

THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

VOLUME 25

MARCH 1975

NUMBER 6

(Easter is eternal . . . The good news, Jesus, the Son of God came alive is indeed heart-gladdening. World news may be electrifying. This is enlivening, enduring, and eternal. It gives expectation. Morning . . . never-ending life . . . together forever. As you read the news, in here, it is rayed in golden glory o'er the grave . . . it gladdens the assembly of the saints . . . what a beautiful, beautiful joy we have. Let it entertain you in the love of the rooms of God's mansion above, His hope, for we have eternal life!)

EASTER

Jesus lives, and we live with Him. His own shall never die. The same one we knew here lives on and on. Hallelujah!

Easter

Michael Weyeneth

Spring is here . . . and the Easter season. How sad it would be if we had no Easter. If Christ had not risen from the dead, we would be of all people most miserable. We would be without hope in this world. It is written, "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." . . .

In Revelation 1:8, we read, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." How blessed to know that we have a risen Lord, One who is always there for us. He is our all, and in all.

Think what it will be on that glorious day, when the heavens will open, and the Lord Jesus Christ will descend with a shout. The true church is made up of all born-again believers, out of every kindred, tongue, and tribe. Why not be occupied with getting ready for that day when we shall stand in his presence.

Thoughts On Easter

Clarence Yackley

With the coming of March, we all look hopefully forward to spring,

for we know that it is not too far off now. Spring is a wonderful time of the year, because God touches the earth with His loving hand, and life and beauty is renewed and regenerated in the dormant plants.

Spring also is synonymous with Easter. Easter, which commemorates the resurrection of our loving Saviour, is very much like spring. Just as spring signifies the renewal of plant and animal activity, so the resurrection of our Lord signifies the hope of the renewal of life in our souls—life eternal—out of the dark winter of sin and the cross.

The Meaning of Easter To A Child of God

Carl Hartman

To be a resurrection, there must first be a death, and as we draw near to Easter, we can not pass by the cross on which the Lord suffered and died.

There, he paid the price for sin, and opened the way for reconciliation between man and God. His life on earth came to a close there. "It is finished".

His return to his heavenly Father and the glory that he had before he came to the earth was his desire, and he attained it by the power of God.

The wonderful thing of it all is that life eternal is within the reach of all. Fulfill the works of faith and come to God in repentance, and

the gift of peace can be yours. Then, the hope of a resurrection like unto the Lord is the assurance that God's word gives us, and Easter can bring much joy and happiness.

What would life on earth be if there were no hope for a resurrection or immortality. We would be most miserable to be without a Saviour.

Easter

Paul Fehr

It causes us to stop and think, and sometimes wonder, why this had become the lot of one who had lived such a righteous and holy life and had never been known to sin; but now thankful we are that God had promised a Messiah that would come into this world, through whose blood the poor lost sinner, doomed to die, would again have a living hope. His love for man was so great, that even there—suspended between heaven and earth, He could say in his agony and pain, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

On the glorious Easter Morn, God raised Him up, to be the first-fruit of the resurrection, and to give the hope of immortality and life. What a joy this can be to every child of God who has learned to know Him and has been redeemed and sanctified by his blood, that our faith now holds out for us an eternal hope.

Easter Thoughts Forest Ritzman

To all true believers, the resurrection of Christ should be meaningful and inspiring, as it was the fulfillment of God's plan of salvation. His Son overcame death and the grave, triumphantly arose as the living Son of God. Thus, he opened the way for mortal man to be resurrected from the dead, in spirit, unto a new life in Christ Jesus and God.

We should all be thankful to God for this perfect plan of salvation, and to our loving Saviour, who became willing to do the Father's will, to bring this, so great a salvation, within the realm of all who will receive it.

At the Easter season again, all have reason to rejoice and bring praise to God, and our hearts should be filled with charity toward Him and our Saviour.

Resurrection Samuel Anliker

He not only raised Him from the dead, but set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, as a mediator between God and man. Christ was crucified through weakness, yet He liveth by the power of God.

Let us never forget, we have this precious treasure in earthen vessels, and God is ever ready and willing to give us the fullness and His power for our daily life and labor, without which we would surely fail.

Oh if only our dear friends would let their hearts cry out for His mercy, grace and truth, which

alone comes by Jesus Christ. Are you willing to go with Him to Calvary's hill, where He died and shed His precious blood as a ransom for all those who acknowledge they are sinners? You must humbly beg for grace, to go through true repentance and a consuming of the things that pertain to this world, by a purging and cleansing of the heart with the shed blood of Christ. Then, by a confession of your faith in this crucified Christ, you can also experience a spiritual resurrection and a great joy and hope of life eternal.

An Easter Thought Harold Gramm

"Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre . . . they found the stone rolled away . . . And . . . behold, two men stood by them in shining garments . . . they said unto them, Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen . . ."

Truly, the victory was won. Jesus shed His blood for our salvation. The ransom now is paid. Let us serve our risen Lord, whose divine love surely deserves our all.

What will you do with Jesus? Neutral you cannot be. Some day your heart will be asking, What will He do with me.

Resurrection and Peace Ben Schlatter

Man's faith in God has greatest significance when we consider the blessing of resurrection. The power of God and the triumph over death and grave was openly reveal-

ed to man in the resurrection of our Lord from death and the grave . . .

. . . the power of God and His ability to resurrect our soul, it is so good then to be found at peace with God. We noticed that the Psalmist wrote, God would not leave His Holy One to see corruption. The soul that is at peace with God and has acquired a state of holiness, through faith in the word of God and obedience thereto, will entertain a 'gem of life' in heart and mind, believing in our Lord, who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

How Good To Remember Uriel Gehring

As the Easter season is near at hand, I wonder if we fully grasp the meaning of the resurrection from the dead of the Saviour of the world. Jesus' resurrection was the final victory, which proved that death itself could not contain the Son of God. Jesus proved that faithfulness to God had its eternal reward (for today He sitteth at the right hand of God), and He is our example. How long was He faithful? Until the end. He said when he was living, ". . . he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved." He knew that he would have to endure to the end to complete the mission that the Father had given him. When we promise our Heavenly Father to be faithful till life's end, we must endure to the end if we expect to be saved in eternity.

How good for us to remember His words and obey them.

ON SWEET RELATIONSHIPS

From Henry's clippings, with his comments

Our work is for eternity. Ages go on of ages, and on...there is no horizon with them. Our work is wrought of God Himself. It abides forever. Should we not then act with this in view.

Create a feeling of expectancy . . . Make your voice convey confidence, enthusiasm, restrained excitement. Your tone as well as your words, should suggest. . . Importance!

The commanding officer of a

large aircraft carrier noted for excellent morale greeted each new officer with the same admonition: See that your men have reason to respect you! . . . The strengths and weaknesses of a particular department often reflect the strengths and weaknesses of the man who runs it. When you have difficulty getting the people to measure up to the standards you insist on, take a second look at yourself. Do you measure up to these standards? Are you practicing them wholeheartedly in your work, or just

preaching for the benefit of others?

This the scripture asks, that we live as we talk.

In our talk, our walk of life, we have a divine duty to be moderate, gentle wherever we can . . .

Creating a climate that gives people independence, without losing control, takes a lot of skill.

We do things because we love, and sometimes they may be pretty costly to one or the other:

Maturity is the ability to base judgment on a big picture, or the

long haul so to speak. It means being able to pass up the fun-for-the-minute and select the course of action which will pay off later . . . Maturity is the capacity to face unpleasantness, frustrations, discomfort without complaint or collapse . . . Maturity is the ability to live up to your responsibilities . . .

How carefully Christ cares for each individual. He knows their name, their sorrows . . . And we are to follow!

One of the essentials in securing a good equanimity is not to expect too much of the people among whom you dwell. Deal gently with this deliciously credulous nature.

We are not perfect. Others are not without mistake. What then?

Put yourself in the shoes of the person who made the error. If you were he, what would want to make you want to do better . . . If you don't let indignation and anger dictate what to do, you'll have a much better chance of making some real progress.

When God's voice points the way . . .

When you're dissatisfied with a man's work . . . don't just brood about it . . . Communicate . . . You don't have to be unpleasant about it or pound on the table . . . You may even find, if you investigate the situation honestly, that you are partly to blame yourself. It so, let's hope you're big enough to admit it!

Mollify by quietness . . . Use combined silence and quietness. Keep still until the storm blows over . . . When you speak, let it be quietly, and always with a smile on your face. For this great common denominator of friendship cannot but have its effect.

Silence, with its rests is beautiful.

There is an attitude which does not further building up:

. . . super-critical . . . impossible standards . . . question every detail . . . leaves people discouraged—even fearful. A man's confidence can be badly shaken if he gets to feeling no matter how good a job he does, it's never good enough . . . Whenever you may poke holes in another man's work, first be careful to look at the good as well as the bad, and consider the time and effort he put in . . .

Some tend to notice the slightest

imperfections, . . . Harping on a man's mistakes, no matter how trivial, may seem like a good way to keep him on his toes. Actually, it isn't nearly as effective as being sure to notice and appreciate what he has done right.

Criticism is accepted more willingly—and does more good—when it comes from someone who is genuinely reluctant to do it . . . He does it simply because he knows it has to be done . . . Investigate first: Don't blame until you heard (know) . . . Get all the facts on the table . . . Realize and admit that you've made some mistakes yourself. Do what you can to help the man want to do better from now on . . .

Are you going to make your criticism in the presence of a third person—so it may prove embarrassing . . . Are you going to be blunt about the criticism? Would a suggestion be preferable? . . . Is the fault or error important enough to require comment or correction?

We are soldiers of the cross. One said or wrote:

The discipline which make soldiers of a free country reliable in battle is not to be gained by harsh or tyrannical treatment. On the contrary, such treatment is far more likely to destroy than to make an army. It is possible to give commands in such a manner as to inspire an intense desire to obey; while the opposite manner cannot fail to excite strong resentment and a desire to disobey.

It is a wonderful work we are in. Let us do our best.

Man does not communicate by words alone, but by thoughts and feeling, by insight and deep perception.

Interpret everything in clearest everyday language. Ask if every thing is clear. Repeat the same thoughts over and over, to make sure they get through.

Are we in plain teaching urging and impelling what we feel is lacking? Are we covering His whole desire searching for that which may have been overlooked or passed by?

It is an adventure . . . know the person as he or she really is . . .

Words aren't just sounds—mad sounds or glad sounds . . . Words are living things. They can bless or blight; they can sting or sear, or

heal and live . . . Every word that you have said can be as warm and gentle comfort to someone who needed it badly (or) as an angry scar, whose sting is out of all proportion to the original injury.

. . . the way to regard words is as living things, not as scratches on paper. Go behind the meaning of the word . . . Then you see each word as a person, for in the beginning it sprang out of some human life . . . Every word not merely a collection of syllables, but a description of some aspect of human living . . . Words are the shorthand symbols of the phenomena of life—or what human beings see, do, know, or think about.

Even without knowing, people pattern their lives, their dress after someone they admire. Who is your admiration?

We all of us need a model, yes, and if we select the right model it can help us, but don't follow false models . . .

There is immense power in divine influence. If we knew what we could do . . . Benjamin Franklin made a lamp outside. People picking their way carefully along the streets at night would come out of the dark, into the well-lit area in front of Franklin's house and think. What a great idea . . . Soon Franklin's neighbors began placing lights in brackets in front of their homes. Before long the entire city awoke to the value . . .

The secret of helping others is the love of Jesus. His heart was one with the Father, and tuned intently to those He drew.

If you are a good listener, others will talk to you. What is more they will form a liking to you and will

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

Editor: Henry Souder Jr.

Published Monthly By the Apostolic Christian Church of America

Counselors: Theo. Beer, Loren Stoller, David Bertsch.

News Correspondent: Ed Souder

Send correspondence to The Silver Lining, Grabill, Ind. 46741

Second class postage paid at Grabill, Indiana 46741.

Amount per year, \$2.00.

Send zip No. with address. Remember to send change-of address.

want to do something to favor you. That's the way all of us have, to want to favor those we like.

Use kindness—let it beam like the sunshine . . . so contagious . . . a smile. Try it . . . No matter how grouchy a person is, you can melt him. You really don't have to say anything or do anything. Just hold the attitude of good-will, and smile, and you will see his face relax . . .

A utility, operating two separate companies, gas and electricity; made a survey . . . One of the companies was found to enjoy an esteem far exceeding the others. The good will which its personnel has generated gave a fine reputation. The other company was bitterly criticized, because of the discour-

eous attitude it consistently expressed toward its customers. The significant thing was the influence goodwill had on the thinking. The company well-thought-of seldom had its rates of meter readings questioned. Only 19% of the patrons asked felt rates were high; only 14% questioned its meter readings. Nearly 43% considered the company active and effective in promoting civic welfare. The one that lacked courtesv, 47% thought their rates high. 40% meter readings dishonest. Only 3% thought the company was doing anything to promote the interests of the community.

It does make a difference! A great influence what we do. No wonder our Lord said to let our

light shine like the lamp!

Let the Lord use you in His way, where you are, perhaps far beyond what you expect.

Listen how one's own thinking can tie down: A skilled workman had led production for the past month. Six months ago, this man produced less than anybody in the plant. An interview with the machinist revealed that formerly he had thought of himself as just naturally slow. An older brother had outstripped him in every endeavor when a child, and his family had nicknamed him **the slow one**.

So we should go over our life in prayer. The holy word can bring the Best out of a faithful heart. Who knows what acres of diamonds are to be found.

WORLD RELIEF

Jim Hoerr

The World Relief Committee purchased the former Wing Elementary School for a Material Aid Collection Center. . . The building is located ½ mile east of State Route 47, 4 miles north of Forrest. We are now accepting good, clean, used clothing (new also), along with articles prepared by our sisters' sewing groups, non-perishable food stuffs, and good, usable furniture and appliances. Please call the following before making delivery to Wing School for assistance: Bro. Roy Maurer, Forrest, phone 1-815-332-5583; Bro. Sidney Leman, Forrest, phone 1-815-688-3383.

ALTO MI

Sue Root

Sis. Loretta Steffen was hospitalized, but has returned home and is able to worship with us. Sis. Donna Steffen has been hospitalized. Donna has had to endure several illnesses requiring hospitalization. We are certain though that God will take care of her, through every day, over all the way.

Friends Fred and Donna Oesch are the parents of a new baby girl, Jennifer Rebecca. She has one brother, Freddie, to welcome her home.

"My sincere thanks to all the loved ones who have remembered me with card and prayers while I was in the hospital and since I have been home." Chris Weigle.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

ATHENS AL

Hazel Vibbert

We are always glad to have visitors; this month we have been blessed to have Bro. Karl Westfall from Francesville. .

Sis. Ruth Lott has had surgery on her legs at Decatur Hospital. Isaac Hall has been in the Medical Center Hospital for back treatments. His wife is Sis. Louise. The 15th, my son Kevin had an accident with a chain saw, cut his fingers up real bad. They are slowly improving.

We were happy the 23rd. when we heard Reba and Cathy McBay's testimonies and after morning worship they were baptized. What a joy when a mother and daughter can find peace with God together.

CISSNA PARK IL

Margaret Rudin - Grace Bauer

Easter is promise of tomorrow,
The sweet oblivion of all sorrow—
Easter is faith and eternal life—
The death of pain, triumph over
strife;
Easter is hope; a victory won,
As man lives again through God's
own Son.

Our sick: Bro. Lester Walder was a surgical patient. Ben Farney had an appendectomy. Our sister, Bertha Meiss was a medical patient. Our sister, Ida Frank is a medical patient. Valerie Kaufmann, daughter of Bro. Sid and Sis. Sandy, was a medical patient. Wesley Knapp was also a medical patient.

(Bros.) Frederick Knapp and Gene Lehman brought us the message clear and plain. We were reminded of Job and the faith he had in God.

A daughter, Pamela Kay, was born to Sis. Sharon and Bro. Kenneth Eisenmann. She has a brother, Steven, to welcome her. Sis. Lydia Eisenmann and Sis. Anna and Bro. Phil Sauder are the grandparents.

Our Elder Bro. Ezra Feller and his wife, Sis. Ollie, are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on March 9.

There are many customs in many lands, but whatever the custom, and whatever the date, the one true meaning of Easter is the risen Christ. The message of Easter cannot be written in past tense. It is a message for today and the days to come. It is God's message which must re-echo through our lives.

CROGHAN NY

Alice Virkler

It was alone the Saviour prayed
In dark Gethsemane;
Alone He drained the bitter cup
And suffered there for me.

Alone upon the cross He hung
That others He might save;
Forsaken then by God and man
Alone, His life He gave.

Can you reject such matchless
love?

Can you His claim disown?
Come, give you all in gratitude,
Nor leave Him thus alone.

As we read these words at this Easter season, it reminds us of the suffering our Lord endured for us. Today His love and grace is the same and still sufficient for the cares of each day. It is free for us to have, only for the surrendering of our worldly thoughts and ambitions, only for the repentance of our past life and accepting His wonderful love. As things remain in our world and lives today, can we reject his love? May each one surrender their hearts and lives to Him while it is still the day and time of grace.

The engagement of Wendy Petzoldt, daughter of Sis. Rita and Donald, and Andy Lehman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Lehman, has been announced. They are planning a summer wedding.

Bro. Bernard Martin remains a patient in the hospital, where he is slowly gaining, following surgery. Sisters Irene Farney and Loretta Graves have returned home from the hospital and assembled with us again. Bro. Lowell Virkler has had his cast removed.

On Sunday, Feb. 16, Sis. Linda Virkler and Bro. Floyd Graves Jr. were united in Holy Matrimony by Bro. John Widrick. Their parents are Bro. Lowell and Sis. Celia Virkler, and Ministering Bro. Floyd and Sis. Loretta Graves.

ELGIN, IA Eleanor Butikofer

Long long ago
in a land faraway,
There came the dawn of the first
Easter Day,
And each year we see
That promise reborn
That God gave the world
on that first Easter Morn . . .
For in each waking flower
and each singing bird,
The Promise of Easter
is witnessed and heard,
And spring is God's way
of speaking to men
And renewing the promise
of Easter again,
For death is a season
that man must pass through,
And just like the flowers
God wakens him too . . .
So why should we grieve
When our loved ones die.
For we'll meet them again
in a cloudless sky—
For Easter is more
than a beautiful story,

It's the promise of life
and eternal glory.

The ladies of our church are meeting at Sis Marie Butikofer's home once a week to work on World Relief projects.

Sis. Lena Pulfer, who was a patient at the Palmer Memorial Hospital in West Union due to an infection in her hand and arm, is now home doing very well. Her sister, Mary too was a patient in the same hospital with an ear infection. She too is home again and getting along quite well . . .

Sis. Anna Schupbach was released from the Iowa City Hospital and is now staying in the Robert Sieleman home in Oelwein, Iowa. Mrs. Sieleman is Anna's daughter, Ann. As soon as she is able to be alone in her own home, she will return to Elgin. We miss her presence in our church services. Her operation on the knees apparently was a success, for which we are thankful.

We have been snowbound for a number of days, witnessed two blizzards this week which paralyzed traffic for a while. According to reports, we have had 50 some inches of snow since our first snowfall last fall.

There are five squirrels who come to our bird-feeding areas to partake of corn for their sustenance, along with many feathered friends. May God be praised for His many gifts to man in His creation, and above all for His great love to us in the plan for our soul's salvation.

FORREST IL Kathryn Steidinger Beverly Eisenmann

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

At this blessed Easter season, let us go in thought to Calvary, and truly be thankful for all our Saviour endured for our sakes. Had he only been born in a manger, and not died on the cross, we could not be partakers of this wonderful plan of salvation. As Jesus was willing to bear his cross, it is an example to us to bear whatever cross our Lord sees fit to lay on us, as we travel along the path of life.

Our Sunday School children are

practicing their Easter songs, and we look forward to hearing them at our services on Good Friday evening.

Bro. Homer and Sis. Virginia Blunier observed their 25th wedding anniversary on Feb. 19. Her parents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Lydia Huber. He is the son of the late Bro. and Sis. Sam Blunier Sr. of Eureka. Their children are Stanley, Scott, Sis. Joy, and Sis. Gail Hodel. Amy Hodel is their only grandchild.

Sylvia Rieger (Harvey and Sis. Dorothy) and David Feese were married and are now living at Saybrook . . . Bro. Leroy and Sis. Juanita Koehl's son, Warren, and his bride, the former Candy Terrell are making their home in Forrest.

Many from our congregation attended the wedding of Bro. Gary Ifft and Sis. Peggy Rager of Latty. His parents are Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma Jean. They will be living in Bloomington.

Bro. Dan Schlatter and Sis. Josephine Zimmerman have announced their engagement, with plans to be married in the near future.

This God-made union then shall never more be broken. Where faith and love have been the holy covenant's token.

Our congregation has had a lot of hospital patients. Derek Bachtold (infant son of Bro. Herb and Sis. Jan), Brian Ricketts (Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean), and Sis. Lorene Geyer were in for a short time, but are home again. Those in for surgery were Sis. Rosetta Stoller (Bro. Elmer), Sis. Jan Bachtold (Bro. Herb), and Jeremy Masters (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary). Bro. Rich Rieger was at Mayos. Ed Traub had returned home, but had to enter the hospital again, and Sis. Laura Kachelmuss (Bro. Clarence) is in for tests. Little Shawna Adams (Terry and Sis. Sharon) was hospitalized for surgery, but had to return home because of illness, and has since been readmitted, had surgery, and is getting along well.

We are all rejoicing with Jane Brown (Gary), as she has turned to the Lord in repentance. Her parents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Eleanor Honegger.

We were unable to have services one Wednesday evening, while our old assembly room benches were

taken out and the new ones were being put in.

HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Glorious springtime and the Easter Season! Just the thought sends a revitalizing spirit through us and creates an enthusiasm for unshakable faith, which is the natural response to renewed life.

The quiet season of restoration of winter which is now behind us was in accord with nature. Now as all of nature is about to burst forth, let us continue to be in accord with the season and let our spirits soar to new life and enthusiasm. Surely this manifestation of the resurrection of nature is a testimony to immortality. Sing joyfully to God, our strength . . .

Knowing readers are interested in who lives here, we recently mentioned names of some of our residents. Today's featured names are: Gary Feller, son of the Earl Fellers of Downers Grove IL; Jeffrey Holtz, son of the Norman Holtzs of Elgin IL; Ronald Green, brother of Ray Green of San Marino, CA; Harry Hartman, son of the Gerald Hartmans RR Grabill; Sam Grimm Jr., son of the late Sam Grimm of Princeville; Glenn Getz, son of the late Silas Getzs of Mansfield; John Kamm, son of the Albert Kamms of Atwood, IL; Margaret Full, daughter of the Cletus Fulls of Peoria; Jane Kohler, daughter of the Robert Kohlers of Bloomington; and Marlene Esslinger, daughter of the Martin Esslingers of Sabetha.

A hearty welcome is extended to Barbara Hostetler, granddaughter of Mrs. Jennie Schrock of Harper, Kansas. She is the newest member of our resident family.

These and all of our residents are eagerly looking forward to being out in warm spring sunshine before long.

Thirteen of our Central Illinois churches take their turns holding Friday evening services at our Home. Those who came during February are Gridley, Fairbury and Eureka. Sincere thanks to those who make the effort to come. Visitors are welcome to come to our Home at other times, too.

It never ceases to be amazing that the many faithful volunteers continue to share their time and talents with us in every depart-

ment. We hope they can feel our sincere gratitude.

Until we meet again, let us remember that though springtime is seed-planting time, it is always time to cultivate our talents.

JUNCTION OH

Benita Schlatter - Betty Manz

In this past month, we were happy to be blest with a visit from Ministering Bros. Alfred Bahler, Wolcott, and Marvin Stieglitz, Leo. May God bless them for their love shown to us.

LESTER IA

Alice Metzger - Donna Metzger

Where God in truth abides, where two join hand and heart, we find a threefold cord not lightly rent apart. Sis. Becky Leuthold and Bro. Dale Wulf were joined in marriage on Feb. 9. The young couple's parents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Betty Jean Leuthold and Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona Wulf.

On Feb. 18 a baby boy, Chad Arthur, was born to Jerry and Mary Ter Wee. Maternal grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Emily Leuthold.

Bro. Simon Wagenbach was our visiting minister, when they came to visit their daughters and families.

Bro. Jake Knobloch was a hospital patient and is home again. Sis. Pam Knobloch was a patient in the Houston, Texas, hospital for a checkup. Jeff Knobloch, small son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Ellie, had ear surgery. Little Charlene Bosch, daughter of Pam and Tony, was hospitalized for tests. Sis. Nancy Gerber and Bruce Metzger were surgical patients.

As Easter approaches, it is a time to stop and ponder the role Jesus plays in the world and in our personal lives.

O Lamb of God, Who bled for my transgression,
And for my guilt on Calv'ry's brow
hast trod!

Who could unto such great love
give expression?

Who is like Thee, Thou chosen
Lamb of God?

As often as my pulses beat,
I lay my life, my blood, my all at
Jesus' feet.

"A sincere thank you to all who so kindly remembered us on our sil-

ver anniversary." Bro. Jake and Sis. Alice Wulf.

MORTON IL

Emma Knapp - Peggy Joos

May the following poem cause us this Easter to give him greater thanks for what he has done for us.

They came to the quiet garden
In the early morning gloom,
And there in the shadowed
darkness
They found an empty tomb.

They thought all hope had ended
With Calvary's dying breath,
But they found a wondrous
Saviour,
Triumphant over death!

So oft in the midst of sorrows
When hope seems cold and dead,
With lifted eyes we too may see
An empty tomb instead!

Bro. Dave and Sis. Kim (Ward) Hermann have begun a Christian home. They were united in marriage on Feb. 2. Dave's parents are Bro. Donald and Sis. Eileen Hermann, and Kim is the daughter of Sis. Wilma Ward.

God has directed the lives of Sis. Lucille Jacob and Bro. Ed Gramm of Gridley to become one. Feb. 9 they were joined in holy matrimony by Bro. Joe Braker. Eight children of the bridegroom were included in the attendants. Parents are Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Mary Jacob, and Bro. and Sis. Wm. Gramm of Gridley.

Announcement was made of the engagement of Angela Krantz and Tony Clark, both of Salt Lake City, Utah. A May wedding is planned. Angela's parents are Bro. Jack and Sis. Dorthy Krantz. Tony's are C. H. Clark and the late Mrs. Clark.

We had a most blessed week-end May 18-19, when we could welcome four dear souls into our fold and fellowship. They are Jim Martin and his wife, Pam, (Robert and Dorthy Martin) Ginger (Frank) Hermann, (Bro. Robert and Sis. Dorthy Frank), and Roger Spangler (Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Spangler). Bro. Ed Frank assisted in the holy task.

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bro. Ed Frank (LaCrosse), Bro. Earl Zeltwanger (Bremen), Elmer Witzig and Harold Schmidgal of Gridley. We are thankful for breth-

ren to bring us the wonderful words of life to strengthen us on the pathway to heaven.

"I want to thank all my friends and relatives for the nice cards, gifts and prayers. I am at home and getting better." Sis. Rose Teubel. . . "I want to thank everyone for their cards, thoughts and prayers while I was in the hospital and at home. All was very much appreciated and will long be remembered." Bro. Chris Koehl.

Our sick: Sis. Emma Paluska suffered a stroke while vacationing in Florida. She has been transferred to the Peoria hospital. Walter Wittmer, Sis. Hannah Strunk and Sis. Mary Ann Wuthrich submitted to surgery.

We rejoice in having Ruth Baer worship with us again. We welcome her in our congregation.

PHOENIX AZ Julie Hoerr

The engagement of Sis. Dorene Schmidgall and Bro. Brad Bahler was announced Feb. 2. Dorene is the daughter of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall, and Brad is the son of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois Bahler.

A little daughter, Nicole Anne was born Feb. 3 to Bro. Wayne and Sis. Alana Schrenk. Nicole's grandparents are Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith Freed and Bro. Henry and Sis. Ora Schrenk. . . . On Feb. 4, a son, Mark Samuel was born to Bro. Jon and Sis. Nancy Kokanovich. Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith Freed and Bro. Dan and Sis. Doris Kokanovich are Mark's grandparents. Sis. Rose Funk of El Paso and Mrs. George Freed of Gridley are the maternal great grandmothers. Bro. Sam Schupbach of Kiowa is Mark's paternal great grandfather.

Sunday, Feb. 9, we were privileged to witness the baptism of Sis. Jean (Ron) Getz. Many visitors gathered with us Saturday evening to hear Jean's testimony. In the afternoon, we enjoyed a covered-dish dinner at church, and later in the evening, many enjoyed the blessing of partaking of Communion.

We truly enjoyed a blessed weekend when Tucson invited the Phoenix and California young groups Feb. 15 and 16. May God bless them for their many kindnesses.

Sis. Huldah Heinold's new address is 6625 North 17th Ave., Apt.

No. 3, Phoenix 85015. We welcome Terry Fehr, who has found employment here. Terry's address is 1006 East Keim Dr., Phoenix 85014.

We thank our visiting ministers: Bros. Joe Waibel (Bay City), Maurice Frank (Leo), and Raymond Roth (Kiowa).

A thought for the Easter season—**If God seems distant, it's because you've moved.**

RITTMAN OH Grace Gasser

A 10-year-old child uses the following words to tell what Easter means to him:

Easter, Easter means to me,
Birdies, Birdies sing in the tree.
Easter means the cross so dear,
When you see it you will have one
tear.

Easter means Christ raising;
Easter means people praising.
Easter means birds on a perch;
Easter means going to church.
Easter means John 3:16;
Easter, Easter means Be clean.
Easter means we can be saved.
Easter saves us from the devil's
closed cave.

Easter is great,
So we can CELEBRATE.

We, with the angels rejoice that four souls have answered the Lord's call to repent. They are: Doris and Ed Stoller (Bro. Don and Sis. Luzelda), Fred (Bro. Robert and Sis. Neva) and Mary Gasser (daughter of Bro. Mitch and Sis. Violet Baltic).

Bro. Sam Schlatter from Junction visited our congregation.

Bro. Maynard Gasser, 54, passed away on Feb. 13 after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Carolyn Jean; 2 sons, David and Dan; 2 daughters, Veronica and Nancy.

Hospital patients have been: Willard Fankhauser, Wendell Dotterer, and Bro. Galen Indermuhle.

Babies born include: a girl, Carol Eileen to Bro. Albert Jr. and Sis. Lucille Gasser. Carol has 3 brothers and 1 sister. . . . Bro. David and Sis. Carole Steiner are the parents of a 5th son, Ryan John. Tonya Joy was born to Bro. Richard and Sis. Karen Hartzler. She is also welcomed by one brother.

Plans are being made to build a nursing home in the Rittman area. We are very grateful that the Ak-

ron and Mansfield congregations have agreed to assist in this undertaking. We have thus far felt the Lord's blessing in this, as He has provided capable, willing brothers, who have given many hours of their time, and put forth much effort in order that this Home might some day become a reality.

SARASOTA FL Linda Miller

Christ is the world's dear Paschal
Lamb;
He is the great I was; I am.
Through Calv'ry's pain and dismal
gloom,

He conquered over death and tomb.
He rose His own to justify,
And draws all men up to the sky.
If you have found the Christ, His
way,

Then you can keep this Easter Day.

The Easter season is here again, and thoughts of the cross come to mind. The death of Christ on the cross is the only way that man can see eternal life. Easter isn't just a day or a season, but the love and justification that has been granted to all, for their choosing. During this month, we have had many visiting ministers. One read a verse from St. Luke 14:27: "And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be by disciple." This particular verse has stayed in my mind, as we all have our cross to bear. It's under the weight of our cross that we fall to our knees and ask our Lord and Saviour for the strength to pick up our cross and go on. The Lord hears our prayers and provides the strength, as He has promised. All this can be ours through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Visiting with us were: Bro. Walter Anliker, Eureka; Elder (Bros.) Roy Sauder, Peoria; David Kieser, Princeville; Ezra Feller, Cissna Park; (Bros.) Nathan Steffen, Elgin; Roy Ehnle, Bradford; Henry Grimm, Morton; Joe Braker (elder), Morton; Henry Beer, Milford.

With the assistance of Elder Bro. Roy Sauder, Bro. Ben Maibach conducted our annual meeting. All were pleased with everything in this past year, and all realize how much the Lord has blessed us in our new church. Bro. Dave Eisenmann was voted in as a new trus-

tee. . . .

As Bro. Roy Sauder and Bro. Dave Kieser were in the area at the same time, they joined Bro. Ben in sharing the memorandum with us. We have had a very full and blessed month and thank the Lord for all.

I would like to express my personal thanks to Sis. Cindy Maibach for teaching Sunday School in my absence. She willingly stepped in and gave her time and effort.

The Lord has given another miracle of birth. Little Nathan Douglas was born to Bro. Doug and Sis. Linda Sabo on Feb. 27. This is their first.

Brothers to contact in our area are: (Bros.) Dave Eisenmann, 371-2062 and Phil Wingeier 371-4155.

TUCSON AZ

Gloria Bauer - Rita Bertschi

We are enjoying real nice weather, with sunny days and cool, crisp evenings. Also enjoying the climate of the Southwest are many visitors from our many churches in the Midwest and East.

We were happy to have Bro. Earl Zeltwanger of Bremen with us, and we thank him for his message and visit.

On Wednesday evening, Elder (Bros.) Joe Waibel of Bay City and Roy Farney of Phoenix, along with many visitors enjoyed a church supper. During the evening services, the elder brothers shared in bringing to us the recommendations and concerns discussed at the Conference. We thank these brothers for their labors of love.

Feb. 16, God blessed our area with lovely weather, as the Tucson young group hosted Altadena and Phoenix young people for a week-end of fellowship. There is an inspiring song, "If That Isn't Love", and truly HE was in our midst as we sang around a campfire Saturday evening. A sunny morning enabled us to enjoy a pancake and sausage breakfast outdoors, before Sunday church services. We were privileged to have (Bros.) John Klotzle of Altadena and Richard Schupbach of Phoenix minister unto us that day. A supper was held in the Fellowship Hall for everyone on Sunday afternoon. Each young group sang a few songs, and the evening was spent in Christian fellowship. The week-end passed too quickly, but memories of hours

spent together in Christian love linger on.

UNION CITY NJ PHILADELPHIA PA Carolyn Roberts

"For lo, the winter is past. . . The flowers appear on the earth: the time of the singing of birds is come. . . ." The wonders of spring is already with us, as the first crocus flowers are starting to bloom and the hyacinths are now up.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. John and Sis. Mary Diggelman in the death of their brother-in-law, Bro. Al Lanz of Rockville.

Sis. Mary Diggelman has been ill and unable to attend services the last two Sundays.

Blessings of fellowship were granted us as brethren from the Akron and Rockville congregations worshipped with us both for the Sabbath and mid-week services.

We surely welcome any one visiting "Dutch Country" around Lancaster or Philadelphia to worship with us.

Our Philadelphia congregation enjoyed having Bernard Hity and his family of Rittman this past month. Bernard is son of Bro. Herbert and Sis. Ruth, and is a patient at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Md., taking tests.

At this time of the year when we think of our Saviour's cruel death on the cross at Calvary, let each one of us who have been redeemed by his precious blood be especially thankful to God for the wonderful, perfect and complete salvation He has provided. This is also a good time to reflect back on the past months, and look ahead to the future, that as each day comes by we, by his grace, will live as our Lord would want us to.

VALPARAISO IN Cam Feller - Marie Heinold

We could only be thankful for the bountiful love and fellowship we share when we become one of God's children. We truly have been blessed with the fellowship of many visiting brethren. On Feb. 2, Bro. Gene Lehman and many dear ones from Wolcott worshipped with us. Our small church was full, and hearts were warmed with the love shared that day.

Perfect love the Father giveth,
Full of grace so rich and free,

Like the rain or dew of morning,
Falling now on you and me.

The second Sunday of each month welcomes the visitation of a ministering brother to our congregation. The month of February brought Elder Bro. Elmer Bucher from Francesville. The message of truth was spoken unto us that we should seek the Lord while he yet may be found.

Our prayers and get-well wishes are extended to Sis. Alma Morris in her illness which took her to the hospital. She is now home and on the road to recovery.

WOLCOTT IN Arles Kropf - Marjean Lehman

Know Each Other Better

We visited Bro. Aaron and Sis. Leah Farney. Aaron was born in 1896 to Daniel and Lena (Zehr) Farney. Leah was born in 1894 to Gottfried and Leah (Blaiser) Gruber. Aaron was born in Cissna Park, Leah, Elgin, Iowa. Aaron and Leah recall growing up in Christian homes, and they looked forward to becoming Christians one day also.

On Nov. 22, 1916, Aaron and Leah were united in marriage in Monticello, Indiana. They have made their home in this community all their married life. Leah said they are so thankful for the blessings God has shared with them. They have one son, Leroy, born in 1935. He married the former Frances Brown. They have nine children, including one set of boy twins and a set of girl twins. Many times their son's family has helped them in numerous ways in the time of need. They truly appreciate and enjoy their family.

Aaron farmed for many years. After getting his crops in, he would fill silos, bale hay and do threshing. They told us of the busy schedule day and night until the work was done. While on the farm, they kept the hired hands in their home. They welcomed Aaron's father, a nephew, and two great-nephews into their home at different times. They have always enjoyed sharing their love and hospitality. Again they said they are thankful they could do it.

Aaron and Leah told us they always wanted to repent. In 1936 at the age of 42, Leah was given grace to seek her Master in tears. Her

plea was heard, blessed, and peace came when she realized she wanted it more than anything. With thanksgiving in her heart she told of the Master's love and pardon toward her. When she was asked how others would be able to tell she was a Christian, she replied, "By deeds and the life I live." She was baptized by Elder Bro. Ernest Graf. Aaron wanted to turn his life over to his Maker, and repented in 1937 at the age of 41. He was baptized by Elder Bro. Schubert of Peoria.

When we talked about life in general, Leah said, "It takes a lot of courage—you don't want to let yourself down." In their lives, they have learned a world of patience. Aaron suffered a stroke many years ago. God has provided a loving wife to care for him untiringly. Aaron feels richly blessed and deeply thankful.

Last November, Aaron and Leah were married 58 years. They gathered with the family on their 25th anniversary and on their 40th. On their 50th they were honored with an open house. Many family and friends came to extend best wishes for the future.

They have been retired from the farm for many years and live in Wolcott. They enjoyed landscaping their yard with crimson red maple, sunburst locust, white birch, sugar maple, blue spruce and magnolia trees. In past years, they enjoyed a colorful yard, scattered with a variety of flowers.

They have enjoyed traveling to Florida, Canada, New York (where they have relatives) and many other places. . . . Leah keeps busy by either quilting, crocheting or embroidering in her spare time.

They find great comfort in hearing and reading the Bible. Two of their favorite chapters are: Psalms 23 and Psalms 27 . . . "I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD." Their favorite hymns include: At Calvary, Hymns of Zion and Life and Full Abundance in Jesus, Zions Harp.

Oh blessed Sun whose splendor dispels the shades of night; Oh Jesus, my Defender, my soul's supreme delight; . . .

In closing, they wish to extend

sincere thanks to each one who has in any way helped them along their life's path. May God bless you all.

ZAPATA TX

Esther Wagler - Dolly Stoller

The Lord has done great things for us. Lord fill us with your Spirit, so that others may see your joy in our lives. . . .

The Easter season is approaching, and we are reminded of His death and resurrection.

Oh thou who in the grave didst lay,

Oh sacred be to us this day,
For on this day our Lord arose
In glory from His death repose.

February has been another blessed month. We have had many visitors and many visiting elders and ministers: (Elders) Herman Kellenberger, Elgin IL; Paul Fehr, Morris; Eugene Bertschi, Roanoke; . . . (Bros.) Philip Sauder, Cissna Park; Carl Hartman, Harvey Grimm, Sabetha; Paul Gasser, Akron; Roy Ehnle, Bradford; Harvey Heiniger, Oakville.

GIRARD OH

Kathryn Emch

Our special thanks to Bro. Ben Hartzler, who ministered to our congregation as we enjoyed the fellowship of the Milford brethren.

Sis. Esther Saylor has been confined to her home because of illness.

Our congregation is enjoying the tapes of the conference. Even those who were present at the conference are profiting by hearing them again.

Our membership consists of 19 souls. Of these 10 are 80 and older. Five of these are confined to their homes or nursing homes. The rest put forth great effort to be present. We thank the Lord for each one.

GOODFIELD IL

Elna Grimm

Little smiling "angel", in your tiny bed,
Precious as the sunbeams dancing round your head,
Eyes all bright and shining, happy little heart,
Such a little darling from the very start.

Our friends, Norman and Sis. Terry Wettstein, Goodfield, were blessed with a baby girl on Feb. 3. They have named her Carolyn Diane. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Melvin and Carolee Hunzicker, Peoria, and Bro. John Wettstein and the late Carolyn Wettstein, Congerville . . . A baby boy was born to Bro. and Sis. Jaye and Peg Rinkenberger, Goodfield. His name is Barton Jaye, and he was born Feb. 22. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Joe and Irene Rinkenberger, Cissna Park, and Bro. and Sis. Bob and Elna Grimm, Goodfield.

Bro. Eli Hohulin had major surgery at Methodist Hospital in Peoria, and is improving satisfactorily.

We had a blessed week-end on Feb. 15 and 16, when Melinda Meece (Bro. and Sis. Ernie and Eloise Diggelman), Jahala Roth (Roy and Sis. Corrine Roth), and Dave Zobrist (Bro. and Sis. Howard and Phyllis Zobrist) gave their testimonies and were baptized. Bro. Ed Ringger, Gridley, was here to help Bro. Ed Hohulin on the solemn occasion.

We are looking forward to Sat. evening, March 1, when Gary and Karen Wiegand and Gale and Jane Wiegand are to give their testimonies. Gary and Gale are sons of Bro. and Sis. Henry and Perceda Wiegand, Goodfield; their wives, Karen and Jane are the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Elmore Waldbeser, Morton.

GRIDLEY KS

Julie Strahm - Wilma Young

Our hearts are warmed and our spirits are always lifted when spring again fills the air. It seems so many of us take the beautiful spring signs for granted, and forget to pause and graciously thank our heavenly Father for His wonderful and most perfect plan that He provided for us in which to dwell. As Easter is almost upon us, it reminds each child of God of our precious Saviour—the suffering He endured to His last breath. Oh! how it makes us tremble to think that if our Saviour had not been so full of love for us, we might not now have even so much as a hope for eternal life, knowing that the death and resurrection of our Saviour and Redeemer has made this possible.

At our annual business meeting,

held in January, several were elected to fill offices and duties. Our elder, Bro. Sam Anliker presided over our meeting. Elections resulted in the following appointments: (Bros.) Eldon Metzger, Board of Trustees; Ivan Beyer, Building Aid Board; Doug Kraft, Personal Property Board; Ephriam Young, Jr. High Bible Class, and superintendent of Sunday School; (Sis.'s) Dorene Metzger, 4, 5 and 6th grade classes; Judy Bahr, pre-school class, Julie Strahm, Silver Lining Reporter; Bertha Beyer, to manage World Relief meetings. Mention was made to include the Lamont congregation with the Gridley congregations' World Relief sessions. We are now looking forward to having many from the Lamont congregation come and share these evenings with us. Meetings are held the 2nd Tues. evening of every month. It is such a joy to see that so many care and want to give of their time, in order to make provisions for the many who are in need.

One of our older brothers, Felder Young, celebrated his 87th birthday the 7th of February. Bro. Felder was surprised to have so many friends and relatives gather together with him for the evening.

Many were able to meet in the home of our dear Sis. Doris (Roy) Bahr, for singing and scripture reading with her on February 7. Sis. Doris has been ill for some time, but was able to attend Sunday services with us (for the first time since her illness) last Sunday, the 23rd of February. It was so nice to have her back with us again, as many certainly missed having her.

INDIANAPOLIS IN Patrick and Judy Dubach

"The LORD is good unto them that wait for him." Slow me down, Lord! Ease the pounding of my heart, by the quieting of my mind. Give me, amidst the confusion of my day, the calmness of soul. Break the tensions of my nerves with the soothing music of the singing streams that live in my memory. Help me to know the restoring power of sleep. Teach me the art of taking minute vacations . . . of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to read a few lines from the Good Book. Let me look upyard into the branches of

the towering oak, and know that it grew great and strong because it grew slowly and well. Inspire me to send my roots deep into the soil of life's enduring values.

This is a good teaching for us in this fast-paced world we now live in.

On the first Sunday in Feb., we were read the conference report and received many good instructions and suggestions to follow . . . We were informed by our elder, Bro. Theo. Beer, that he felt he would like to step down as our elder, because he feels due to his age and the many miles between us, it was becoming too much for him. All of us at Indianapolis certainly wish to express our thanks and gratitude to Bro. Theo. for the years he has served us so well. We also wish to warmly welcome Bro. Alfred Bahler of Wolcott, who has been appointed to follow Bro. Theo. in the eldership.

Visiting ministers who joined us in Feb. along with Bros. Theo. and Alfred were, Bros. Dave Bertsch—Leo, Joe Aberle—Sabetha, Earl Zeltwanger—Bremen, and Ed Hohulin, Goodfield.

We were sorry to see Bro. Ken and Sis. Lynn Beer and sons leave us and return to Milford, as we will miss them, but know they are welcomed by family and friends there.

LA CROSSE IN Lorene Moser - Marilyn Zeltwanger

Who is He? — For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given — Who being the brightness of His glory, and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on High.

Why did He come? — I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.

Where is He now? — It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.

Sunday, Feb. 9, a program was given and pot-luck supper served in appreciation to retired Elder Bro. George Yergler. We are grateful for his love and many years of serving us. Bro. George worked in

God's vineyard 56 years. He likes to travel, and in February returned from a trip to Florida with son Ralph and his wife Jeanette.

Dale Meiss (Bro. Roland and Sis. Josephine) spent some time in the hospital for tests. He is at home again, and we are happy that Dale's tests turned out satisfactorily.

He the Master, we His brethren; In true fellowship we grow . . .

As we grow in fellowship with our precious Lord, so also we experienced the fellowship of those in like mind and faith. We were privileged to have a number of the Wolcott congregation gather with us Feb. 23. Surely this fellowship is a foretaste of the joys of Heaven. Many inspiring teachings were given us by visiting ministers, Bros. Noah Gerber (West Bend) and Vernon Schwab (Wolcott).

God has so wonderfully created His creation. The crocus and hyacinths are again moving the soil and making their appearance amid the elements of the weather, and in a short time the beauty of the flower will appear.

When pure and upright hearts,
By flames of love ignited. . . The engagement of Bro. Glen Heinold, son of Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace, and Sis. Sandy Moser (Elgin), daughter of Bro. Gene and Sis. Libby was announced.

ROCKVILLE CT Carlton J. Lanz

Funeral services of Bro. Albert Lanz was on Sunday Feb. 16. He was stricken at his home in the evening and taken to the Rockville General Hospital, where he succumbed the following morning with a major heart attack.

Al, as most people knew him, appeared to be in good health, always active and ready with a cheerful greeting. He was a hard worker, seemed to enjoy what he did, and was fond of his family and in-laws. Tragedy struck in Oct. 1972, when his daughter, Florence, on a visit here with her husband and their daughter, Susan were killed when their private plane crashed in Illinois, as they were about to land near their home. Another couple also died with them in the crash. Besides his wife, Sis. Elsie (Diggelman) Lanz, he leaves 2 sons, Albert Jr. and Kerwin; 5 daughters,

Harriet Clarke, Lois Gebler, Wheaton IL; Sis. Anna May Getz, Morton; Velda Fox, Ellington; & Norma D. Luginbuhl, Rockville; one brother, Henry, Ellington; and a sister, Hattie Schrock, Oakville. Bro. Albert Schneider officiated at the services, with Bro. Noah Schrock, elder at Oakville offering the graveside prayer. Interment was in the Ellington Center Cemetery.

Sis. Bertha Trueb Keller has died, after a long illness. Death came at the convalescent home where she had been confined for several years. The family has confidence that she has been called to go to her rest. She is survived by a brother, Jacob Trueb; three sisters, Sis. Louise Schneider, Hermena, and Hannah, who is also confined to the same Home where Bertha was. Bro. Al Schneider had the services, with prayers offered by Bros. Ernest Luginbuhl and Corbin Bahler. Burial was in the Ellington Center Cemetery.

Wedding vows were exchanged between Sis. Luella Schneider and Bro. Mark Hoffman on Sunday, as our Elder Bro. John Bahler solemnized the ceremony in the presence of the church. The familiar beautiful hymn Union Of Hearts was sung. Reception followed at the home of Luella's parents, Bro. Leon and Martha Schneider; Mark's parents are Bro. Edwin and Sis. Elsie Hoffman.

The short poem I have enclosed was given me by Bro. Daniel (Danny) Virkler. It has merit.

I got up early one morning
And rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
That I didn't take time to pray.

Problems just tumbling about me,
And heavier came each task;
Why doesn't God help me? I wondered.
He answered, **You didn't ask.**

I wanted to see joy and beauty—
But the day toiled on, grey and bleak;
I wondered why God didn't show me;
He said, **But you didn't seek.**

I woke early this morning,
And paused before entering the day;
I had so much to accomplish
That I had to take time to pray.

SHIODA JAPAN Willis R. Ehnle

Have you ever asked, **Why does God exist?** I was sitting in our living room visiting with a friend of ours, Shimura San, who comes to church and who has a concern for his spiritual welfare. We were talking about problems he might have, and he asked me the above stated question. I replied that He created all things and is the origin of all things.

What is your answer to the question, **Why does God exist?** If God didn't exist, then our universe would not exist nor the hundreds of other universes which probably exist beyond our reach. . . . For God Himself not to exist would mean there would be nothing anywhere. . . . If anything, we have the feeling there should be more than what we know about and there probably is. . . . We are here, that's for sure, and God does exist, that's for sure. Our business now is to know and to do His will, not just on an individual basis, but as a group of believers. This is fine, this is desirable, this is enjoyable. . . . But "Their sorrows shall be multiplied that hasten after another god. . . ."

I suppose you have all heard of **culture shock**. It is an illness which occurs in the life of a person when he moves to a different culture or way of life from what he is accustomed. His nervous system fails to make the switch over smoothly, and he finds himself nervous and sensitive, seldom realizing he himself is ailing. From his point of view, the problem exists in his environment, including the people around him. This is quite common with Americans who come to Japan and attempt to enter into the society. If you keep your contacts primarily with Americans or with English-speaking Japanese, it usually is not a problem. However, I heard of an unusual case of "culture shock." An Englishman was associating with a group of Americans in Japan, and it is said he suffered from **American culture shock**. The lack of formality or set norms, what we say and our manners, and our misuse of English, all add up to a shock for a refined "correct" Englishman. Yet we must prayerfully try to understand each other. "And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews, . . . To the weak became

I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some."

I took Grandna Saegusa, our neighbor who is 87 years old, to a hot spring in Enzan, about 20 minutes away by car. I heard he has been wanting to go there because he has been having pain in his back. He was supposed to guide me where he wanted to go, but we had to ask several times before we found the place. On the way home he told me he hadn't been to that hot spring for 70 years. I asked if things had changed much, and he said that they had — they have put up so many houses. That's the reason he couldn't find it right away. How would it be to go someplace where you haven't been for 70 years, even though the place is so close to you? I am certain it would seem that the 70 years passed very quickly. Time is a precious asset, and it treats us all the same; we all get the same amount each day, and it waits for no man. "For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night."

Keep smiling and looking up.

GRIDLEY IL Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein

A miracle of love's creation
Sleeping in your arms today,
It's wonderful; it's marvelous;
God bless you all, we pray.

Bro. Earl and Sis. Dixie Ringger are the parents of a daughter, Staci Lee, born Feb. 19. She has two sisters, Cassandra Lee and Peggy Lyn. Staci's grandparents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Lucile Stoller, and Bro. Edwin and Sis. Pat Ringger, all of Gridley. Staci's great-grandmothers are Sis. Leah Ringger of Gridley, Sis. Elizabeth Stoller of Princeville and Anna Kaufman of Watseka. . . . Bro. Orlan and Sis. Carol Miller are the parents of a son, Arlan John, born Feb. 22. He has a sister, Carla, and a brother, Alan. Arlan's grandparents are Bro. Rudy and Sis. Esther Miller, and Adam and Lulu Schlipf, all of Gridley. . . . Bro. Jerome and Sis. Mary Witzig are the parents of a son, Todd Alan, born Feb. 25. He has two sisters, Amy and Molly. Todd's grandparents are Bro. Sam and Sis. Louise Witzig of Gridley

and Bro. Herman and Bro. Oleda Menold of Morton. His great-grandparents are Sis. Elizabeth Honegger and Henry Menold.

We are saddened by the death of Bro. Emil Grusy. God knows best, and all that He does is well done. We have the confidence that for Bro. Emil, all is well. Emil was a song leader for many years and a faithful pillar in the church. We will miss him. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to his wife, Sis. Naomi; his sons, Franklin and Burton; his daughters, Genevieve Henricks, Kathleen Kaufman, and Sis. Marilyn Hany; his sisters (Sisters) Lena Meiss, Louise Gramm and Bertha Meiss. His funeral will be Sunday, March 2.

In patience then bear all trial and care;
Above streams of bliss will refresh thee.

Some in our congregation have been absent, due to illness. Bro. Silas Hohulin was in the hospital for a week and is home again. Marjorie (Mrs. Elmer) Schlipf was in the hospital for surgery. Sis. Ida Witzig was also a surgical patient.

We were happy to have Ministering Bro. Nathan Stoller with us, from Bradford. It is always heart-warming to fellowship with brethren from other locations. We are wonderfully reminded that the Spirit of God is not bound, but is present in every place where the hearts of men are upright and sincere.

LEO IN Mrs. Elias Souder

At our business meeting, we were in need to select a new trustee, and Bro. Eugene Stoller was selected. We needed an usher; Bro. Philip Schlatter was selected.

The Leo Sunday School was host to the Latty young people on Sat. evening and Sunday, Feb. 22-23.

In visiting the Sheehi Rest Home, Sun. March 2, we enjoyed the singing with the residents. They really joined in helping.

Our brother, Edward Bertsch, who has been in the service of the Lord for many years, went to be with Him. Edward spent a number of years in nursing homes and always seemed happy when we visited him. Altho his eyesight was failing, he had joined until the last

few times in singing the hymns he had learned in his younger days. He is survived by four sisters and two brothers. Funeral services were conducted by our local ministers, and burial was in the Leo Cemetery.

Do You Have Memories of Midweek?

Wednesday evening . . . time for a high point . . . a sitting at the feet of a Saviour, so powerful He holds the star-studded universes in His hand . . . He opens the treasures for His people.

There is Bible study . . . we meditated on the pleasant beautitudes . . . the salt of the earth and its remarkable properties . . . of controversy—with part of its root meaning in Hebrew seemingly hair-pulling . . .

As the clock moved nearer 8, we moved to the assembly . . . joined in the beautiful views of the Upper Garden, in the Gospel Hymn . . . they are there, those loved ones. . . We had other beautiful hymns and songs . . . and scripture from Acts 14 . . . The music and the scripture intertwining like a lovely rose, with fragrant blossoms, interlacing a trellis . . .

The community of interest of blended hearts was met again . . . Aaron, 84 years, sitting with Pete, another rock the Lord has used to build His church. John and Linda Klopfenstein . . . John the Hebrew meaning, God be gracious (or is gracious). What a wonderful message . . . others are there, not one whom we would want to leave out of the book of our heart. . .

Pleasant memories indeed, to stimulate.

BAY CITY MI Carolyn Schamback

He dies, He dies, the lowly Man of Sorrows. . .
But behold! I am alive, forevermore. . . !

Yes. . . Jesus died for you, and for me. . . But it was His rising from the grave—alive that we can rejoice in, for in this act, if we but choose, we have the promise of eternally overcoming death. What a promise! Our dear friend, Regan Wieland, has made this choice, and has "buried" his old life, beginning a new one as a brother in Christ.

We welcome Bro. Regan, son of Bro. Daryl and Sis. Edith, as a member of our flock.

Hospitalized were Sis. Ella Wackerle and Bro. Bill Schlatter for surgery and Sis. Anna Magyer for tests.

"We . . . thank the Bay City congregation for their love and prayers during the birth of our twin daughters and for the cards and gifts . . . We may be separated by miles, but He binds our hearts ever so close." Bro. Denny and Sis. Julie Fehr, Shenoa and Shannon. . . Sis. Julie is the daughter of Bro. Frank and Sis. Faye Wackerle of Bay City.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA IL Howard and Dianne Leman

During February we were privileged to have Marion Lehman, director of Heifer Project, attend our church services and spend a few moments explaining the work of this organization. He told of the many places and people this project has helped.

Congratulations to Bro. Keith and Sis. Joanie Hansen on the birth of their first daughter, Gretchen Lydia. Brothers, Shane, Brett, and Ethan are overjoyed with their new sister.

Our Sunday School children are busily preparing for the upcoming Easter Program. We have about 20 children in our Sunday School.

The trustees are completing arrangements to have the church basement carpeted.

"We would like to thank everyone for the money, cards and gifts we received during the birth of our daughters. Your prayers were deeply felt. . . We four, Denny, Shannon, Shenoa, and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts." Bro. Denny and Sis. Julie Fehr.

ELGIN IL Sandy and Mary Moser

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 abundant grace.

As we approach this Easter season, may we journey to the cross, where our Saviour died and

shed His precious blood for our sins.

The first week-end in February, the young folks from Gridley visited our congregation. We want to thank each one who put forth the effort to come. What a joy it is to fellowship with those of like mind and faith.

Bro. Tom and Sis. Diane Ebert were blessed with a little baby girl, Jennifer Ellen, born on Feb. 21. She is welcomed home by one brother, Jeremy. . . Michele Rose is the name chosen by Mark and Barb Steffen for their daughter, born on Feb. 19. She has a sister, Jennifer Lynn. The happy grandparents are Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn Steffen.

Released from the hospital are Sis. Rose Steffen and Sis. Lena Leuthold. Bro. Ed Gudeman had surgery and remains in critical condition. Although we do not know what the future holds for each of us, let us trust that God will take care of us each day.

Howard Kimball, husband of Sis. Marie Graff Kimball, passed away on Feb. 21. Funeral services were conducted from the Stout Funeral Chapel by Bro. Nathan Steffen.

Bro. Henry and Sis. Sarah Kellenberger wish to thank those who remembered them with cards and prayers, following the death of her brother, Bro. Fred Messner.

On March 2, the engagement of Sis. Sandra Moser, daughter of Bro. Gene and Sis. Libbie Ann Moser, was announced to Bro. Glen Heinold, son of Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace Heinold of LaCrosse.

MILFORD IN Mrs. Robert Beer

“. . . I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.” How great God’s love was for His creation—far more than we can comprehend. What a joy to find salvation and live a life for the Lord, who suffered so for our lost state. When we show God’s love to the world, they can then see God dwelling in us. **ONLY WHAT’S DONE FOR CHRIST WILL LAST.**

Bro. Stan and Sis. Linda Wuthrich were blessed with a daughter, Tricia Lynne, on Feb. 15. Grandparents are Walter and Martha Wuthrich and Bro. Howard and Sis. Eleanor Beer.

We are happy to have Bro. Sam

Reimschisel and Sis. Hulda Graff in God’s House again worshipping, after being shut-in for several months.

We were privileged and spiritually blessed when Bros. Vernon Le-man, Eureka and Harold Emch, Girard spent Wed. evening, Feb. 19 and Sunday Feb. 23 with us. We were reminded that we must make a reservation in heaven by giving our lives to God and send material ahead. . .

Sunday evening, Feb. 23, a sing-spiration was enjoyed, singing praises to God for His goodness and faithfulness to us.

March 1 and 2 we were happy to welcome two souls as our brothers in Christ, Theodore Brooks and Allen Wuthrich. We rejoice with them in their new life. Theodore moved to Milford 23 years ago from the Huntsville, Alabama area. His wife, Sis. Inez was one of the first converts there 34 years ago through visiting ministers sent to that area by our churches in the north. Allen’s wife is Kathy, and his parents are Walter and Martha Wuthrich.

Fear not tomorrow—God is already there.

OAKVILLE IA Martha Wiegand

Best wishes to Sis. Evelyn Schrock (Bro. John and Sis. Ruth Marti Schrock) and Bro. Gary Endress of Bradford (the late Bro. Danny & Sis. Lois Miller Endress), whose engagement was announced. A March wedding is planned.

We welcome Sis. Ingrid Buster into our fellowship. After several unavoidable delays, we were finally privileged to hear her testimony and witness her baptism. May God be her constant Guide.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Sis. Norma (Bro. Eric) Massner in the loss of her mother, Mrs. Allie Hillyard. Mrs. Hillyard was also the grandmother of our brother, Myron Schulz Jr.

We enjoyed the unexpected Wednesday evening visit of Bro. Duane Metzger (West Bend). Such visits are always appreciated.

WEST BEND IA Mrs. Melvin Fehr Mrs. Raymond Anliker

Elmer and Agnes Anliker wish to announce the wedding of their daughter, Mary, to Mike Melick.

Our February surgical hospital patients were Conrad (Dick) Schmidt and Sis. Mathilda (Elmer) Fehr. God has restored their health, and they are at home, while Sis. Lilly (Nathan) Mogler is still hospitalized of an injury from a fall. Bro. Paul Banwart, a shut-in, assembled with us again, after being absent for many weeks. Nathan Banwart, a shut-in, too, wishes to be remembered.

WATCH AND PRAY were the words spoken by Elder Bro. Leo Moser (Lester) and Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer (Elgin IA) when our friend, Cloyce Gress, brought his testimony to our congregation. We welcome Bro. Cloyce, a precious lamb, into our brotherhood. May we as brothers and sisters take heed of the warning that was expounded to us.

Frank and Sis. Kate Dogotch wish to thank those who expressed their love with cards and gifts and for God’s rich blessings, as they observed their 60th wedding anniversary.

Mrs. Ernie Schmidt had the misfortune of falling on the ice and breaking her leg; she is in the Park Hospital at Mason City, Iowa. Her home address is Ottosen, Iowa.

BLUFFTON IN Melanie Gerber / Donna Drayer

We are always thankful when our brothers and sisters from a distance find it worthwhile to assemble with us on the Lord’s Day. We were privileged to have Bro. Vernon Schwab, Bro. Gene Lehman and many others from the Wolcott congregation worship with us on Feb. 16. (Bros.) Elmer Hartter and Everett Hari were in our midst recently.

Sis. Carol Reinhard and Bro. Roger Compton were united in marriage on Feb. 9. Carol’s parents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Vergene Reinhard.

Mike and Sis. Melissa Smekens became new parents, when Amy Elizabeth was born on Feb. 26. Amy’s grandparents are Bro. Wendell and Sis. Wanda Gerber.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Sis. Effie (Herman) Bertsch and her family in the passing away of her mother. Mrs. Mary Kathyren Murray of Plymouth had reached the age of 87 years.

Those who have spent some time in the hospital are Bros. Sam Mal-

ler, Robert Maller, Tom Fairchild, Luther Gerber, and Walter Neuen-schwander, and Sisters Berniece (Melvin) Maller, Minnie (Sam) Aeschliman, Cordelia (Harry) Aeschliman, Goldie (Herman) Steffen and Lydia (John) Kaehr. Bro. Lester Heyerly had major surgery. May our congregation do its part to help lift the hearts of each of these dear souls.

Wouldn't life be more worth living,
As we travel down its road,
If we stopped to cheer the lonely
And to help them bear the load?
Wouldn't all of us feel better,
If we each would do our part
Radiating cheer and sunshine
For the one who's sad of heart?

FT LAUDERDALE FL

Henry Sutter - Henry Schwartz

February and March are two of the prettiest months in South Florida, and many visitors have enjoyed them with us. We had a good measure of spiritual blessings from fellowship with our brethren and the labors of those who minister to us. Those who shared the gospel were Elder Bros. John Bahler, Ben Maibach, Ezra Feller, and Joe Braker and Bros. Noah Gerber, Henry Beer, Bob Pohl, Walt Anliker, Henry Grimm and Ray Weiland.

We were privileged again to go to the cross in remembrance of the suffering and cruel death of our Lord. Feeling renewed in spirit, we can take up our battles with new fervor and hold this precious memory close to our hearts.

Anyone visiting our congregation will find a rich blessing in making the acquaintance of Bro. John and Sis. Sylvia Marioncu. John left Yugoslavia in 1927, and Sylvia left Rumania in 1929. The Lord led them to Canada and in time, to each other. Three years ago they made Ft. Lauderdale their home and worshipped with us regularly. John & Sylvia have many years professed a faith like unto ours, but desired the blessing of full fellowship with us, believing they could better work out their salvation thus. Therefore, it was their wish to bring their testimony before us and become a sister and brother. This was accomplished and we rejoiced with them. Knowing their walk of life, we are confident that they will be a real asset to our

congregation and a real blessing to all who come to know them.

We wish Bro. Rodney and Sis. Sally Gress many blessings as they establish their home and begin their life together. In an impressive ceremony, Bro. Joe Braker told them that a marriage begun in the Lord can unfold with rich blessing if He remains a partner of the relationship. United in Him, we can establish a strong fortress against Satan and be a light to those who watch our walk. We trust it will be for Rodney and Sally. Sally is the daughter of Bro. Bud and Sis. Billie Klopfenstein; Rodney is the son of Bro. Fahey and Sis. Marie Gress of West Bend.

We often enjoyed the visits of Sis. Dorothy Schneider of Rockville. She has been released from a life of suffering and has gone to her eternal rest. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.

FAIRBURY IL

Joyce Huber

Our Elder Bro. Josh Broquard announced his desire to have the assistance of a deacon and another minister. Our hearts have been filled with love and prayerful concern in searching out God's will in this weighty matter, and after a time of much prayer in seeking God's guidance, our congregation supported Bro. Art Bahler as our deacon and Bro. Duane Kilgus as our new minister. We pray God to grant these brothers His grace, strength, and guidance in the new duties that have been laid upon them, and we have the confidence and believe they will always put their trust in Him and follow the Holy Spirit's leading at all times.

We were blessed with an inspirational message from Bro. Dave Wiegand of Champaign, as he visited here.

We are sorry that Lydia Maier and Katie Grace were hospitalized.

FRANCESVILLE IN

Sharon Neihouser / Helen Huber

"Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me." We were privileged to have Bro. Charles Marti (Lamar) visit us on a Wednesday evening. He reminded us that God will always comfort us when we are in times of distress. What an assurance this can be. On the same evening,

a business meeting was held. Those who have been called to serve in the church are: Bros. Sid Leman and John Huber as ushers, Elmer Anliker as trustee, Willis Gudemen as Sunday School Superintendent; Bro. Carl L. Gutwein and Sisters Janice Gutwein, Paulette Putt, Lorene Pfladderer, and Elizabeth Anliker as Sunday School teachers.

On Feb. 15, Doug Leman (Bro. Sid and Sis. Fern) and Margaret Tanner exchanged wedding vows.

On Feb. 16, Bro. Dale Eisenman (Chicago) shared with us heavenly manna. He reminded us that we should never dwell on the past, wish we lived therein, because that will never get us through a struggle. We need to face them head on, go forward and strengthen those things that remain. When our God sees that His church is no longer effective in this world, He will call us all home. We were richly blessed when Peoria Choir visited us on Feb. 23. We are reminded that we are to make a joyful noise unto the Lord. May we continue to honor Him with a song from our hearts.

God has placed love in two hearts from our congregation; Bro. Mark Novotny (Bro. Art and Sis. Maxine) was announced to Sis. Kristel Miller.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Libby Meyer

God has promised to provide for our needs, not our wants. He certainly provides for our needs when we come and taste and see. Many loved ones gathered with us this past month. We thank Bro. Wendell Gudeman for his efforts to be with us and minister to us.

He prayeth well who loveth well
Both man and bird and beast.
He prayeth best who loveth best
All things both great and small,
For the dear God who loveth us,
He made and loveth all.

ROANOKE, IL

Edith Sauder - Mae K. Hodel

May God's blessing rest upon you
On this happy Easter Day;
May His loving arms protect you
As you go upon your way.
May His sunlight shine upon you;
May He fill your heart with song.
May you always lean upon Him.
One whose heart and arms are
strong.

Easter will have a special meaning to the four dear souls who gave their testimonies and were baptized Feb. 2. Sisters Marge Aeschleman (Bro. Joe and Sis. Mardell), Shirley Moser (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Barbara), Jean Leman (Bro. Jim and Sis. Myra), and Judy Hodel (Bro. Ray and Sis. Kathryn) were added to the fold. Bros. Carl Kipfer (Bluffton), Vernon Leman (Eureka), and Art Baurer (Princeville) were our visiting ministers on this happy occasion.

A little son was born Feb. 9 to Jim and Julie (Hoffman) Tibbs, Jason Edward. Mr. and Mrs. James Tate and Bro. Rudy and Sis. Mary Hoffman are the happy grandparents.

Sis. Carrie Hodel had the misfortune of falling on the ice and breaking a bone in her hip. She is in the hospital. Sis. Annie Leman has been moved to the Restmor Nursing Home at Morton. Bro. Bob Hohulin has been hospitalized. Sis. Jean Luginbuhl and Sis. Edna Roth have returned to their homes. Our dear friend, Margaret Designe was able to come home today.

TOLEDO OH Lydia Meister

At this holy season,
Give us quietness of mind.
Teach us to be patient,
And help us to be kind.
Give us reassurance
That you are always near,
To guide us and protect us
In this violent world of fear.
Help us all to realize,
There is untold strength and
power,
When we seek the Lord and find
Him,
In our meditation hour.

At our annual meeting, Sis. Mary Ann Weigle was re-elected Sunday School teacher, Bro. George Laidig . . . trustee, and Bro. Ben Schlatter . . . treasurer.

The Lord in His deep love for little children has cradled our dear little Keith Rager in His arms of love, to live there in Joy Eternal. Keith is the son of Sis. Sharon and Bro. Walter Rager.

The tragic death of Dorothea and Carl Schlatter of Ft. Wayne brought deep sorrow to the Schlatter and Newman families here.

We who knew and loved them sorrow with the dear ones.

Sis. Lois Newman and husband, Warren have been hospitalized. Lois is home recuperating, and Warren should be home in a few days. . . . Little Nathan Beard remains on the sick list.

Robert Reineck and Kristin Sue Le Crone were married Saturday, Feb. 22. Robert is the son of Bro. Homer and Sis. Josephine Reineck.

We were happy to have the Dave Sancraints bring their little son, Bryan George to visit us. Bryan is the grandson of Sis. Frances and Bro. George Laidig. He has a sister, Kelly and brother, Chad.

MANSFIELD OH Lucille Groh

On February 22 and 23, our dear elder brothers, Rudolph Graf and Joseph Ramsier visited our congregation and shared with us many good words of counsel and advice, as they read the memorandum. It was a very joyous and memorable week-end, because our new sister in Christ, Barbara Zimmer Tucker gave her testimony what the Lord meant and has done for her. She was baptized, and we welcome her into our fellowship. We know she will never regret having made the Lord her choice.

Our dear friend, Melvin Sauder (Bro. Charles and Sis. Marcella) has answered the Saviour's call, has found forgiveness and peace with His God, and is now awaiting baptism. The angels truly rejoice over one sinner who repents, and we know if our friends would only know the joy of being a child of God, they would not wait another day.

What a joyous and yet sobering time of the year when we think of Easter and what it really means. We think of the crucifixion, and then the glorious miracle of Christ's resurrection from death and tomb, and what a great love He had for mankind. Someone mentioned that maybe he was even cold hanging on the cross . . . What a glorious day it will be when He comes again, to claim His own. May we all try to be a little more watchful, a little more helpful, a little kinder, and above all ready, watching and awaiting this wonderful day. Let's all try a little harder, It will be worth it all.

Just suppose God searched through Heaven;

He couldn't find one willing to be
The supreme sacrifice that was
needed

That would buy eternal life for
you and me.

But I'm so glad He was willing to
drink

His bitter cup,
Although He prayed, Father, let
it pass from Me;

Oh I'm so glad He didn't call
Heaven's angels:

From my hands pull the nails that
torment me

Hospitalized have been, Bro. Robert Sauder, Sisters Martha (Martin) Kleshinski, Mary (Will) Sauder (surgery) and JoAnn Sferro; our dear friends (who mean so much to us) Tim (son of Elmer and Beulah) Sauder, and Roma (John) Them.

WICHITA KS Glennis Allenback

In looking to Calvary, I became aware of a moment that I don't remember having registered deeply with me before. The dread time had come. The start had to be made. As they brought Jesus out for his trip to Golgotha, they must have stopped for a moment, when they found Simon and on him laid the cross, that he might bear it after Jesus. There had to be that one moment that first step as he started his ascent to Calvary. Now it's this moment that is very pitiful to me. I thought surely by instinct, there would have been a hush for this most important event. How could such a moment go unnoticed. It seems impossible that it could, but it did except the few who knew him, but did not truly understand.

I have attempted to write my thoughts in the following lines:

There's a little thought of moment,
Or so it seems to me,
The moment came, He was to start
His lone ascent to Calvary.

I think a stillness should have been,
As laughter ceased and voices
stilled,
For just a tiny moment, when
Such promise was to be fulfilled.

There's a little thought of moment,
Or so it seems to me;

He took a step, a step to where
He paid it all, on Calvary.

We started a Bible Class the first and third Sunday evenings, having had requests for this. We are starting in an elementary way, with the books of the New Testament.

We Christians should remember to smile often, as we have good reason to smile!

Sometimes a miracle,
Brings unaware,
Like silent music,
The answer to a prayer!

AKRON OH
Lynda Pamer

There was no crown for Him
of silver or of gold:
There was no diadem
for Him to hold,
But blood adorned His brow,
and its stain He bore,
And sinners gave to Him
the crown He wore.
A rugged cross became His throne;
His kingdom was in hearts alone.
He wrote His love in crimson red,
And wore the thorns
upon His head.

Those elected to various duties are: Bro. Randy Miller and Sis. Evelyn Baumgartner (Sunday School teachers), Bros. Ned Spangler (trustee), Steve Pamer (usher), Sisters Esther Graf and Alma Graf (kitchen committee).

Sis. Frida Gruenig was in the hospital for a time, and is now at Little Forest Nursing Home, 797 E. Market St. Akron OH 44303.

Sis. Ruth Taylor was hospitalized, but we are glad to see her in church again.

BREMEN IN
Marian Germann

People are like stained glass windows. They glow and sparkle when it is sunny and bright, but when the sun goes down, their true beauty is revealed only if there is light within . . . During this Easter season, let us each search our souls to see if we are letting the true beauty of Christ shine through our lives.

On Feb. 12, Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman and Loren Stoller read the memorandum. It was a very blessed and fulfilling evening.

On Feb. 16, Bro. Charles Hemmer of Peoria gave very inspiring sermons to our congregation. The next week, we were fortunate to hear Bro. Walt Rager of Toledo bring a very timely message.

On Feb. 18, Kenny and Mary Germann celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary.

I would like to remind our congregation, next month (April) is our turn to collect for the Silver Lining.

CHICAGO IL
Kathy Schlatter

Bro. Roy Grimm, Taylor; Elder Bro. Rudie Graf, Akron; and Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman from Francesville celebrated a very joyful Sunday with us Feb. 9 . . . and on Feb. 23, our recently welcomed Sis. Aranka Czebe from Akron was joined to Bro. Miklos Bozzay in the bond of holy matrimony. Elder Bro. Dale Eisenman married them, adjuring them and all of us to reach for that divine love, so beautifully described in I Corinthians 13. After meeting the new couple, family, friends and the congregation shared a beautiful church supper. To complete their family circle, Sis. Aranka and Bro. Miklos eagerly await the arrival of his two children, Miklos—5 and Rozalia—4 from Hungary, where they have been staying with their grandparents.

Wednesday evening, Feb. 5, Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy Schlatter were given a shower in honor of their first child (still being waited for at this point in time). Again the church showed its giving spirit of love, which we so cherish.

Matthew Seth finally made his appearance Feb. 13. Delighted parents are Bro. Greg and Sis. Carla Rassi. His little sister, Rachel thinks it's rather exciting to have a baby around to play with, too. Grandparents are Bro. Elias and Sis. Pearl Rassi; and Bro. Carl and Sis. Rose Vierling, all of Morton.

Bro. Arnie Gerst had surgery, but we were glad to greet him last Sunday afternoon. He seems to be doing well, for which we thank our Lord.

Sometimes we let frustrations overwhelm us, thinking God has tasks too big for us to do . . . But if we would only consider, He asks of us little things: that we listen

to him; that we put our hand in His, trusting; that we smile; that we let Him "worry" (instead of doing it ourselves); that we live each day, one holy minute at a time. Little things can lead to big things, but we need to let Him lead.

CONGERVILLE IL
Mary Schrock - Mary Leman

Whenever you know a desolate
hour
And are steeped in misery,
Remember Christ was lonely too
In bleak Gethsemane;
Whenever you feel that all of the
world
Has turned its back on you,
Remember that Christ knew what
it was
To feel abandoned too.

Whenever you feel that your
burden
Is greater than you can bear,
Remember He too heartbreakingly
knew
A moment of dark despair;
And remembering these things
just bear in mind
His victory was finally won
When He bowed His head and
and humbly said.
But Thy will, not Mine, be done!

A baby boy, David Wavne, arrived Feb. 6 at the home of Bro. Bob and Sis. Sharon McClure. Jeff, Kim, Crystal and Billy welcomed their new brother home. Grandparents are Bro. Walt and Sis. Erma Miller and Mr. and Mrs. Cecil McClure of Carlock.

Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) came Feb. 9 to assist our Elder Bro. Josh Broquard with the election of church officers. Our newly-elected trustees are Bros. Ernest Stahl, Bill Dietrich Jr. and Ralph Gudeman. Keith Roth was elected treasurer. It was voted to have Alvin Schrock assist Merion Miller on the committee for the Eureka Home.

The engagement of Sue Miller (daughter of Art and Lena) was announced, to Dwain Harmon. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Harmon of Lane.

Sis. Matilda Sauder was at the Eureka Hospital. Bro. Dan and Sis. Matilda are presently residing in the Shelter Care Unit of the Eureka Home. . . Due to a bump on the

nose, John Ott (son of Bro. Don and Sis. Carolyn) was hospitalized, to remove a blood clot. We are glad to have Sis. Joyce Zobrist back in church after several weeks of illness. She also had the misfortune of cutting her finger, which required five stitches.

On February 24, our dear sister, Minnie Shurter, age 82, passed away. She was preceded in death by her husband, Bro. Conrad. Surviving are four sons, Alfred, Moline; Clarence, Peoria Heights; Conrad R., Danville; Lawrence, Eureka; three daughters, Mrs. Joe Carroll, Brimfield; Mrs. Sam Staker, Morton; and Mrs. Kenneth Coulter, Goodfield.

Bro. Ken and Sis. Phyllis Knapp and their children have moved to a farm in Missouri; their address is R. R., Emden Mo 63439. They will make Taylor their church. We will miss them and hope they will come back and visit us often.

EUREKA IL

Cathryn Wettstein
Salome Schumacher

Our visitors were: Bros. Leroy Hartman—Peoria, James Leman—Roanoke, Joe Stoller—Princeville.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Kupferschmid are the parents of a son, born Feb. 4; he has been named Brent Eugene. He has two sisters to say welcome . . . Bro. & Sis. Simon and Lavonne Wagonbach have their fourth child and son. His name is Curt David; he was born Feb. 20.

Little Amy, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ed and Donna Kupferschmid, was a surgical patient in Eureka Hospital.

The wedding of Tamara Morrison and Duane Fehr took place at the bride's home the evening of Feb. 14. Bro. Leroy Huber officiated. Her parents are Harold & Donna Sauder, and his are Bro. & Sis. Ralph and Lula Fehr. They are living in Eureka.

Sis. Lola Blunier and Bro. Stanley Stoller were pronounced man and wife in an afternoon ceremony by Bro. Leroy Huber on Feb. 16. Her parents are Bro. & Sis. Vernon and Verda Blunier, and his parents are Bro. and Sis. Leroy and Clara (Stoller) Huber. They are living in Washington . . . Debbie Lauderback and John Mogler were married Feb. 16, at the bride's home. Her folks are the Ed Lauderbacks of

Eureka, and his are August and Sis. Inez Mogler.

Our newest residents of the "home" are Bro. Andy Martin, Eureka, and Bro. and Sis. Dan and Tillie Sauder from Congerville.

Sis. Minnie Schurter, age 82, passed away at the "Home" Monday, Feb. 24, after being a resident for nearly four months. Her funeral was in the Congerville Church on the 27th. She formerly lived near Congerville.

PRINCEVILLE IL

Ruth Ricketts

A smile takes but a moment, but its effect sometimes lasts forever.

February has been a wintry month, quite a lot of snow and some very cold weather. During a spell of warm days, the tulips began to peep above the ground, only to be covered with several inches of snow. We are all anxious for spring with its awakening. It brings to mind the resurrection of our dear Lord, who arose from the dismal tomb into glorious light. Recently during Wednesday evening service, we could hear the young folks singing, and as the strains of the hymn "Let Him In" wafted through the air, it brought to my mind how precious it would be if these young tender souls could truly let Him in.

Snow was falling quite heavy when a number of our loved ones came from Wolcott and Remington to spend the week-end. Sunday morning dawned crisp and clear, with a temperature of -14. Inside was warm, and many blessings were enjoyed. Bros. Ken Schneider, Remington and Vernon Schwab of Wolcott ministered, telling of the way of salvation and Bible truths.

On this cold Sunday morning, Bro. Herman Baer ventured out to worship with us. He is making remarkable recovery from open heart surgery, and we are all thankful to the Lord for his recovery. . . Sis. Natalie Feucht (wife of Bro. Daniel) was also with us this Sunday. She had been to Mayo's and underwent tests. A change was made in her special diet, and she is slowly gaining strength again. . . Sis. Beulah Ehnle underwent major surgery, and worshipped with us one Sunday morning. Hilda Streitmatter had surgery and is recuperating at home. She hasn't been

able to attend church as yet, but we hope it will be possible in the near future.

Sis. Mary Leuthold came one Sunday afternoon, after an absence of three months. How glad everyone was to have her with us, hoping her shut-in days were over. We are sorry to say she hasn't been feeling so well again and doesn't get around very much, as she has severe back pains . . . Sis. Lena Asal has been absent since before Christmas, and we miss her. At times she feels better, and then not so good and she feels best to stay at home. She feels when the weather is nice and she can again get out of doors she will feel better.

Shut-ins are Bro. Emil and Sis. Lisette Stahl, Sisters Lena Stiebling, Josephine Endress and Ida Huber. Sisters Lena Stichling, Josephine Endress and Ida Huber are spending many lonely hours when they cannot come to worship with us. Visits are appreciated and prayers reach the hearts of these dear shut-ins. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

We welcome Bro. Dick and Cleo Gerst and their children, Randy, Jim, and Annette to our congregation. They have moved from Alto area to near our area and are making Princeville their home church.

On Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 18, Bros. Kenneth and David Knobloch and Keith Endress were emptying corn from a bin. When the corn didn't empty through an auger at the bottom, the three men entered the top of the 20,000-bushel bin, in an attempt to loosen it. It suddenly gave way, and Kenneth was pulled into the corn. Bro. David tried frantically to hold onto his arm, but he was pulled in and had to let go his brother. Keith turned off the auger and help arrived, with 40 men opening the bin and shoveling the grain, trying to locate Kenneth. When he was found he had sufficated, despite efforts of firemen etc. All who knew Kenneth were shocked to hear of the tragedy and had deep compassion for his dear young wife, Sis. Vicki, who survives with their little son Christopher, about two years old.

Services were held Friday morning, February 21, with Bro. Edwin Ringger of Gridley officiating. Bro.

Kenneth had worked with Edwin at one time. Such comforting words were heard that it made one long for the beautiful home awaiting all the faithful, and we look forward to the great reunion someday. Bro. Jim Hoerr of Peoria also spoke comforting words, and Bro. Leo Moser of Lester interceded for all in prayer. Kenneth was born Aug. 20, 1947, a son of Bro. William (Nick) and Sis. Gladys Hornback Knobloch, and married Sis. Vicki Hartman, daughter of Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Elsa, in Peoria July 18, 1970. Surviving besides his beloved wife and son are his parents: two brothers, Bro. David and Keith; 2 sisters Sis. Marcia & Cindy, and two foster brothers, Bro. Richard Graham and Jesse Hobbs; a grandmother, Sis. Pauline Knobloch of Peoria.

The following morning, Feb. 22, funeral services were held for Roy Streitmatter, who died in the hospital following several strokes. Bro. Charles Hemmer of Peoria, who had a lengthy visit with Roy before he became so seriously ill, held comforting services for his family. Our local ministers assisted Bro. Charles with the memorial service. Roy was born near Princeville on March 25, 1902, the son of Bro. Sam and Sis. Caroline Rumbold Streitmatter. He married Kate Koehler on Jan. 27, 1925. Plans had been made to observe their 50th wedding anniversary, but Roy suffered a severe stroke the week before. Surviving are his wife; two sons, Melvin and Dale, both of Wyoming; one daughter, Mrs. Myron (Eleanor) Stackhouse of Cambridge; three brothers, Paul, Bros. Ben and Emanuel of our congregation; and four sisters, Sisters Bessie Martin and Leili Elsaser of our congregation, Ida Koehler of Prophetstown, and Lavina Sloan of Princeville.

As instructed in the comforting words to seek our refuge by reading God's word and our Zion's Harp, so may the bereft find comfort knowing also that we are all praying in their behalf.

How would it be, if I had to go
Into the dark, alone?

What would I do, if the Lord had
not
Made my last pathway known?

How would it be, if I could not
greet

Him, and my loved ones, there
What would I do, if it could not be
He is my answered prayer?

SARDIS OH

Karen Indermuhle

Easter—a bright, day—a day filled with joy and promise for all only believe. Christ carried every sin, physical and spiritual burden to the cross, that dark day on Golgotha. He died with our griefs and our due reward on His shoulders, a mighty weight, and we go free and are redeemed!

Not only did He meet our every need while He was here on earth, but God has presented Himself as a Comforter for us . . . the Holy Spirit . . . an undeserving gift of power, Jesus descending to live in us. Only believe. The Lord will show us great and mighty things. The word says, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not."

Praise the Lord with the Holy Spirit, in all things, because through praise miracles happen. The word is our proof of praise in action.

Simple, child-like faith and praise are our means to drawing so very close to our Saviour.

ALTADENA CA

Linda Witzig

It was announced that Heidi Klotzle has found His marvelous peace and hopes to be baptized soon. What a wonderful event to look forward to!

Bros. Edward Aeschliman from Union City and Maurice Frank from Leo spoke his word to our congregation on visits to California. We appreciated their being with us.

A group of seventeen young members and friends enjoyed a visit in Tucson, over one of the month's long weekends. What a wonderful time of sharing in His love and fellowship. Everyone was so very generous with us. We will remember that week-end always, and hope that God will bless the Tucson church generously for us, for we can't thank them enough for all they did. We thank God also for protecting us on the road to and from Arizona.

TREMONT IL

Lydia Rassi - Mary Jane Leuthold
Bro. Steve Rinkenberger and Bro. Noah Gerber were in our midst this past month. We appreciate all who feel moved to visit our congregation, and we can only hope they find here the true Spirit of our Lord and Saviour which we should all be possessing.

Bro. George Woerner has returned to his home, after a lengthy stay in the hospital.

We extend our sympathy to Curt and Pat Musselman and family in the passing away of her father, Edmund Kocher of Pekin.

"I wish to express my sincere thanks to everyone for the many cards, gifts, visits and prayers during my stay in the hospital and since I am home. Bro. George Woerner.

BERN. KANS.

Esther & Stella Moser

When your life is all a hustle—

You can't overcome the bustle
When your life seems for naught
With the headaches that you've
got,

And you search and find no peace—
Nothing helps you in the least;
Just one thing can help today—
Pray.

We have two joy bundles to report. Bro. Terry and Sis. Mary Farney have a daughter, Amy Rachelle, born February 8. Grandparents are Bro. Louis and Sis. Mavis Meyer—Bro. and Sis. Harvey Farney (Wichita).

Bro. Melvin and Sis. Florence Rokey are rejoicing over their first grandchild, Andrea Kathryn, born Feb. 22 to Dr. Garry and Martha Rokey, Kansas City, Missouri.

Bro. Frank Hertzal was hospitalized, when it became necessary to amputate the index finger injured in a machine mishap some time ago. We have had much sickness, flu, colds—including both your reporters.

BURLINGTON IA

Edna Pohl - Elaine Eisenmann

A great love: God so loved the
world;

A great gift: His only begotten
Son;

A great invitation: Whosoever;

A great salvation: Should not perish, but have everlasting life.

The time nears when our thoughts turn to the Saviour's preaching to lost souls. His suffering on the cruel cross, and victory over death. God has been true to His word. that it shall never pass away. Today we still can meditate and be guided in His word . . . How thankful we should be to walk in His wondrous light, and not in blinded darkness.

Even as His resurrection from the grave, so we marvel at the earth's awakening, in every tree, flower and herbs of the field. A precious privilege . . . to be aware of all this thru our rebirth in Jesus, our merciful Redeemer.

We sincerely appreciate the generous donations coming in from our congregations. We feel the Lord is with us, or help would not be forthcoming . . . Also to the ingathering of more souls, is our humble prayer.

The yearly election of officers was held in February, and 5 brothers were elected to the building committee (among others elected).

Bro. Tom Ebert and Sis. Diane are the happy parents of a little girl, Jennifer Ellen. Her young brother, 2 in May, is awaiting their homecoming. Grandparents are Bro. Marvin Woodard and Sis. Verna.

In this evening's message, Bro. Noah Schrock read the 90th Psalm. It was in his mind several weeks, and brought a goodly message from it . . . a Psalm we all could read and meditate thereon.

LAMONT KS Jane Isch

"Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Our hearts are truly overflowing with joy and happiness as our dear friend, Kathy Burnham, wife of Bro. Max Burnham, has answered the gentle call of our loving Saviour. We rejoice with the angels in heaven, as we certainly need each one in our small congregation.

Bro. Lloyd Kraft of Gridley was our guest minister Feb. 2. We are thankful to the Lord for our ministers who oftentimes share with us the blessed word.

We are glad to have Sis. Lucy

Imthurn in our assembly again, after a short stay in the hospital. Jill Isch, daughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane Isch, was hospitalized with pneumonia.

On February 16, we assembled with the Gridley congregation. It does warm our hearts to feel the love and unity flow among God's children. We thank them for sharing such a blessed day.

MORRIS MN Esther Schaefer Corrine Schmidgall

With Easter approaching, may it refresh our hearts and minds, as to how much the Lord endured and suffered on the cross, and then arose again on Easter Day. This He done to save all from Hell and destruction. May we take heed, and examine ourselves so we can walk closer to Him.

Jackie Durkee (Art & Carol) and Kenneth Nohl were united in Holy Matrimony on Feb. 22 at the home of the groom's parents, Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Sophie Nohl. Elder Bro. Paul Fehr performed the ceremony. Bud and Sophie are moving to Hancock, and Kenny and Jackie will make their home on the farm.

Hospital patients: W.A. (Dutch) Schlupp, for tests; Sis. Emma Spohr, Rudy (George) Luthi, for surgery, and Bro. Edwin Koehl for tests.

"My sincere thank-you to all who remembered me with cards and gifts on my birthday." Sis. Norlene (David) Moser.

NAUMBURG NY Eleanor Herzig

Bro. Elmer Taube was hospitalized and is at home now, but is unable to assemble with us yet. Also hospitalized were Ethel Karcher (Jesse) and Sis. Dorothy Herzig. Hospitalized now is Sis. Lucy Hany.

LAMAR MO Marie Marti - Gail Banwart

What does Easter really mean? This is a question that often goes through my mind at this time of year. I think children (as well as adults) are somewhat deceived as to what it really does mean. Do children think that a new set of clothes or an Easter basket is all there is to Easter? I believe I can

say that the children who are brought up in our faith don't let their thoughts stop there. I believe that in their own childish faith, they can grasp enough of what it means to know that this is a season of thanksgiving for the price Christ paid in his death and suffering upon the cross for our sins, and that upon rising the third day, He could go to be with His heavenly Father. If we keep these thoughts upon our minds, then surely we will receive a greater blessing in this holy season.

Our hearts go out in love and sympathy to our dear friends, Rick and Linda Barton in the loss of his parents, Lawrence and Eloise Barton. Linda's parents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Bonnie Braker. We pray that the Lord will be with them and bless them in their time of sorrow. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker conducted the services, and Bro. Lester Braker assisted.

Hospital patients include Oscar Banhart and Sis. Alice Marti (Bro. Charles).

We were given a beautiful blanket of snow over the week-end of Feb. 22-23. A total of 11-12 inches was estimated. Many schools were closed, as were some roads.

Take time for friendship when you can.

The hours fly swiftly, and the need

That presses on your fellowman

May fade away at equal speed,

And you may sigh before the end
That you have failed to play the friend.

LATTY OH Le Ann Laukhuf Karen Klopfenstein

Great joy is here in Latty, as we thank and praise our Lord for drawing 6 more souls to Him in repentance! Our converts are Lois Grant (Bro. Tom and Sis. Delores), Dan Stoller (Bro. Glen and Sis. Edith), Dixie Stoller (Bro. Lou and Sis. Mildred), Jerry Rager (Bill and Sis. Elsie), Craig Stoller (Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvenc), and Cheryl Wenninger (Bro. Don and Sis. Josephinne). We certainly want to wish these souls God's precious grace as they seek to follow Him.

You cannot repent too soon, for

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

Feb. 2, the Wolcott congregation assembled with us, and Ministering Bro. Vernon Schwab brought God's holy word. The fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Lest we forget the Lord's suffering and agony, and above all, the sacrifice of His life, we gathered Feb. 8 for Holy Communion. Assisting our elder brothers were Elder Bros. John Yergler (Bluffton) and David Bertsch (Leo). Ministering Bro. Wendell Gerber from Bluffton was also here. How we all look forward to the most beautiful supper of all, when we gather with our Lord in Heaven!

Valentine's Day was the wedding of four of our friends. United in marriage were Dave Mielke and Deb Plescher; and Benjamin Schlatter and Karen Richards.

Feb. 16, our Sis. Peggy Rager and Bro. Gary Ifft (Forrest) were united in Holy Matrimony. Many were here to witness the marriage, including ministering Bros. Walter Rager, Walter Rehklau (Toledo), Clarence Kachelmuss, Earl Gerber (Forrest), and Alfred Bahler (Wolcott.)

The engagement of Bro. Bill Stoller and Sis. Barbara Frank (LaCrosse) has been announced. Parents are Bro. William and Sis. Florence Stoller, and Ministering Bro. Ed and Sis. Leah Frank. A March wedding is planned.

A June wedding is planned for our friend, Bonnie Stoller, and Tom Evans. Bro. Dave and Sis. Irene Stoller and Mr. and Mrs. David Hugh Evans are the parents. Dwight Stoller and Lori Laukhuf also plan to be married in July. Parents are Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dorothy Stoller, and Ed and Mary Laukhuf.

Many of our congregation have been in the hospital. Sis. Mary Gerber, Bro. Emil Stoller, Bro. Glenn Stoller and Sis. Sadie Riggenbach all had surgery. All are at home now and doing well. Sis. Florence Stoller is now home, after injuring her back, and likewise Bro. Larry Wenninger is at home, after having tests in the hospital.

God may not give us an easy journey to the Promised Land, but He will give us a safe one.

Sis. Nellie Sinn would like to

thank those who remembered her with cards, gifts, and especially prayers while she was in the hospital . . . Sis. Nellie is now home and doing very well.

MINNEAPOLIS MN

Kathryn Olson

Home of our hearts, lest we forget
What our redemption meant to

Thee,

Let our most reverent thought be
set

Upon Thy Calvary.

When Christ hung on the Cross of Calvary . . . no other man even dared to make such astounding claims as He. Yet there He hung, nailed to the cross of shame and exposed to the view of a coarse, mocking crowd. He was cut off in early manhood; betrayed by one of his own personal friends; deserted by all of the other apostles —one of whom, after loud professions of devotions had denied Him with oaths and curses . . . Not one soul, even of those who loved the Saviour best really understood Him and His life work; therefore, not one friend could really sympathize with the God-man . . .

If we as Christians are truly following in the Master's footsteps, we too must be willing to risk apparent failure in the eyes of the world. It is only when we have learned the faith and obedience which leave all consequences with God, that we can know the power and deep joy contained in these words—"I am crucified with Christ".

We are sorry to have our dear friends, Linden and Ione Venhuizen move from our congregation, as they will now make their home at West Bend.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Lorene Pfladderer - Elaine Anliker

As spring again approaches, all of us at Purdue are looking forward to having college week-end. We are reminding everyone it will be on April 5 and 6 this year, and hope everyone will be able to come.

For the month of February, our ministering brothers were Carl Westfall (Francesville) and Dale Eisenman (Chicago). We sincerely thank these brethren for sharing God's teachings with us.

NEW MARTINSVILLE WV Minnie Weltz / Della Witschey

Mrs. Helen Virginia Waterman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Forest C. Schupbach of New Martinsville, passed away on Feb. 25 in Baltimore, Maryland. She was a graduate of the Wheeling School of Nursing, and is survived by her parents, her husband, one son, one brother and one sister; her paternal grandparents were the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Schupbach, also of New Martinsville.

Warren Lee Witschey, son of Harold and Ethel Witschey, is a patient in the local hospital, having had surgery on Feb. 22 for a ruptured appendix. His condition is improved . . . Mrs. Mary Schupbach, widow of the late Fred Schupbach, is a patient in a hospital in Parkersburg, W. Va. and, while her condition has been serious for some time, she is somewhat improved.

Mrs. Elizabeth McGuier of Washington, Pa., was a recent guest of her aunt, Miss Della Witschey . . . Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams of Akron spent the weekend of Feb. 1 here with the Barth families.

Mary Ann Brothers has been quite ill with the flu for several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Barth of Parkersburg left on Feb. 18 for a two-month stay at their home in Zephyrhills, Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams of Akron left on Feb. 26 for a two week stay in Bradenton, Florida. Two of their granddaughters were painfully hurt in a 2-car wreck on Feb. 2 in Florida. One had a broken nose and other injuries, and the other had both jaws broken and many other painful injuries; however, they are both improving nicely.

REMINGTON IN

Amelia Schini/Mildred Claus

Now the golden hours of Easter
Come again across the land,
Bringing hope and faith and
courage

And new strength to understand.

Hearts respond to warmth of
springtime

With display of all things new,
So deep shadows can be lifted
To reveal a brighter view.

Then each life can find new
purpose

In rebirth of all God's things
To inspire the golden moments
With the love that Easter brings.

We are grateful to have visiting ministers in our midst from time to time. Bro. Bob Meyer, Bluffton, was our guest Sunday, Jan. 26, and Bro. Henry Beer was here Wednesday evening, Feb. 5.

The engagement of Sis. Doreen Schmidgall and Bro. Brad Bahler was announced on Sunday, Feb. 2. Parents are Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Mary Jo Schmidgall, of Phoenix and Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois Bahler of here. They plan to be married March 23, and we look forward to welcoming Sis. Doreen to our congregation.

Bro. Harold Waibel was recently hospitalized for surgery, and is now doing well. . . . Sis. Lucille (Ray) Steffen had the misfortune to break her wrist in a fall at her home. . . . Sis. Edna (Rich) Leman slipped and fell on the ice Saturday, Feb. 15, breaking her knee. She was dismissed from Home Hospital Tues., Feb. 25, and expects to be in a cast for 5 more weeks.

Sis. Anna Stortz is spending some time in Phoenix with her sister and husband, Caroline and Burt Collins . . . Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marilyn Bahler and sons, Jerry and Tim and Bro. Maurice and Sis. Eileen Getz went to Phoenix the week-end of Feb. 8-9 to be present for the proving and baptism of their sister-in-law, Jean (Mrs. Ron) Getz . . . Sis. Eliza Getz (Ron's mother) is spending the winter there.

The Cheer Circle has completed an embroidered quilt, which will be donated.

Bro. Terry and Sis. Beverley Miller will be moving in the spring to the Kouts area, where he is being transferred by his work. We will miss them and their children in our congregation and in our Sunday School, but we pray that God will bless them in their new location.

Christ was delivered FOR our sins that we might be delivered FROM our sins.

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

SILVERTON OR Joan Dietrich

Spring seems to be here already! What a beautiful time of year, when everything is coming awake after its winter's sleep—so fresh and new again . . . And so it is with us, after being dormant in sin, we can be reawakened to a new-born life with Christ, who gave His precious blood that we might have eternal life. May we never forget His suffering, and the price that was paid there at Calvary, not only at Easter-time, but all year round.

WINTHROP MN Carol Messner / Marcelle Dapper

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing by the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

At this time of the year, we are especially mindful of the death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour. We as born-again believers in Christ believe that it is salvation by grace, through faith in Christ's shed blood that will give unto us eternal life. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission for sin (we read in Hebrews)—so it is the atonement of Christ's shed blood on the cross of Calvary.

Let us always praise and thank him that "the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." . . . Also that he rose again and is now sitting at the right hand of God, the Father.

Gerry Messner (Marvin) was hospitalized for minor surgery and is home recovering.

United in marriage on Feb. 22 were Rickie Lee Messner (son of Bro. & Sis. Bill Messner) and Brenda Briese of Gibbon.

The empty cross and the empty tomb spell a full salvation.

SABETHA KS Mrs. Joe Steiner

The first worship services for the residents of the Greater Kansas City area were held in Overland Park, Kansas on February 16, with a good attendance. It was decided by the group that these services should be continued on a regular semi-monthly basis. If you know of anyone in

the Kansas City area that would be interested in attending, please send their name and address to our elder, Bro. Gene Marti, so that they can be added to the mailing list.

Bro. Wendell Gudeman, Francesville, was our visiting minister this month. We thank him for his visit and for bringing us his timely message.

Bro. Martin and Sis. Karen Beyer are the parents of their third son, born Feb. 11. He has been named Klinton Scott; he is welcomed home by his brothers, Ken and Keith.

At our business meeting, Bro. Lou Wenger was selected as a trustee for the church, to serve along with (Bros.) John Plattner and Paul Strahm . . . Bro. Eli Meyer was selected as trustee for the Fellowship Hall, to serve along with (Bros.) Ben Aberle and Ben Wysong.

We would like to give a special thank you to everyone for the expressions of love and sympathy shown to us during the time of our dear little son, Terry's illness and death. The Clifford Edelman family.

Easter lilies have their beauty,
But beyond compare. . .
Is the Lily of the Valley;
He's the lily fair.
He was planted in a garden,
Laid in Joseph's tomb . . .
But He came in living glory,
From its chilly gloom.
Now He lives, forever lives,
To be our faithful Friend . . .
He will comfort guide and keep us,
Safe unto the end.
Hallelujah! He is risen!
Risen from the dead,
And again He's surely coming,
Even as He said.

BRADFORD IL Rebecca Endress

Many gathered at the Princeville church to pay their last respects of Bro. Kenneth Knobloch, who was taken out of life so suddenly in a grain bin accident. We truly sympathize with his parents, Bro. Nick and Sis. Gladys Knobloch and their family of our congregation, as well as Kenny's wife, Sis. Vicki, and their small son. Bro. Nick had "had a feeling" earlier that something was going to happen. His

mind could go back to other years, when he had prayed so hard for Kenny. It is a comfort that he was now ready to go when God called him.

We all appreciated the visits of Ministering Bros. Bob Meyer (Bluffton) and Walt Herrmann (Princeville).

The Bible Class from Princeville and their teachers were guests of our high-school-age students on Sunday, March 2, and enjoyed a pleasant day together.

KIOWA KS

Janice Frieden

How overjoyed we were on March 26, when a new baby girl was born to Kathleen and Rek Miner. Maternal grandparents of little April Marie are Bro. Ulysses and Sis. Mildred Farney, and her paternal grandparent is Mrs. Clarence Miner of Kiowa.

Sis. Myrtle Rathgeber underwent surgery and although she is not able to worship with us, we are thankful that she is at home.

Our thoughts of sympathy go out to Sis. Carrie Michel and family at the passing of her sister, Emma Koenig of Chanute, Kansas. May the knowledge that God cares and understands, be a comfort to Sis. Carrie and her family in their loss.

What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder. These words could easily be spoken of Bro. John and Sis. Rachel Kraft, who were joined in marriage 50 years ago. As they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary this month, I marveled at how strong and enduring a marriage entrusted to the Lord can be. If only more could realize this, and seek God's will for their lives and helpmates, those beautiful vows would not be taken so lightly, and fewer homes would be broken.

TAYLOR MO

Elizabeth Sutter - Janelle Scott

First, we would like to make a correction in our last report. Becky (Hodel) and Greg Bailey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Bailey, have made their home at Carbondale, Illinois. They were married on Jan. 11.

We have had more snow than usual this winter, and on Feb. 22 and 23 we had a real blizzard that left us with an accumulation of 16 inches. All schools were closed, and

stores, places of business, and factories in Quincy were all closed. The weather turned warmer, so it wasn't long before the main roads were open to traffic.

We appreciated having Bro. Harvey Grimm from Bern with us one Sunday this month but because of illness, he and his wife left for home at noon.

Gaye Lynn Riney, daughter of Gene and Irene (Hoerr) Riney, became the bride of Dean Redd, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Redd, all of Taylor.

A group of young folk from Congerville visited us on Feb. 23. We enjoyed having them visit us, and were thankful for the Lord's protection on the highway during the blizzard.

Your reporter, Marie Butikofer has gone to Elgin, Illinois, to take care of our sister, Rose Steffen, who had major surgery. We hope she will be back to report the news next month.

We are glad to report that Sis. Rose (John) Hoerr is improving nicely.

TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki

Spring is just around the corner. The sun is becoming brighter everyday, and the trees and grasses are turning green again. The moles are coming out of hibernation. The season of cherry blossoms will be here soon. One of the joyful events at this time of the year is traditional Hina-Matsuri, or the Doll's Festival observed on Mar. 3. Girls or their parents display dolls, clad in ancient costumes in rows on a stand in their homes. Sometimes artificial peach flowers and miniature lanterns are also placed on the stand to brighten up the atmosphere. The arrangement is done several days before March 3. Everyone is so busy with them. As you know, the Japanese people are really faithful and work for that. I thought, if we all true Christians are intent to God's work harder, as same as the people of the world work for the customs and the traditions, it would be more blessed by God. Don't you think so?

We thank you for the Sunday School materials received from our Francesville church at Christmas-time and may you be blessed for the the Lord's work.

"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is."

You dear brethren and friends in the States are always remembered in our prayers. Thank you again for your love and prayers. May the Lord bless you all.

DETROIT MI

Charlotte Barton - Deb Knochel

We have been reminded of the need to show others of our faith in Jesus Christ by our ministers and those visiting us, Bros. Ed Aeschliman from Union City and Charles Sauder from Tremont. Bro. Charles gave us much to think about when he ministered to us on the qualifications of a Christian: We are not saved by our works, but our works tell others of our faith.

We are thankful to have Bro. Ben Maibach and Sis. Lucille back with us from Florida. Bro. Ben reminded us we can be a light to others just by the expression we wear. Who can see the love of Jesus in our heart through the frown on our face? If we think beautiful thoughts it will show on our face.

We are sorry to have Sis. Mary Overmyer leave for her new job in Peoria. We again welcome Bro. Kaywin and Sis. Karen Martin and their children back to Detroit. Kaywin's work has transferred him many times. Our small congregation values everyone who joins us if only for a day.

Sis. Vi Barton, who had been shut in with pneumonia, is again able to fellowship with us. We ask that you join us in prayer for Sis. Katineni Facsho, that God may strengthen her . . . We all need the prayers of those we love.

PEORIA IL

Betty Miller

A baby was born to Bro. Bill and Carol Schmidgall Dec. 23. Along with their other children, Scott and Karin, Baby Jason Brian is God's creation. March 5, a "bun-

dle from Heaven" arrived! She is Stephanie Renee, born to Bro. Rogger and Sis. Susi Harman.

Sis. Lena Sauder wishes to thank everyone for everything they did and gave while she was ill. She is now much improved and back in her own room at the home. Sis. "Aunt Sarah" Welk is in the infirmary at the Home. Sis. Sophie Leuthold is in the hospital. Sisters Irene Gray, Shirley Klaus, and Leona Race were in the hospital; Shirley has a broken leg. Sis. Connie Triplett was at Mayo's; an operation was performed, removing the pin from her hip. Doctors there said her bone was completely healed.

All Peorians who knew him mourn the death of Bro. Ken Knobloch, 27, of Wyoming, Ill., and sympathize with his wife. Sis. Vicki, and young son, Christopher. It is comforting to know that he is "asleep in Jesus"..

Our elderly sister, Sis. Minnie Frank, who resided at the Beuhler Home across the street from church, passed away Feb. 4. Her funeral was at Gauss Mortuary. Sis. Elizabeth Vogel died just 43 days after her husband, Bro. Ben. Her funeral was Feb. 26.

The following was submitted by Sis. (Mrs. Bro. Harold) Herrman and Sis. (Mrs. Bro. Robert) Haefli: "In memory of Gladys Oppenheim (the lady in pink) who lived at the A. C. Home since 1971—Oh, how we grew to love her, from volunteering at the Home. We never shall forget her. She was our special friend. Ilene and Ardith"

Touch a leaf . . . (the one on that house plant will do) See the sky . . . (look out the window any time) And you'll know why . . . Nobody but God could creat the simple and the complicated, and work so much beauty and variation into both!

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAN, IL

Jeanie Haerr - Ann Kellenberger

We are happy to welcome another young couple. Sis. Peg and Bro. Gary Ifft are making their home in Bloomington, where Gary has a position with State Farm.

The Men's Quartet from Gridley provided us with an especially nice evening of fellowship Feb. 23. Young and old together enjoyed singing hymns. Just listening to

the quartet has another special blessing in letting us concentrate on the message of the song. Working in the kitchen, I couldn't help but notice the appreciative look of the many children present as they chose cookies and drink to complete a lovely evening with friends and parents at church.

IOWA CITY IA

April Wiegand / Twila Whipple

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Francis Rother (Morton), John Steiner and Harvey Heininger (Oakville). We are thankful that the word is brought to us through the inspiration of God.

**SERVICE & PEACE CORPS
ADDRESSES**

WO & Mrs. Charles Albritton
7382 A Gardner Hills **Forrest**
Ft Campbell Kentucky 42223

Tim Ames 308-50-5325
4th Finance Co. (pp) **Valparaiso**
Ft. Carson, Colorado 80913

SR Robert A Bahr 511-62-0487
Co #281 **Gridley Ks**
Recruit Training Command
Orlando Florida 32813

E6 Thomas G. Batt 328420157
4446 B-Gassey Hts **Elgin IL**
Ft Knox Kentucky 40121

Sgt Michael R Bender 515468941
6950th Scty Gp Box 1822 **Alto**
APO New York 09193

Cdr Lee B. Cargill
8514 Durham Court
Springfield Virginia 22151

PV2 Richard Demorest 120-40-0439
C-Btry S&F Bn (TSB) USAADS **Naumberg**
FT Bliss Texas 79916

MSGT Earl J Ebersol
26 FMS (USAFE)
APO New York 09012

Sp 4 Jack F. Emch Jr 302 52 0892
A Btry 2/67 ADA **Girard**
APO New York 09227

En 1 M F Emch USCG **Girard**
Lt Sta Passage Isl
Coast Guard Sta Portage
Hancock Mich 49930

Mr and Mrs. Virgil J Eisenmann
113 North Nimitz Highway
APO San Francisco 96553 **Burlington IA**

AIC Ronald Greenbank 288506967
PSC Box 23592 **Akron**
APO San Francisco 96230

STG3 Thos. A Emch
USS BELKNAP OLG 26
A S DIV **Girard**
FPO New York 09501

Sgt David L Frank 325506456
H & HS A/C MAINT **Valparaiso**
MCAS (H) Futema OKI
FPO Seattle Wash 98772

Cpl James Frank
M & L Div Deretr MCDEF
MCB Quantico Virginia 22184
Burlington IA

Pvt Randall C Haas 470-64-6126
Co C 1/501st Inf **Morris**
101st Airborne Div (Airmobil)
Ft Campbell Kentucky 42223

Mr and Mrs Marshall Jorpeland
2416 Cloudercroft Ct
Reston Virginia 22091

Doris Knapp
Project Hope
Caixa Postal 225
Natal
Rio Grande do Norte Brazil

S Sgt Scott L Koehl 350-44-0594
40 Division Box 3 **Morton**
COMFAIRWEST PAC
FPO Seattle Wash 98767
near Atsugi Japan

Pfc Shirley J Landes 484-68-6121
Com D Box 448
USASFS Augsburg
APO New York 09458

Capt Roger C Locher
Box 206 **Sabetha**
La Luz New Mexico 88337

Lt Col and Mrs Everett Martin
6361 Kingsbury Dr
Dayton Ohio 45424

Pvt Douglas Messner 468688501
C TRP 2/17th Car **Winthrop**
Ft Campbell Kentucky 42223

Mr & Mrs John Reimchisel
Sup Dist Rheinland Pfalz **Bluffton**
APO New York 09227

Sp4 Steven Meyer 512-60-3346
HHC USDB **Sabetha**
Ft Leavenworth Kansas 66027

Mr & Mrs Gary E Miskimon
5643-1 Lockridge Loop
Ft Hood Texas 76544

Pvt. Stanley W. Moser 311-58-3660
1st Cal Div HHC 8th Eng
Ft. Hood Texas 76544 **Valparaiso**

Mr & Mrs Andy Mogler

Lester Iowa 51242

24

THE SILVER LINING

Sgt Robert Messner 476662524

432 FMS SF

Box 152

APO San Francisco 96237

Winthrop

Phillip Steffen

c/o Postal Agent

Kembolcha Hararge

Ethiopia teacher in the Peace Corps

Elgin II

Pfc Richard Wuethrich US55833256

543rd QM Group

Service Branch MHE Shop

APO San Francisco 96243

Sgt William Richards

1306 Violet

Bossier City Louisiana 71010

LCDR David and Dee Unsicker

Supply Dept. Naval

Administrative Command

NTC Great Lakes Ill 60088

S Sgt Raymond D Young AF17670134

RR 1 Box 20

Lamont

Herndon West Va 24726

Sgt & Mrs Ernest L Schwartz

Trailer No 9; Christy Ann Trailer Pk

R R 5

Peru Ind 46970

Bluffton

Pfc LuAnn S Virkler W-091-38-2827

Co H WAC Second Bn Sch ADE

Ft Monmouth New Jersey 07703 Croghan

Sgt and Mrs Timothy Zeigler Forrest

6112 Bancroft

Omaha Neb 68106

THE BLESSED WAY

Henry Souder Jr.

The narrow Way's summit! Many a turn is with glowing, glorious grandeur. There is power in each step, always in His direction. The fellowship is sacred sweetness.

How may we know the thrust of His power? Determine the direction? He shows need to be "Proving what is acceptable with the Lord." How? What of conflicting opinions? What should we do? When we know something is just not quite right, how do we go?

His voice of leadership is powered in His word. The going is actually verses in action. What we see is the word, the action. Jesus said, His words are spirit and truth. The written word is given so it can be lived large in our hearts. It is our description. It is the glorious kingdom of heaven . . . the beauty the authority of the King of kings . . . the children of the kingdom . . . This is the word in everlasting realness . . . It shall not pass away.

His kingdom is love. There is care and concern. We are to read between the lines of each other. To give sympathy from His heart. Then our treasures are laid up. They meet us in the ages to come! Being bossy is discord and clash with the scripture's chambers of music. Look at Him, and act like Him. His voice is meek and humble. The Son of Man came to serve and give His life a ransom for many. How full of power is His right

model, such a sweet example. Compelling care draws when strict censure cannot move.

Powerhouses of His love can be today too! It takes wanting to. Courage to have faith. To believe the impossible. It takes the cross . . . following the example of Jesus—burying the slighted moment . . . Peace when all around impels to lose. Love has the impress of sorrow to give what God wants . . . What lovely radiance bursts forth in such sweet gladness.

There is a zealous attitude that carried to extreme, it gives hurt to the love of the body . . . and souls are hindered somewhat in coming to the light. It is unquestionable that members (parents, neighbors, business people, wherever we walk) give influence. There can be a retarding hold. It is a fact of life.

Many times God wants a person let alone, that His grace might have growth. Some things are unquestionable, for the welfare of the body . . . the sinner must be purged, the unruly warned, the false teacher spurned . . . yet there is an area in scripture, plainly marked . . . God wants His people kept free for His working and for His acceptance. The matter of meat and drink, in Romans 14 is a good guideline! "Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up:

for God is able to make him stand." Within the reasonable limits established of God, this would apply. Let us not be "funny", too rigid, and actually stand in the way of God.

Wonderful things await the souls who are sweet enough to carry the cross with a smile. Kindness does things forcefully and sarcasm never will. True friends want to please each other. They enter sweetly into each other's sorrows. Burdens are carried to Him who understands. Joys are shared. What makes one happy so it does the other.

Love loses our minds gaze in the glorious reaches of divine transaction. We walk into the sunset, know the sweet gladness of Tomorrow. Words of God is fused and melted in holy lives. The greatness of Him! From everlasting to everlasting—He holds vast universes in His power and does not fear.

He said we should not be a busybody in another's way of life. Talking down a brother or sister has the frown of scripture. We are to be moderate—gentle, easy in our demands, like Jesus. Go out of your way to show your real concern, that love may blaze and set the face alight.

There are surprises and delights, adventures pleasing the heart . . . to the one who walks and lives in the living word.