall. This year the Ft. Wayne Church was host, and after a service, the Ft. Wayne church folks served breakfast. A very beautiful fellowship.

Last Sunday, May 6, we enjoyed many visitors from Morton and Junction. Bro. Sam Schlatter delivered two inspiring messages and extended the Lord's invitation to all to become closer connected with the Lord Jesus and his work. Services were held at all three Butler Rest Homes. The South View Rest Home will be closing and transferring their patients to the new Meadow Haven Rest Home. Final services were held by Bro. Maurice Frank, and all were advised we look forward to seeing them again next month at their new rest home.

### MORTON

#### Mrs. Keith Stevig

#### Mrs. Harry Kaiser

Our congregation shared in the Lord's Supper on Sunday, April 29. We thank Bro. Ezra Feller and Bro. Roy Sauder for assisting our elder, Bro. Russell Rapp, and Bro. Henry Grimm in this sacrament of the church.

We also thank Bro. Jesse Schrock, who ministered unto us one Wed. evening.

Mary Rother and Michael Staley were united in marriage April 14 at the Peoria Fellowship Hall, by Bro. Russell Rapp. They will be living at 315 Birchwood, Morton.

Those sick or convalescing are Larry Warren, Sisters Rose Muselman, Arlene Huette, Martha Rapp (now at Rest-Mor Nursing Home), Bros. David Zeller, Chris Knapp and Emmanuel Jacob.

**Thank You:** There are no words adequate enough to express our deep appreciation to all who have remembered us with prayers, cards, money, and gifts during these past few months of Beck's illness. A special thanks to all who contributed even a moment of time, if only a prayer, to the benefit bake sale for Becky. Gary and Mary K. Rumbold.

#### Food For Thought:

Sit quietly for a moment, and you realize how you have been running about. . . Learn to keep your mouth shut, and you realize you have been talking too much. . . Avoid getting involved in too many things, and you realize that you have been wasting your time in unnecessary things. . . Close your door, and you realize that you have been mixed up with too many kinds of people. . . Have few desires, and you realize why you have so many ills. . .

### OAKVILLE

#### Martha Steiner

We enjoyed a blessed Sunday as Sis. Janet Steiner and Bro. John Schunbach (Elgin, Iowa) were united in marriage on April 8. We also appreciated the visit of Ministering Bros. Henry Grimm (Morton), Bert Butikofer and Dale Moore (Elgin), Duane Metzger (West Bend), and Uriel Gehring (Burlington), who were with us for the occasion.

Bros. Simon Wagenbach (Tre-

mont) and George Wagenbach (Princeville) brought the word to us on a quiet Wednesday evening.

Easter was a special day of rejoicing for four souls who had been permitted to give their testimonies and were baptized: Peggy Schulz (Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy Wagenbach Schulz), Diana Wiegand (Bro. Albert), Marcia Dykstra (Mr. and Mrs. John Dykstra), and Twila Whipple (Lawrence and Sis. Lorraine Rauhaus Whipple). We were glad for the presence of Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) and Ministering Bro. Marvin Stieglitz (Leo).

The wet unplanted fields and constant rains are rather trying to our patience during these spring weeks, but these trials cannot compare to what Christ suffered for us. . . And when we see that God is still working in the hearts of those who were not serving Him, we realize our many and great blessings.

### WESTERN ILLINOIS

#### UNIVERSITY

#### Mary Unsicker

Our visiting minister was Chuck Hemmer, Peoria. We were reminded how the church of the Laodiceans had become lukewarm. As children of God, we must continuously look to Christ, so we can remain true and faithful until the end.

We wish to thank everyone who helped to make church services at Western possible. We pray that God will richly bless our sponsors, Bro. Uriel Gehring and Bro. Francis Rother, for the time and efforts in the service of our Lord. We also wish to thank each minister, brother, sister and friend who came to worship with us.

Graduates this year from Western are: Bro. Stevan Streitmatter, Gary Kupferschmit and Sis. Mary Lynn Unsicker.

### INDIANAPOLIS

#### Ginny Zeller

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

Frequently we hear someone say, "If only I had more faith." We can't produce faith by our own efforts or by repeating over and over again, "My faith is increasing." The word of God is the source of faith. The more we read the word, the

better we know God, the better we know God, the greater is our faith. If we feel weak in faith or lacking in it, we must saturate ourselves with the word. We must search God's promises. Then as need arises day by day, we can claim these promises. God makes good his promises.

We want to thank the ministering brethren who have been with us. On April 1, Merle Laukhof from Latty was with us. April 8 was a young peoples week-end in Indianapolis, at which we entertained about 150 young brothers, sisters and friends from Purdue, Indiana Univ., Univ. of Illinois, Illinois State Univ., many other universities and colleges in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. We had Bible studies conducted by Bros. Bob Grimm from Goodfield, Edwin Ringger from Gridley Ill., Dale Eisenman from Chicago, Wendell Gudeman from Francesville, Dave Bertsch from Leo, and Edwin Bahler from Remington on Saturday afternoon at Brown County State Park, and dinner there in the evening. On Sunday, we were blessed by the word of God spoken by Bros. Dave Bertsch of Leo and Edwin Bahler of Remington. . . We visited and sang at some nursing homes here in the city after church, and then had dinner at the church.

On April 15. . . were pleased to hear Bro. Henry Beer of Milford, and on April 30 we were blessed with the presence of our elder, Bro. Theo. Beer of Milford.

A tentative time has been set for beginning services in our new church building. We hope to be in by early June. Again we want to thank everyone who has helped make this endeavor possible—so many who have contributed their time and energy. Almost all work has been done by beloved brethren of the Apostolic Christian church of America from all over the country, who have donated their time and expertise. We also want to again thank all those who have contributed financially or have otherwise given us support.

#### BAY CITY

Carolyn Schamback

Hospitalized for surgery were Bro. Merle Wieland, Sis. Lena Lambert, Sis. Mildred Wieland, and Sis. Betty Schlatter.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Nettie Knochel wish to thank all who remembered him with cards and gifts when he was ill. A small prayer or word of hope means a lot when one is ill!

#### GRIDLEY ILL.

Ruth Gramm

"I was glad when they said. . . let us go into the house of the LORD."

We at Gridley have experienced many blessings. We were happy when it was announced in church that our new building is completely paid. May we continue to labor together for the Lord.

How we rejoice to have another dear soul repenting. Ronnie Romesberger, son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Lucille, has cast his lot with the Lord.

Bro. Mike Gramm and his wife are home with us again. Bro. Jim Gramm is stationed in Germany. His wife and son have gone to be with him in Germany. There address is: PFC James Gramm 353-44-3821, HHC 4thBN 64th Armor, APO New York 09162.

Sis. Emma Grusy now makes her home at the Apostolic Home in Eureka.

Friend Ron Schmidgall had the misfortune of having a car-train accident. The Lord certainly spared Ron. He was hospitalized, but is home again. He suffered broken ribs and some lung injury. Ron wishes to thank all who sent him cards, gifts, and prayed for his welfare. Ron is the son of Bro. Harold and Betty.

We had a lovely day of fellowship when the men's sextet from Francesville visited us and sang for God's praise and glory.

May God bless the visiting ministers who have taken time to visit us. We truly appreciate their untiring efforts to bring God's word to us and our children. . . as one brought out, "The Holy Spirit is God on earth, or God in us. We should pray that we should go with God, rather than ask God to go with us; then God can be close to us."

#### HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Elmer Bucher

The family at the home has now grown to 34, each one taking their place and helping to make it one

happy family. One of the residents had to be hospitalized, and her only concern was, "When can I go home?"

The staff and residents are very grateful to all the Sunday School children from the various Sunday Schools who gave their love gifts to help purchase a whirlpool bathing unit for the Home.

"But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."

Services are held at the Home each Friday night. The A.C. churches in the surrounding area take turns. It is a real blessing to the residents.

#### Second Annual Ft. Sam Reunion— Francesville

ETS Date—Jan. 1970 to Present  
June 30 and July 1 Place:  
Francesville Grade School. . . Directions: 3 Blocks east of Route 421 on Montgomery St. . . Saturday, June 30. . . Registration: 3:00 -3:30 P.M. . . Supper: 4:00 P.M. . . Sunday, July 1 . . . Supper: 3:00 p.m. at Francesville Grade School.

Registration Fee—Sat. and Sunday—\$5.00 per person, Sat. only—2.50 per person, Sun. only—3.00 per person. No charge for children. (Registration refundable until June 15).

Please direct all correspondence to Wendell Anliker, R. 2 Box 15A, Francesville Ind. 47946.

Winthrop

#### Best Things To Give

To a friend, loyalty; to an enemy, forgiveness; to your boss, service; to a child, good example; to your father, respect; to your mother, gratitude; to your wedded mate, love and faithfulness; to all men, charity; to God, your life.

A resident of a Portland Oregon nursing home had poor vision and she couldn't read fine print. A large print New Testament was brought. Someone tells, "When I opened it and showed her the bold type, her face lit up with a bright smile as she said, **Thank God, I can read the Bible again!**"



Mrs. W. H. Meyer,  
Edelstein, Box 27  
Illinois. 61526

Eureka

### The Book of Life

Life is a book in volumes three—  
The past, the present and the yet to  
be,  
The first is done and laid away;  
The second we're writing day by  
day,  
But the third and last of the  
volumes three.  
Is locked from sight. God Keeps the  
Key.

Bern

A plaque upon my bedroom wall  
Bears three small words you may  
recall.

I cannot say the words are new,  
But oh, they are steadfast and true.  
The plaque itself is very old—  
But it is worth its weight in gold.  
Out of the darkness of the night  
It seems to shed a ray of light.  
I love it for the peace it brings;  
It simply says, Prayer Changes  
Things.

Out in the Pacific: Ponape is one of the Carolines, an island cluster, known geographically as "high" islands—land masses rising straight out of the ocean and formed through volcanic activity. A Scripture consignment reached Kolinia, the Ponapean capital. The books were eagerly sought after. One was gladdened to see so many people reading, as his boat sailed into the harbor.

## THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

Henry Souder Jr.

A glorious spiritual panorama opens to one standing on the heights of scriptural truth.

It is easy to overlook, or only understand in part. "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:"

There is a tremendous truth. God is working with the world. The Spirit hovers about each unsaved individual, without exception. There is wonderful drawing toward. "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." Men put up the interference, the block. Thoroughly God works, while it is yet day.

"And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:" This is that great work at the heart's door. He knocks while the door is entwined with weeds and thorns, and the inside is a mass of ruins. There is a receiving here when one looks unto Him in sincere calling. He begins another great work: "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:" Repentance is that wondrous levelling of the high places, filling the low places, preparing the way for the entrance of God. Truth says, It is

the goodness of God that leads to repentance.

After baptism, there is another foundational, vital step. We cannot sidestep it without missing part of the doctrine of Christ: "Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment."

The beginning, when the Spirit first came to fill, both to the Jew and to the Gentile, God chose to do Himself. The hand of God was thus mightily shown in Acts 2 and 10. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth . . ." This is that sealing. In Paul's time, many things were sealed. The imprint gave approval to the contents, and looked forward to the proper receiving and use of one who had acquired the right. This seal of God has beautiful importance, showing the contents are as shown and who is the rightful owner. It looks forward to the day of glorious redemption.

The laying on of hands is a continuation of the mighty hand of God, as at Pentecost and Cornelius

and the band with him. In Acts 19 we read: ". . . And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them . . ." The church had begun, and the keys of the kingdom were in the hands of the righteous. The Holy Spirit comes to dwell with the laying on of hands. Other verses would have to be mentally clipped from the Bible, if we leave off this vital meaning.

There is so much in this work of the Spirit. He makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. What marvellous help! We can feel His meaning and His mood in this, and thus attune ourself. He brings things to remembrance. It is our duty to have those things there, to be intimate with His thoughts and ways in His book . . . But He is the One that brings, does the ordering, the sentence, the sermon, the weeping tear, the flash of divine justice impending. We do well to not hinder nor halt this tremendous sweep of the Spirit.

If we place ourself in His power, the place of His word, then He places the mighty wonders and signs. The community is covered in His plan. He finds the last golden grain, and none is lost.

"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples."