



But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his

ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

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

THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

THE HOLY KISS

God has always given His Best. He has wonderfully made us.

Love is told in many ways. We grow. A baby grows. The first quarter of the year often finds a baby gaining control of muscles that move the eye. There is a progressive gaining. The 2nd, he reaches for things. Love, too, has a way of developing surely toward perfect day.

We need intense desire to be interested in heavenly things. It has been written, You can teach a student a lesson in a day . . . but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives.

We were made to live in love. Babies need love. They wither away, even die, without affection. They were meant to be cared for, handled and loved. This is very pointedly shown in a study of two groups. The Foundling Home had emotionally-starved babies. The Nursery showed care. The Development Quotient in the first year for the Nursery was over 100, but only 72 for the Foundling Home. In the second year it dropped to 45 . . . and death took a toll.

The beauty of kindly affection everywhere brings sweetness. There was a certain young lad whom a boy's home helped much. One bad trait persisted. He tormented every smaller boy he could. The day came that he enjoyed. There would be green things smelling, bacon sizzling . . . but he drew the smallest boy to be with him. Off they went. There was a big log. He took the little fat hand, leaped high. The little guy didn't make it, got caught, and was hurt. Was his foot broke? They'd have to go back to the nurse. He got him on his back, and the little fellow clung. Was it the feeling of kindness to the helpless? Was it the warmth of the arms around his neck? He never tormented another child. This is something great, that which we were created for.

What means beautiful sweetness in life? Interior design shows man lives in space, and uses space. Design of God's living proves we need living and using love. The more one does, the more comfort and joy he has.

Humans are created for care. It

was grim, that place in the prison where rehabilitative activities took place. These men would need a place in society, but they craved care. There was the gray concrete floor, block walls, dilapidated furniture, a very high ceiling. New carpets were installed. There was new furniture, with soft, colorful fabric, painting, a nice, low redwood ceiling. Some people cared.

Time came. The men involved arrived. They came in their regulars, although during evenings and on Sunday they could wear a "dress" uniform, black trousers, white shirt, black sweater. To wear these "black and whites", to them that was a sign of giving in to authority. When they saw what had been done many stood and cried. Some had spent 20-30 years there. No other place in the whole prison offered such as this. Without a word, these men turned, went back to their cells, and put on their black and whites. The rate of those not returning to prison vastly improved.

When God has told something, we had best better not argue, for He will prove right. Why is it that He has put in five different places this request of the kiss? One reads, "Greet ye one another with a kiss of charity."

Tidal floods roar down the ravines of this world. A decaying and declining civilization, with its own customs, without our diligence can sweep our hold on treasures with the tides. Will we have a failure of nerve?

Children are beautiful. They have wonder. Without being ashamed, they show their love. Studies show they have very good creativity . . . but what happens? False values, stunting impressions and vain myths fall like a basket, often smothering the beauty.

God has provided the authentic, original way. He holds nothing back. Isn't that what we should expect, from One who is perfect. Who in perfect love desires the Best for His people? And he loves so much.

It takes absence and separation sometime to show how sweet and beautiful love is . . . then a kiss is a dream . . . like this daddy: A gray old church, a gurgling stream, a farspreading thorn tree on a green

hillock, and a grave on the sunny southerly side . . . Baby was but two years old when, like a dewdrop, he went up to the warm sun, yet he left my heart as I have seen ground left out of which a storm had torn a great tree. We talk about the influence of great thinkers, great speakers, and great writers; but what about the little infant's power . . . I feel thy soft kiss on my withered lips now . . .

We need the infant's beauty in our approach and walk.

The prisoner behind the gate suffers a starving of loving affection. The boy needed the love of giving, and someone to love. The daddy longed for the sweetness of his little one. God has created man in His likeness; He is love. Love needs expression. Love needs all of ourself to show and attain His Best. It needs someone else to love and help.

In talking, a large part of the message is given in body language: postures, attitudes, gestures, the look of the eyes. The holy kiss is part of God's beautiful communication in the language of love. It is not a duplicate of some ad, but distinctive.

Words of a psychiatrist, viewing society in this century, shows about the communication of love: But in the last few decades, especially in Anglo-Saxon countries, we have persuaded ourselves that there is something weak, dubious or wrong about showing affection physically. We pride ourselves on our restraints, our well-thought-out verbal and written communications. But actually we are isolating ourselves . . .

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

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He pointed out about the **abrazo**, the embrace which men greet one another in Latin countries. In his message, in no uncertain terms, was that those were in the wrong who smiled at it . . .

God's language is the light of truth interpreting His way. Its pure holiness tells of faraway beauty, and leaves the afterglow of true sweetness. Here is authentic tidings of eternal things.

Yes, we can grow. There is adventure in the ways of God. The holy kiss is a part of it. Rich, rewarding, holy feelings of God await our asking.

The word **kiss** in the Greek is **philemati**. The meaning is rooted with kindness and friendship, for **philos** is love. Words related to it in development are philosophy (love of wisdom) and Philadelphia (love of brother).

Kiss is in the locative case. We should greet one another in the sphere, in the kindly, childlike way. Christian fellowship has indeed a deep embracing, an invisible oneness in Christ.

When we express this eternal embrace of unending love, we do it with the kindly kiss, a Kingly friendship that never ends!

BRAVERY

It was a thunderstorm, and a torrent of falling rain. She looked out of her window, in the darkness of the night. The vivid flashes of lightning shone on the scene. She saw . . . a railroad bridge near her home had been swept away by the storm. Just then, she saw the headlight of the locomotive swiftly approach the spot where the bridge had just been . . . and plunge into the abyss, below.

A lantern was lighted. Alone, amidst the thunder, lightning and storm, she crept up a rocky steep. With her clothes torn to rags, her flesh lacerated, the rails were reached. She crept out to the last tie of the fallen bridge on her hands and knees, and swung the lantern back and forth over the abyss. There came the faint voice of the engineer. He was in great peril, but cried to her to go quickly . . . give the alarm to save the express which was coming toward that perilous spot, and some help also to rescue him.

She started for the nearest station, a mile away. To reach that

station, a high trestle bridge had to be crossed, 500 feet in length. She had gone a few steps. A gust of wind put out the lantern. She threw it away, knowing that she could not relight it in the storm.

Upon her hands and knees she crept along, from tie to tie over the trestle. Her way was lighted only by frequent flashes of lightning. After crossing the bridge, she hastened along the rails by the flashes of lightning, to the station.

With what strength she had left, she told her story. Then fell in a dead faint at the station-agent's feet. Help went quickly to the poor engineer's rescue. Telegrams flew up and down the line, notifying all, the bridge was gone!

As she lay unconscious, the express came rushing to the depot. The passengers learned what perils the brave girl had passed through to save them. They saw her lying still in an unconscious state, took her up tenderly. The torn and bleeding limbs were bathed. Soon she was brought back to consciousness. . . .

The men and women gather about this brave girl of 16, looking upon her pale face, her torn and bleeding form. As they think how she went through all this to save their lives, their words were too weak to express all the deep gratitude of their hearts.

Thus it is with us.

Jesus saved us from the dreadful abyss, at the cost of His life. He was Bravest of the Brave. **As I have loved you, He says, even so love one another.** We ought to lay down our lives for the brethren, holy hand points out.

So then, with such bravery in the heart of a brother, our deep gratitude and love should well up. What perils our brother or sister may have prayed for, to see us through. Who knows what cost one would now be willing to lay down his life? Who knows how he is willing to spend and be spent? We should love to embrace in the unseen bonds of love, bestowing that pure, holy kiss on such a one.

And what we do for the least of these, we do for Him!

NOTICE!

The Camp Crowder Soldiers' Reunion will be held at Lamar Aug. 3 and 4. We extend a hearty welcome to everyone who is interested.

LATTY

LeAnn Laukhuf — Carol Sinn

Visiting ministers include Bros. Art Bauer (Princeville), Marvin Steiglitz (Leo), and Sam Schlatter (Junction). May the Lord richly bless them for their efforts.

On March 17, Sis. Connie Stoller and Bro. Steve Bauman (Rittman) were united in marriage. Connie is the daughter of Bro. Glenn and Sis. Ede, and Steve is the son of Bro. Herb and Sis. Bernice. We wish them much happiness as they walk the path of life together.

Bro. Ken Laukhuf, Sisters Hulda Gerber and Emma Klopfenstein are in the hospital, recovering from surgery. Our prayers and thoughts are with them and their families.

Jim and Margo Price are the happy parents of a baby boy, born March 24. Anthony Robert is welcomed home by a brother, Eric.

SARDIS

Karen Indermuhle

In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength.

Overwhelming joy and thankfulness should be our feelings at this time and always, because of what the Lord has done for us. Jesus Christ bore our punishment for sin and was victorious over death. Praise the Lord!

You and I nailed Him on that cruel tree, and His blood was shed for each of us.

Use this great act of love of our Heavenly Father every day. Let us take our burdens, fears, cares, troubles of body, mind and soul to the foot of that old rugged cross. Jesus will meet us there and touch with His healing light, as we strive to become perfect in Jesus.

We should not forget to praise the Lord, giving Him the glory due His name. God will bless us bountifully if we learn to worship Him and give praise as we are instructed in the word. "Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise."

Jesus lives! Halleluiah!

We are praying that Grandma (Freda) Berger has a speedy recovery, after having been hospitalized and following surgery the last of March.

Moving? Drop a card. Tell both old and new address.

WEST BEND**Mrs. Melvin Fehr****Mrs. Raymond Anliker**

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." It is wonderful to witness the grace that God affords those who seek Him. Our dear friends, Ruth (Bruellman) Seigsbee, Robert and Barbara (Potts) Fehr, Tim and Kathy (Banwart) Butikofer confessed peace with God and were welcomed into the fold as brothers and sisters. May the Spirit dwell in their hearts, as it comes to make its abode there.

We count it a blessing, as we were led unto green pastures by the teachings of our visiting ministers: (Bros.) Art Gudeman of LaCrosse, Alhai Moser of Morris, (Elder Bros.) Alfred Bahler of Wolcott, Leo Moser of Lester, Paul Fehr of Morris, Paul Butikofer of Elgin, Iowa. We thank them for their efforts put forth, plus the extra duties that were laid to our visiting elders as they served us the Lord's Supper, reminding us of our Lord's suffering. May we take heed and live obedient to His word.

God has blessed two of our friends with helmates this month of March. Ione Metzger (daughter of Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice) and Linden Venhuizen of Minneapolis; and Ervin Banwart and Nettie Knobloch (daughter of Bro. Ernest of Lester). We pray His blessings will abide in these homes.

We are thankful Raymond Wilson is now home from the hospital and assembles with us again to hear God's precious word. Twelve-year-old Jeff Banwart (son of Benj. and Betty) is hospitalized with rheumatic fever. Let us remember our sick and shut-ins in prayer and visits.

Made known to us this blessed day was the engagement of Bro. Michael Wirtz (son of Bro. Verner and Sis. Beverly) and Sis. Lila Meyer (daughter of Sis. Emma and the late Bro. Alvia Meyer). We pray God will bless this couple, as He has led these souls together.

A baby girl, Betty Lou, born March 20, blessed the home of Bro. Art and Sis. Eula Mogler.

ATHENS**Hazel Vibbert**

It is so sad when a father is taken so sudden. The brother-in-

law of Bro. Lavoyd Moore was killed in a car accident the week-end of the 15th. He is survived by his wife, Angie and six children, ages 8 to 16. They lived at Somerville Ala., R. R. 1.

We had visitors from Mississippi. Bro. and Sis. Roger Bachtold and their 6 children . . . Hope they will visit us again soon.

Bro. Carl Haggemmaker and his family really put forth a effort to come to their home church. They travel around 300 miles from Florida, where they live.

FRANCESVILLE**Sharon Neihouser—Helen Huber**

"For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand." We must die daily, so that we can be ready at any time, for we know not when the Lord may call us.

A little bit of Heaven has come to the home of Bob & Debbie Cook. On March 22, a little boy named Benjamin Micah was born to them. Grandparents are Sis. Suzanne and Herb Cook, and great-grandparents are Bro. Fred and Sis. Katie Gutwein. May God give them wisdom to raise their little one for Him.

Hospitalized for surgery were Sisters Louise Anliker and Elaine Erb. They are both home and improving nicely.

On March 10, the engagement of Sis. Beverly Krulik and Bro. John Huber was announced. Bev is the daughter of Paul and Loretta, and John the son of Bro. Eugene and Sis. Mildred.

March 2, the marriage ceremony of Philip Feldman Jr. and Charlene Gutwein was solemnized by Bro. Wendell Gudeman. The parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Phiip Feldman Sr. and Bro. Nate and Sis. Adline Gutwein. May God bless them as they start their new life together.

JUNCTION**Henrietta Manz — Betty Manz**

We are thankful for the visits of Ministering Bros. Eugene Fetter, Toledo; Henry Dotterer, Rittman; Simon Wagenbach, Tremont; and Carl Kipfer, Bluffton. May they never tire in sounding the warning.

Viola Manz (Bro. Emmanuel) was proved and baptized the week-end of March 2 and 3. We are happy that Viola could become a dear sister in faith. Bro. Sam

Aeschliman, Bluffton, and our Elder Bro. Loren Stoller, Latty, were here for this important work. After the proving on Saturday evening, the memorandum was explained. It was indeed a blessed week-end.

Sis. Martha Laukhuf was 91 years old on March 5. Isn't it true, that often when dear ones remain long after the allotted span, the years are filled with labor and sorrow. Sis. Martha is so weak, and we wish her God's rich blessings. . .

Sis. Benita Schlatter (Sis. Esther) is back, after spending six weeks in Cincinnati in connection with her nurse's training. She has spent a week at home and has now returned to Toledo. We are happy when Sis. Benita can make it home for week-ends to assemble with us, and look forward to the time when she will have completed her training.

Recently I asked my father (Bro. Henry Manz) if he could go anywhere he wanted to go, where would he go? Since he liked to travel and did go quite a bit when he was well, I really wondered what he would say. Without hesitation he said, "To church." Many who go to church every Sunday just don't realize what a great privilege this is. Let's appreciate it; tomorrow this great blessing could be taken away. My father has not been to church for over seven months, and he has such a longing to be able to go.

We have had quite a cold spell and had some snow, but we are looking forward to spring.

Our sympathy is extended to John and Maude Slane in the death of her sister, Eunice Merriman. We hope that Mrs. Slane's health will improve. She had X-rays recently, but is not much better. The Slanes are Sis. Betty Manz's parents.

REMINGTON**Anna M. Waibel**

We have had zero weather again recently for several days, after having spring weather, which brought forth spring flowers and buds on trees . . .

Beautiful time of the year, when all nature will soon be awakened . . . so happy to report that Brad Bahler, son of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois, has been awakened to his need of a Saviour and is repenting. Their son, Eddie had a knee opera-

tion, and Lois's mother, Sis. Lillie Frey has had a gall bladder operation . . . glad to note both are improving.

We have had a number here that have done some extensive traveling recently . . . Florida, Texas, Hawaii, Spain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Arizona, etc. . . one brother remarked, as they flew along through the air he had to marvel at God's creation and had to say, over and over, **How Great Thou Art!** Many of us have felt the same.

Remember: The finger that points the way is part of the hand that supplies the need!

MINNEAPOLIS

Kathryn Olson

On March 16, Elder Bro. Paul Fehr was assisted by Elder Bro. Leo Moser in reading of the memorandum, then Sunday after services, served our congregation with holy communion. The following Sunday we enjoyed having Bro. Floyd Schmidgall. May the Lord bless the brothers and their efforts in taking time to bring us the holy word. We enjoyed their visits and those that came with them.

Bro. Noah and Sis. Laura Miller observed their 40th wedding anniversary March 24. May the Lord continue with them as He has blest them in the past.

"And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." We rejoice as our friend, Donald Esterling has yielded to the call.

As we again come into the Easter season, may we ever look unto Jesus, who died on the cross and shed his blood for the sins of mankind, but praise be to God that the Saviour arose, so we too can someday enjoy a glorious resurrection.

Moving? Drop a card. Tell both old and new address.

BREMEN

Pauline Laidig

If any little word of ours
Can make one life the brighter,
If any little song of ours
Can make one heart the lighter,
God help us speak that little word,
And take our bit of singing
And drop it in some lonely vale,
And set the echos ringing.

One needs only to experience a period of illness or loneliness, and then our heart goes out to the many who must endure much of this. We must not get too busy to help lighten their load or brighten their day.

Some of our sewing group had the opportunity of visiting a nursing home in South Bend, where forty severely handicapped children and youths are being cared for. Needless to say, it was a heart-stirring experience, but we were very impressed with the love and individual attention which was shown to each one by the nurses and personnel. We hope to help meet some of their needs in the future.

Our church kitchen is being remodeled, but we hope it will soon be completed, so we can again enjoy an hour of fellowship with one another each Sunday.

Henry Getz of South Bend, son of the late John Getz of Ft. Wayne, passed away. Henry's grandparents were Bro. Ed and Sis. Lydia Getz, who had lived in the Bremen area for many years.

We are happy that Sis. Jayne Conrad has recuperated from surgery and is able to assemble with us again. Our thoughts and prayers are with Eugene Zimmer Jr., Sis. Leah's son, who had surgery recently and is undergoing further treatment.

We are happy to have Ronald Meister in our midst again, as he has completed his term in the Service of our country.

CONGERVILLE

Arlene Banwart — Mary Schrock

We wish to thank our visiting ministers, Bros. Earl Gerber (Forest) and Merle Kaisner (Fairbury).

We have had many teachings: of how we should spend much time in reading and mediating in the Bible. Look spiritually. Look heavenward. We have much to be thankful for. For our wonderful plan of salvation, there He hung on the cross and shed His blood for you and me. For our sins. He is such a loving and kind Saviour, so may we all heed and do His will and not ours.

Sis. Tillie Sauder was a hospital patient again for a few weeks, and has been able to return home. We are thankful to have Bro. C. E.

Steffen assembling with us again, after having surgery at Mayo's.

ELGIN, ILLINOIS

Louise Steffen—Katie Kachelmuss

If we would Christ's disciples be,
Our will with His must blended be;
Our very self must be o'ercome,
That we may say, Thy will be done.
As Jesus in Gethsemane
By prayer attained the victory,
So shall we, when we seek His face,
Still find in Him abundance grace.

Bro. Randy and Sis. Ruth Kellenberger came to us from Peoria and are living at 520 McClure Ave., Elgin Ill 60120. We welcome them into our church circle.

Births: A daughter, Valerie Robyn, born Feb. 6 to Bro. Randy and Sis. Ruth Kellenberger, above address. A son, Brian Alan, born March 16 to Don and Peg Gudeman Heiniger, who now live at 219 Walter Ct., Elgin Ill 60120.

We have three deaths to report, Sis. Minnie Sund, 69 years of age; Natalie Farney Roth (widow of Walter), age 74 years; and Raymond (husband of Sis. Lucy Leuthold Schultz), age 73 years. Our sympathy to the bereft ones, and may God be their comfort and consolation in their lonely hours.

Sis. Julia (Albert) Wewetzer was hospitalized and is now at home again with her loved ones. They live at 354 Hill Ave., Elgin Ill 60120.

Sis. Eleanor (widow of Bro. Elmer) Steffen announced the engagement of her daughter, Cheryl Ann, to John Knobloch of Lafayette, Ind., the son of Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knobloch of Bradford. The Steffens address is 628 St. John St., Elgin Ill 60120. A summer wedding is planned.

Our oldest member, Sis. Karoline Kuehner, 530 S. Liberty St., Elgin Ill 60120, will reach her 96th birthday, God willing, on May 4. She became a follower of Christ 76 years ago. May God continue to bless and keep her until life's end.

Diane Preiss and John Mikitson were married Jan. 25 in Elgin.

GRIDLEY, KANSAS

Edna Somerhalder—Wilma Young

On Calvary's brow my Saviour died;
'Twas there my Lord was crucified.

'Twas on the cross He bled for me,
And purchased there my pardon free.

Thanks to our Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker, who presided over our annual election, held on a Friday night. Changes: Bro. Roy Bahr—Sunday School superintendent, Bro. Rudy Bahr—Bible Class teacher, and Sis. Vola Young—teacher for grades 1-2-3. We wish them the needed grace to fulfill their duties.

Glad to have Sis. Sarah Beyer assembling with us again, after helping care for her sister, Emma (Ben) Beyer, in Eureka most of the winter. Emma is doing quite well.

We miss Sis. Emma Bahr (widow of the late Bro. Henry Bahr), who has moved in with her sister, Sis. Mary Reber in Ft. Scott. Gridley has been Emma's home the past 28 years.

Sis. Marilyn and Steve Owens with their small daughters have returned to Emporia, after living in Lincoln, Nebraska the past 6 months.

Little Darren, 8-month-old son of Sis. Janiece and Dale Isch, is hospitalized with double pneumonia. He is responding to the medication.

Mary Jane Kraft, daughter of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine, has recuperated and resumed classes as a junior in high school, after an absence of 5 weeks.

After several weeks of springlike weather, temperatures to 80, we have encountered two snowstorms . . . temperatures dipping to 7 degrees. We are enjoying more warm weather.

PORTLAND Pearl Miller

"That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto unto his death" . . .

Now the shadows of the evening
Gently steal across the sky;
Soon we'll see our Saviour coming
Lo, the hour is drawing nigh—
Coming for the pure and holy,
By his saints to be admired,
Those redeemed from every nation,
All in garments white attired.

Quickly as the lightning flashes,
In the twinkling of an eye
Shall these frail and mortal bodies
Put on immortality.

All that sleep shall then awaken;
Those redeemed of that vast throng
Shall with angels in the heavens
Join the everlasting song.

The thought has come to me, "Do we appreciate our older brothers and sisters in the faith, as we ought?" Sunday, March 24, we were privileged to visit with our dear Bro. Martin Ruetter, age 85, who attends the Silverton congregation, and he shared past experiences in his life with us. During our course of conversation, he remarked, "How important it is that God's children do not gossip". We wholeheartedly agreed with him, as there is no edification in gossiping. May our hearts be filled with God's love, to direct us through this pilgrims journey. "Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer."

We are sorry to report, our friend Edna (Klopfenstein) Lincoln is back in the hospital, recuperating from pneumonia.

If you are planning a vacation itinerary, plan to make Portland one of your places to visit this summer. We heartily welcome you! Call Bro. Garth Steffen—phone number 761-4531, or Bro. Robert Miller, phone number 771-7834 (Area 503).

LA CROSSE

Lorene Moser—Mary E. Gudeman

They took the body of Jesus our Lord
From the Cross where He died for us;
They buried Him ere the sun went down,
Near the place called Calvary.

Did the Father of Jesus suffer, too,
When His only begotten Son
Was smitten, stricken, and put to grief,
For sins He had never done?

Whatever the cost, love paid it all,
And the proof that He died to save
Is the Risen Christ, on the throne of God,
While on earth is the empty grave.

Sis. Lena Nuest observed her 90th birthday March 5. Lena's

health isn't too good. Her life is an example of faith and humility to us who know her.

We are thankful that three dear souls, Steve Nuest, Denise Feller, and Mary Lynn Feller have turned their life over to Jesus, found His forgiveness and peace in their hearts, and are looking forward to proving and baptism. Our prayer, that more would come while the waters are troubled.

"For we walk by faith, not by sight" . . . Our thank you to Bro. Gene Lehman (Wolcott) for stirring our hearts and minds with his messages March 24.

Hospital patients are Friend Anna Meiss, who fell and fractured her hip; Bro. Sam Clauss, who suffered a heart attack; and Bro. Phil Troxel. They are doing as well as can be expected. Bro. Edward & Sis. Louise Wittmer are thankful they are dismissed from the hospital and home again.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Bro. Joe Heinold, 89, who passed away March 22 in Phoenix. Funeral services were held in La-Crosse March 26. His first wife, Sis. Martha preceded him in death in 1960. His survivors are his widow, Sis. Huldah; a daughter, Sis. Mary Ann Feller; five sons, Arthur and Kenneth, and Bros. Ray, Ori, and Harold; a stepdaughter, Christine Schuster; a stepson, Bro. Leonard Dubach. Joe and Martha were among the first couples to come to this community in 1915.

Sincere best wishes go to Bro. Albert and Jenny Sinn, who will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on April 2. They have two sons, Gene and LeRoy.

PURDUE

Linda Pfladderer—Lynell Bahler
"Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near". On March 27, Bro. Elmer Bucher from Francesville spoke to us on our need of salvation.

We are happy that our friend, Brad Bahler, was given the grace to seek the Lord in repentance. We wish him God's guidance and direction in this new walk of life.

On March 13, it was uplifting to see such a large group assemble with us. Bro. Chuck Hemmer ministered with us, as Peoria was host. After services, the choir favored us with many beautiful songs. We ap-

preciate their efforts to come and be with us, and trust that God may richly bless them.

ROANOKE

Edith Sauder—Mae K. Hodel

On March 2 our friend, Mrs. Bill Klaus (Peggy Bowald) gave her testimony of her faith and the joy in her heart. She was baptized the following day.

Our Sis. Persida Rocke, 94 years old, was called to her eternal rest. She is survived by two sons, Elmer and Bro. LeRoy, and seven daughters, Lillian Gudeman, Sis. Amy Stoller, Leona Menton, Linda Fehr, Minerva Legel, Alvina Fehr, and Merna Weyeneth; a sister, Sis. Alice Funk; a brother, C. E. Steffen.

Our Sis. Mary Aeschleman has our sympathy on the passing away of her daughter, Mrs. Fannie Huschen.

Visiting ministers were brothers, Walt Anliker, LeRoy Huber (Eureka), Rudy Graf. (Akron), George Yergler (LaCrosse), George Gramm (Gridley), Ed Aeschleman (Union City), and many from the area churches the evening of March 24. All are invited to come again.

Engagement was made known of Bro. Herman Luginbuhl and Sis. Marjorie Aeschleman. They plan to be married May 1.

Dan and Judy (Blunier) Magnuson welcome their first child, a daughter, Cheryl Ann, born March 26. Bro. Walter and Sis. Marian Blunier are the grandparents.

Ellen Hodel and Gary Pennington were married March 23. She is the daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Lorene Hodel. Our best wishes are extended to them.

Our dear friends, William and Ann Hangartner observed their 50th anniversary on March 7. Bro. John and Sis. Minnie (Gudeman) Hodel were married 59 years March 11. Bro. John and Sis. Anna Mangold celebrated their 60th anniversary March 8.

Hospitalized were Leah Moser, Bina Bertsch and Sylvia Blunier. Helen Mangold had the misfortune of breaking a bone in her foot.

AKRON

Katherine Ries

We sing our heartfelt thanks,
Thy truth and love adoring;

For guidance and for light,
Thy spirit we're imploring.
Our hearts we offer thee
For life and every day,
That with thy grace we tread
The straight and narrow way.

Our dear friends, Manfred and Eva (Wenhart) Grawunder have chosen this straight and narrow way, repented, gave their testimonies, and were baptized on March 17. We welcome them into the brotherhood . . . and another dear soul, friend Steven Pamer, son of Bro. Eugene and Sis. Eleanor has repented and found peace. We are looking forward to hearing his testimony and that of friend Lori Graf, daughter of Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet, in the near future.

Bro. Paul (Sis. Rose) Pamer is now recuperating nicely at home, after serious illness caused hospitalization.

Because of the requirements of their employment, making it so that several Rittman brethren are unable to attend their Wednesday evening services, we rejoice in the additional fellowship we have with them on Thursday of each week, and further we thank Bro. Gary Maibach for the messages he brings of God's word.

Sisters Anna Hanla and Anna Von Gunten are still absent because of illness.

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee: yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."

The following brethren have reported new addresses as of April 1: Bro. Ernest and Sis. Louise Graf, old address: 1132 St. Michaels Ave., Akron Ohio 44320 . . . new address: 1385 Keystone Blvd., Akron Ohio 44320. Sis. Marie Dakovich, old address: 1274 Copley Rd., Akron Ohio 44320 . . . new address: 477 Whitepond Dr., Apt. 101, Akron Ohio 44320. Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rose Luginbuhl, old address: 1385 Keystone Blvd., Akron Ohio 44320 . . . new address: 15304 Hatfield Rd., Rittman Ohio 44270.

AMES

Sue Banwart

From the confines of her wheelchair, a dear one so heartily extends her yet moveable left hand—smiling face aglow and tears flood-

ing her eyes—to greet others in faith. Though words won't come, her face expresses her inner joy and peace found by placing trust in our Lord who suffered, bled, died and arose from the grave, and who is now helping each one of us to uphold our cross.

Away from the bustle, where all
the day long
I hurried and worried, when active
and strong,
I needed the quiet, though at first
I rebelled,
But gently, so gently, the cross he
upheld,
And whispered so sweetly of
spiritual things.
Though weakened in body, my
spirit took wings
To heights never dreamed of when
active and gay;
He loved me so greatly, he drew me
away.
I needed the quiet, no prison my
bed,
But a beautiful valley of blessing
instead,
A place to grow richer, In Jesus to
hide.
I needed the quiet, so He took aside.

What joy flooded our souls when, on March 9, we were privileged to travel to West Bend to hear the testimonies of five dear souls, among them Tim and Kathy Butikofer of our small congregation. The next day we witnessed their baptism, and so joyfully welcome them as a brother and sister-in-faith. "What glorious state, to be a lamb of Jesus!"

A thank-you to all those supporting our monthly meetings. A special thank-you to Bro. Noah Shrock for bringing us God's unchanging word. He expounded on Revelation chapter 3. May we ever more diligently strive to preserve the faith of our forefathers and not become "lukewarm".

ALTADENA

Mrs. Don Cremer

Easter is most joyous for the Christian. Though the Easter story is one we all know and hear again and again, it never grows old. Easter holds the story of our life in Christ from its beginnings. The story is always new and exciting, as is every day living for the Lord! Let us ponder what the angel said to Mary that first Easter morning: ". . . Fear not ye: for I know that

ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." If it were not for an empty tomb and a risen Lord, we would have no hope for tomorrow. Only because **He lives** we can live through Him.

Our dear Bro. Roy Vintch has gone to live with the Lord. He was taken ill several weeks previous to being taken from this life. His beloved wife, Sis. Clara, survives, and he also leaves two children. He is greatly missed by all who knew him, and we extend deep sympathy to his family. We rejoice in that he is present with the Lord and relieved of earthly afflictions. Clara and family have asked me to submit this note to all: Words cannot express our sincere thanks for the acts of kindness extended to us in the illness and passing of our loving husband, father and grandfather.

We have appreciated the visits of several ministers. They are Bros. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton), Akito Inoue (Tokyo), Noah Hermann (Tucson) and Ezra Feller (Cissna Park). Elder Bro. Ezra was with us during several gatherings, and we were all blessed by his inspired ministry. Bro. Ezra and our elder, Bro. Carl Kinsinger read and explained the memorandum. Then a church dinner and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Sis. Kathryn Hackenjos was hospitalized for surgery on her wrist. She has suffered pain and numbness in her wrist and hand for some time.

Two couples are leaving our congregation and will be greatly missed. Bro. Will and Sis. Lil Feller have returned to their home in Cissna Park, accompanied by Bro. Albert and Sis. Elizabeth Kaisner, who will return in several weeks. Bro. Al and Sis. Marjorie Frautschi plan to return to their home in the Leo area. May the Lord bless them richly.

We anticipate, Lord willing, three baptisms, Bill Cooper (Bro. Ray and Sis. Virginia), Joyce Hackenjos (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Kathryn), and Laurie MacDonald (Earle and Sis. Lois) have found peace with the Lord and are awaiting baptism in the near future.

Moving? Drop a card. Tell both old and new address.

CISSNA PARK Margaret Rudin—Grace Bauer

When the day of glory came
On that far Judean hill,
It was early in the morning
When all was calm and still.

The stone that sealed the borrowed
tomb
Was quickly thrust aside;
Our risen Lord in majesty
Stepped forth that Eastertide.

No earthly grave could hold Him,
For He was Heaven's Son,
True passport to Eternal Life
For believers, everyone.

Rejoice then all ye people,
And all the earth rejoice!
Lift up your hearts in gladness
As again we hear His voice . . .

As I live, ye too shall live.
What joy His words convey!
Lift up your hearts in gratitude
This glorious Easter Day.

March 16, we were privileged to hear the testimonies of our friends, Gerald Rudin and Stanley Maul. They admitted they were lost and had no place to go but to the cross, and God heard their cry and gave them peace. They were baptized on Sunday and are now our brothers in faith. We rejoice with them. May the Holy Spirit, faithful Guide, ever lead and guide them. Bro. Joshua Broquard helped with this important work.

Our visiting ministers were (Bros.) Edwin Bahler, Lenard Meyer, Dale Eisenmann, Joe Kaisner, and Albert Aberle. We thank them for coming and bringing us the word.

Our annual church cleaning was done on Tuesday, March 19. We thank all those who were willing to help.

Our sick: Sis. Esther Hodel was a hospital medical patient. Sis. Kate Walder had the misfortune of falling in her garden and breaking her hip. She is getting along good and is in good spirits. Her address is East Lynn, Ill 60932. Jimmy Walder, son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Wilma had a hernia operation. He is home again and getting along well. Sis. Margaret Rudin is able to be back in her home again, for which she is grateful.

We extend our sympathy to Sis.

Wilma (Mrs. Charles) Walder in the death of her father, Louie Baer of Princeville. May God pour in the healing balm.

ELGIN, IOWA Mrs. George Butikofer

Rejoice, Rejoice.

"Let not your heart be troubled"

Let not your soul be sad;
Easter is a time of joy.
For all Christian folks
Hearts should be glad,
Glad to know that Jesus Christ
Made it possible for men
To have their sins forgiven
And like Him to live again.

Elder Eugene Marti from Sabetha recently visited us. He assisted our Elder Bro. Paul in conducting the hearing of friend Lonnie Butikofer's testimony of his repentance, and helped in his baptism. We are so happy for Bro. Lonnie and welcome him into the fold. The memorandum was read and expounded upon . . .

Tim Butikofer and wife, Kathy gave their testimonies of repentance and peace with God and man at the West Bend church recently, and were baptized there. We welcome them as brother and sister in faith. Tim is the son of our Elder Paul and Sis. Mildred, and Kathy is the daughter of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Banwart of West Bend.

Officially spring has arrived and some signs are evident. The lilac trees are putting forth buds, and the ruybarb is pushing some new shoots. As further evidence of our new season, our wild birds, especially the cardinals are seen less frequently in our feeding area, but we can hear their sweet calls from the distant woods. They will soon be nesting and caring for their fledglings. Feeding the birds the past winter has been a source of much satisfaction. The new varieties, such as the tree sparrows and gold finches' appearing has been very interesting.

We are always glad to have visitors to stop by and worship with us. Bro. and Sis. Aaron Steffen from Alto, who were enroute to the Mayo Clinic, spent a week end with us. We certainly are grateful to them for sharing God's word with us.

Sis. Lena Schupbach, who is El-

gin's oldest resident, recently reached her 95th birthday. A group of relatives and friends came to her and Ruth Schupbachs' home to wish her a happy birthday. Her health generally speaking is remarkable. She is, however, confined to her home, due to a fall she suffered a few days ago. No bones were fractured, so she may soon be able to attend church services again.

Our friend, Jake Lehman, has been a patient at the Postville Hospital for the past two weeks. The doctor thinks he might have suffered a mild stroke. We hope that he will recover and be able to return to his home.

My husband's Aunt Bertha Lehman, who is making her home with her daughter, Florence and son-in-law Lyle Lenth (since her health does not permit her to be alone in her own home), recently celebrated her 93rd birthday. Many friends and relatives came to pay her a visit and to wish her a "Happy day". She is always so appreciative of any thoughtfulness shown in her direction.

FORREST

Juanita Schneider
Kathryn Steidinger

We welcome now the hero,
Who lay in calm repose,
For over death he triumphed,
And from the grave he rose.

Our friend, Carla Kuntz (Bro. Leland and Sis. Marjorie), has learned to know of His love when she turned to Him in repentance. We are so thankful that His blood still has the same cleansing power that it had so many, many years ago. Lloyd Honegger (Bro. William and Sis. Esther) and Pauline Wiegand told of this love when they brought their testimony to the congregation on March 23. The following day they were baptized, and we welcome them as our brother and sister in the Lord. Elaine Nussbaum (Bro. Dean and Sis. Betty) was proved on March 27 and is looking forward to baptism on Sunday, March 31.

Susan Leman (Bro. Sidney and Sis. Helen) & Greg Best of Dwight have announced their engagements . . . also, Peggy Adams of Strawn and Stanley Blunier (Bro. Homer and Sis. Virginia). Both couples are

planning a June wedding.

A premature daughter was born to Terry and Sis. Sharon (Zimmerman) Adams on March 11. Shawna Jenee was taken to St. Francis Hospital in Peoria, where she is doing well, but since she was quite small she will be there for some time yet. Bro. Perry and Sis. Dorothy are grandparents.

Several have been in the hospital: Pauline Henry had surgery and has returned to her home. Bethany Steffen (Bro. Richard and Sis. Lou Ida) had a tonsillectomy, and Sis. Sarah Koehl had the flu. Bro. Alf Bachtold is convalescing at home, after having surgery and treatments in Peoria.

Thank you: It was a real pleasure to get the beautiful cards, letters, and gifts during my hospitalization and since I was an outpatient. The prayers and visits of the ministers, as well as everyone else was very comforting & encouraging. Also want to thank our old Peoria friends and relatives for inviting us in their homes for delicious meals while we were in Peoria. Bro. Alf Bachtold.

We have enjoyed many blessings from God's word and appreciate the visiting ministers who spent some time with us. Bros. Carl Westfall, Ken Schneider, Josh Broquard, Dave Wiegand, Art Bahler, and Merle Kaisner brought us many words of warning and also of encouragement.

Teach me, Father, when I pray,
Not to ask for more,
But rather let me give my thanks,
For what is at my door . . .
For food and drink, for gentle rain,
For sunny skies above,
For home and friends, for peace
and joy,
But most of all for love.

HOME FOR HANDICAPPED Elmer J. Bucher

No disguise can long conceal love where it is, nor feign it where it is not.

The love of many people was evident last year by the volunteer services rendered. The annual volunteer dinner was held on March 7 and was attended by over 200 guests.

Four more handicapped persons have been accepted and will be admitted to the home at a later date.

Blessed are they who understand
My faltering step and palsied hand.
Blessed are they who know that my
ears today
Must strain to catch the things
they say.

Blessed are they with a cheery
smile
Who stop to chat for a little while.
Blessed are they who never say
You've told that story twice today.

Blessed are they who know the way
To bring back memories of
yesterday.
Blessed are they who make it
known
That I'm loved, respected and not
alone.

Those who will help to ease the
days in the month of May by con-
ducting services are: May 3 Con-
gerville, May 10 Open, May 17
Goodfield, May 24 Morton, May 31
Tremont.

IOWA CITY

Joan Mogler—Twila Whipple

How thankful we are when we see souls turning their backs to the world and depending on the Lord for their help. Jesus said to the Samaritan woman at the well that "whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." A dear friend of ours, Randy Massner (Oakville) has accepted the Lord's calling and has taken a drink of the living water the Lord has to offer. Our prayer is that Randy can build a firm foundation of faith during his repentance and conversion.

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Noah Schrock and John Steiner (Oakville). We are thankful for brethren who give of themselves to bring us the inspired word of God.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Libby Meyer

One of our dear old sisters who is a shut-in has a wonderful love for the Lord. She spends many sleepless hours in prayer waiting and hoping for her salvation. One evening upon being told that she could go to sleep, she asked if this would be all right with God, so fervent is her desire to please Him.

We can often marvel at the fruits of the spirit of those who have run the race and are patiently waiting the Lord's calling home.

We extend a special thank you to visiting ministers (Bros.) Steve Rinkenberger, Elmer Bucher, and Joe Aberle for worshipping with us, as well as all those who traveled from a distance.

LESTER

Alice Metzger—Donna Metzger

Easter has a very special place in the hearts of both of us who report the news from here. It was in this season of the year we found our Saviour, so forgiving and merciful, when we hardly dared to believe he would hear our prayers. We cannot thank Jesus enough for shedding His blood, that this miracle can be accomplished not only in us, but in all who will sincerely ask His help.

We enjoyed a blessed day on March 24, when Bro. Clarence Dietrich, Silvertown, and Bro. Nathan Steffen, Elgin were our guest ministers and were among the many visitors here for the wedding of Sis. Joan Feucht, daughter of Bro. August and Sis. Martha, and Bro. Jim Dietrich, son of Bro. Clarence and Sis. Mildred. They will make their home in Silvertown, and though many miles separate us from Sis. Joan, we know the Lord will keep our hearts in touch.

Nettie Knobloch, daughter of Bro. Ernest, was married on March 7 to Ervin Banwart of West Bend, by Bro. Noah Gerber. On March 9, Mary Leuthold, daughter of Bro. Art and Sis. Emilie, was married to Jerry Ter Wee by Elder Bro. Leo Moser. We pray for happiness for the new couples and that God will be an important part of their household.

The engagement of Sis. Lyla Meyer, daughter of Sis. Emma and the late Bro. Alvia, and Bro. Mike Wirtz of West Bend was announced.

We welcome Bro. Jerome and Sis. Gail Hartter to our congregation. They have moved here from Sabetha.

Damon Bradley was welcomed into the family of Bro. Larry and Sis. Sheryl Knobloch on March 15. He has two brothers and a sister to welcome him. Sis. Iola Knobloch is the grandmother.

NAUMBERG

Eleanor Herzig

Our oldest member, Sis. Barbara Bachman, who is 96 years old, made her first airplane trip from Syracuse to Chicago, on Feb. 26 and home on March 10. She went with her daughter and son-in-law, Alice and Norman Lehman, to visit her granddaughter, Frank and Janet (Lehman) Tuley, and great-granddaughters, Barbara and Lora, in LaGrange, Illinois. She said it was a very nice trip, and enjoyed flying very much.

Hospitalized were Matthew Herzig, son of Bro. Ronald and Sis. Eleanor, as a medical patient, and Catherine Wooschlager, as a surgical patient. Both have returned home.

The engagement of James Beyer, son of Sis. Nina and the late Bro. Ralph, to Linda L. Virkler, daughter of Everett and Betty Virkler, was announced.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Clara Merz, Sis. Ella and Sis. Augusta Einbeck, and Emma (Andrew) Virkler in the death of their brother, John Einbeck. Funeral services were held at the Virkler Funeral Home on Sunday, March 17, by Bro. Robert Beyer.

We enjoyed fellowship with loved ones from Oakville.

SABETHA

Mrs. Joe Steiner

He came to mend earth's broken things,
That Carpenter of old;
God's broken law; men's broken hearts,
And broken dreams untold.
He came to mend earth's broken things,
To rest each weary soul . . .
His body broken on the cross—
Broken, to make us whole.

Bro. Sol Wenger, 81, passed away March 1 at the Sabetha Community Hospital, where he was a patient for two weeks. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Lydia; one daughter, Alda (Mrs. Alvin) Spellmeier of Fairview, Kansas; and two sons, Vernon and Merlin, both of Sabetha. Also surviving are five brothers, Phil, Bro. Will, Bro. Levi, Joe and Bro. Louis, all of Sabetha. Funeral services were held March 4 in Sabetha, with (Bros.) Sam Huber and Eugene Marti officia-

ting. Burial was in the Sabetha Cemetery.

Bro. Daryl and Sis. Susan Meyer are the parents of a daughter, born Feb. 26. She has been named Alisa Dawn, and has one brother, Lance to welcome her home.

Mr. and Mrs. James Aberle are the parents of a son, born March 1. He is their first child and has been named Travis James. Sis. Liseten and Bro. Ben Aberle are the paternal grandparents.

Bro. Gerald and Sis. Ruby Grimm are the parents of a son, their first child, born March 14. He has been named Darin Ray.

Marilyn Louise Strahm, daughter of Sis. Mildred and Bro. Walter Strahm was united in marriage to Jimmie Elton Schmidt of Topeka. The couple will be stationed at Lejeune Marine Corps Base, North Carolina.

We assembled with the Bern congregation to hear the results of the latest conference. May the Lord bless the brothers for their diligence and continue to abide with us all.

On March 10, nine friends were announced for proving. They were: Janet Plattner, daughter of Bro. Henry and Sis. Loree; Sharlyn, Nancy, Marcel and Cynthia Meyer, all daughters of Bro. Eli and Sis. Jois; Sonia Strahm, daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Phyllis; Mary Wenger, daughter of Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta; Tim Hartter, son of Bro. Virgil and Sis. Marie; Gordon Huber, son of Bro. Sam and Sis. Mary.

On Saturday, March 23, we were privileged to hear the testimonies of four of the friends and to witness their baptisms the following day. (Bros.) Dan Koch, Tremont and Lester Hartter, Bern were here to assist Bro. Eugene Marti in this important work. We welcome (Sisters) Janet, Sharlyn, Nancy and Marcel into the fold. If the Lord is willing, we will hear the testimonies of the other five the week-end of April 20-21.

SARASOTA

Linda Miller

May we in perfect love be found
When we Thy table, Lord, surround;
Keep soul and body purified;
Thy blessing, Lord, be multiplied
Upon this feast.

Then come into our midst today;
Impart Thyself to us, we pray.
This cup and loaf are proof and
sign
Of this, Thy covenant divine
In Jesus blood.

On March 3, the Sarasota Church partook of its first Communion Service. Elder Bro. John Bahler of Rockville visited and served us, along with our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach. We are always so thankful for the elder brothers that come and so freely give of their time and effort to make these things possible for us. We are again reminded of the importance that is held in such an undertaking as quoted in I Corinthians 11:24-29.

We have had another blessed month of many visitors. We are always thankful for those that take the time to worship and fellowship with us while in our area. Other visiting ministers are: Corbin Bahler, Rockville; Paul Gasser, Akron; and Irvin Stoller, Latty. To those who have visited with us since we have been in our new church, we would like to thank them for their patience with our kitchen facilities. Up to this point, our stools had not yet arrived, and we were using folding chairs. Now they are installed, making it so much better at the tables. Our dishes are to have arrived this week, completing all of the things in the kitchen. The women have had so much help in the kitchen. It's wonderful to see the harmony that comes in working in the kitchen, when everyone pitches in. Our sincere thanks to all the sisters who have so willingly helped.

Our hearts and prayers go out as Bro. Leon Virkler has been hospitalized and is now recuperating from surgery. He is in the Doctor's Hospital in Sarasota.

A hearty invitation is extended to all those planning to be in our area. The time of our services are as follows: Sunday song service 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. We have been holding Wednesday evening services at 7:30 p.m. . . . to come to the new church . . . Highway 41 and Bahia Vista intersection, turn east on Bahia Vista four miles, until Honore Avenue; turn north 1/2 mile, 333 North Honore Avenue, Sarasota.

Feel free to contact any of the following for further information:

Philip Wingeier, 959-3244; Edward Getz, 756-4346; Robert Reiman, 355-6767; David Eisenman, 955-0767. The church phone is currently 955-9517, however on June 8 our new number at the church will be 371-2968. For those hoping to be in our area at that time, please make special note of the change in number.

WICHITA Glennis Allenbach

Easter, blessed day!

Although Easter will be past when this is received, the glow and wonder should remain. Again I say how the Lord has blessed our congregation this past year.

Sis. Ungela Strom gave her testimony and was baptized. She told how she seemed to have no purpose or reason to her life before she came to the Lord. Now all this is changed and we are so happy for her. Many who love her came a long way to be with her.

Visiting ministers have been, our elder, Bro. Sam Anliker, Bros. Loren Strahm and Clarence Yackley.

We are so happy to inform you our minister, Bro. Al Langhofer had his heart surgery and is making satisfactory progress. He will be out of service until June 1. He says he is grateful for this time and period of purification and feels this has been good for his spiritual growth.

Note of Thanks: The flowers were beautiful and I sincerely appreciated each one of them; add to flowers the prayers and cards, with a few words of encouragement and there is a greater beauty, because it shows forth the love and compassion that Christ wants us to possess toward each other and especially at a time of trial (my recent heart surgery). Al Langhofer.

WOLCOTT Arles Kropf—Marjean Lehman

Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed
for me,
And that Thou bidd'st me come to
Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come! I come!

We rejoice with another dear friend, Brenda Kyburz, who has repented and found peace. We look

forward to hearing her testimony, along with her two sister-in-law's who also have been announced.

Funeral services were held at the church on March 6 for Charles Oberlander. He is survived by his wife, Blanche; one brother, Bro. Albert, a sister, Sis. Rosia (Elmer) Stoller, both of our congregation.

Sis. Emma Kronf, a resident of Fairview Haven, Fairbury, suffered a broken hip in a fall at the Home on March 3. She is confined at St. Joseph Hospital in Bloomington, where she had surgery.

Sis. Grace Stoller is in St. Elizabeth Hospital in Lafayette, where she had major surgery. Bro. Elmer Stoller suffered a severe stroke and is a patient at Jasper County Hospital in Rensselaer, Indiana. His wife, Sis. Rosia, is also a medical patient there.

We are sorry to lose from our congregation Bro. Bob and Sis. Lena Lou Reuter and Bro. Jim, who have moved to Morris area. We wish them many blessings and hope they will visit us whenever possible.

"The LORD watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another."

TUCSON Mrs. Donald Bauer Mrs. Loren Knapp

We are having beautiful spring weather. On Sunday, a picnic was held in the park for everyone. Both young and old alike enjoyed the picnic supper and the Christian fellowship.

Bro. Loren Schrenk has been elected Sunday School Superintendent; Bro. Glen Funk, Sunday School teacher; and Sis. Ora Schrenk, kitchen chairman.

Our prayers are with Sis. Esther Sutter, who is hospitalized.

Two groups there were that Friday morn,
when Christ was crucified.
Two groups that stood on Calvary
and watched Him as He died.

One group was large, a surging throng,
that had come to pass the time;
One group was small, composed of few
who knew His love sublime.

Two groups there were, and only
TWO;

there was no middle ground.
And those Judeans had to choose
with which they would be found.

And though so many years have
passed,
all men must still decide,
Whether to stand with the larger
group,
or with the few abide.

BERN

Esther and Stella Moser

A goodly number from our congregation traveled to Newton on March 12 and took part with other churches in Kansas, packing and working with materials donated for World Relief shipment. Everyone thought it a day well spent.

Our visiting ministers were: Bro. Joe Aberle . . . Bro. Roy Grimm was with us for a midweek service. Visitors are always appreciated.

Bro. Albert Plattner passed away March 27, after a two-year battle against cancer. Albert was born near Bern, Oct. 9, 1910 to Jacob and Lena (Edelman) Plattner. He was married to Julia Knobloch (Lester). Albert spent most of his life around Bern as a farmer. When his health started to fail, they moved to Bern. On Jan. 23, Albert was brought to church in a wheelchair to fulfill his wish to be baptized. He felt God was good to him, in that He granted grace in his last days to prepare for that Heavenly home. Surviving are Sis. Julia; one son, Bro. Leland, Bern; three daughters, Mrs. Lenis Tucker, Liverpool, N. Y.; Mrs. Lois Branek, Steinauer, Nebr.; Mrs. Loree Lilly, Overland Park, Kansas. Bros. Lester Hartter and Carl Hartman conducted services March 29, and he was laid to rest beside his parents in the church cemetery.

BLUFFTON

Melanie Gerber—Donna Drayer

Many families have included new infants into their circles. Bro. Terry and Sis. Gloria Steffen welcomed their third child, Joy Lynne into their home on March 9. Bro. Phil and Sis. Maureen Stettner became the parents of Margo Lynne on March 10. Bro. Bill and Sis. Kathy Stoller received their first child, Stacy Jo, on March 16. Bro. Ramon and Sis. Flossie Stoller are the paternal grandparents. Little Michelle Andria joined Bro. Mick and Sis. Connie Cupp on March 17.

The maternal grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Lela Meyer.

Several in our midst have found a need to spend some time in nearby hospitals. Bros. Alvin Gerber, Fred Gerber, Stanley Geisel, Sam Hirschy, Richard Kaehr, Ray Baumgartner and Sis. Kay (Tom) Fairchild. Most of these are recuperating in their homes. Bro. Sam Steffen has been dismissed from the hospital and is residing at Davis Nursing Home, here in Bluffton.

(Bros.) Homer Reineck (Toledo), Simon Wagenbach (Tremont) and Theo. Beer (Milford) ministered unto us. We always welcome our brethren who come over distant miles to assemble with us.

We were very sorry to hear of the news that Bro. Samuel Gerber, 75, passed away. He was a strong pillar of the church, and his cheerful smile will be missed very much. His first marriage was to Sis. Ida Baumgartner, who preceded him in death. His second marriage was to Sis. Lillian Sinn, who survives. Bro. Sam's children are Sisters Elizabeth (LeRoy) Steffen, Margaret (Frederick) Gerber and Joan Gerber. Also surviving are two brothers, Bros. Jack and Eli, and a sister, Sis. Hulda (Dubach) Heinholt. Bro. Harry Bucher (Valparaiso) and Bro. Orville Ringger conducted the funeral services.

The engagement of Sis. Cyndee Steffen to Bro. Dean Fiechter has been made known. May the Lord richly bless their life together. The couple's parents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Bernice Fiechter & Bro. Harry and Sis. Betty Steffen. On March 31, the engagement of Sis. Beverly Kipfer and Bro. Alan Hodel was revealed. Bro. Carl and Sis. Velma Kipfer and Bro. Ray and Sis. Catherine Hodel of Roanoke are their parents.

On March 9, Kris Biberstine and Dave Troxel were united in marriage. Parents of the couple are Bro. Ralph and Sis. Elsie Troxel and Mr. and Mrs. Ted Biberstine. On March 23, Pam Aschliman became the bride of Paul Merritt. Pam's parents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Luella Aschliman. May God shower his wonderful love on these two new homes.

"And the child Samuel grew on, and was in favour both with the LORD, and also with men . . . And the LORD came, and stood, and

called as at other times, Samuel, Samuel. Then Samuel answered, Speak; for thy servant heareth." As the Lord called Samuel in his youth, so He is still calling to the youth. Craig Steffen (Bro. Robert and Sis. Carol), Jean Schwartz (Bro. Ken and Sis. Elizabeth), Debbie Freiburger, and Herbie Reinhard (Bro. Jim and Sis. Ruth) answered the call and have been added to the fold.

A patient at Parkview Hospital in Ft. Wayne, Bro. Fred Gerber of 723 Elm Drive is now convalescing. He wishes to thank all those who remembered him with cards, gifts, and most of all prayers in his behalf.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Katie are both looking forward to their 50th wedding anniversary on April 20. They do not plan on an open house on account of Bro. Fred's health, but do however plan a family gathering. It is requested that all gifts be omitted.

CROGHAN

Alice Virkler

He carried the cross to Calvary,
Carried its burden for you and me;
There on the cross He was crucified,
And, because He suffered and bled
and died,
We know that whatever our cross
may be,
It leads to God and eternity.
With faith in your heart, take the
path He trod,
For the way of the Cross is the way
to God.

At this Easter season we are reminded of the suffering and death of our Lord and Saviour, and the burden and cross He carried for each one of us. May we always have this faith in our hearts and follow the way of the Cross, and then we can be assured that this way is the way to God.

Our Sunday School children are preparing a short Easter program for us, where we will hear what they have learned and understand of the love of God.

Two little babies have been born to gladden the homes of loved ones. Craig Stephen is welcomed by his parents, Bob and Janice Widrick, sisters Terry, Kathy, and Chris, and his brother, Tim. His grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Berdena Widrick. Jim and Joyce Rice

have welcomed their first child, Janelle. Her grandparents are Larry and Sis. Louise Purvines. May these new ones bring a blessing to these homes.

Two of our little boys have been hospitalized and been able to return home. Craig Virkler, son of Ken and Judy, and Louis Beck, son of Janet and Louis. Little Todd Farny, son of Duane and Karen, is a hospital patient. We are having some "flu-type" illness the past few weeks. Pernal Virkler (Bro. Howard) is a medical patient, in traction for her back. Sis. Barbara Virkler has been able to return home, after being a hospital patient for several weeks.

We extend our sympathy to Don and Sis. Rita Petzoldt and family at the time of the passing of his father, Merrill. May God comfort each bereaved heart and help to lessen the sorrow.

We have enjoyed the visits of loved ones from Bay City and Rockville.

EUREKA

Cathryn Wettstein
Salome Schumacher

Greetings in Jesus Name! Our visitors were more the past month. They were the following: Bros. Eli Somerhalder—Kiowa, Rudy Graf—Akron. George Yergler—LaCrosse, Gene Bertschi—Roanoke . . . and there were more sitting in our audience on Sunday the 24th.

Two more souls are seeking their soul's salvation through repentance. They are Glen and Becky (Wagonbach) Bauman. His parents are Bro. and Sis. Elmer and Mildred Bauman of Goodfield. and her parents are Bro. and Sis. Simon and Louise Wagonbach of Tremont.

Saturday evening the 23rd, our friends Charles and Mary Mangold were given their opportunity to tell of their conversion. (Bros.) Rudy Graf, George Yergler and Gene Bertschi assisted Bro. Leroy Huber with this work. The next day they were baptized and are now new babes in Christ, also our brother and sister in faith.

Bro John Wittmer has returned home from the Proctor Hospital, after about 10 days. Sis. Wilhelmina Anliker is a surgical patient in St. Francis Hospital.

Sis. Persida Rocke passed away at the "Home," Monday, March 11. She had lived in the home since

1967. She was taken to Roanoke church for the funeral. Her husband was Will Rocke. She was the mother of our "Home" administrator. Bro. Leroy Rocke.

Clifford Blackmer, age 53, died from a heart attack Tuesday, Mar. 19. His funeral was at the Argo funeral home March 21, with Bro. Vernon Leman in charge. His wife is Wilma Rocke, who survives.

March 18 in the evening, a large group of members and friends gathered in our house of worship, for the annual house cleaning. **Many hands make the work easy** is a statement well said.

FAIRBURY Joyce Huber

Easter—a favorite season of the year for many—a time when we especially think of Jesus' words: "I am the resurrection and the life".

This Easter season has been a time for a resurrection and life for a few here. Ben and Lydia (Munz) Nussbaum want to be resurrected and said they are preparing for a better home. We rejoice that they have asked the Lord Jesus to be their Saviour, and want to live a life of faith.

This season is also a time of a new life for Bro. Orie Stoller (64), who passed away from this life at the hospital where he had become a patient a couple weeks earlier, from a stroke. Our hearts are moved with sympathy for his family, who survive: his wife. Sis. Ernestine (Rapp), his daughter. Sis. Joan, and his sons: Ivan, Melvin, Dale. and Richard.

Life has been given to new babies: Mr. and Mrs. Curtiss Meiss were blessed with a baby girl. Traci Jena. They have one son, Kenneth. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Dan Meiss. and great-grandmother is Sis. Ida Meiss. . . Kevin Todd Stoller is the second child born to Mr. and Mrs. Dale Stoller. Kevin has a brother, Bryan. His grandparents are Alton and Sis. Sally Schieler and (the late Bro. Orie) and Sis. Ernestine Stoller. . . Bro. and Sis. Keith Steffen became the parents of a baby boy, Thomas Keith. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Harry Isch and Bro. and Sis. Emanuel Steffen. Great-grandparents are Sis. Anna Mangold, Sis. Marie Schupbach, and Andy and Sis. Sarah Steffen.

We enjoyed visiting ministers

(Bros.) Leroy Hartman and Bill Kupferschmid.

We are sorry for those who have been hospitalized: (Sisters) Nancy Steffen, Emma Kropf, Ida Meiss, Luella Sohn.

Bro. Eli and Sis. Bertha Moser wish to express their thanks for the expressions of love and kindness during the illness of Bro. Eli and also during and after the passing away of Sis. Bertha's sister, Sis. Minnie Fluckinger of Connecticut. . . Bro. Elmer and Sis. Shirley Aberle wish to express their thanks for the expressions of love and kindness because of Bro. Elmer's surgery.

GOODFIELD Elna Grimm

Guide me to those who need my help;

Teach me to see their need,
That I may speak the word that cheers

And do the kindly deed. . .
And if the work Thou shall appoint
Is what the world counts small,
Make me content with my lot
And faithful in it all.

Bro. Syd Messner, son of Bro. and Sis. Frank and Gladys, Morris, was married to Sis. Cheryl Wiegand, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Simon and Mary Ellen, R.R., Deer Creek, on Sunday, March 10. They will make their home in Minneapolis, where Syd is presently employed. We pray the blessings of the Lord will be upon them wherever they go.

Gail and Jane Wiegand, R.R. Carlock are the parents of a baby girl, Amy Renee, who was born on Mar. 15. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Henry and Perceda Wiegand, Goodfield. and Mr. and Mrs. Elmore Waldbeser, R.R. Morton.

Our visiting ministers have been Bros. Ken Lawson, Minneapolis; Joe Aberle, Sabetha; Charles Sauder, Tremont; Harvey Grimm, Bern; Roy Ehnle and Nathan Stoller, Bradford; Rudy Graf, Akron; and Ben Stavenik, Mansfield.

We've heard so many words of love,
And shared the blessings from above;

This fellowship we know and feel,
Just grows more precious, and more real . . .

As loved ones mingle with us here, God's word, God's children are so dear.

INDIANAPOLIS
Wayne and Judy Steffen

Never lose an opportunity of seeing anything that is beautiful, for beauty is God's handwriting—a wayside sacrament. Welcome it in every face, in every fair sky, in every fair flower, and thank God for it as a cup of blessing.

Too often we walk from day to day without seeing anything, even though our eyes are open. We need to look around and see the beauties about us. We need not strain our eyes, for much beauty is found in simple things we look at everyday, but never see or appreciate. What did you see today that was beautiful?

Bro. Richard Aberle has begun in the ministry here. We appreciate his willingness to accept this responsibility. Those helping him during the month of March were: Bros. Ed Bahler, Remington; Ed Frank, LaCrosse; Ron Heiniger, Bloomington; and Bob. Grimm, Goodfield. We thank them for coming.

Keith and Cathy Steffen are parents of a baby boy, born March 14. His name is Thomas Keith. The grandparents are Harry and Clarice Isch from Bluffton and Manny and Lucille Steffen from Fairbury. Congratulations.

Ben Getz is continuing to improve at home. He and Margie really appreciate all the cards and visits from people. They hope to be back in church soon.

LAMAR
Mrs. Raymond Braker
Marie Marti

Easter is a time of beauty. May the glad dawn of Easter this year bring joy to us, may the calm eve of Easter leave a peace divine within our hearts, and on Easter night, may there be a desire within us to live for Christ, for the message of that morning long ago gives us faith and courage, which triumph over unbelief and fear.

On March 3, Sis. Janice Springer and Bro. Dan Braker were joined

together in holy matrimony by Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart in Ft. Scott. Bro. Raymond very appropriately made a beautiful comparison. Life is like a melody. Sometimes it may be a sad note and sometimes a more joyous one, and if we keep in tune with one another and with God, then God will look down on us with pleasure. On March 17. Sis. Carol Braker and Bro. Fred Marti were united in marriage by our Elder Bro. Sam Anliker. Bro. Sam lovingly reminded us that if there is love in the home for one another and for God, there God will dwell also. for God is love. May God's rich blessings be upon both couples as they begin their lives together.

Barbara and Willie Stefan are the happy parents of a baby girl, Lori Anna, born March 24. Grandparents are Sis. Hilda and Bro. Willie Stefan and the Chris Walkers.

Clara Lehman is in St. Johns Hospital in Springfield, where she had her leg amputated just above the knee. Though she experiences much pain, she is getting along satisfactorily.

We were happy that Bro. Fred Lanz was again able to attend church services. He seems to be much improved, and we do hope this will continue.

MORRIS
Esther Schaefer
Corrine Schmidgall

Flowers sleeping 'neath the snow,
Awakening when the spring winds blow;

Leafless trees so bare before,
Gowned in lacy green once more;
Hard, unyielding, frozen sod
Now softly carpeted by God;
Still streams melting in the spring.
Rippling over rocks that sing;
Barren, windswept, lonely hills,
Turning gold with daffodils . . .
These miracles are all around
Within our sight and touch and sound,

As true and wonderful today
As when the stone was rolled away,
Proclaiming to all doubting men
That in God all things live again.

We had a blessed Wednesday evening when Elder Bro. Leo Moser of Lester was here to help our Elder Bro. Paul Fehr share the memorandum with us. We are

thankful that we have those who watch over the flock. May we be able to accept the teachings and admonitions in love and share the concern of the future of our church.

Bro. Noah Miller of Minneapolis spent a Sunday with us. We thank him for ministering to us.

Robert and Lucy Heil are the grandparents of Stacy Rae, who was born to Gary and Debbie (Heil) McHone on March 8.

Lloyd and Dorothy Durkee have announced the engagement of their daughter, Judy, to Dennis Wulf, son of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Violet. A June wedding is being planned.

Several brothers and sisters were entrusted with duties at our annual business meeting.

Sis. Rose Moser was able to assemble again. She fell several weeks ago when coming to church, and had to spend a few days in the hospital. Sis. Mary Luthi was transferred from the hospital back to the rest home, where she is bedfast. She observed her 86th birthday this month. Sis. Emma Spohr is in a hospital in Willman for treatments. Bro. Steve Schaefer is in the hospital for observation, after a fall in the granary. Those who were hospitalized but able to assemble again are Sis. Dorothy Schmidgall, Cheryl Koehl, Marie Fehr, and Sis. Linda (Jerel) Schmidgall.

MORTON
Mrs. Keith Stevig
Mrs. Harry Kaiser

We received many blessings the first week-end of March, when Bros. Sandor Bako, Akron, and Pierre Neihouser, Francesville came to Morton to tell us of their visit to four countries behind the Iron Curtain. Bro. Bako visited Sunday School and talked to the Bible Class. He gave a very vivid account of how he escaped from his native land, Hungary, to freedom 17 years ago. He had served over 42 months in a concentration camp for refusing to bear arms. In doing so, the risk to his life was very great. In all the countries visited, they found the faith and love was very strong, even though in some areas the brethren do not have the privileges of assembling, reading the Bible, and singing hymns together that we so often take for granted. When asked what we might do to help, Bro. Bako said

we should pray that the faith might be preserved and that some churches in these countries might be reopened.

Our visiting ministers were (Bros.) Nathan Steffen, Elgin; Elias Somerhalder, Kiowa; LeRoy Huber, Eureka; Earl Zeltwanger, Bremen; Merle Bucher, LaCrosse; Elmer Bucher, Francesville; Edwin Hohulin, Goodfield; Harvey Grimm, Bern; Harold Schmidgall, Gridley; Ben Maibach, Detroit. We wish them the Lord's blessings for their labor of love.

We are so thankful for six dear souls who have given their testimony to live for the Lord and were baptized on March 17. They were Robert and Marilyn (Frank) Bryd; Jo Beth (Schock) Keil; Steve Schmidgall, son of Bro. Harry and Sis. Helen; Gregg Peters, son of Clarence and Geraldine Peters; Laura Hauter, daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley.

Bro. Jeff Witzig and Sis. Teresa Rassi were united in marriage on March 10. Their parents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Dorothy Witzig and Bro. Soli and Sis. Bertie Rassi.

Bro. Gene and Sis. Joyce Strunk are parents of a new daughter, Tammy. She has a brother, Jeffery at home. Grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Marie Kaufmann of Cissna Park and Bro. William and Sis. Ruth Strunk of Morton.

Jody Lynn, a new baby girl, was born to parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Zimmerman. She has a brother, Jeff at home. Grandparents are Bro. Ben and Sis. Betty Rassi and Bro. Harvey and Sis. Stella Zimmerman, all of Morton.

Those who have been or are in the hospital are: (Sisters) Naomi Witzig, Lavina Kilgus, Mable Roeschley, Bro. Harry Wick, Lena Stieglitz, Wayne Baum and Naomi Rostetter.

Thank-you: Naomi Rostetter, who has broken her wrist, wishes to express her thanks to everyone for the prayers, cards and gifts.

WINTHROP

Delores Messerli—Carol Messner

The brothers came together at the conference to share the burdens of their hearts, and find a hopeful solution to the problems of the church (Acts 15). There are records of these meetings as long ago as 1859.

Elder Bros. Paul Fehr and Leo

Moser came for the week-end. Saturday evening, the members gathered to hear the results of this meeting and to gather spiritual advice from the experience of the elder body. The brothers accepted the invitation to share and feed the flock on the Sabbath. We received a blessing from any sermon or Bible reading if we listen with the right frame of mind. Thank you for giving of your time and talents.

We enjoyed having the Minneapolis Bible Class with us one Sunday. We thank them for their efforts to come here with their youth.

Bro. Roland Messner had eye surgery. He is recovering at home.

The memories of bygone years,
My mother's love, my mother's
tears,

The thought of all her constant
care,

Doth bring the answer to my
prayer.

Oh mother when I think of thee,
Tis but a step to Calvary;
Thy gentle hand upon my brow
Is leading me to Jesus now.

VALPARAISO

Camille and Wm. Feller

We were blessed with an abundance of fellowship and Christian love for those from Milford, Francesville and Athens were among visiting brethren. On March 31, we welcomed Ministering Bro. Merle Bucher. Bro. Merle preached so plain and clear that the way of soul salvation is through Jesus Christ.

Our small flock is happy to announce that a newborn girl, Kimberly Joyce, was born to Byron and Sue Frieden. Grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Aldine (Heinold) Frieden and great-grandparents, Bro. John and Sis. Tillie (Hitz) Heinold, all of Valbo.

On a sad note, Sis. Alma Morris suffered injuries as she fell on slick payment. Our congregation will miss our friends Wm. and Martha Ringger, as they have moved to Arkansas.

Thank you: Bro. Bill and Sis. Nettie Jacob wish to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and gifts. This helped get him on his feet, as God is merciful.

Moving? Drop a card. Tell both old and new address.

PRINCEVILLE

Ruth Ricketts

Have you ever thought how it would be if you saw your loved ones caught up to meet the Lord in the air and you were left behind? Christ is coming again, and every eye will see Him. It will be a day of unspeakable joy for those who are His, but a day of distress and terror for those who have rejected Him.

Soon we will be observing the time when our dear Lord and Saviour suffered in the Garden of Gethsemane, bore your sins and mine upon the cross, and shed His precious blood so that we can be saved. What a glorious day when He arose from the grave and all had to say, "Truly this was the Son of God."

With our eyes we see the beauty of Easter, as the earth awakens once more. With our ears we hear the birds sing sweetly, to tell us spring is here. With our hands, we pick the golden daffodils and the fragrant hyacinths . . . But only with our hearts can we feel the miracle of God's love which redeems all men . . . And only with our soul can we make our "Pilgrimage to God" and inherit His Easter gift of eternal life.

Bro. Robert Meyer of Bluffton spent a week-end with us. Kindly advice and invitation was given to the friends to taste of the love of God. Outside a strong wind was blowing, while inside all was calm, and in a quiet voice God's word was brought forth through a meditation on the Beatitudes.

We were happy to have visitors from Rittman. Bro. Ben Hartzler meditated on II Timothy, chapter 3, and brought out how it ties in with the conditions of today, men being lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful and unholy.

We enjoyed a blessed week-end March 16 and 17, when many gathered to hear the testimonies of Sonia Streitmatter, daughter of Bro. Burton and Sis. Martha, and Gale Stoller, son of Bro. Joe and Sister Emily. Saturday evening, Bros. LeRoy Huber of Eureka and Edwin Ringger of Gridley assisted Bro. Dave Kieser in proving. Even those who have been in the faith for many years can learn from the young converts as they relate their

experiences. On Sunday, (Bros.) Bob Walder of Congerille and Marvin Schmidgal of Eureka were also here. We were reminded that our lifetime is short, but eternity has no end. Just as the waters parted for the children of Israel when they entered the promised land, when our feet touch the waters they will also part and the mountains that looked so huge will dissolve when we let God work in our hearts. Many witnessed the baptism of these two souls, who are now our dear brother and sister.

The following Sunday we were again blessed with visitors from various congregations, with Bro. Ed Hohulin of Goodfield as guest minister.

We wish to thank all our visitors, for we have treasured memories of the blessed fellowship.

Bro. George Wagenbach was able to leave the hospital and is being cared for in the home of his daughter, the Vernon Stoller family. How glad we were to have him worship with us again last Sunday.

Sis. Mabel Stoller is recovering from surgery and happy to be at home again. She says, "Thanks to all who remembered me with prayers, cards, and gifts while I was in the hospital and since my return home. Sis. Mabel Schafer.

Ervin Martin has returned to his home, and is slowly recovering from a recent coronary. While lying very ill, the Lord was gently knocking at Erv's heart, and how thankful we are that Erv let Him in, as did his wife, Lorraine. Now they both confess peace with God and man and are enjoying a new way of life. May the Lord be near them, and may they enjoy many days of blessings.

Bro. Phillip Musselmann had surgery and is making very satisfactory recovery at home.

A little girl, Jane Ellen, was born March 18 to Bro. Eddie and Sis. Frances Knobloch. She had two brothers and three sisters to welcome her home. Grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Lucille Knobloch and Mr. and Mrs. Eli Gerber of West Bend. Sis. Pauline Knobloch is great-grandmother.

Sis. Josephine Endress, our oldest member, quietly observed her 91st birthday March 19. She is still able to care for herself and fix her own meals; however, she does not see nor hear well. May God be with

this dear sister in faith in her sunset years.

Sis. Lena Stichling observed her 88th birthday March 1. She had been confined to her bed for several weeks, but thankful to say she is able to go to the table again, and has helped prepare food and is also sewing carpet rags.

As we are told in the Bible that all things should be kept in order, so it is with our House of Worship. Many came on Monday evening and again Tuesday morning, and a thorough spring cleaning was accomplished. All enjoyed fellowshiping while working.

Our friend, Louie Baer, who has been seriously ill the past five months, was taken to the hospital one night, and passed from this life the following afternoon, March 27. Louis was born near Dunlap Dec. 20, 1908, a son of George and Lena Kieser Baer. He is survived by his widow, Sis. Helen (Miller); three daughters, Sis. Wilma (Charles) Walder of East Lynn, Sis. Joan (LaVern) Berchtold of our congregation and Gloria (Claude) White of Waterloo, Iowa . . . six sisters, Lena Fautz of Peoria, Sisters Marie Farney and Freida Minger, both of Los Angeles, Martha Bowald of Roanoke, Esther Schafer of Princeville . . . and Lydia Hauer of Morton; five brothers; Alfred of Wyoming, Rudolph of Peoria, Ben of Tremont, Otto and Bro. Herman of Princeville congregation.

Funeral services were held Sat. March 30, with Bro. Joe Stoller and other local ministers conducting services; Bro. Jim Ringger also assisted. A short time before Louie expired, he took his wife's hand, squeezed it, and smiled at her.

Our sympathy is extended this family, who lovingly cared for Louie during his illness. The family deeply appreciate the concern shown by all during his illness and now during their bereavement.

TREMONT

Lydia Rassi—Mary Jane Leuthold

The Lord has brought us more precious teachings again, as (Bros.) Dave Kieser, Steve Rinkenberger and Bro. Noah Gerber visited with us. We are grateful to the brothers for their love for us.

Our dear sister, Rose (John) Schurter is confined to the hospital with a stroke.

Sis. Melba (Jerry) Hangartner is home from the hospital, but is not completely healed. Let us all remember our dear ones in our prayers.

Thank you note: I am so grateful and wish to thank everyone for all the prayers, cards, gifts, and for the food brought to our home since I've returned from the hospital. I am still recuperating, but with God's loving care, pray it won't be long til I can attend church and fellowship again. Sis. Melba Hangartner.

BAY CITY Carolyn Schamback

To me is given boundless mercy,
A gift that I did not deserve . . .

Our hearts rejoice as again we see the Lord working in the hearts of several dear friends as they heed His call to repentance. We invite the rest of our friends: Come and taste of the Lord's rich blessings and you will never be sorry!

We welcome into the fold of Christ two dear souls: Sis. Dawn Wieland, daughter of Bro. Merle and Sis. Elaine, and Sis. Dianne Rylance (Jim). How happy we were to hear their testimonies, how the Lord could do His work in their hearts and give them His salvation. Elder Bro. Josh Broquard and Ministering Bro. Art Bahler were with us to share in this joyful work.

Bro. Lee and I have become a "family of three" with the addition of our sweet little daughter, Jodi Lynn. Jodi's grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Lois Schamback of Croghan and Bro. Bob and Sis. Marian Knochel of Bay City. How precious a little bundle—and how much we need the help of God to bring her up as we should!

Hospitalized for surgery were Bro. John Lambert and Sis. Muriel Rylance—both seem to be doing very well again and we thank the Lord for returning them to health.

Sis. Nettie Knochel wishes to thank everyone for the many cards, flowers and warm thoughts she received at the loss of Bro. Fred.

CHICAGO

Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein

We need one another in the household of faith. None of us can walk independent of our brethren. We are to be one body joined to-

gether in mutual love and brotherly esteem.

This truth was especially conveyed to us by an interesting comparison a visiting brother made in his prayer. He had noticed a button on his coat was about to fall off as he sat down in church. This caused him to think of our faith in God, and how at times, when our faith is weak, we may feel we are only hanging on by a single thread . . . But he thanked God and rejoiced for the opportunities we have to come together to worship and fellowship as one body of believers . . . For when we are assembled, there are many threads of faith intertwined as we support and encourage each other. In this we find strength.

We are happy to hear that Bro. Jim and Sis. Jeanne Rinkenberger's infant son, Luke, is now at home and doing very well, after having been hospitalized last month.

It was a blessing for us to have (Bros.) Earl Banwart from West Bend, Arthur Baurer from Princeville, and Earl Zeltwanger from Bremen in our midst to minister from the word of God.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL

Kayleen Heiniger—Jeanne Haerr

Since the last writing, the carpeting has all been installed, the wall covering is nearly all on, and the dining room tables and stools are almost complete. Each time we assemble we take a good look to see how our church building is progressing. How good it is if we each inspect our own lives as carefully as we inspect the progress on our new church building.

Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger assisted our Elder Bro. Dan Koch in reading the memorandum on the eve of March 13. The guidelines set forth and the loving admonition should help us all to keep the proper love and respect for our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Our friends, Charles and Paula Knapp who recently turned to the Lord in repentance and have found His peace in their hearts, were blessed with the arrival of their first child, March 4. They named him Matthew Charles.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Now again this year Bro. Alden and Sis. Tillie Nussbaum have experienced God's

answer to their prayers, as yet another child came home to tell mother and dad "I want to repent." Their daughter, Candice who just recently moved to Peoria, has found grace to answer the Lord's call.

ALTO

Sue Root

We welcome Bro. and Sis. (Bob) Plattner to our congregation. We are also, however, losing a family. Bro. Dick and Sis. Janice Schrenk are moving to the Leo area. We are sorry they have to leave, but understand that Dick is going to be undertaking new employment.

Sis. Lydia Wingeier has been shut in for some time. She fell and has been unable to gather with us. We trust she will soon be feeling able to go in and out again, as we miss her in church.

Treasure Steffen, daughter of Bro. Carl and Sis. Mryna, was hospitalized. She is home now and doing fine.

Jim Blough and Julie McCall were united in marriage March 16. Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Gordon McCall of Clarksville and Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Elouise Blough.

Note of Thanks: I would like to extend a warm thank you to all those who remembered me with prayers and cards while I was shut-in and after. Sis. Delilah Schrenk.

BRADFORD

Rebecca Endress

Bro. Louie and Sis. Ann Rumbold are observing their 40th anniversary on April 1. They have five sons, Raymond, Bros. Ronald and Robert (Princeville), Bro. Rolland (Roanoke), and Roger of Sparland, and numerous grandchildren. They live in a new home in Sparland, and though they've had their health ups and downs, they are able to assemble regularly with us.

Bro. Bill Ringger was hospitalized a few days for dental work. Nathan Herciar was hospitalized and is again home, still feeling quite weak.

We appreciated the evening visit by Bro. Dave Kieser. We look forward to Holy Communion in a few weeks.

Cheryl Steffen and John Knobloch have announced their engagement. She is the daughter of Sis. Eleanor Steffen (and the late Bro. Elmer) of Elgin, Ill., and his par-

ents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma. Cheryl has two aunts here in Bradford, (Sis's) Lavonne Kieser and Dianne Knobloch. We offer them our best wishes and hope they will always feel welcome here.

DETROIT

Bonnie Popp

Let us all be reminded to the depth of heart of the Easter story and thus the gift of salvation offered to us all.

Nothing good have I done
To deserve God's own Son.
I'm not worthy of the scars in His hands;
Yet He chose the road to Calvary
To die in my stead—
Why He loved me, I can't understand.
Roll back the curtain of memory
now and then;
Show me where you brought me from
And where I could have been.
Remember I'm human and humans forget,
So remind me, remind me, dear Lord.

Elder Bro. Joe Waibel assisted our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach in sharing the memorandum. Isn't this one way the Lord provides to remind us how narrow the path we must walk upon if we want to walk hand in hand to that blest land.

The kingdom that I seek is Thine;
so let the way
That leads to it be Thine;
Else I must surely stray.

Not mine, not mine the choice
In things both great or small;
Be Thou my guide, my strength,
My wisdom and my all.

We were small in number the Lord's Day Bro. Jim Ringger of Bradford visited and ministered unto us. Therefore, we were especially grateful for his words of truth reminding us of the blessings of humility and obedience.

Bro. Rich and Sis. Jan Schock welcomed their new daughter, Lisa Anne. Baby sister has made Tania happy, too. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Lyla Schock, Elgin, and Bro. Albert and Sis. Edith Joos, Morris.

JOY is a most infallible sign of the presence of God.

MANSFIELD

Aaron A. Sauder

On a lonely hill called Calvary, they crucified our Lord—

They crowned Him with a wreath of thorns, Then using nails and sword

They hung Him from a wooden cross and left Him there to die, Taunting Him to save Himself as darkness filled the sky.

Joseph of Arimathea came later on that dreadful "night"

And taking Jesus, covered Him with linen of pure white,

Then placed Him very gently in a newly-hewn stone grave

And rolled a mighty rock across the entrance to the cave . . .

He is risen

Then He appeared to others and to His disciple band

Instructing them to go and preach the gospel through the land—

After He had spoken thus, instructing the eleven,

Jesus Christ, the Risen King ascended into Heaven.

As this season of year brings new life to the grass, trees, flowers, so we are also reminded of the new life we have in Christ. How measureless is God's love, that He sent His son, Jesus Christ to die for us, and how wonderful the miracle of His resurrection. The Sunday School children are preparing an Easter program to present on Palm Sunday.

We are thankful that the intense pain suffered by Sis. Theresa Stier was ended, when she gently went to sleep in the Lord on March 25, at the age of 82. Our loving sympathy is extended to her family, her brother, Bro. Philip Stier of California, and two sisters, Mrs. David Shelley (Margaret) and Mrs. Barbara Brown.

Bro. Dick Banks spent several weeks in the hospital because of shoulder and back injuries he sustained, when he fell from a tree; Sis. Peg Sauder Graszl (Frank) was in the hospital for tests and treatment; at the age of 95, Sis. Elizabeth Reiter lies on her hospital bed, patiently hoping and praying the Lord to take her home. Bro. John Oesch remains a patient at University Hospital in Columbus, where his wife, Sis. Kate stays with him; they both appreciate mail.

Elder Bros. Rudy Graf and Joe Ramsier visited our congregation on March 10, at which time they shared the contents of the memorandum with us.

OAKVILLE

Martha Wiegand

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Betty Baker in the loss of her dear husband, Bro. John R. (Sam) Baker. Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger from Altadena was with us for the services. Bro. Sam passed away on his 54th birthday in Bentonville, Arkansas. He was born February 28, 1920, in Beardstown, Illinois, the son of R. L. and Hettie Benson Baker. He married Betty Frank on January 10, 1947, and was baptized according to his faith on February 19, just 9 days before his departure from this life. He is survived by both his wife and mother.

We welcome our new Bro. Bradley Eland into the faith. He and his wife, Sis. Joyce (Frank) were on a short leave from the service of our government, during which time he was able to bring his testimony before the church. Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart from Ft. Scott was with us for the occasion.

Other visiting ministers were Bros. Willis Wiegand Goodfield; Ben Stavenik, Mansfield; and Elder Rudy Graf, Akron. We thank them for their visits.

We will miss Bro. Don and Sis. Becky Barth Carpenter and their family, as they have moved to the Wichita congregation. We know they will be appreciated in their new home.

PEORIA

Mrs. R. J. Miller

Spring is here! As Mother Nature wakens, so also may the Holy Spirit waken human life—the unconverted to repentance, and the saved to more time for God. Just as budding trees and bushes, blooming crocus, pointing tulips and daffodils pushing through the ground, and green grass are beautiful to the beholder, so also are people beautiful to the Creator of all, in every phase of serving Him.

Debbie Waibel, Eddie Meister, and Phil Hasler were proved Saturday, March 23, and baptized the following day. Judy Hemmer, daughter of Bro. Charles and Sis. Marian, and Mary Ann Hartman, daughter of Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Elsa, were

announced as having repented and found peace with God. We rejoice with them and their families.

Our Elder Bro. Roy and Sis. Gertrude Sauder returned from Sarasota March 4. Bro. Joe Schrock preached Sunday morning, March 24, and Bro. Ben Maibach preached that afternoon and also assisted in the baptisms. Elder Bro. Rudy Graf of Akron preached on a Monday night. He was accompanied by Bro. Ben Stavenik. Bro. Robert Meyer had a wonderful sermon Wednesday night, March 27 . . . And Sunday, March 31, Bro. Al Scheitlin of Elgin had the morning service, and Bro. Albert Aberle of Tremont, the afternoon. The Lord must really love us to bless us so!

Peoria choir went to Purdue University at Lafayette, Indiana, to sing March 13. The last week-end in March, they sang in Bay City. They spread joy and goodwill wherever they go.

The young members held a chili supper at Fellowship Hall and gave the proceeds to charity.

Adolph Roecker moved into our A. C. Home.

We are sorry that Bro. Al Thomas is very ill in the hospital. Also hospitalized are Bro. Silas Sauder, Kenneth Young, Ernest Peters (Sis. Martha's brother), and one-year-old Eric Hodel, son of Bro. Irv. and Sis. Sharon.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Louise Schmeid over the death of her grandson, ten-year-old David Lane. He suffered from leukemia. Sis. Clara Kahler also has our sympathy. Her brother, George, of Pekin, passed away.

Ecclesiastes 3 begins: "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, . . ."

RITTMAN

Florence Hartzler

". . . if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen." We enjoyed very much the words we received from two young ministers, (Bros.) Kenneth Indermuhle, Sardis, and Paul Gasser, Akron. We pray the Lord will bless them in this work of love.

Again the Lord has given peace to a dear friend who has repented and is now awaiting baptism. Shelly Jenkins has turned from the ways of the world and hopes to become a child of God. We are so thankful that more friends have answered the call and are also seeking Him. Vicky Young, daughter of Bill and Sis. Donna, and Stanley Winkler, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Estella, have felt the need of a Saviour and have turned to Him in repentance. We pray they will receive the peace of God, too! "Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them out of their distresses."

We are glad to report Sis. Martha Dotterer is recovering nicely from surgery which removed a kidney. We are so thankful the Lord's healing power can be felt by those who are ill. "I wish to thank the many loved ones who remembered me in so many kind ways while I was hospitalized and since returning home. The cards, gifts, visits and prayers shall long be cherished by my family and myself." Sis. Martha (Henry) Dotterer . . . Others needing hospital care were (Bros.) Don Spangler and Carl Ingold, and Sis. Carol Kiser. It was good to see Sis. Shirley Zollinger in church again, following surgery. "Lord, hear my voice: let thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications."

The wedding of Bro. Steve Bauman and Sis. Connie Stoller was in Latty on March 17. We wish to welcome Sis. Connie to our congregation, and hope she will feel the same love here in Rittman as in her home church, Latty . . . The wedding of Bro. Larry Miller and Sis. Edith Gasser was performed on March 24, in the presence of many friends and relatives. 'Was so glad to see Sis. Edith's brothers and their families here from different parts of the country . . . Tom Thompson and Valerie Maibach exchanged wedding vows on Sat. March 30. We pray the Lord will bless these loved ones as they start a new life together.

A baby boy was born to Bro. Gary and Sis. Mary Ann Maibach and has been named David Gary. Karen and Mark welcome their new brother, too. A little girl, Kristen Leslie was born to Larry and Janet Hanzie. Kim and Kevin are glad, too for their new sister. May the

Lord bless them with their precious little bundles.

Easter!

Christ walked in the garden on that first glad Easter Day.

He rose in life triumphant, for the stone was rolled away.

How sweetly must the birds have sung to see Him passing there!

How gladly must the trees have clapped their branches in the air!

And how the flowers must have bloomed around the path He trod!

I wonder if they knew they grew about the feet of God.

May joy rise from the depths of grief and move our lips to praise

In the April glory of the holy Easter days,

And may hope's long sleeping awake again and every doubt depart—

And may we see Him walking in the garden of the heart.

TAYLOR

Marie Butikofer—Eleanor Yackley

How we rejoice because of the first Easter morning, when our Lord arose from the grave! He has promised, as He arose, some day all His saints shall arise to a new glorious resurrection morning.

Spring began so early that fruit trees started budding; then a cold spell came and nipped the buds. Our peach crop is perhaps gone for this year.

Our visiting ministers the month of March were (Bros.) John Steiner (Oakville), Uriel Gehring (Burlington), Ben Stavenik (Mansfield), and Rudy Graf (Akron). They all came to proclaim God's word, which we all need, and we appreciate their labor for us. If we heed the warnings and advice, we shall not miss the goal.

Myron Barkley (husband of Debbie, son-in-law of Sis. Naomi Heimer) had surgery, but is making a satisfactory recovery. Sis. Elizabeth Sutter had some gall stones removed. She was hospitalized for about two weeks. Sis. Betty Hoerr is home from the hospital and making good progress, after suffering a broken shoulder . . . Note of thanks: I want to thank all those who remembered me while I was hospitalized and since returning home. The cards, gifts, and prayers were appreciated. Betty Hoerr.

I often recall my childhood days
When I was nurtured in God's ways
By loving parents providing each day,
Beseeching the Master to help
always.

I grew and learned of Jesus the Lord
Being born in a manger to save the world.
Each Sunday I went to the House of Prayer
And heard sweet songs of saints in the air.

Jesus, I was told, was crucified
Between two thieves who also died.
The stone was moved from where He lay
To bring us joyful Easter Day.

UNION CITY

Karen Martin

We were thankful to have visiting ministers, (Bros.) John and Corbin Bahler from Rockville. It was so nice to visit with their families and them again.

Bro. Dave Roberts has been appointed to the ministry in the Philadelphia and Union City area. He has the prayers and strong support of the congregation, and we feel confident that God will direct him in his ministry.

Today in Sunday School, as we spoke of the crucifixion of Jesus, the little ones listened wide-eyed in amazement, trying to adjust to the idea of Jesus being nailed to the cross; and indeed we, too, even as adults are still often amazed at God's grace to send His son to die for our sins.

Stronger than the dark, the light;
Stronger than the wrong, the right;
Faith and hope triumphant say
Christ will rise on Easter Day.

FT. LAUDERDALE

Kathy Sutter—Henry H. Schwartz

He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief . . . he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with stripes we are healed.

In the four gospels, we find the account of a man such as Isaiah described in these verses. This man was despised and rejected by his

own people. They spat upon him. They scourged him. They mocked him. This man was wounded for our transgressions; the Lord laid upon Him the iniquities of us all. This man opened not his mouth to defend himself. Surely this Jesus was the lamb that Isaiah described so long ago. The words of the prophet were fulfilled in the city of Jerusalem and on a hill called Calvary. We remember again on this Easter holiday the suffering and agony of our Saviour on the cross. We can rejoice that the cross, planted at Calvary in hate, became the tool by which Christ showed his saving love.

We enjoyed seeing Kent Wieland and Sis. Faye Gerber, while they were home for a visit. Sis. Arlene Wieland has been ill and unable to assemble with us.

The coming of spring signals the return of our winter residents to their homes up North. We are grateful for their willing support they gave, and look forward to seeing them next fall, Lord willing.

The zip code number 33313, which includes most all of Plantation has been changed to 33317.

We wish to thank Bros. Henry Grimm, Paul Gasser and Roy Luginbuhl for their inspiring messages delivered our congregation while visiting.

GRIDLEY, ILL.
Ruth Gramm

The glory of the sun so bright
Dispels the darkness of the night.
It warms the earth and melts the
snow;
Life bursts forth and starts to
grow.

The sleeping seeds will rise to meet
The glorious sun, so warm and
sweet.
The lily bulb in the cold dark earth
Will arise and bloom in joyous
rebirth.

The Lord lay in a cold dark tomb;
All His disciples were filled with
gloom,
But then He arose, Oh glorious
Day!
Now all our sins can be washed
away.

We long for the Day
When we with our Lord can speed
away

To a beautiful home beyond the
skies,
Forever with Him in Paradise.

Let's keep alive, to meet the Son,
Grow and bloom, that the race be
won,
Scatter His seed in the hearts of
men,
That the Lord more souls can
garner in.

Our visiting ministers were
(Bros.) Harold Gramm, and Ed.
Alt. We appreciated their messages
of God. We were also privileged to
have many young members visit
our congregation. It always lifts us
in spirit when we see young people
full of godly zeal.

Sis. Martha Stoller has entered
the hospital, and will be having hip
surgery. . . Friend Bobby Yergler,
six-year-old son of Glen Yergler,
is in the St. Francis Hospital in
Peoria. Bobby underwent brain
surgery two weeks ago and is a
very sick little boy.

We are happy to have another
dear soul repenting, Valorie Brock-
well, who is a sister to Bro. Jim
Gramm's wife. We wish her much
grace and understanding of God's
love.

LAMONT
Betty Wernli

"O LORD, thou art my God; I will
exalt thee, I will praise thy name;
for thou hast done wonderful
things; thy counsels of old are
faithfulness and truth." Even in
this day of grace and salvation
through our Risen Christ does the
Lord demand these counsels of old.
As we again come to springtime,
and nature does come forth from
its winter slumber, we are re-
minded of Christ's death and suf-
fering and His victory over death
and the grave.

Bro. Vernon Schwab spent a
Sunday in our midst, and we did so
appreciate the wonderful words of
life. We were reminded of the beau-
tiful story of Rahab, the harlot, and
how she and her household were
saved. One wonders why the Lord
did choose to work through such
an one, but because of her obedi-
ence to God and kindness to the
strangers, she and her household
were spared. Were we not sinners
from our birth, and yet God was
so merciful to we unworthy ones
that we might become His children.

Sisters Lorean Anliker and Mary
Isch have submitted to major sur-
gery, but are on the road to regain-
ing their strength and health.
Brandon Emch was hospitalized for
a week, with a virus infection.

Several of the brothers and sis-
ters spent the day in Newton,
working on World Relief . . . Was
a most blessed day of fellowship as
we sorted, sewed and baled the
clothing for those less fortunate
than we.

LEO
Mrs. Elias Souder

Margo is the name of the pre-
cious grandchild of Bro. and Sis.
Morris Frank. The father and
mother are Philip and Murane
Stettner, living in Ft. Wayne.

Bro. Loren Stoller of the Latty
congregation assisted Bro. David
Bertsch in communion services.
Blessed and holy are those hours
we can spend in His presence.

On the evening of March 22, Bro.
Ben Stavenik of Mansfield congre-
gation and Bro. Rudolph Graf of
Akron had services here, which was
an unexpected blessing. The broth-
ers were on their way to the Illinois
churches.

Our young people gathered Sun.,
March 31 for a pizza supper and
worked on singing hymns. Several
occasions are coming up, Christian
Endeavor and the Easter program.

Marjorie and Albert Frautschi
arrived home safely. They were in
California thru the winter and will
be here for the summer. Sis. Dean
Stoller is ill and spending some-
time at the Parkview Hospital in
Ft. Wayne. Sis. Flossie Harter is ill
and spending sometime at the St.
Joseph Hospital in Ft. Wayne. Our
Sun. School program for Easter is
planned for Palm Sunday evening.

MILFORD

Sue Schieler—Santee Price

His will be done, we say with
sighs and trembling, expecting
trial, bitter loss and tears; and
then how doth He answer us with
blessings in sweet rebuking of our
faithless fears. God's will is peace
and plenty and the power to be and
have the best that He can give . . .
a mind to serve Him and a heart to
love Him, the faith to die with and
the strength to live. It means for us
all good, all grace, all glory, His
kingdom coming and on earth be-
gun . . . why should we fear to say:

His will—His righteous, His tender, loving joyous will be done?

These dear ones have experienced in sickness and convalescence His will and way: Sisters Elanore (Howard) Beer, Dorothy (Walter) Steffen, Flossie (Elmer) Hartter.

Our Sunday School hosted Elgin Sunday School, and in our very best of wishes for the youth, we hope they too will trust in His will and not their own, and in Him find the fullness of joy!

PULASKI

**Ernestine Wuthrich
Nancy Musselman**

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." With these words, we were served Holy Communion by Bro. Harvey Heiniger on March 24. We were again reminded of the events which have made possible our redemption. We were happy to have Bro. Ed Lanz present, and Bro. William Funk, along with the other Garden Grove members.

Bro. Richard Teubel was hospitalized for surgery. Also hospitalized for surgery was Bro. Bernard Schaer. We are happy to report they are both able to assemble with us again. Thank you: I would like to thank all those who remembered me with cards, gifts, visits, and prayers during my surgery and convalescence. Bro. Richard Teubel.

PHOENIX

Ann Mangold

Lord, Thou Creator, glorious is Thy kingdom . . . It is so easy to see the Hand of God continually working all around us, especially this time of the year when the mountains and desert are in bloom. Many different colored flowers appear, and one cannot help but compare their existence with the work of the Lord in each of His children. Because He has laid His Hand upon each of us, we are able to grow in Him in whatever way He has chosen for us.

We can be thankful that the door of grace is still open, and we are able to see the Lord's continual planting and cultivating of souls. Our friend, John Kaufman has answered the Lord's call to repentance, and Friends Darley Knochel, Jake Hoerr, and Wayne Schrenk are awaiting baptism. Bro. Ernest DeMille, who has been bedridden

and unable to attend services throughout his repentance, was able to come to church to give his testimony. He was baptized the same evening, and we all had the opportunity to greet our new brother in faith.

We are saddened by the loss of our Bro. Joe Heinold. Joe helped to begin our church in the Valley, and will long be remembered for his deep concern for the church. We'll miss his cheerful, quick smile.

Bro. George Yergler of LaCrosse visited and spoke to us of love. It is thru love that we each have been touched by the Hand of God this month. The Lord has shown us each step in the life of a child of God, first, a soul answering the Lord's call; then the soul finding peace; next, baptism; and finally the calling of a soul home for eternal rest with the Lord.

BURLINGTON, IOWA

Edna Pohl—Elaine Eisenmann

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

On March 10 we witnessed the proving and baptism of Tina Pohl, daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Joyce Pohl. Bros. Gerald Sutter, Taylor, and Noah Schrock, Oakville were visiting ministers. We welcome Tina as our new sister in Christ, and pray many more can find their salvation before it is too late.

We also had two visiting ministers on Tuesday evening, March 26. (Bros.) Rudy Graf. Akron and Ben Stavenik, Mansfield, brought God's word to us. We are thankful they were able to stop in Burlington during their travels.

As it is the Easter season, may we all strive to remember its real meaning and not be caught up in the worldly celebrations of this most meaningful occasion. We hope to soon partake of Communion in our congregation, in memory of all Christ did for us so we might gain salvation.

FT SCOTT

Ida Sinn

Again, the water has been troubled and a dear soul stepped in.

Edwin Fischer has turned to the Lord in repentance. Edwin is the son of Bro. Lyle and Sis. Lillian Fischer.

On March 12, a group from our congregation met with others from our Kansas churches, at the World Relief Center in Newton. There were 51 brothers, sisters and friends who shared in the fellowship as well as the work.

Bro. Sam Anliker was with us one evening, and with Bro. Raymond Banwart shared the memorandum of the last Brother meeting with us.

Bro. Al Scheitlin and wife from Elgin, Ill. are spending some time with their daughter, Carol (Mrs. Leon) Sinn and family, on their way home from Phoenix. We are thankful to all the brothers who come and minister unto our needs.

SHIODA

Willis R. Ehnlé

A Japanese soldier named Onoda has finally surrendered, after spending 29 years in the jungles of the Philippines. His common sense, or lack of it, can be questioned, but as a soldier who obeyed his superiors to the letter, he is exemplary. In serving the Lord Jesus Christ, we have a cause which both faith and common sense approve. We are soldiers, if we belong to Christ. Our commander-in-chief has ordered us to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow Him. Working in harmony with other soldiers in our company, it is our intention to carry out our orders. "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

It was our usual monthly kindergarten PTA meeting, at 1 p.m. on the first Saturday afternoon of the month. Among other things I explained to the parents present that Good Friday, April 12, would be a holiday for our kindergarten, and I told them it is a very meaningful day, because it is the day when we commemorate the fact that the Lord Jesus died for us. In Japanese this literally means that He did us the favor of dying, as a service to us. I sensed the fact that they were not understanding and so explained that Christ, in dying, took the punishment for our sins. I could have explained that His death was more than just physical death, that it was also spiritual death, or separation from God the Father, but this

would have been too far beyond their comprehension. We always begin and close our PTA meetings with prayer and sing "What a Friend We Have in Jesus", but the very thought of Jesus having done us a favor by dying seemed strange to them. Jesus Himself said, "... the Son of Man came... to give his life a ransom for many." On the cross Jesus said, "My God, my God, why has thou forsaken me?", showing that He was separated from the Father.

Some days after the PTA meeting, one of the mothers, accompanied by two other ladies who were evidently her relatives, came to see us. As the mother took a step forward and spoke to us in the steadiest voice she could muster, the other two stood behind her and wept silently. She told us that she had to return to her parent's home and that she would be taking only one of her little daughters with her, that the other two would remain here with her husband and his family. I gave her a booklet, "The Story of Jesus", excerpts from the Bible, to take with her. Not many days later, the grandmother came with a gift for us, and as she spoke she began to cry. She said she would bring the little girl to our kindergarten, but that she is old and not able to do much. The husband is accused of embezzling a lot of money where he worked and is awaiting trial. Sometimes people can commit very bad sins and seem to get by with it in this life, but in this case, if he is guilty, the fulfillment of the Scripture, "As a man soweth, so shall he also reap, is apparent. Others are also reaping the bitter harvest."

Our Tokyo and Shioda churches gathered for fellowship on March 21 at a Japanese Inn, in the mountains here in Yamanashi Prefecture. The emphasis was on the need for closeness in the fellowship, where we open our hearts to each other with love and confidence, and where our every concern or major decision is shared with brothers or sisters in the fellowship, rather than our seeking advice from others outside of the fellowship, who do not know the spiritual life. Scripture teaches us, "Do ye not know that the saints shall judge the world?"

Everyone should repent and serve the Lord Jesus Christ. It is

the best life by far, here and for eternity.

SILVERTON Judie Knecht

We were thankful to have visiting ministers (Bros.) Garth Steffen and Robert Miller. We are thankful to be able to hear the word spoken in truth and sincerity, and may we appreciate it while we still have the opportunity.

Bro. Jim Dietrich and Sis. Joan (Feucht) Dietrich were united in holy matrimony on March 24. We are thankful that the Lord has brought these dear souls together, and may they hold dear the sacred teachings of our Lord and Saviour, as they begin their walk of life together. Sis. Joan is a very welcome addition to our small flock.

TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki— Marie Inoue

We had quite much snowfall March 27, and it's really unusual such a bad weather we had. However, spring is here at last. The sun shines bright today and the air is warm. The cherry blossoms are about to bloom near the Tokyo church. Many regard this as the best season of the year. Freed from a long spell of cold weather, the insects, birds, and animals are briskly active in the mountains and hills, which soon will be covered with fresh green grass. Humans are no exception. Especially we true Christians feel much thanks to God that He created such a wonderful beauty, love through His creation. "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun..."

The Lord blessed us for our Tokyo church, and we had quite few Sunday School children and also seekers for our morning service. Last Sunday afternoon Bible class, Mr. Takahashi, a young man, attended with us and had real nice talk about God's word, His love and also creation. He is a very fine young man and seemed to us he really enjoyed talking about God's word. Mr. Takahashi came to our

morning service quite often since a couple of years ago, but attended the Bible class for the first time. He marvels at the universe and how big it is, and also fears God and his creation. We hope and pray he will some day turn to the Lord.

Located behind our home is a large day care center for children of working mothers. It is conducted much like a kindergarten, and while doing some outside work I noticed the children and teacher gathered at the fence, observing and touching the new blossoms and leaves on the bushes. The expressions on their faces were alive with interest, several busy asking questions, while others were listening. This lovely season provides many opportunities for Christian teachers and parents to instruct little ones of God's marvelous handiwork.

This past Sunday we enjoyed the company of two of our married sisters, Yoshiko Sakuta and Shizuko Urushino and their children, while traveling by car to our country church. A scenic expressway through mountains and tunnels covers about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the distance, which is a great convenience in traveling. It had been several years since the sisters were able to visit with several there... commented on the way home how those of like faith never change. As we used to sing in Sunday School, "Yesterday, Today, Forever, Jesus is the Same", so may our faith and our countenance in Christ ever be the same: pressing forward to the mark of our high calling in Christ.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA

Dianne & Howard Leman

March has been a busy month for our little church. Many of us who attend here have been helping in the remodeling of the basement. We added two permanent Sunday School rooms, and increased cupboard and counter space in the kitchen. The brothers all chipped in for the heavy work, while the sisters were instrumental in painting and staining the woodwork. We still have to install a floor covering, which we hope to complete in April.

It is truly rewarding to all work together in such a project. Each person brings a different talent to the group. As a result, the job seems to go very smoothly. Isn't this the way the church should be in a spiritual way also? If each per-

son uses his God-given talent for the good of the entire church, our Christian life would be so much easier.

We are very happy to hear the Bro. and Sis. Bill and Connie Witzigs are moving to Champaign in the very near future. It is always nice to have another couple in our group.

WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Laurie Petri

On April 3, at 8:00 in the New Salem Room in the University Union, Bro. Bill Funk from Garden Grove spoke to us from Luke 15. We heard how God and the angels in heaven truly rejoice when a sinner comes to repentance. Also, we heard how today is the day of salvation and tomorrow may be too late. How true this is! Jesus may return for His children at any hour. What a wonderful hope this is!

We really appreciate all the friends and parents that came to see us each month. It really means a lot to each of us.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 1, at 8:00 p.m. in the University Union. This will be our last meeting of the year.

ONE FACET OF WORLD RELIEF HELP FROM THE APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Submitted by Elaine Norr

Our World Relief Board encourages this particular yearly shipment to Haiti.

Two letters sent in response to the thirteen barrels of clothing, blankets, soap, sheets, towels, bandages, etc. received at the Albert Schweitzer Hospital in Haiti . . . also eleven sewing machines were sent.

A sincere thanks was given to all of you which contributed and gave your time to make all the items sent to Haiti in our 1973 shipment.

"It makes me sad that everyone can't see the joy the drums and crates bring to Haiti. The covers were given out right off, as it has been cold these past nights—Everyone was so grateful. The soap will be given out to the midwives.

The baby blankets and baby gowns will make Christmas gifts to last us a long while. It is one of our greatest pleasures to send a

cured child home in a lovely little robe. It makes the parents doubly happy to take the little one back.

The children's clothes are a joy to have, and will be given out for months to come.

The sheets and towels will be used that is for sure.

You can see you have covered a large range to make people happy . . . All these gifts represent so much love and time on the part of so many members of the church. Please be sure our thanks reaches all who had a part in this wonderful shipment to Hospital Albert Schweitzer.

The sewing machines represent a good livelihood to each girl who receives one . . . The rolled bandages came at just the right time; we were almost down to our last dozen . . ."

"I can't begin to thank you and your friends for the many kinds of hospital supplies received safely at Hospital Albert Schweitzer.

So far, I haven't opened the sewing machines, but many requests for them are coming in daily; I know they'll be put to good use by the lucky recipient . . ."

KIOWA

Janice Frieden

As time passes, we grow more and more thankful to our precious Father for granting us our lovely Church and Fellowship Hall, wherein we can gather in freedom to hear the true gospel proclaimed and have true Christian fellowship one with another. We greatly felt this thankfulness on March 9, when we gathered with our Sunday School children for choir, and again on March 10 when we gathered for our monthly singing.

March 12 was the day set for our World Relief workers to meet at Newton, to bundle the many materials they have been making for those in need. About 16 went from here, and though they had a tiring day, I know that each one received a tremendous blessing . . . For our Lord said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

We are thankful that Bro. Sam Schupbach and Sis. Millicent Frieden, who were both hospital patients, are able to again be in our midst.

There are many Bible verses that could be used to describe our Open House services, held on March 17, and our Dedication services, held on March 31, but the one that seems to describe them best is in Exodus 40:34, ". . . and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle." For God's glory **did** fill our tabernacle as (Elder Bros.) Lester Hartter of Bern and Eugene Marti of Sabetha joined us for Open House. Their messages, given through inspiration of God's own word, filled our hearts to overflowing.

Then, on the week-end of March 30 and 31, God's glory again filled our tabernacle, as many traveled from a great distance to join us in dedicating our Church of God, who made the building of a house of worship possible. The Christian fellowship we enjoyed at a supper and singing on Saturday night was surpassed only by the beautiful gospel truths bestowed upon our hearts on Sunday, as (Elder Bros.) Roy Farney of Phoenix, Ben Maibach of Detroit, Eugene Bertschi of Roanoke, and Sam Anliker of Lamont spoke to us from the Gospel.

A 3:00 dinner was held after the Dedication Services, for those who wished to make an early start homeward; and for those who remained, another blessing was bestowed upon us, as Ministering Bro. Jess Schrock lent himself for Sunday evening services.

We are very grateful to everyone who helped to make our Open House and Dedication so blessed, and most of all, we are thankful to God, who is the giver and creator of all good and perfect gifts.

Paying a visit to sorrow's abode, helping a burdened one o'er a rough road, this the sweet thought, making duty delight, turning the shadows of gloom into light—**just to please Jesus!** Staying at home with the children perchance, watching a sick one's oft wandering glance, sweeping and dusting and tidying home, deeds not recorded neath fame's painted dome—**just to please Jesus!** Swinging the hammer if duty demands, plying the needle with quick, willing hands, using the pencil, the pick, or the pen, serving my Lord and my own fellowmen—**just to please Jesus!**

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

Giving a smile or taking a hand, leading lost feet to the fair better Land, doing and thinking and hearing and seeing, eating and drinking and working and being — **just to please Jesus!**

The Word of God was daily read in his home, and he faithfully attended Sunday school. One day the child said wistfully. "Mother, I wish Jesus lived on earth now." "Why, Johnny?" "Because I'd like so much to do something for Him."

"But what could such a little fellow like you do for the Saviour?" The boy replied, "Why, I could run all His errands for Him." "So you could, Johnny, and so you shall. Here are some oranges and a glass of jelly for poor old Margaret who lives down the street. I will let you take them to her in His name." Seeing the rather surprised look in her young son's eyes, the mother explained, "When Christ was here on earth, He said, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the

least of these . . . , ye have done it unto me. That means, Johnny, that whenever you do a kind act for anybody because you love the Lord, it is just the same as if He were now living on earth and you were doing it for Him personally." With a happy smile, the child left on his errand, glad to be doing something for Jesus.

Address: (Valparaiso) Tim Ames, 308-50-5325, 4th Finance Co (PP), Ft Carson, COLO 80913

HEAVENS ABLAZE WITH BEAUTY

Henry Souder Jr.

The skies will be the roadway. "And then shall they see the Son of man coming in the clouds with great power and glory." The sunset reds and pinks, the fleecy white cloud in the blue, they are His color. That sight of His coming will be a sky, resplendent. Rainbow colors coming on the clouds. Brilliant hues, the whole sky afire with a look of inexpressible beauty.

He will come with all His saints. The Jew that is alive will look on Him whom he pierced. This will be their Deliverer and Saviour. His own, what satisfied looks we will have . . . what joy in loving, talking and just being together. Never parting. When He gathers His own, we will know all the joy of what together really means. He gave us love, the family circle, fellowship, and He knows what He is doing.

When He says learn, it's true it includes brain knowledge. It deepens. It is His way of life. It is an enlarging of hope. It is meant for the dreary day, for tears and the casting down, for the valley of the shadow. Hope is what gives the secret of song in the strongest storm.

A parable is something cast beside something else, for our profit. In our Lord's picture of the end-time, he has a picture in detail. The trunk and limbs are there. There needs to be a looking for the budding. The leaves need to come. The

apostasy, more war, the dark canyons ending in the cataclysm of trouble, more. "Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When her branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is near:"

Spring is when the lilac blooms, the apple blossom shows a smiling face in lovely morning blue. To think, it is coming! and so near. His summer is Hometown Jerusalem. The city of the great King is our residence. We'll know those streets. We'll love them. And that family . . . those we have missed awhile, right with us at home. Life will be an all-time perfect. Watch that tree! "So ye in like manner, when ye shall see these things come to pass, know that it is nigh, even at the doors."

Time is very short. Be thankful for this day the Lord gives. The golden grain, the dear friends, neighbors and others need care and love. Gather up the opportunities for kindness lying all about our path.

Who can help but hear the tune, peace and safety among the nations? Are we living in the very shadows of the swift finish? Jesus gave us a key of when. Let us pray to have His look: "Verily I say unto you, that this generation shall not pass, till all these things be done."

His words are wonderful. They are pictured for our comfortable enjoyment on printed page. That same word is written forever in the hearts of human beings. It is in those lovely spirits living now with Jesus. That same word, alive, is the gathering of all His own. And no more parting! That's where it lives, in the home of God and His redeemed saints. "Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away."

Hope is happy. Exact dates would cloud the joyful mood. Furthermore, we shine one day at a time. The heavenly Father has given this one day. The closing of the door is entirely up to Him, and He knows. Knowing the date would not be good for us, our attitude nor work. Yet, we are to know it is near and be glad. "But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father."

The following is meant for us . . . We are the ones who need it . . . We are the ones who don't know. **Are we listening?** "Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is."

Then All shall be well.

I wish to thank all who so kindly remembered me with prayers, visits, cards, gifts and food. It was all deeply appreciated. Ollie Feller.