

# THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

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## DECEPTION

Deception . . . To mislead by falsehood—lead into error.

Author of deception, Satan . . . Revelation 12:9, 19:20, 20:10.

How Satan works . . . II Corinthians 4:3-4 . . . 11:13-15.

Watching and Praying (our responsibility) . . . Mark 13:33-37.

### TEN WAYS OF BEING DECEIVED

1. Matthew 24:4, 5, 24, II Peter 2:1 . . . Deception by false Christs and false prophets . . . cults of today.

2. James 1:22 . . . Deception by hearing the word, but not obeying.

3. Galatians 6:3 . . . Deceived by thinking ourselves to be something (pride).

4. I John 1:8 . . . Deceived by saying we have no fault or sin.

5. I Corinthians 3:18,19 . . . Deceived by trusting the wisdom of this world (education).

6. James 1:26 . . . Deceived by an unbridled tongue.

7. I Corinthians 15:33 . . . Deceived by bad friends who ruin good character.

8. I Corinthians 6:9, 10 . . . Deceived by covering sin, unconfessed and unforgiven by Christ.

9. Ephesians 5:6, Romans 16:18 . . . Deceived by fancy smooth speech, enticing words.

10. Galatians 6:7-10 . . . Deceived by not realizing our actions and conduct today will determine our happiness and peace tomorrow.

Please read II Peter 1:2-11 . . . The divine nature in verse 4 is the divine nature of Jesus Christ, which is possible for every soul after a true conversion.

Remember we have the promise in verse 10—

IF YE DO THESE THINGS YE SHALL NEVER FALL.

### Down FALL!

At the edge of a pond, body concealed by reeds and weeds, only his head protruding, lived a huge bullfrog. From his fixed position, he broke the silence of night by his resounding, "H a r r u m p h! Har-rumph!" The big frog never went hunting for prey, just sat there and grew fat. How did he find food without moving about? He just waited for the food to come to him! He remained motionless till a fly, moth, or a dragonfly comes. Then, zing, quick as a flash his hidden tongue suddenly reaches out. Going straight for its mark, and covered as it is with a sticky substance, it invariably snatches the poor victim, which he soon swallows.

This game is wait and catch . . . The devices and strategies of Satan are sly and sleight of hand. While he sometimes appears as a "roaring lion", he often is disguised as an "angel of light".

### Worldly Pleasures are Worthless

A number of pigs were trailing along behind a farmer. Where would the odd procession end? The swine followed the man right into the slaughterhouse. How did he get the pigs to come behind that way? A basket of beans under the arm, some dropped as he went along, they followed, just for a few "goodies." And so it is that Satan has the beans of pleasure, lust, and innumerable other sins in his basket. By this means he persuades multitudes to go his way, which leads to the everlasting slaughterhouse of doom!

### ERROR! In Knowledge!

Science that is falsely-named clutches millions in erroneous jaws.

There is no evidence for evolution. Only slyly-turned word pictures, misinterpretation, solemnly masquerading as the truth. Charles Darwin turned to the Lord. He said that he had unformed opinions in his earlier years. The earth and its holdings prove the truth of the Creator!

### She Dared and Lost!

Lady Ann Grimstom, daughter of the Earl of Thanet, lived and died an atheist more than 200 years ago. She said, "It is as likely that I should rise again from the dead as that a tree should grow out of the middle of my coffin." A tree has grown from the very middle of her coffin, a sturdy oak, and by its side grows a second tree, a sycamore. The vault where the body lies is square, built solidly of brick and granite. The two trees filled the interior first, then burst through the masonry and spread out to such an extent they completely enveloped the grave, broke the iron railing surrounding it. In the churchyard of Liven, Hertfordshire, England, they carried the railings skyward.

One day, for the many too late, all will see the truth.

### Hold the Upward Way!

A certain species of alligator seldom hunt for their dinner, just wait for their victims to come to them. They lie near the bank with open mouths, acting as if they are dead. Soon flies begin to light on their moist tongues, and several other insects. This crowd attracts bigger game. A lizard will crawl up to the alligator to feed on the bugs; then a frog joins the party. Presently a whole menagerie is there. There is a sudden quake, the giant



jaws come together, and the party is over! Here's the lesson: Don't be lured by large groups of people. Remember, the crowd is always found on the broad way. The narrow way of life admits only individuals, one by one. Most people take the easy, downward path. You as a Christian must follow Jesus on the upward road; it is the only safe way.

#### How Do You Build?

At an old building, workmen were removing large quantities of crumbling brick from one side of the structure. Asked why some of the material had disintegrated and the rest had not, the foreman on the repair job replied, "Fifty years ago when this store was being erected, the employees at the brickyard were having trouble among themselves. Being distracted from their work, they failed to make the correct mixture, and now years afterward their neglect is being revealed, as this area of the building has started to crumble." While it may not be immediately apparent, the impact of your life, too, will eventually be felt. Your actions will take a toll or bring a blessing.

#### Our Place

Those who stray and are deceived are still loved. God gives each a chance, a space to recover from the snare of the devil. He wants all to be saved. Our safe position is keeping our place in Him. By love and kind words, perhaps someone loved will find escape from error.

#### Light in the Window

One mild Minnesota winter evening in the 1930's, a blizzard swooped down out of the north into an unprepared countryside. A young man from the city, driving in the area, got out of his car to thaw his freezing radiator. Unsuccessful in his effort, he realized that he was freezing himself, and must seek shelter.

He walked toward a dim light, visible through the storm in a nearby farm home. When his fumbling at the door attracted the attention of the farm wife, she opened the door to an ice-glazed, staring "apparition", who fell into the room, unable to speak or help himself. However, aid soon had the man out of danger.

"I kept my eyes on that dim

light," he said later, "for I knew that I'd never make it if I didn't."

"I never had set the lamp in the window before," the woman said. "I don't know why I did tonight."

God has set His Light in the window for us and He knows why He did it, to guide us Home. His window is the Bible. The light in the window is Jesus Christ.

#### CHILDREN'S HOME

Adverse weather or just plain sloppy working conditions has been the order of the day, but the smiling faces seem to make the sun shine even on the darkest days.

The dry-walling is now completed, heating systems installed; cabinets will be started soon; brick work is scheduled to be done during the month of March. Then comes the finishing (on the inside) of the painting, plumbing, electrical, heating, carpeting and linoleum, drapes and curtains. A lot of work has been done, and there is a lot to be done. Much help has come from members and also non-members from local and from distant churches. Many sisters (and brothers also) have worked very hard serving dinners to the workers. These groups of sisters have come from nearby Indiana, as well as Ohio churches to supplement the efforts of the Leo church sisters. We pray that God will richly bless all brothers, sisters and friends for their help as well as their generosity.

We are now ready to take applications for house parents. Anyone so desiring an interview should apply to either Bro. Wm. Klopfenstein at Box 8, Leo, Ind. 46765, or Bro. Jack Krantz at Morton, Il. 61550. The brother and sister should be in good standing in the church, and love and devotion should be playing a big part in their life!

#### MAYWOOD CA

##### Ruth Dapper

In December, our Sis. Hulda Emthurn was again able to assemble with us a few Sundays, but is now confined to her home due to ailing health and old age conditions.

Our church underwent a new face-lifting. The paint was badly worn; therefore, a new coat of paint has been applied.

We are happy to have our friends, Bob and Marilyn Frieden and family assemble with us again, after

spending a few years in France, where Bob's job had taken them.

#### Our Comfort

Sometimes we are discouraged;  
Sometimes our spirits are low.  
Our burden seems so heavy  
We hardly know where to go.

We're tired and disappointed,  
With this turmoil and strife.  
It just seems mostly trouble,  
When we look about in life.

Then we turn to God for comfort;  
He will lift our every care,  
If we only take our burdens  
And go to him in prayer.

He's a friend who'll not forsake us  
In the hour of trial and woe,  
No matter what the trouble  
If we straight to Him will go.

All burdens seem to vanish,  
And our hearts feel Oh! so light.  
When we've gone to God for comfort,  
Life is always far more bright.

And thus it is felt here at our congregation in Maywood; our small church has dwindled down to eleven members and few friends. We would welcome any visitors that come to California to join us in worship, as we need the love and support of one and all, to continue on, so we do not become discouraged in our spiritual life and fellowship . . . Please don't pass us by, as truly you will be rewarded for your deeds of love and kindness.

#### GIRARD OH

##### Louisa B. Lance

Bro. Jess Emch was reporter for many years when he asked to be re-

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lieved; Karen Stoll carried on the work until she was married and moved to Sardis; Sis. Diann Emch then reported until she went away to college; since then, Sis. Kathryn Emch has kept us well informed. I hope, and my prayers are that I can continue this as well as they have done.

God be praised and thanks for our Dear Risen Lord and Saviour. On March 9, we were happy to have our Elder Bro. Rudolph Graf with us. Bro. Rudolph brought us good teachings from the word of God which we should all heed, as we have only a short time to work out our soul's salvation.

We were then privileged to partake of Lord's Supper, which we are asked to do. . . so that we can be renewed in spirit and truth.

Bro. Carl Emch is still in the Park Vista Nursing Home, no improvement. Sis. Esther Saylor is not able to come and worship with us since she and her husband Charles have had a severe case of flu and complications following.

#### FRANCESVILLE IN

Sharon Neihouser - Helen Huber

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.

Repentance is medicine to stop the infection of sin. We have new converts who have made the beginning of repentance. We trust they will find sufficient grace for each day.

Hospitalized was Sis. Diane Vogt. We are happy she is home and recovering well.

Bro. Llavoyd Moore (Athens) ministered unto us on a Sunday evening. He fed us richly from the living word, and reminded us of our duties as Christians on this earth.

We are looking forward to this coming week-end when we have Resurrection Services early Sunday morning, and then Sunday afternoon the Sunday School children will tell us of the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour.

#### LATTY OH

Le Ann Laukhuf  
Karen Klopfenstein

We are thankful for having the following ministering brothers bringing us the word of God: Bro. James Ramseyer (Bay City), Elder Bro. Ed Frank, Bro Art Gudeman (La Crosse), (Bros.) Joe Stoller (Princeville) & Kenneth Dietz (Bradford). We were reminded that the trials and tests we must face are ways the Lord draws us closer to Him. . . And as we sing in the song . . . **Were there no test, how should it proven be, who weak, who strong, who true or untrue be?**

March 1 was the wedding day for our friends, John Laukhuf and Marcia Eddy. Ministering Bro. Merrill and Sis. Martha Laukhuf and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Eddy are the parents. Our sincere wishes for a happy life together we want to extend to this new couple.

The engagement of our Sis. Becky Stoller and Bro. Tim Schlatter of the Junction congregation has been announced. Parents are Elder Bro. Loren and Sis. Esther Stoller and Sis. Juliet Schlatter.

Where God in truth abides,  
When two join hand and heart,  
We find a threefold cord,  
Not lightly rent apart.

We enjoyed many young brothers and sisters from the Rittman and Bluffton congregations. It is encouraging to meet and greet young members of our precious faith.

Kevin and Ann (Schlatter) Geiger have been blessed with a firstborn son, Aaron Christopher. Grandparents are John and Sis. Lillian Schlatter.

#### PRINCEVILLE IL

Ruth Ricketts

On the first Sunday in March, Bros. Joshua Broquard of Fairbury and LeRoy Hartman of Peoria were our guest ministers. Bro. Joshua and Sis. Marie had been honored for their 50th wedding anniversary the evening before at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Bro. Earl and Sis. Margaret Feucht and family. Family members, about 40, were present.

Bro. LeRoy spoke with a heavy heart, and God's word penetrated our hearts. He and Sis. Elsa had

spent a few days with their daughter, Sis. Vicki Knobloch and grandson, Chris, whose husband Bro. Ken was snuffed out of life so quickly. How precious it is to rely on our loving Lord and Saviour and feel His loving care. "God is our refuge and strength . . ." Now our mortal eye sees the big mountains, but the spiritual eye sees the steps reaching to the top.

A son, Clint Alan, was born March 2 to Bro. James and Sis. Marlene Plattner. The little lad was born on his father's birthday and has a little brother, Chad to welcome him home, as well as grandparents, Ed and Sis. Mary Ann Plattner and Bro. Ezra and Sis. Lucille Rumbold . . . Mr. and Mrs. Cleon Streitmatter of Oak Creek, Wisconsin, are the parents of a daughter, Laurel Beth, born March 15. She has a little brother, Greg, to welcome her home. Grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Anna Streitmatter of Princeville, and Mr. and Mrs. Willard Pearson of Peoria. Sis. Freida Streitmatter, who resides at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home is her great-grandmother.

A precious little girl was born to Sis. Vicki Knobloch on March 20. Her daddy, Bro. Ken was taken from this life Feb. 18. Jody K has a brother, Chris, to welcome her home. Bro. Wm. (Nick) and Sis. Gladys Knobloch of Bradford and Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Elsa Hartmann of Peoria are the grandparents. Sis. Pauline Knobloch of the Peoria Apostolic Christian Home is the great-grandmother. . . On March 21, a daughter was born to Bro. Stephen and Sis. Anna Marie Stoller. Natalie Sue has a little sister, Andrea waiting for her to come home. Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Clara (Stoller) Huber of Eureka and Otto and Eleanor Baer are grandparents. Great-grandparents are Sis. Elizabeth Stoller of Princeville and Bro. Albert and Sis. Anna Grusey of Gridley.

"We wish to express our thanks for the kind deeds, words of sympathy, cards, food, and money given following the death of our loved one. Most of all, we are thankful for the many prayers which we certainly felt and need at this time. The family of Ken Knobloch."

We were very thankful to have Bros. Simon Wagenbach of Tremont, Vernon Wettstein of Conger-



ville, and Nathan Stoller of Bradford visit. Bro. Joe was especially thankful, as all the other ministers had gone elsewhere. Many precious teachings were brought forth from the pulpit. The friends kindly invited to taste of the wonderful life with Christ, and members being warned of the many dangers . . . The next Sunday we were privileged to have more visitors. Bros. Harvey Grimm of Bern and John Steiner of Oakville as our guest ministers. It was another blessed day. . .

On Wednesday evening, March 19, Bro. Eugene Bertchi came to share a most solemn evening with the members of our congregation, as we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion. Many were present to share this in a very quiet and peaceful atmosphere. As each one greeted the one sitting next, it renewed the love and made us more aware of the importance of the precious faith we enjoy. We were asked the question, If we would be able to turn our backs on everything we own, leave all for a new home? The children of Israel had to do this.

This past month, several of our beloved members had birthdays. Sis. Lena Stichling observed her 89th March 1. Her health is failing, and she is looking forward to a better home. (Bros.) John Baurer and Edward Woertz reached their 80th birthdays. John is glad to be at home and enjoys coming to church to meet his loved ones. Ed, serving as custodian for many years, is always concerned that everyone is comfortable, and spends many hours at the church checking on this and that. Our oldest sister in faith is Sis. Josephine Endress, who reached her 92nd year on March 19. She enjoyed having her sons and families come to call. She is a very patient sister, and is also looking forward to a time when she will be relieved of these earthly cares.

Sis. Ida Huber has gone to the Apostolic Christian Church Home in Peoria, where she will live for a time.

Sis. Emma Asal spent several days in the hospital for tests, and is now at home, gaining a little each day. We look forward to the time she will be strong enough to worship with us again, for it has been several months since she was with us. . . Sis. Marie Menold, wife

of Bro. Leonard, underwent major surgery & is recovering nicely. She was able to worship with us again. Sis. Lucille Rumbold, wife of Bro. Ezra, is in the hospital undergoing tests and treatments. She has been very ill; it is concluded she has an infected kidney. Bro. Ben Streitmatter has not been feeling well.

"How we would like to be able to speak to each who contributed to so much happiness for our mother, Mrs. Phillip, Sis. Sally Streitmatter, living at the Apostolic Christian Home at Eureka, with gifts of flowers, fruit, candy, baked goodies and other things, including the beautiful cards and letters and whispering her name in prayers, to extend mother's and our sincere appreciation for your love. This seemed to be the best way to contact you and trust you will accept it as mother's and our sincere thank you. The fellowship and blessings are priceless in the church and in the home.

Not feeling well enough to be alone, mother left her country home and her home church, Princeville, in 1964. She had been in the community 54 years. She stayed with her sister, Sis. Mary Meister of Fairbury, and with us, her family, until moving into the home Jan 11 1966. Mother and her sister, Sis. Julia Frey, were the first residents at the Home. Being there nine years and not too well at 87, with circulation, headaches often to plague her, and arthritis, we can understand that your names are dim in her mind, but your friendly faces bring a smile to her face and you are recognized. Sincerely with love, From Mother and Family. Alice and Chuck Mellott; LeRoy and Esther Streitmatter and children, Emmy, Tex and Rex Streitmatter and Beverly and John Drinnin.

#### RITTMAN OHIO

Grace Gasser

"For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;" The earth, which appears to be awaking, and dressing in its most beautiful attire, seems so clean and new, and is begging for another opportunity to bring forth grass, flower, and fruit. " . . . and God saw that it was good."

We thank the following brothers for ministering to us: (Bros.) Eugene Fetter, of Toledo, Kenneth Schneider of Remington, and Robert Beer of Mansfield.

Bro. Pete and Sis. Karen Baltic are the parents of a second daughter, named Tamora Ann. Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty Baltic welcome a son, Matthew George. Matthew joins two sisters and three brothers. Little Scott Alan arrived to bless the home of Elmer and Anabel (Hartzler) Zieker.

Hospital patients are Ralph Rock, Harry Gasser, and Sis. Leona Dotterer. Bro. Isaac Rufener has also been quite ill, and has not been able to assemble with us. Bernie Hilty, who has been a patient at the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, spent several weeks with his family, but has now returned to the hospital for further treatment. It was nice to have Bernie with us again, and we trust the Lord's presence will go with him, as he is again separated from his home and loved ones.

Sis. Emma Riggensbach wishes to thank all who kindly remembered her at the time of her 90th birthday. We are thankful for the older members of our congregation, such as Sis. Emma. Visiting with her is a most blessed experience.

#### HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

It never ceases to create reverence and awe within us when we witness the result of the intermingled showers and warm sunshine in renewing plant life on earth each spring. Our lives bear a distinct similarity to the seasons of the year. There are times when life suffers a winter season in the spirit, during which time all seems dark and difficult. However, these times do pass, and they are often followed by heavenly showers of blessings for a time of refreshing again. Knowing this strengthens us in times of stress.

Reviewing another busy month reminds us how many hands and hearts make voluntary contributions continually.

Ministers from Normal, Forrest and Roanoke were in charge of our regular Friday evening services during March. We thank those who made the effort to come with them. The residents always look forward with anticipation to these times.

Events in observance of Easter



included: March 26 — Frances Knobloch from Princeville brought a group of singing. March 27—The Bradford Sunday School visited with a program of singing. March 28—A group from Morton who presented a lovely Christmas program planned another visit to portray the meaning of Easter.

Besides these special occurrences are the regular weekly ones. There are embroidery . . . art . . . history classes, Bible study, the Story Hour, to name a few. In many cases, professional people offer their volunteer services to conduct these classes. Another event important to the residents is the monthly birthday observance, complete with birthday cake (also made by a volunteer). Many times an educational film is shown at these birthday get-togethers. When so many do so much, it reminds us that Christian love and skill working together can create a masterpiece in accomplishment.

To continue the listing of our "family" members, we will mention: Lucy Endress, daughter of the late Henry Endress' of Princeville; Barbara Taylor, daughter of the Leo Taylors of Princeton; Jane Harkrider, daughter of the Lester Harkriders of Peoria; Melinda Crouch, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allison Crouch of Pekin Il; Steven Steffen, son of Mrs. Eleanor Steffen of Elgin Il; Laverna Zobrist, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Zobrist of Deer Creek Il; Alice Tuffentsamer, daughter of Henry Tuffentsamer of Morton; Michael Bodtke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bodtke of Morton; Margo Ebert, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. K. B. Ebert of Toulon Il; Marion Unsicker, son of Katie and the late Sam Unsicker of Mackinaw.

Until we meet again, let us remember that even though it is not always for us to know the times and seasons, it does always behoove us to try to apply our hearts unto wisdom. Keeping an open mind affords us the opportunity of receiving many worthwhile thoughts.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY  
Janice Herrmann

Nature is the living,  
visible garment of God.

As the first signs of spring un-

fold, we see the power and beauty of God in our presence.

An inspiring message through song was brought to us by the Gridey Men's Group. We could feel God's love as we listened to the spiritual messages they brought forth.

Our hearts go out in sympathy to Sis. Marsha Knobloch, who experienced the loss of her brother. May God grant her the needed comfort.

We want to thank Bros. Art Baurer, Everett Hari, Ben Fehr, Elmer Witzig, and Joe Schrock for bringing us God's word. Bro. Joe Schrock is back with us, after his stay in Florida.

#### INDIANAPOLIS IN

Patrick and Judy Dubach

Easter season! We hope your day was as lovely as ours, for it is truly a lovely time of the year, when we commemorate the glorious resurrection of our risen Lord. How beautiful is each opening of spring, after the bleak winter months, with the singing of birds. God's miracle touch can be seen on every tree, leaf and flower, and all things are waking into new life. May we never forget to take into our hearts the blessed facts of our Lord's sacrifice, for He truly is the Lily of the Valley, the Rose of Sharon, a gale of spices from heaven.

We have been blessed with some visiting ministers. With us in March were Bros. Jack Bollier, Leo; Earl Kilgus, Remington; Alfred Bahler, Wolcott; Karl Westfall, Francesville. We thank all of them.

#### PORTLAND OR Mrs. Don Cremer

We're so thankful for the milder weather we've had this spring month and for the abundant rain to bring forth all the beauty of God's creation in full measure.

We are holding up in prayer our Sis. Ann Rumbold, as she is undergoing a long series of tests. How strong the Lord's comforting arms are when we face illness and affliction!

We enjoyed Bro. Clarence Dietrich visiting us one Sunday, from Silverton, and ministering the word to us.

Sweet fellowship was had as many from Portland attended a potluck supper with the Silverton

brethren. We gathered to sing to the Lord after the supper.

Remembering that first Easter morning, when the tomb was empty where our risen Saviour once lay . . . Even death could not hold our Lord Jesus, and we, through Him, are also victorious! Easter is special in our hearts, not only this one day a year, but every day of our lives.

A spring vacation is planned for the older Sunday School children. Sis. Pearl Miller and Sis. Connie Steffen are taking the girls on a three-day trip, and Bro. Garth Steffen is taking the boys on a two-day rock-hunting trip.

O for the peace of a perfect trust,  
my loving God in Thee;  
Unwavering faith that never  
doubts Thou chooseth best for me.  
Best tho my plans be all upset;  
best tho my way be rough;  
Best tho my earthly store be scant,  
in Thee I have enough.  
Best tho my health and strength  
be gone; tho weary days be mine;  
Shut out from much that others  
have; not my will, Lord, but  
Thine;  
And c'en tho disappointments come  
they, too, are best for me,  
To wean me from this changing  
world and lead me nearer Thee.  
O for the peace of a perfect trust,  
that looks away from all,  
That sees Thy hand in everything,  
in great events and small;  
That hears Thy voice—a Father's  
voice directing for the best;  
O for the peace of a perfect trust,  
a heart with Thee at rest.

#### BERN KS Esther and Stella Moser

Our joy bundles are special to Sis. Pearl Meyer, as they are both her grandchildren, born just 24 hours apart. Dale Lynn arrived March 21 to gladden the home for K Lynne and Steve Gugelman, sisters Cindy & Tara. Mar. 22, Rhoda Rachelle was born to Earl and Darlene Meyer, their first child.

The World Relief workers meet on the third Monday evening of each month in the spacious basement of Bro. Harvey and Sis. Marie Grimm. Sisters Mary Plattner and Claudia Strahm are in charge of the various projects. Anyone who cares to lend a helping hand is welcome.



Hospital patients: Sis. Arlene Esslinger (Bro. Martin), surgical; Sis. Amanda Meyer, medical.

Our guest minister on a recent Sunday afternoon was Bro. Noah Gerber, West Bend.

I must go shopping! I am completely out of generosity and must get some more! . . . I want to exchange the self-satisfaction I picked up the other day for some real humility — they say it wears better! I must look at some tolerance, which is worn as a wrap this season. I'm a little low on that, and one can never have too much of it. I must try to match some patience I saw it on a friend; it was so becoming . . . I must keep my eyes open for some inexpensive goodness. It is surprising how one's stock of goods is depleted. . . Yes, I must go shopping today!

#### BLUFFTON IN

Melanie Gerber — Donna Drayer

Bro. Brice and Sis. Elaine Lehman received a son on March 4. Todd Leon has two sisters . . . Bro. Jon and Sis. Nilah Aschliman have become parents to Brett Jason, who was born on March 10. Bro. Harold and Sis. Luella Aeschliman and Bro. Oscar and Sis. Agnes Schaefer are the grandparents . . . On March 13, Bro. Stanley and Sis. Cindy Geisel were blessed with their first child. Rochelle Lanae's grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Ellen Geisel and Bro. Jerome and Sis. Virginia Rauch . . . Nathan Isch now has a brother, Jerome Leroy, who was born March 16. The happy parents are Bro. Barry and Sis. Imogene Isch. . . Chris and Susan DesJean became parents on March 24. They have named their daughter Janelle Frances. Bro. Harvey and Sis. Frances Bertsch are the grandparents.

Bro. Harry Reinhard and Sis. Sarah Beer have made known their engagement. It is so wonderful when two families who have experienced losses in their family circles can be united . . . Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce Troxel of Ft. Lauderdale will be giving away in marriage their daughter, Sis. Peggy, to Bro. Vic Reinhard. Bro. Alphie and Sis. Lucille Reinhard are Vic's parents.

Services were held on March 19 for Lola Strahm, age 61. She is survived by her husband, Herman; one son, Deuwayne; and four

daughters, Mrs. Jack (Sharon) Liby, Mrs. Oliver (Nancy) Meyer, Mrs. Richard (Carol) DeLeon; and Mrs. Kay Lynne Mills.

Bro. Sam Maller, 79, was able to leave this world of pain behind and be laid to rest on March 26. Sis. Katie survives, along with their five children, Sis. Marjorie Ringger, Bro. Eugene, and Wayne, Dale, and Roger.

Our visiting ministers were (Bros.) Homer Reineck and Ben Manz. We were also fortunate to have Bro. Edwin Ringger and the Gridley choir with us on Palm Sunday. Many beautiful words were in song and worship.

Arlen Heyerly and Roxanne Freeman were married on March 8 in our fellowship hall. Alen's parents are Bro. Homer and Sis. Lavera Heyerly.

We gathered together recently to share a very blessed evening in listening to the testimonies of six dear friends. Bro. Alfred Bahler of Wolcott assisted our elders in the work. On the following day, we witnessed their baptisms. The new sisters in the Lord are Rhonda (Wallace) Leman, Melinda (William Gene) Moser, Janet (Robert Gerber) Campbell, and Bro. Rod and Sis. Rosemary (Ben Habegger) Mounsey, and Bro. Joe Schwartz. We wish them many blessings from above.

Just as a beautiful rose needs rain to grow, some rain has fallen into some of the homes in our congregation. Those admitted to the hospital were Bros. John Neuenchwander, Roy Reinhard, and Sisters Ilene (Leonard) Steffen, Sylvia (Oscar) Bertsch, and Martha (Luster) Heyerly. Bro. Harvey Bertsch is hospitalized and appreciates receiving mail. His address is Veteran's Hospital; 2601 Cold Springs Rd.; Indianapolis IN 46222.

#### CONGERVILLE IL

Mary Schrock — Mary Leman

A special thanks to our visiting ministers, Bros. Jim Hoerr (Peoria) and Harold Schmidgall (Gridley) for the messages they brought us. Sumant Karandikar from Bombay, India came with Bro. Jim Hoerr, and after a potluck supper at the Goodfield Fellowship Hall, slides were shown.

After three daughters, Peggy, Denise and Amy, a son, Dale Rob-

ert was welcomed in the home of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene Banwart. Grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Sara Tanner (Eureka) and Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sylvia Banwart (LaCrosse) . . . The first child of Bro. Kurt and Sis. Jane Ehnle was a little girl named Beth Ann. Bro. Leroy and Sis. Clara (Stoller) Huber of Eureka and Bro. Dave and Sis. Beulah Ehnle of Princeville are grandparents.

Due to a farm accident, Bro. Larry Ifft was hospitalized for surgery on his hand. Also hospitalized was Sis. Fannie Schieber. Both are home again. Jim Schrock, 2½-year-old son of Bro. Steve and Sis. Gerri, had the misfortune of falling and breaking his collar bone . . . "We wish to thank all who remembered Larry with cards, gifts and prayers when he was injured. Special thanks to those who helped with our family. Larry and Shirley Ifft."

#### JUNCTION OH

Benita Schlatter - Betty Manz

Our visiting minister was our elder, Bro. Loren Stoller.

Bro. Dave and Sis. Kathy Manz became the parents of a third child, Julie Ann, on March 2.

The engagement of Bro. Tim Schlatter (Sis. Juliet) to Sis. Becky Stoller (Bro. Loren and Sis. Esther) from Latty was made known . . . Also, Bro. Don Manz's (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn) engagement to Sis. Connie Ehnle (Bro. Ben and Sis. Audrey) from Bradford was announced. We wish these couples much happiness together.

Bro. Henry Manz is again able to assemble with us for half the day.

#### PHOENIX AZ

Julie Hoerr

March 23 was a beautiful spring day for the wedding of Sis. Dorene Schmidgall and Bro. Brad Bahler. Dorene is the daughter of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Mary Jo, and Brad is the son of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois. It was a privilege to have Bro. Bahler assist Bro. Roy Farnley with the wedding service.

Truly we are blessed to have two more dear souls turn to the Lord. Ed Greenbank (Bro. and Sis. Gordon) and Leona "Tony" Bentley have sought to yield themselves to the Lord in repentance. We wish them God's guidance in their new



life.

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Bob Grimm, Goodfield; Edwin Bahler, Remington; Floyd Schmidgall, Morris; and Noah Miller, Minneapolis. We thank them for their visits and for the messages they shared with us.

Hospital patients were: Bro. Paul Froelich, Bro. Dan Kokanovich, and Mark Kokanovich, the infant of Bro. Jon and Sis. Nancy. Mark is able to be in our midst again, and we trust God will soon grant a full recovery to Bros. Paul and Dan.

Marcia and Roger Banks are blessed with a son, Roger Dale II, born March 19. Grandparents are Bro. Floyd and Sis. Clara Banwart.

We welcome Jerome Rokey (Bro. and Sis. Irvin) and Curt Kaufman (Bro. John).

Many enjoyed the beauty of God's creation, when we gathered for a church picnic at Squaw Peak Park March 9.

We thank the many visitors for the love and fellowship they shared with us during the winter months, and trust the Lord will watch over them as they leave our community to return home.

ZAPATA TX

Esther Wagler - Dolly Stoller

Why worry so when things seem dark?

Don't hesitate to pray.

God's there to take you by the hand

And help you find a way,

Why look so weary? Put on a smile;

God still is on His throne.

He's there to guide you all the while—

You're never all alone.

Don't worry so about your cares—

God's with you every day;

Please let him know you need His help—

He's just a prayer away.

We have much beauty here. The desert flowers and trees are in bloom, the birds sing so beautiful this time of year, and a beautiful lake. Beauty is God's handwriting.

May God bless our visiting ministers who have taken of their time and shared the precious word with us . . . We have enjoyed many precious moments, meeting and greeting dear ones, from many different areas in the last few months.

These are the ministers that have

brought us God's word during March and April: Elder Bro. John Bahler, (Bros.) Corbin Bahler, Rockville; Al Langhofer, Wichita. We expect two ministers April 6, our last meeting for this season, (Bros.) Wm. Gudeman, Elgin IL, Lenard Meyer, Chicago. Many of the visiting elders and brothers who ministered to us were here several weeks. Elder Bro. Herman Kellenberger is still here, but will soon be returning to his home church.

REMINGTON IN

Amelia Schini - Mildred Clauss

On March 6, three of our sisters were involved in an accident west of Watseka, Ill. enroute to Peoria. They were, Anna and Emma Beckley and Eunice Waibel. Sis. Eunice has been confined in her home since, with bruises and minor injuries she received in the accident. We are all thankful that it was not more serious.

Sis. Edna Leman wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with cards and letters while in the hospital and since she has returned home.

Sis. Emma (Miss) Beckley has gone to the Eureka Home for residence. We will miss her, but hope she will be happy there.

Sis. Lena Knochel wishes to thank everyone who remembered her on her 80th birthday, March 10.

Jason Eric was born March 5 to Bro. Eldon and Sis. Charlene Getz. She has a 2-year-old brother, Matthew Roy. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Emilie Anliker of Francesville and Sis. Eliza Getz of here.

We have many precious blessings in our church. A special one is having our ministering brothers visit from church to church. We appreciated Bro. Vernon Schwab's presence and ministry on March 9. On March 23, Bro. Elmer Witzig of Gridley, Ill. was here and sincerely **sounded the trumpet**. Thank you, brothers for your visit.

Bro. Brad Bahler and Sis. Doreen Schmidgall were united in marriage on Sun., March 23. His parents, Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois and their children, also several other relatives from here went to Phoenix for the wedding. A reception for Bro. Brad and Sis. Doreen is planned here on Sun., April 6.

The school of suffering graduates rare scholars.

WICHITA KS  
Glenis Allenbach

If we could be like flower or tree,  
That gained, each day new beauty—

If we could know that just to grow,  
Because the Father told us so,  
Was our most precious duty. . .  
How very glad our lives would be,  
If we could grow like flower and tree!

There is a little hill that stands in every life, I know! A hill that can seem very grim when heads are bended low . . . We find a something comforting that we may take aside — that we may hold close to our hearts when tossed by time or tide.

Sometimes our glances blur with tears; sometimes we faint and fall. Sometimes the hill seems very steep and very cruel and tall . . . But sometimes when we pause to rest for just one slender hour, we feel the stealing fragrance of a dim, forgotten flower . . . And when we search for it—through agony and loss—we find that it is blooming in the shadow of a cross!

WEST BEND IA

Mrs. Melvin Fehr  
Mrs. Raymond Anliker

Our prayers would be that all could share the joy we have in serving the Lord, as was brought forth by Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker of Lamont and Bro. Walter Anliker of Eureka. We wish to thank them for their services and want to welcome them back.

The hospital patients are assembling with us again; we are so grateful. They were Sis. Lilly (Nathan) Mogler, Sis. (Earnie) Schmidt, Jason Wickman (Bro. Larry) and Kevin Fehr (Bro. Melvin).

Bro. Norman and Sis. Polly Zaugg were blessed with a son, Nick Alan, born March 6. Grandparents are Bro. Oscar and Sis. Frances Zaugg of our West Bend congregation and Sis. Emma (Alvia) Meyer of Lester.

An inspiring week-end was spent, with the presence of Bro. Uriel Gehring of Burlington, Ia. and Bro. Bert Butikofer of Elgin, Ia., for the wedding of Sis. Susan Ban-



wart (daughter of Bro. Albert and Sis. Betty) and Bro. Charles F. Schneider (son of LuVern and Katherine). May the journey that Bro. Charles and Sis. Susan will travel together receive God's blessings and be led by the **MAP — BIBLE**—as was expressed to be parallel with our lives when we prepare to go on vacation. We must follow the map to reach the right destination, for if we get off the route, it may be that we get there late or not at all. May each of us be led upon the route that leads to eternal life.

**TREMONT IL**

Lydia Rassi - Marv Jane Leuthold  
Little Katrina Ruth, born Feb. 27, has brought much joy to her parents, Bro. James and Sis. Kathy Schlatter of the Chicago congregation. Her grandparents are Bro. Arnold and Sis. Lydia Rassi, and Bro. Dan and Sis. Josephine Schlatter of Forrest.

A new little daughter, Christina C. was welcomed March 2 to Curt and Pat Musselman. She also has three sisters to cherish and love her. Grandmothers are Sis. Esther Musselman and Mrs. Evelyn Kocher, Pekin. We're so thankful to hear Pat is well again, after being ill with bronchitis pneumonia.

Another bundle of joy, Marie Janice, born March 8, came to live with Bro. Elmon and Sis. Janice Koch. She has a sister and two brothers to help take care of her. Grandparents are Sis. Mary Koch, and Bro. August and Sis. Carrie Bolliger . . . Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Elsie Sinn are rejoicing over their first granddaughter, Janelle Marie, born Feb. 27 to Bro. John and Sis. Carol Sinn, Ft. Scott. She also has a brother, Douglas to welcome her.

Those in the hospital the last month are: Bro. Elmer Sauder, Sis. Mary Baurer and Halo Koch, wife of Bro. Cleo.

Visiting minister was Bro. Phil Sauder of Cissna Park. We thank him for his service and also welcome others to visit us. We are always happy and pleased to have others of like faith come and fellowship with us.

March 23, Bro. Howard Sauder and Sis. Janice Beutel were joined together in holy matrimony. May the Lord continue to lead and guide them in their lives together.

We count ourselves privileged to

gather in our house of worship every Sunday and midweek, to hear the beautiful and precious teachings and truths the Lord has waiting for us. Sunday evening, March 23, we gathered again to hear our ardent youth tell us of the love of Jesus, how He died upon the cruel cross and shed His blood in our stead, for your and my sins. He gave His all — What are we doing for Him? Through faith in Him, we can be forgiven our many sins.

Bring to God your gift, my brother.  
He'll not need to call another;

You will do.

He will add His blessing to it,  
And the two of you will do it,  
God and you.

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY**

Lorene Pfladderer - Elaine Anliker  
"Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man."

Due to Spring break we had had only one Purdue service in March. We were thankful to have Bro. Joe Schrock (Congerville) with us on March 19.

**PULASKI IA**

Ernestine Wuthrich  
Janice Rinkenberger

We wish to extend sympathy to the family of Sis. Mary Moser of Oakville, especially her mother, Sis. Hattie Miller of our congregation. We will miss Sis. Mary, as she spent many Sundays here.

Bro. Harold and Sis. Mary Jane Knapp and Brian have moved to our community. We welcome them to our small congregation and pray they will have God's protecting hand over them.

**NEW MARTINSVILLE WV**  
Minnie Weltz - Della Witschey

Clyde Riggenbach, who has been retired for several years, has been confined to his home for some time, remains about the same, still able to get around in the home.

Miss Margaret Witschey and Mrs. Elizabeth Hawkins visited with their brother, Ralph Witschey and family in Parkersburg, W. Va. Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer C. Lord of Girard visited with the Barth families on March 7.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Witschey of Doylestown, O., were guests of the

Witschey families on March 17. Mrs. Georgia Schupbach and daughter Erma visited with Miss Della Witschey one evening recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Schupbach, who have not been too well for some time, remain about the same.

Mrs. Bonnie Hawkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Riggenbach, has recovered from a recent illness.

Mrs. Edna Hart and son, Jack of Brownsville, Pa., were the guests of Minnie Weltz and Mary Ann Brothers on March 27.

Mr. and Mrs. William Murdock Sr. visited with their son William Jr. and family in Huntington, W. Va. on March 22 and 23.

We are having very cold weather at this writing, March 27; trees are budding and spring flowers blooming. We are hoping that the severe cold will not harm them.

**NAUMBURG NY**

Eleanor Herzig

Hospitalized were Sis. Isabel Virkler and Bro. Earl Rohr. Both have returned home. Bro. Elmer Taube is hospitalized again, this time submitting to surgery.

**MORTON IL**

Emma Knapp - Peggy Joos

There has been much rejoicing in our midst, when 10 dear souls made their decision to walk in the steps of the Saviour. We were privileged to hear the testimonies of Doug and Debbie Tetral (Bro. Mel and Sis. Lois Aberle), Connie Roth (Glenn and Lucille Roth), Brian and Nancy, Hoerr, Harvey (Bro. Jim and Sis. Virginia Hoerr) Joe and Mildred. Baer, Staker (Sis. Mrs. Sarah Baer) and Greg Getz (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Ann Getz.) They were baptized Sun., Mar. 16. Chris and Hilda Wiedman had gave their testimonies at home on Mon. evening, then were baptized the following Wed. evening, March 19. It is a special blessing, when in a confined state of health we are able to seek the Lord and give our hearts to him. Our prayers are that they can all build a firm foundation of faith in their new pathway of life.

Our visiting ministers were Elder Bros. Dave Kieser (Princeville), Ed Frank, and (Bros.) Art Gudeman (La Crosse), Vernon Leman (Eureka), and Ron Heiniger (Bloomington.) We are thankful



to those dear brethren for the words of wisdom they have brought us.

The death angel has taken two souls from our midst. Sis. Lillie C. Voelpel passed away, after being in a nursing home a number of years. Funeral services were held March 13. Harry Beck passed away on Feb. 25. His services were held at the funeral home the following Friday. May God comfort the bereaved family.

Hospital patients: Quentin Ackerman, Sis. Alma Rinkenberger, Sis. Joan Roecker, Bro. Ed Wyss and John Hirstein.

Many loving hands make the work lighter, as so many helped in the annual cleaning of our church the evening of March 24. May we also cleanse our hearts, to get into the crevices, as we do the church.

Summary for 1974: 16 births 14 deaths 10 marriages 45 baptisms.

#### MILFORD IN

Linda Beer - Nettie Haab

"And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body. And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it. And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament which is shed for many." Bro. Almed Banler from Wolcott was with us on March 23, and assisted Bro. Theo. Beer and Bro. Elmer Hartter as we all gathered for Holy Communion. Let us often make the trip to Calvary and never forget the suffering and agony of our Lord Jesus . . . But the story has a wonderful ending, which we heard, as we assembled again in the evening for our Easter program and listened to our Sunday School children proclaim, **He Is Risen!**

Jodie Lynn came to bless the home of Larry and Kay Kammerer. Grandparents are Bro. Andy and Sis. Laura Kammerer and Ben and Viola Kaiser.

We are sorry to see Bro. Junior and Sis. Sandee Price and their twin daughters, Krista and Kristine, leave our congregation. They are moving to Sarasota, where Junior has found employment.

We welcome to our congregation Bro. Ken and Sis. Lynn Beer and their two sons, Jeremy and Jonah.

They have moved here from the Indianapolis area.

#### MANSFIELD OH

Know Each Other Better

Bro. Jesse Beer was born and raised on a farm his father cleared in Mifflin township, Richland County, Ohio. He is the grandson of Bro. Fredrick Lantz, who was the founder and first residing minister in Mansfield.

The Lord has been very good to Bro. Jesse, who at the age of 93 is still teaching in our public school system, and as far as can be determined is the oldest active teacher in the United States, as it was stated in the National Retired Teachers Association bulletin of March 1974.

He received a Bachelor of Science degree at Ohio Northern University in 1908. Because of some fuss over high school credits, he received a second Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Chicago in 1912, instead of a master's degree. He later earned his master's degree at Western Reserve University and has enough credits for a Ph. D.

Jesse started teaching at the tender age of 18. His first assignment was in a two-room school in East Mansfield back in 1900. He taught at Cleveland Central for 10 years and was principal at Mansfield Senior High School from 1928 to 1941. He was in charge of the Guidance and Special Testing Program and resigned in 1948, but is still called to do substitute teaching.

Jesse credits his wonderful Christian parents, John J. and Mary Beer, for his first contact with the Lord. They taught him that "gossip and violence should be totally eliminated through the use of kindness and reason".

When Bro. Jesse went to college, he soon began to question, "Why some of these people teach me the opposite to what I learned to love?" The more he compared the philosophy of such educators with that of the Bible, the surer he became that such viewpoint, especially in science, was not right.

He remembers once having an encounter with a professor, and he wishes now he would have the courage of Daniel, or other God-fearing men of the Bible, who would rather suffer than give up God's teaching. Through all this, God

was working in his heart. He would always revert back to the good Christian teachings he had been taught. This particular teacher glorified violence, war he looked upon as "nature's method to get rid of the riffraff and permit the fittest to survive." It was impossible not to compare this with what he had been taught as a personal responsibility and the clear statement of the Bible. "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God" . . . Bro. Jesse's favorite song in the Zion's Harp is No. 37, Love.

At the age of 70, Jesse was drawn even closer to the Lord, and through humbleness and repentance could find his greatest joy, when he enrolled in the highest school, where the Lord is the teacher. He found what his godly parents had taught—LOVE, PEACE and JOY!

He advises the young people today to "stand for what they have been taught by their godly parents, not to be persuaded by the philosophies of some so-called educators and stylists of today, and don't be afraid to apply all these gems in your contacts with your associates and walk humbly with your God".

Dare to be a Daniel,  
Dare to stand alone.  
Dare to have a purpose firm;  
Dare to make it known.

#### GRIDLEY IL

Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein

Joel Michael is the new arrival in the home of Bro. Mike and Sis. Rosie Gramm. He was born March 17 and has one sister, Christine. Joel's grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Jane Gramm of Gridley and Sis. Christiane Erkert of Peoria. His great-grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Louise Gramm and Mrs. Mayme Ellenberger.

We appreciated the wonderful words of exhortation brought to us by our visiting ministers. Bro. Uriel Gehring from Burlington, Iowa was here, and also Bros. Ron Heiniger from Bloomington and Frederick Knapp from Congerville.

Sis. Mildred Schlipf has entered the hospital to undergo surgery. Sis. Emma Ringger was in the hospital for surgery and is home again.

A note of correction: In last



month's Silver Lining, a dear brother was unintentionally omitted from the list of relatives of our departed brother, Emil Grusy. Bro. Albert Grusy of Gridley is Emil's only surviving brother, and we are thankful for his supportive presence in our congregation.

"I want to thank everyone who so kindly sent cards, flowers and gifts, and the ministers who visited and prayed for me while I was in the hospital. I am now at the Hawthorne Lodge in El Paso, Illinois." Sis. Minnie Stortz.

#### ALTO MI Sue Root

Elder Bro. Joe Waibel was with us to conduct our annual meeting. Elected were Bro. Ron Erismann and Sis. Linda Koehl as Sunday School teachers, Bro. Lloyd Blough and Bro. Tom Schrenk as trustees.

Friend Ernest Roth has been hospitalized. We trust the Lord will stand by his dear wife, Sis. Lena.

#### AKRON OH Linda Pamer

Love of all gifts is the greatest . . . Christian love brings joy and happiness. The Lord surely has given us this blessing, and we can be very thankful for it. Perhaps we don't appreciate enough the love and fellowship we have with those of like faith. Let us try to be more kind and loving, for our Lord has said, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

We were glad that two visiting ministers came and taught us out of God's holy word. They were Elder Bro. Theo. Beer (Milford) and Bro. Ken Indermuhle (Sardis).

Sis. Esther Graf and Sis. Ruth Taylor were hospitalized for surgery. Anne Francis was also hospitalized, but is now at home again.

Our Elder Bro. Rudy Graf and his wife, Sis. Bethi left for Europe on Sun., Mar. 23, with Elder Bro. John Bahler and his wife, Sis. Julia. They hope to arrange for the transfer of money for the repair of Romanian churches. We pray that the Lord will protect and bless them.

#### ALTADENA CA Linda Witzig

We have enjoyed the visits of friends and brethren from various eastern states and Arizona. Sever-

al people have stopped along their way to distant destinations to fellowship with us. We do appreciate their company. God is thanked again for His protection accorded the travelers on their journeys.

Sis. Mary Sirovey has suffered a heart attack, and after several weeks in the hospital is at home again with her daughter's family. She is weak, but isn't burdened by much pain, and her mind remains very good. She is thankful when brothers and sisters come to see her.

A beautiful verse from the Bible that applies so well in modern days is one from Psalm 94: "In the multitude of my thoughts within me thy comforts delight my soul." Isn't that something to calm a person in the middle of a hard task, especially a task that isn't going right, and there are other jobs to be done and not enough time to devote to each one? Thinking of His word and peace in the midst of turmoil can bring order and calm into a soul.

#### CROGHAN NY Alice Virkler

As I am writing this news item today, we are having one of the coldest days on record in our area for the month of March. This morning our temperature was about zero. We have had a beautiful, sunny day, but a cold north wind has kept the temperatures extremely cold. Our snow is almost gone, and our farmers who tap their trees to produce maple syrup have made only a small amount of syrup so far. They are awaiting the right weather conditions — cold, freezing nights, and warm, sunny days, so the sap will flow. How wonderful it is to see the springtime of the year arrive, when the buds begin to appear, and the whole earth seems to wake from the winter's sleep. It is our hope that many loved ones also will awaken from their sleep and answer the call as it goes forth from day to day. May many yet enter the springtime of their lives, live a full and complete life upon earth, and have that hope of gaining everlasting life.

We find many reasons for rejoicing here upon earth, especially when our prayers can be answered and we again see loved ones restored to a measure of good health. We rejoice that Bro. Bernard Mar-

tin has returned to his home and family, after having been a patient almost two months before and following major surgery. He is showing much improvement and hopes to assemble with us soon. Sis. Irene Farney has been able to assemble with us again, following another stay in the hospital, as has Esther (John) Rauhe, after a week in the hospital as a medical patient. Sis. Barbara Virkler and Friends Lucy (Arthur) Woolschlager and Betty Schneider remain patients.

#### CISSNA PARK IL

##### Margaret Rudin - Grace Bauer

"If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit." Aren't these wonderful promises as we come into our planting season?

Sis. Beverly Stock was united in Holy Matrimony to Bro. John Hartter on March 23. Bro. Ezra Feller officiated in an impressive ceremony. May God be the unseen guest, bless the home they will share, and keep them close in thought and prayer.

Our friends, Ronnie Farney, son of Bro. Gary and Sis. Geraldine, and Kevin Knapp, son of Bro. Ralph and Sis. Verena found the need of repentance. They have found peace with God and man, and hope to bring their testimony before the congregation soon.

Sis. Dorothy Walder (Mrs. Dale), Sis. Lydia Moser (Mrs. Carl), Bro. George Bauer were all surgical patients. Bro. Adam Knapp and Sis. Caroline Gudeman and our friends Sam Lober and Kathryn Enz were hospital medical patients.

The engagement of Sis. Rita Eisenman was announced, to Bro. Charles Hodel of Roanoke. Rita is the daughter of Sis. Emily and Bro. Ray; Charles is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Hodel. A June wedding is being planned.

Sis. Ida Frank, age 83, passed away March 4 at Paxton Hospital, where she had been a patient for 2 weeks. Funeral services were held March 7. Survivors include sons, Bro. Maurice and Gerald; daughters, Mrs. Irma Clark, Mrs. Delores Hartman, Mrs. Vance McMahon, and Mrs. Betty Perkins; a sister, Mrs. Dena Ruppel. We shall



miss Sis. Ida in our midst. Our sympathy is extended to the family.

Our visiting ministers who shared the word with us were Bros. Lenard Mever, Roy Grimm, Harry Bucher, Merle Bucher, Robert Grimm, Kenneth Dietz, Robert Walder and Walter Anliker.

The Sunday School children presented us with a program, **He Is Risen**, on Good Friday. It is nice to hear the children bring forth their feelings in speech and song.

When Satan assails us, we have to put forth more effort and pray harder.

"We wish to thank our many friends, relatives and brethren from coast to coast, who so kindly remembered us with cards and gifts on our golden anniversary. We rec'd cards from 14 states; certainly was humbling! We had a very blessed and memorable day. In Christian love, Ezra and Ollie Feller."

Ezra Feller (elder of Cissna Park) was born May 22, 1903 in Cissna Park, repented in 1917 after the death of his mother, also one brother who drowned soon after her passing. On March 8, 1925, he married Ollie Bucher, formerly of Gridlev IL. They took up farming near Cissna Park. They raised a family of nine children, who have all been converted, also are married. In 1960, they moved near the village of Cissna Park, where they still live. In Jan. 1965, the duties of elder became his responsibility, along with many concerns. They have reaped many blessings, especially when dear souls could be garnered into the fold. May the Lord continue to bless our congregation in these latter and perilous times.

#### ELGIN IL

Sandy and Mary Moser

We are glad that ministering brothers come and visit us, and we thank each of them for their labors. Visiting ministers were (Bros.) Harry Sutter from Fort Lauderdale, Earl Banwart from West Bend, and Arnold Gerst from Chicago.

When a Christian dies,  
Precious is the prize.  
Lasting joys for days of sorrow,  
Rest from conflict on the morrow  
Follows when he dies.

On March 8, our dear ministering brother, Ed Gudeman, was laid to rest. We are thankful for the many years he labored so faithfully to bring us God's word. We are glad that Bro. Ed could leave this world and did not have to suffer any longer, but we sympathize with Sis. Sophie. May God be near to her and comfort and protect in her sorrow.

The hospital patients include Mary Spohr, Sis. Rose Eurich, Bro. Albert Wewetzer and Minnie Weck. Rose fell and broke her arm, and Albert Wewetzer and Mary Spohr are recovering from surgery. Minnie Weck is hospitalized with a broken hip.

On Palm Sunday, we had our Easter Program. It is truly inspiring to hear the innocent little children recite their verses of God's word in all its truth and purity.

Sis. Lena Leuthold wishes to thank those who remembered her with prayers, gifts, and cards while she was in the hospital.

#### DETROIT MI Charlotte Barton

We rejoice with you, dear friend,  
For what you found today,  
And hope from henceforth you can  
go  
Rejoicing on your way.

How sweet the joys no tongue can  
tell,  
That in our heart was given,  
To know and feel that Christ above  
Has all our sins forgiven.

Let us thank our Saviour dear  
As long as life is given,  
For He has promised to prepare  
For us a home in heaven.

Our congregation is flowing with joy and happiness, as Friend Jeanie Allen, daughter of Bro. Ben and Sis. Lois Belslev has found the need to repent, has professed peace with her Lord and Saviour, and seeks to follow Him all the days of her life. We sincerely wish her God's precious grace and guidance . . . Jeanie, her husband Pat and young Jason were also blessed March 21 with a dear little bundle from heaven, Ann Marie.

We wish to thank Bro. Jim Ramseyer from Bay City for being with us for the Easter season. On Good Friday, Bro. Jim inspired our

hearts to follow closely in the footsteps of our Saviour, who shed His blood that we may be saved. How terrible it would be to have the story of the life of Jesus end at the cross. May we always and forever remember our Lord is RISEN and is in Heaven, interceding for you and me.

Our friend, Liz Wieland is able to fellowship with us again, after many weeks of recovering from a heart operation.

#### EUREKA IL Cathryn Wettstein Salome Schumacher

Our only visiting minister was Bro. James Ringger from Bradford. We thank him for his visit and messages from God's word.

The Easter Sunday School program was March 26, on Wednesday evening. The Roanoke Bible Class took part, too. The Easter Story was truly given in songs by all the children, telling about our risen Saviour, Christ the Lord.

Our hospital patients: Sis. Laura Getz was a patient in Eureka Hospital, but is now home. She's Bro. Jesse's wife: she had some broken ribs. Sis. Martha Grusy is in Methodist hospital: Bro. Alf Grusy is her husband. Sis. Leah Moser from the "Home" was in Eureka Hospital, but is now back. Sis. Cathryn Wettstein (myself) was a surgical patient in Methodist Hospital, but now I'm home.

The annual house-cleaning for our church-house was on Monday evening, March 24. Many members and friends gathered to help, as the saying goes, **many hands make light the work**. Let us all do some house-cleaning in our hearts, so we can draw nearer to our dear Saviour, who loves us so.

Two of our friends, Dan and Mark Hangartner, sons of Bro. and Sis. Roy and Norma, are repenting.

Our Sis. Ollie Kempf, who lives in the country, hasn't been well and has missed many Sundays of being with us in church. Perhaps we should think more often of those who are missing and visit them if possible.

"My heartfelt thanks to my family and many friends for cards, gifts, visits and prayers during my stay in the hospital and since returning to the Home. Sis. Lucy Kempf."

Sam Mogler underwent an ap-



pendectomy in February at the Methodist Hospital in Peoria. His parents are August and Sis. Inez Mogler. He is home. . . Sis. Nettie Rocke underwent eye surgery at Mennonite Hospital, but is now home. . . Sis. Inez Mogler has not been feeling well and hasn't been able to come to church for some time. Perhaps a visit to her home would be appreciated.

Another has come to live in our "Home"; Sis. Emma Beckley from Remington is her name. We say "Welcome", Sis. Emma.

### FAIRBURY IL

Joyce Huber

In ministering to us, Bro. Lavoyd Moore shared with us that many people do not have the knowledge that God has given us; and he asked the question, "How long has it been since you have spoken words of encouragement?" Before he came to church, he said if someone would have invited him to church he might have gone. As soon as someone invited him, he went; and he said, "I am thankful that there was a brother that cared enough about someone in the world to ask me to come."

We rejoice that Dan Schlipf has taken grace from God for repentance and for his salvation. Dan was in the hospital and has returned to his home.

Sis. Martha Steffen had surgery and is now at home recuperating. Sis. Marie Huber is hospitalized.

Bro. Howard and Sis. Eileen Maurer were blessed with their third boy, and named the new baby Seth Lee. The other two boys are Shawn Lee and Shannon Lee. Grandparents are the late Bro. Otto, and Sis. Baum of Morton, and Alph and Sis. Clara Maurer . . . Warren and Shirley Fehr were blessed with a baby boy born March 13; and they named him Todd Alan. Other children are Angela, Darren, and Kimberly. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Clarence Koehl . . . Bro. Chris and Vi Leman have become grandparents, as their only son, Bro. Larry and his wife, Sis. Nada, have become a new mother and dad, having their first baby, a girl, Tanya Kai.

An enjoyable program was presented on Palm Sunday evening by the Sunday School classes, which portrayed the Easter Story.

"I wish to thank everyone for

cards, gifts and prayers while a patient in the hospital, for bedside visits by Illinois ministers and many others, including training girls for their unexpected little visits during my illness." Reuben Barh.

"We wish to thank everyone for the many kind remembrances, letters, cards and gifts, extended to us on the occasion of our 50th wedding anniversary." Joshua and Marie Broquard.

### FT SCOTT KS

Ida Sinn

At this time of year, we are reminded so much of the crucifixion and death of our Saviour.

"And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." We are looking forward to having Bro. Sam Anliker with us Good Friday evening, to help our Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart serve Holy Communion.

Janelle Marie is the name chosen for the baby daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Carol Sinn. She has a brother, Douglas to welcome her.

The Sunday School presented an Easter program in verse and song Sunday morning.

Bro. Fred Sinn and Sis. Elsie have been granted 50 years of married life. They were married at Princeville; Elsie was the former Elsie Eberle from there. They came by train to Richards, Mo., which was the closest town to their farm, just across the state line in Kansas, to be their home until they moved to town five years ago. They now reside at 1710 E. Wall St., Ft. Scott. They have four sons and one daughter. The oldest son, Lester, lives on the homeplace, where the reception was held on Sunday afternoon.

### KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Libby Meyer

Where there is love, the heart is light;

Where there is love, the day is bright.

Where there is love there is a song  
To help when things are going wrong.

Where there is love there is a smile;

To make things seem more worthwhile.

Where there is love there is quiet peace,

A tranquil place, where turmoils cease.

Love changes darkness into light  
And makes the heart take wingless flight.

Oh blest are they who walk in love—

They also walk with God above.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Harvey Grimm, Lester Hartter, and George Lambert. A thought that was brought out was: "God can do a lot for us—if we just let Him."

### LAMAR MO

Gail Banwart - Marie Marti

"Bear ye one another's burdens . . ." Love and compassion communicates an immense value to our smallest actions. One of the great needs of our time is to have good feelings translated into active good will. Last fall, a youth in our high school received an injury in a freak accident in a physical education class. He has undergone several brain surgeries, and today remains in a coma. Quickly the community established a trust fund—People from many states and even foreign countries heard and responded with letters of encouragement and donations. Here the feeling of compassion was translated into participating concern.

Joy filled the hearts and home of Sis. Carol and Bro. Fred Marti on March 24 when Jo Ann, their first child, was born. Sis. Bonnie and Bro. Leonard Braker, and Sis. Corine and Bro. Dale Marti are the new baby's grandparents.

At our Friday night services, we were privileged to have Bro. Ed Lanz from Oakville with us. We praise the Lord and thank Bro. Lanz for the fine teachings. "Jesus paid it all; all to him we owe" was his closing thought.

### GRIDLEY KS

Julie Strahm - Wilma Young

Have you ever wondered about how people that you meet would know you were a Christian? It seems that nearly any sort of clothing attire is fashionable today—so we wouldn't really physically appear much differently to others . . . So how and in what way can we let others know we are Christians?



They will know we are Christians by our Love! Let's begin by showing and radiating our Christian love, in our communities, to our neighbors, in our own congregations, and in our own homes. So many of us sometimes think, if only I could go to the other side of the world or to that desperate country that harbors so many children and adults in dire need of someone to care about them—"Oh, then! — I could truly show my love." . . . But don't you think God has intended for us and expects us to begin our expressions of Christian love in our own abiding communities.

March 2, our congregation assembled in the home of Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten Strahm for an evening of fellowship and presentation of a wedding gift to our elder, Bro. Sam Anliker and his new bride, Clara (Banwart) Anliker. We wish them many blessings together . . . Our friends, Charlie and Esther Knapp were blessed to be able to celebrate together their 50th wedding anniversary on March 2. We wish them many rich blessings from God.

A little daughter, Ray Lynn, was born March 1 to Steve and Kerry Beyer. A daughter, Angela Jo, awaited her sister's homecoming. Ray Lynn's grandparents are Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten Strahm and Bro. Floyd and Sis. Mary Isch . . . also two great-grandmothers, Sis. Dora Young of Wichita and Sis. Esther Knapp of Forrest.

#### ROANOKE IL

Edith Sauder - Mae Kae Hodel

With the love of God inspired  
There is joy for us on earth.  
May the Spirit we've acquired  
Grant us blessing, peace and mirth.

Sis. Janice Sauder (Bro. John and Sis. Esther) and Bro. Jim Mueller (Mr. and Mrs. William Mueller) were united in marriage by Bro. Eugene Bertchi, March 2. May God's presence be with them and in their home.

We were privileged to have Bro. Uriel Gehring (Burlington IA) and Bro. Dale Moore (Elgin IA) with us March 9. Bro. Ed Aeschleman (Union City) spent Weds. evening, March 12 with us. He spoke of the blessings of home, especially at the end of the day when tired and weary. Even so at the end of life's

journey, what a blessing it will be to have a home eternal! Bro. Leroy Huber ministered to us and reminded how lost we'd be without God's love. He helped serve Holy Communion. It's always an uplifting experience to observe the Lord's Supper.

Bro. Charles Hodel (Carl and Betty) and Sis. Rita Eiseman (Bro. Ray and Sis. Emily) were announced to be married.

Candice Lynn Sauder was born to our dear friends, Les and Pam Sauder. Michelle is happy to have a little sister to love.

Sis. Carrie Hodel is glad to be home from the hospital. Little Dawn and Todd Harris were in the hospital, but are home again.

Connie Fehr and Mark Rocke were united in marriage March 22. The Easter program was in Eureka this year. Roanoke Bible class sang two numbers. Roanoke and Eureka alternate having the Easter service.

Easter, a group of mothers served breakfast to the Bible class and college students.

We had many helping hands at our annual church cleaning and at the A. C. Home. The Lord willing, the home will open about May 1.

"We wish to extend our sincere thanks to our friends, neighbors and relatives for the thoughtful expressions of kindness shown during my stay in the hospital and since returning home." Bro. Fred Herbst and Sis. Norene.

#### WOLCOTT IN

Marjean Lehman - Arles Kropf

We are now enjoying assembling in our newly-remodeled church. We owe thanks, first to the Lord, and to the many brothers, sisters, and friends who gave of their time and talents, that this might become a reality. We also thank those of the various congregations who opened their doors to us that we could assemble, while our building was under construction. A welcome is extended to all to come and visit, and enjoy our church home with us.

Announcement was made on March 2, of the engagement of Sis. Janna Lou Schieler, daughter of Sis. Marilyn and the late Bro. Bob, to Bro. Raymond Baer, son of Bro. Herman and Sis. Mary of Princeville. We wish them the Lord's blessings..

Hospital patients were Sisters

Josephine Farney and Marilyn Schieler for surgery and Virginia Oberlander for tests. We are thankful to see Marilyn and Virginia back in the assembly, and to know that Josephine is at home and improving.

Our Easter program was presented Easter afternoon. It is always inspiring to hear the little children reverence the Lord in song and recitation.

#### BAY CITY MI Carolyn Schamback

Spring, according to the calendar, has been here for a week, even though the weather has given us cold rain, ice and snow. Yet a half dozen little crocuses in our front yard are up, and miraculously growing a little every day. Could my faith be half so strong in the face of such adversity!

Several visiting ministers brought us the precious word — (Bros.) Floyd Wieland (Detroit), Harold Gramm (Morris) and Edwin Ringger (Gridley IL). Bro. Harold and Bro. Edwin were reminded of being here years ago as young friends — and now, as times pass and change, they are here again, at the same time, both preaching God's holy word. We thank the Lord for our own and our many visiting ministers, who so willingly give themselves in His service.

With the sick: Sis. Nina Wieland (Bro. Erwin) and Sis. Maxine Virkler (Bro. Andy) for surgery, and Bro. Ralph Ramsever, who is still in intensive care after a coronary.

Neil Mosher and Ginger Arnold were married on Feb. 8. They are: the son of Winsor and Sis. Loretta Mosher and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Friend. Neil's grandmother is Sis. Ella Wackerle. We pray the Lord will bless their home and life together.

"I want to thank everyone who remembered me with prayers, cards and flowers during my surgery and recovery." Sis. Marilyn Schamback . . . "Thank you and God bless all who remembered me with prayers and cards." Sis. Ella Wackerle.

#### IOWA CITY IA Twila Whipple - April Wiegand

"Why seek ye the living among



the dead? He is not here, but is risen. . ."

Truly then, we can sing with the hymnwriter:

Jesus, my Redeemer, lives! . . .

Then rejoice, His children dear  
In His guidance and protection.  
Death may come, but do not fear;  
There shall be a resurrection,  
When the final trump shall call  
From the graves awaking all!

Our visiting minister was Bro. Harvey Heiniger from Oakville. It is truly a blessing to meet and fellowship with those who travel far to worship with us.

As we awaken unto a new day, let us remember the words of Paul, "Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you."

**OAKVILLE IA**  
**Martha Wiegand**

Bro. Wayne and Sis. Joleen Gerst are the happy parents of their second daughter, Heather Renee, born March 1. Grandparents are Bro. Chris and Sis. Nettie (Hodel) Gerst and Paul and Ruth Luttenegger.

Sis. Mary Elizabeth (Miller) Moser was relieved of her suffering and called home Feb. 28. The wife of Bro. Roger, she was born Sept. 22, 1925, the daughter of Bro. Andrew and Sis. Hattie Kinsinger Miller in Pulaski. She married Bro. Roger on March 28, 1947, in Pulaski. Surviving are her husband; a son, Bro. Andy of Kouts IN; one daughter, Sis. Pam; a son, Larry at home; two brothers, Gene and Andy Miller of Ottumwa; and two sisters, Sis. Lois (the late Bro. Danny) Endress of Bradford and Alice Haney of Des Moines. We sympathize with the family in their great loss, but rejoice that Sis. Mary is now resting in peace. Bros. Alpai Moser (Morris) and Albert Wuthrich (Pulaski) brought us the word on March 2.

Bro. Gary Endress (Sis. Lois Miller and the late Bro. Danny) and Sis. Evelyn Schrock (Bro. John and Sis. Ruth Marti Schrock) were united in marriage on March 9 by Elder Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville). Also with us for the occasion were Ministering Bros. Walt Herrmann (Princeville) and Jim Ring-

ger (Bradford).

We welcome Bro. Kent and Sis. Denise Grimm (Bro. Mark and Sis. Margaret), Sis. Lynn Banwart (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Ada), and Sis. Della Martin (Bro. Glen and Sis. Josephine) to our fellowship. Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer of Elgin Iowa was here to assist our Elder Bro. Noah Schrock in the proving and baptism of these four souls.

We were happy to have Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) with us for Good Friday services.

**UNION CITY & PHILADELPHIA**  
**Carolyn Roberts**

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." There is also much joy in our small flock in the east, as our friend, Tom Hitz has turned from a world of sin and has made his choice to follow the Lord. Tom is a first year student at Michigan State University and is the son of Bro. Len and Sis. Audrey Hitz.

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." Our get-well wishes are extended to Sis. Minnie Cook, who has been unable to worship with us for several weeks due to a fall down a stairs. . . Sis. Elsa Welti, who is living with her daughter in Baltimore, Maryland, is recovering from successful hip surgery. She is due for surgery on the other hip in the future. Arthritis has made this necessary.

Four services were held the month of March in the Philadelphia church, with services being planned for every Sunday in April.

**Blessings of Fellowship**

A time for friends to share the blessings of the Lord;  
A time for brethren and loved ones to sing hymns in one accord.

A time for families, be they young or old,  
To meet and greet and share our cares are blessings untold.

**Blessings of Fellowship** were shared the past weeks with college students home to loved ones, and brethren and friends worshipping with us from the Bluffton and Rittman congregations.

The amount for the Silver Lining, \$2.00 a year, regular addresses.

**BURLINGTON IA**

**Edna Pohl - Elaine Eisenmann**

Our sincere congratulations to our newest couple, Dale and Barb (Dettwyler) Knapp, married Feb. 15 in Silvertown. Barb has been employed in Bloomington, and Dale here in Burlington. They are now at home at 604 1/2 Summer Street. We welcome Barb to Burlington.

Our friend, Loretta Morris is able to assemble with us again, since her recent fall. We are glad to have her and her family worship with us.

Good Friday services were held the evening of March 28, in remembrance of the suffering of our Lord and Saviour. The church was filled, and we were happy to see so many of our friends here also. The Lord willing, we will be served Communion after our Easter services this Sunday.

**LEO IN**

**Mrs. Elias Souder**

It was nice to have Bro. Lavoyd Moore of the Athens congregation minister to us. We are thankful to God and to the one who first asked him to go to church.

The ministers who gave messages to the church certainly gave food for thought. Some brought back memories of long ago, where we would hear our folks say in the German language: "Tousand und nicht mehr tousand" . . . In English it means, A thousand years, but not another thousand years. We may consider this that we may only have so few years to go until Christ's return . . . Reference was made of the broken-hearted Jesus looking at Jerusalem and saying, how He would have liked to gather the people under His wings as a mother hen does her chicks, and how she covers them with her feathers. We know the merciful Christ looks at poor humanity like that today.

Bro. Gene Lehman ministered to us on March 9. Sat. evening, March 15, our friends Susan and Elizabeth Stieglitz gave their testimony, and then were baptized on Sunday. Bro. Joe Ramsier from Rittman assisted Bro. David Bertsch. Among the many visitors that Sunday was Bro. Sam Dotterer of the Junction congregation.

Palm Sunday evening at the church, the Sunday School children gave their Easter Program. Easter Sunrise Services were Sunday



morning at 6:30 at the Fellowship Center, followed by an Easter breakfast.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Maurice and Sis. Lucille Frank in the loss of his mother.

Bro. Jos. Conrad is getting along fairly well . . . Sis. Minnie Bertsch is still a resident at the Indian Village Health Center . . . Sis. Elizabeth Pulfer has not been able to attend church services.

We sometimes consider as commonplaces. God uses these to perform His mighty wonders. Like the holy scripture says, He uses His daughters. He told the good news through them, **He is risen!** In our life, like the scriptures, His daughters also prophesy in their place.

It was a view quite different. The year was 1853 for Herr Jacob Von Conrad. In His mysterious way, God brings His own, or those that will be His own, to the scene of His dramatic fulfillment. Jacob forded the St. Joe at Hamilton, now Leo. The two oxen pulled his covered wagon. He arrived at what would be home for this earthly pilgrimage.

His boys were Joseph Sr., John, Eli and Jacob. One of his girls had married Henry Dotterer Sr. in Ohio—another had married a Zetner—while still another was Kathy Rauhaus, wife of the good homeopathic doctor.

That beautiful rounded ridge across and west a little from where our church now stands, there the log cabin was built. The land sloped away to the winding St. Joe. There would be lamplight at night. A pair of wooden shoes provided a sturdy covering for getting around the land.

Hospitality was good in those early days . . . if Jacob didn't have enough places, straw would be put down. Guests were taken care of welcomingly.

Bro. Geistlich, on his journey in 1866 referred to Jacob or one of them.: ". . . Tuesday, Aug. 16 . . . Bro. Conrad & myself drove to Ft. Wayne" . . . on Friday Aug. 17, it doesn't say where he stayed but . . . "At Leo . . . The past night I slept very good. I had a good bed by the dear brethren. This is a good place to live. The hospitality of these brethren reminded me of Abraham, how he said to Sarah, to go and make ready three measures of fine

meal, knead and bake, and dress a tender calf . . . I really had blessed hours with the brethren here."

Mother Elizabeth would be busy with the preparing of food and other duties for the family. Her godly walk and example had a beautiful influence. After she passed on, her son John continued in his worldly way. Out in the field, he heard his mother call his name "John" three times. Then he sought the Lord in repentance and found.

Sometimes God's will is done through trying circumstances. Then His name is glorified through godly patience, take-it-on-the-cheek living. Up the Maysville Road (now Grabill Rd.) east, then north, then east a little more was the Rauhaus residence in the country. There would be the row of pear trees. Milk cans would fill out part of the picturesque place.

Suddenly it happened. Three men in masks, and six bullets spiked their mark in the good doctor, Bro. Rauhaus. They fled. At John's, they heard them go by. A voice told His child, Bro. Rauhaus, he would not die from this . . . and he didn't. He carried the bullets to his grave. His son, Bro. Otto lives at the Sabetha Rest Home. One Sunday in recent years, his hymnbook was open to "Our Pilgrim Way". His heart, with treasures above, continues in the good way.

On the west side or porch of that comely brick house of John's was the spirea . . . Here or near a sister found golden opportunity. Grandson Albert was a lost sheep. Grandpa John had passed on before. Now grandma lay inside, with silent lips. **What are you going to do if you are laying there like your grandma? Are you ready to meet your God?** It hit him just right.

It was the real thing. At Anna Whitaker's Candy Store, Summit and Jackson, Toledo it was noticed. The man working with him hadn't heard him swear all morning. Now Bro. Al Frautschi continues on the pleasant way that ends in glorious sunset.

Anna Whitaker had a dream. She saw Al's 20-year-old sister in white. Lydia Souder saw a faded flower in a bouquet. Unexpected, young Marjorie Frautschi, a saint and a sister, died on her 20th birthday. To pray about our dreams and ask God's will be done is the right thing to do.

Young Ed Frautschi bought a New Testament with Psalms—good reading on a commuter train in the Chicago area. Now he and his family live in Agoura, California (Los Angeles area). They still love this Good Book.

Opportunities . . . some would heed, some maybe not. A man came to John. He said he knew something awful. John said, **Why don't you tell it . . .** but he didn't. Once a member, he had left, and became mentally deranged. A mother would hide the child or children in the pantry when he came. What kind of dark secret haunted him? Life is so very important.

Joe and Leah Conrad celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary last December . . . Her days ebbed out . . . He was wheeled to the bedside. He kissed her. "Goodbye, mother; I'll meet you in heaven."

Life has a way of closing. Passing moments are only visible a little, but so much good and kindness there is to do, in what we call the commonplace. So many a poor soul needs that kind touch, that smile.

Give while you can. In beautiful poetry in German, Jacob Conrad seems to remind how to pray and ask for grace and blessings . . . **He ends by asking that the Lord might finally take his soul to Him.**

Do we grasp that the inevitable hour must close . . . The passing must be past? How well to have riches then, from what is not commonplace, but glorious chance!

#### BRADFORD IL Rebecca Endress

An early spring ice storm and high winds came over our community, breaking many utility poles and cutting off electric power for over two days in some areas. Good Friday was dreary and cold, with no electricity for light or heat, but Easter dawned bright and sunny. One of our ministers reminded us that the whole earth was dark on that first Good Friday, when Jesus was crucified and all looked dark and hopeless for his disciples . . . But Sunday morning dawned a new and beautiful day; Jesus had risen and brought hope of resurrection and eternal life for all His followers.

We all enjoyed the visits of Ministering Bros. Charles Sauder and Simon Wagenbach, as well as a number of Tremont brethren who



came with them.

Mike Dietz (son of Sis. Hilda and the late Bro. Herman) and Kim Savage of Bradford were married March 8. They are living in Bradford; he farms with his brothers, Dick and Bro. Kenny . . . On March 9, Bro. Gary Endress was united in marriage with Sis. Evelyn Schrock of Oakville. They are living at rural Galva, where Bro. Gary farms. We warmly welcome both new brides and wish both couples a happy life together.

Best wishes to Sis. Connie Ehle (Bro. Ben and Sis. Audrey) and Bro. Don Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn) of Junction, whose engagement was announced. Sis. Connie is one of our Sunday School teachers and we will miss her, but we know all that God does is good.

Bro. Louie Kumbold has made good recovery since his hospitalization. He wishes to express sincere thanks and appreciation for prayers, cards, letters, phone calls, flowers, fruit baskets, visits, and other deeds of kindness shown him while a patient at Methodist Hospital and since he is home.

#### BREMEN IN Marian Germann

We may not know; we cannot tell what pains He had to bear, But we believe it was for us He hung and suffered there. As we have celebrated the Easter season, let us remember what Christ did for us at the cross all the year long.

On March 16, many of our congregation were able to travel to Peoria and witness the marriage of Bro. Steve and Sis. Jane (Hemmer) Suttor. We enjoyed the fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Peoria and had a very blessed time.

The Easter season started with Good Friday services, and we again realized the pain and agony our dear Saviour went through for us, so we could live with Him eternally. His love, compassion and concern for us was a very great price to pay. Easter was a very blessed day, for all of us see the love that God had for us, to give His only Son, Christ, to bear all the sins of the world. We then enjoyed a blessed Easter program presented by the children and the young people of our Sunday School.

May God's love abide in us and be spread to those around us.

#### FT LAUDERDALE FL

Kathy Sutter - Henry Schwartz

Many visitors enjoyed our pleasant spring weather this past month. Among them were Bros. Dale Eisenman and Eli Somerhald-er. Their messages were an inspiration to us, and we're thankful they felt moved to share the gospel to us.

The approaching marriages of two of our young people were made known. John Klopstein, son of Bro. Bud and Sis. Billie, and Patty, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. James Underwood announced their engagement . . . Sis. Peg Troxel, daughter of Bro. Ken and Sis. Joyce, is engaged to Vic Reinhard, son of Bro. Alphie and Sis. Lucille of Bluffton. We wish these two couples the blessing of a happy married life.

Soon our permanent winter residents will be returning to their homes up north. We are so grateful for their help during our busy winter season. From caring for the church lawn to serving dinner, they are always willing to lend a hand, and we want to say thank you to them.

We will feel the loss of two families moving from our congregation. Bro. Bill Martin returned with his family to the Morton area. Bro. Richard Martin has found employment on the west coast of Florida and will be moving to Sarasota.

#### GARDEN GROVE IA Verle Funk

Our little congregation at Garden Grove is rejoicing to have David Peasley as our new brother in Christ. To the members assembled in our home Sunday morning March 16, David testified he has, thru true repentance found peace with God and man, and by the grace of God become a new person in Jesus Christ.

We thank Elder Bro. Noah Schrock, who gave his time and effort to lead in this important work, also Bros. Albert Wuthrich and Cleo Rinkenberger — and all the brothers, sisters and friends from the Pulaski and Oakville congregations, who came to worship with us and witness David's baptism. Your Christ honoring love and fellowship is like the warmth of Springtime Sunshine.

The amount for the Silver Lining, \$2.00 a year, regular addresses.

#### BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL IL Jeanie Haerr - Ann Kellenberger

Many friends and relatives gathered with us on March 9 to witness the wedding vows of Sis. Dana Nussbaum and Bro. Eddie Meister from Peoria. Our prayers and best wishes go with Sis. Dana to her new home in Peoria.

We were given inspiration, with many songs and poems from the Sunday School children on the evening of March 23 as they presented their Easter program. We have always been blessed with a large number of children in the primary grades in our church. However, our Bible class group has been so small that occasionally we have only 1 or 2 students, and they have filled in with teachers or college students to participate in the programs. Bro. Don Hish, our Sunday School song leader, provided us with a real surprise and blessing by working very hard with the 5th-12th grades, and by combining the groups they presented us some most enjoyable Easter hymns without extra helpers. It's also very nice to have so many grandparents join us for the programs. We love having you visit us, and hope you always feel welcome.

"And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun." Thinking on this verse as recorded in the four gospels, our Sunday School and many parents and friends gathered together for hymns, worship and breakfast Easter morning. I must confess that I questioned the value of a worship service so early in the morning, wondering if it was worth the effort of getting the 6 of us ready at 6 a.m. I was very tired after church Sunday afternoon too, but as I look back at our Easter week-end, there are some things that stand out over previous Easters. Our children, ages 14, 10, 7, and 2 never had time for Easter baskets or Easter clothes on Easter morning. They do know now that on the first day of the week very early in the morning, Mary Magdalene etc. went to the tomb and Jesus had arose! True, the children napped some during the service and enjoyed time to play with their special church friends after breakfast, but now I think those extra hours of fellowship so much more blessed than the attention to East-



er baskets and bunnies, that were always a part of a regular Easter morning before, and well worth the loss of a few hours sleep.

The 4th Annual Ft. Sam Reunion for the families of servicemen with ETS after Jan. 1 1970 will be held in Bloomington-Normal on July 26-27. A cordial invitation to attend this year's reunion is extended to all. Hosts are: families of Walt Steffen, Ralph Endress, Dan Roth, Charles Knapp, Dave Kaeb, Gary Ifft, and Ron Heiniger.

#### CHAMPAIGN-URBANA IL

Howie and Dianne Leman

Our congregation has been blessed with several new babes — first-born children and reborn adults.

New babes in Christ are Bro. Greg Getz, son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Ann Getz of Morton . . . and Bro. Ben Hoerr, son of Bro. Jim and Sis. Virginia Hoerr of Peoria. Greg gave his testimony and was baptized March 16, while Ben was taken up on Easter, March 30. We praise the Lord for His great work!

Bro. Larry and Sis. Nada Leman were blessed with their first child on March 21. They've named their daughter Tanya Kay. Because she was premature, Tanya spent a week in the hospital. She is home now and doing fine. Grandparents are Bro. Chris and Sis. Viola Leman of Fairbury and Bro. Alvin and Sis. Loretta Baumgartner of Cissna Park . . . Our Ministering Bro. Virg Metzger and his wife, Sis. Mary became parents of their first child, a son, on March 26. They've named him Darren Lee. Grandparents are Bro. Oscar and Sis. Kathryn Schneider of Forrest and Bro. and Sis. Metzger of Lester.

Our church basement has been freshly painted, and now is ready for the new carpeting. Many have contributed time and effort to this project. We are also making plans for some yardwork this spring.

#### KIOWA KS

Janice Frieden

As we gather each month for church or for our monthly singing, the fellowship of being with those of like faith, to worship or sing hymns to our Creator, makes me realize why the Scripture says: **Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together.** The temptations of Satan can so depress us and bring us low, but when we assemble

to worship or sing, the love of God uplifts our hearts and casts aside our temptations.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Sis. Lydia Farney, who has been unable to worship with us the last few weeks due to a leg ailment. Although Sis. Lydia is not in the hospital, she has suffered a lot of pain. We hope she will be in our midst again very soon.

On Easter, it was our turn to hold services at the Rest Home, and a goodly number of us were there. The patients really look forward to the services each Sunday and some enjoy singing along. The pleasure they receive is a blessing in itself.

Christ died — He rose — He lives — He is coming again. As we followed the steps of Jesus through Good Friday services, Easter Services, and the program put on by the Sunday School children, we felt again: the sadness of His cruel bloodshed and death upon the cross; the joy of His victory over death at the resurrection; the wonder of Him at the right hand of God to intercede for us; and the eagerness of looking and waiting for His coming . . . And when we relive the steps of God's perfect plan of salvation like this, how can we not fall upon our knees in humble love and thanksgiving to Him, in bestowing His grace upon us, even though we are so unworthy. It would be our fervent prayer that many more hearts and souls could be touched before the day of grace is closed.

#### ROCKVILLE CT

Carlton Lanz

BEAUTIFUL EASTER, the time and season when the Christian world rejoices and commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Saviour. What a glorious event! As this is being written, we will c o m m e m o r a t e this great and marvel-miracle at our church. It is my belief, that our readers will agree, as I do, that this miracle of all miracles is the most important. The Scriptures tell us when this took place, the way to salvation was opened to all who believe. The Saviour had finished His wonderful work and would soon return by way of His ascension to His abode in Heaven, where He now is interceding for His creation. Many beautiful hymns, poems and other literature we find written about Him

and His compassion with the humble and with those who believed.

Pleasure — key word of the day. People all around us have a deep desire to get something out of life. Many have been convinced that there is only one way to acquire happiness, and that is by pleasure and material gains. . . But when the world is seeking pleasure, the Christian declares confidently that he already has it — in Jesus Christ. In fact, He not only supplies our needs, but also satisfies the longing of our hearts. Without Him, life would certainly be worthless and frightening. Even in this life, there is no real worth if we acquire worldly riches, fame, and even authority, but desperately lack salvation in Jesus Christ. Nothing in all this world could convince the Christian to exchange his salvation for gains down here. A Christian's wealth cannot be told nor can it be measured.

Funeral services were held at the church for Sis. Dorothy Schneider. She died quietly at the hospital, after several months of illness. She was 43. Bro. Bud Klopfenstein of Ft. Lauderdale in his message remembered her sincerity and determination to serve God, especially in her single status. Many were her friends, and often she would entertain them at her home while yet in good health. She leaves four brothers: Walter, Fred, Ernest and Bro. Albert Schneider; 5 sisters, Mrs. Batz, Mrs. Hilda Kavan and Sis's. Martha Mangold, Millie Gerber and Frieda Lanz. Burial was in the Ellington Center Cemetery.

Death came to Bro. Ernest Lanz, 87, at the Rockville Nursing Home, where he had been a patient for several weeks. He could yet in the late hours of his life find his salvation and be at peace with his Maker. He leaves besides his wife, Sis. Lizzie: one daughter, Sis. Evelyn (Rudolph) Luginbuhl: one son Robert Lanz; and two brothers, Bros. Paul Lanz and Charles Lanz. Burial was in the Ellington Center Cemetery.

Bro. Robert Meyer of the Bluffton congregation delighted us at Rockville with a surprise visit on Wednesday evening. He had been on a business errand. We could hear many good guidelines to follow, and some interesting experiences he had made, which by all means are edifying to the believer.



We would be pleased for a return visit by Bro. Bob. Bro. John Diggelman of Union City brought us a very inspiring message at our afternoon service on Easter.

Our elder, Bro. John Bahler will be absent from our pulpit for some two weeks or more. He is on a church mission to Romania, for the purpose of hoping to find a way to open an avenue, that those Christians there might have their church restrictions eased somewhat and a place to worship more freely. Bro. Rudolph Graf, elder at the Akron church, is accompanying him.

Born to Sis. Norma and Bro. Dar-yl Luginbuhl, a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, March 9; grandparents, Sis. Elsie (Diggelman) Lanz and Sis. Charlotte (Lanz) and Bro. Urban Luginbuhl . . . A daughter, Shannon Marie to Sis. Rebecca and Billy Ellert; grandparents are Sis. Charlotte and Bro. Urban Luginbuhl and Mr. and Mrs. Ellert.

Sis. Mildred and Paul Donzi celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, with a surprise by many friends and relatives at a dinner gathering. They received a great many cards and other remembrances, which Mildred described as most exciting. We wish them both many more pleasant years together.

Bro. Paul Lanz and his wife, Sis. Bertha have been hospitalized for various reasons. Paul had foot surgery, and his wife had a heart condition. Both are now discharged and at their home. Paul is 83, and Bertha 84. They hope to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary in July.

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**MORRIS MN**  
Esther Schaefer  
Corrine Schmidgall

Who is faith's foundation strong?  
What awakes my lips to song?  
Who did bear my sinful load?  
Purchased for me peace with God?  
Jesus Christ, the Crucified.

On account of stormy weather, our Good Friday services have been canceled, as was the Sunday School Easter program, on Wednesday evening.

Bro. Harold Messner and others of the Winthrop congregation spent a Sunday with us. We thank Bro. Harold for the inspiring messages.

Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Edna Zeltwanger hosted a reception at their

home for their son. Loren and his bride, Rhonda (Morton). They were married on March 1.

At our annual business meeting, the duty of trustee was entrusted to Bro. Doug (Koehl). Bro. Neil Schmidgall is funeral director.

Bro. Dennis and Sis. Ruby Schmidgall are the happy parents of a baby boy, Loren Dennis, born on March 22. He has two sisters, Gail and Joan, to help care for him. Bro. Paul and Sis. Anna Fehr and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Dorothy Schmidgall are the grandparents.

Those who spent time in hospitals but are home again are: Jimmy Nohl (Alvin Jr. and Tip), who submitted to eye surgery. Kate Stettner suffered a broken leg when she fell in her home. Sis. Sophie Nohl and Bro. Wm. Luthi were medical patients, Sis. Jean Schaefer — surgical.

Bro. Ervin Moser is doing well and has been able to assemble with us again . . . "I would like to thank my relatives and friends for cards, gifts, visits and telephone calls . . . for the prayers that were offered while in the hospital and at home." Bro. Ervin Moser.

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**LAMONT KS**  
Jane Isch

The heart is a garden where  
thought flowers grow;  
The thoughts that we think are the  
seeds that we sow.  
Each kind loving thought bears a  
kind loving deed,  
While a thought that is selfish is  
just like a weed.  
We must watch what we think the  
live-long day,  
And pull out the weed thoughts  
and throw them away,  
And plant loving seed-thoughts, so  
thick in a row  
There will be no room for weed  
thoughts to grow.

As each one goes about planting and weeding our garden, may we never forget to care for the garden of our heart, too.

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**LESTER IA**

Alice Metzger - Donna Metzger

A new, meaningful purpose in their lives, unbounded joy and unexpected blessings were brought out as four young couples gave their testimonies of faith before the church. How happy it made us

to welcome them into the fold after baptism the following day! Elder Bros. Sam Anliker and Paul Fehr were here to help in this important work. Taken in were Bob and Cindy Leuthold, Dale and Diane Stickling, Beth and Gary Metzger, and Pam and Tony Bosch, who are now our brothers and sisters-in-faith. Among other visitors here for the week-end was Dale Stickling's grandfather, Elder Bro. Silas Leuthold.

Sis. Joyce Mogler, daughter of Bro. Phil and Sis. Lydia, became the bride of Bro. Beirne Messner of Morris on March 9. We will miss Sis. Joyce in our congregation, but know she will soon feel at home in the Morris church. We appreciated having Bro. Marvin Schmidgall, Eureka, minister to us on this day.

We were richly blest when Bro. Vernon Wettstein, Congerville, ministered to us for a weekday service.

Two tender young souls have found grace to repent. Turning their back on Satan and his snares are June Mogler, daughter of Bro. Phil and Sis. Lydia, and Charlene Knobloch, daughter of Bro. Mart and Sis. Zelma.

Included among the sick are the very old and the very young. Sis. Carrie Metzger, who is 88, has been hospitalized several weeks in failing health. Bro. Emil Metzger has been hospitalized, but is home again and feeling some better. Dana, the small son of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jolene Metzger was in University Hospital at Iowa City and is presently in a Sioux Falls hospital. Little Charlene Bosch, daughter of Sis. Pam and Bro. Tony, was in for minor surgery.

As I write this, we are experiencing a week of very inclement weather. After having most of our winter snow melt, we are again having blizzard conditions, and we long for spring very much, as the sin-sick soul longs for peace and tranquility with his God.

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**MINNEAPOLIS MN**  
Kathryn Olson

"And he took bread, and gave thanks . . . Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in by blood, which is shed for you."

Elder Bro. Paul Fehr, assisted by Bro. Elder Paul Butikofer, read-



ing the memorandum on the evening of March 1 . . . then Sunday after second services, served our congregation holy communion. We are thankful for the elder brothers that come and so freely give of their time and efforts to make these things possible.

**PEORIA IL**  
**Betty Miller**

Peoria's elder is Bro. Roy Sauder, 65, married to Sis. Gertrude (Baurer). Sauder's Custom Draperies in Washington, Illinois, is his business. The following God-given attributes make him the most wonderful elder for us: he genuinely loves us and shows it; his words paint a beautiful picture, uplift a downcast heart, or teach us what we need to know; he is impeccable, articulate, neat, thorough, kind, honest, diplomatic, refined, and intelligent; he has love. What more could we ask?

We had communion March 23, in remembrance of Christ Jesus our Lord. It was a sacred and spiritually-strengthening experience.

Bro. George Knapp wishes to thank all who remembered him with cards on his 96th birthday. It was Feb. 5.

Bro. Alfred Hoerr and Sis. Mary Streitmatter were in the hospital. Sis. Lori Kinney and young son, Chris are hospitalized following a bad accident.

Peoria readers, please help me with the names of the sick by letting me know when someone is very sick. My phone number is 692-2777.

Bro. Steve Suttor and Sis. Jane Hemmer were united in holy matrimony Sunday, March 16, by Jane's father, Bro. Charles Hemmer. Maid-of-honor was Jane's identical-twin sister, Jean. Best man was Steve's cousin, Randy Suttor. Following a honeymoon in Tennessee, the couple has settled into their apartment at 1826 Dechman.

We are saddened by the deaths of Ida Weyeneth, James Vierling, Sis. Lil Voelpel, and Bro. Jack Sutter. We extend our sympathy to Sis. Louise Schmied, Sis. Bertha Frank, Barbara Herman, Sis. Esther Sutter and other survivors. Jack, whose real name was Ezra, moved to Tucson twelve years ago for his health, but Peoria is his hometown, and it is here that his

funeral is today (March 28).

I love to report the arrival of new babies! On March 10, Bro. Tom and Sis. Nancy Sinn had a boy, Tedrick Lloyd. Their other children are Tommy and Tina, almost 3 and one and one-half. Bro. Dale and Sis. Cindy Endress have their third boy, Collin, born March 25. Their older boys are Brandon and Ryan.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Harold Zeltwanger and Verdon Feldman.

The Sunday School classes presented their Easter program Palm Sunday evening. "Midweek" services are to be this evening, Good Friday. Tomorrow night, March 29, are the provings of Ben Hoerr, son of Bro. Jim and Sis. Virginia, and Randy Feucht, son of Bro. Walter and Sis. Iola, to be followed by baptisms on Sunday, if it be God's will.

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

Bro. Dale Moore, Elgin, Ia., and Bro. Noah Gerber, West Bend, were our visiting ministers. We wish to thank them and do invite them to return.

We gladly welcome Sis. Linda (Wenger) Bailey into the fold. May the Lord grant her grace so she can be a beacon light for her family.

Sis. Irene Aberle and Sis. Evelyn Wysong have returned home, after having had surgery.

Bro. Rodney and Sis. Arlene Grimm are the parents of a son, born March 25. He has been named Wayne Alan. He has one sister, Wanda to welcome him home.

Again we will begin our Sunday hymn sings, twice a month alternating with Bern. Song service begins at 7:00 P.M.; everyone is welcome. Midweek services will be discontinued for the rest of the year.

**SARASOTA FL**  
**Linda Miller**

Anew, Lord, we are bound to Thee  
Through Thy blest sacrament,  
which we  
Partook, that joined in heart and  
hand;  
To Zion's realm and holy land  
We journey on.

Rising and greeting the person  
to each side of you is how we joined

together, after sharing the sacrament of Holy Communion. After Elder Bro. Roy Sauder laid it on our hearts, Communion came about some weeks later. Our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach, with the assistance of Bro. Phil Wingeier, broke bread with us, and shared wine with us. To meet the Lord anew in this Holy season is a precious love that many will never know.

It really humbles one to know the love that flows through the hearts of the children of God. Elder Bro. John Bahler radiated his love in a special effort to assemble with us. He was only in our area for a day, and on that evening, he shared the precious word with us. Other brothers visiting with us and lending themselves were Noah Gerber, West Bend, and Roy Weiland, Bay City. May the Lord bless them for their efforts.

Visitors have filled our benches beyond capacity. There have been Sundays of chairs down the aisles. How beautiful the sound of a filled room, singing praises to His name and honor. Our beliefs never change. Through hundreds of years, the word of the Lord has been carried, yet how wonderful it is that people still flock in large numbers to hear, see, and feel the love that never diminishes.

**SILVERTON OR**  
**Joan Dietrich**

The home of Bro. Art and Sis. Betty Metz has been blessed with another girl, born March 23. She has been named Mary Ellen, and has two sisters, Lisa and Amy, and two brothers, Joel and Eldon, to welcome her home. We wish them many blessings with their little bundle.

So fresh from heaven, so sweet, so  
new—  
God must be smiling down on you,  
So innocent, so fair, so mild . . .  
O would the world were like a  
child!

**SARDIS OH**  
**Karen Indermuhle**

God has ushered in the spring with bright sunshine and new beginnings.

Bros. Alvin Steiner and Ralph Weber (Rittman) were here in March to show us the plans of the rest home, soon to be started in Rittman. We are thankful for this



step-in-faith that will bring many older people a place to live full lives in their later years, and where special love and care can be given to those who can no longer care for themselves.

All older people need to feel they can still lead useful and meaningful lives. God can use this home to fulfill those needs.

We would do well to think and do for those in high years, for they can teach us much in patience, love, and a godly walk-of-life. An older hand can reassure, uplift and give encouragement to those of us in the spring of our life.

### TUCSON AZ

Gloria Bauer - Rita Bertchi

The first Sunday of March, we were happy to have Bro. Raymond Roth of Kiowa spend the day with us. It was also our annual Pancake Supper. The men of our church take complete charge of preparing the meal, and our young boys serve. The men and boys enjoy working together, and it is a special treat for the women and winter guests.

The Tucson church was pleasantly surprised to have Bro. Al Schietlin, Elgin, Illinois, and Elder Bro. Roy Farney of Phoenix spend a Sunday with us. A special thank to all our ministers for their labors of love in sharing with us the teachings of God's living word.

Our church said "Farewell" to our Bro. Ezra (Jack) Sutter, age 67, as he passed away March 23. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Esther; one son, Roger, of Grand Rapids, MI; a step-daughter, Mrs. Sandra (Dr. James) Staub of Valparaiso, In; brothers: Harry, Art, and Clarence; Sisters: Mrs. Lorraine Herman, Mrs. Kate Schmidt, Mrs. Lydia Behrends. We extend sincere sympathy to his family. Bro. Jack was the first convert of the Tucson Church, and he will be missed in our fellowship. Visitation and services were held in Tucson, with Bros. Roy Farney and Richard Schupbach of Phoenix officiating.

The WILL of God will never lead you, where the GRACE of God cannot keep you!

The amount for the Silver Lining, \$2.00 a year, regular addresses.

### WINTHROP MN

Carol Messner - Marcelle Dapper

People the world over strive each day for earthly possessions. Have we ever stopped to realize how much more every believer in Christ has a wealth of heavenly possessions in Jesus Christ in this life? These are ours for the taking. We can fully enjoy the Christian life only as we experience daily the tremendous power of the indwelling Christ in our lives. A person may have a substantial bank account set up in his name, but unless he writes checks against it, and in that way claims it, it does him no good. The Lord has given us a spiritual checkbook, giving us full access to an account overflowing with His bountiful treasure. This checkbook covers all the riches that are ours in Christ Jesus. We are to receive these from Him, claiming and possessing by faith all the divine riches provided for us.

The time is drawing near when we think of our mothers. Praise the Lord for Christian mothers. The mother who loves her work in the home and joyfully trains up her children in the fear of the Lord is to be greatly honored. Hers is a position of trust that cannot be over-estimated. A woman with a strong and abiding faith in God exerts a beautiful influence on the lives she touches, we read in Psalms.

By God's grace and the Spirit of the Lord moving in Stan and Jan-eeen Messners' heart, they have answered the Lord's call of repentance. Stan is the son of Bro. and Sis. Ray Messner. May the Lord guide their hearts as they strive to walk by faith.

### CHICAGO IL

Kathy Schlatter

The month of March brought many visitors. We enjoyed them and they shared our appreciation of visiting ministers: Sun. March 2, (Bros.) Joe Zimmerman from Morton; March 9, Ed Aeschliman, Union City; and March 16 Don Sauder and Jim Leman, Roanoke, and Everett Hari, Normal. Friends Diane Seiver and Tom O'Shea were proved Sat. March 15 by Bro. Don Sauder and our Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann. Baptisms took place the following day. We welcome Sis. Diane and Bro. Tom (since he is an I S U student, we share him with

Normal church) as fellow travelers on the road to heaven, and wish them God's blessings at home, at school, at work, always.

Bro. Jim and Sis. Kathy Schlatter are finally and joyfully parents. Dear Katrina Ruth was born Feb. 27. Her loving grandparents are Bro. Arnold and Sis. Lydia Rassi, Tremont church, and Bro. Dan and Sis. Josephine Schlatter, Forrest.

An analogy has been drawn between a fallen bell and a human being. Men may try to fix the bell, cracked by the fall, by patching up the crack, pretending the crack isn't there, or trying to hide the crack . . . But the only way that the bell will ever regain its original pure tones is if it is melted down, remolded and recast. Likewise a sinful human being, though originally made in God's own image, can only show forth that pure reflection if he, too, is remolded at Calvary.

### LA CROSSE IN

Lorene Moser - Marilyn Zeltwanger

"This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you." We partook of Holy Communion and truly were blessed. Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) assisted Elder Bro. Ed Frank in this service.

Ten-year-old Marlene Meiss (Bro. Roland and Sis. Josephine) was a hospital medical patient. She is at home again and was able to attend Sunday School . . . Bro. Gilbert Nuest is a hospital patient.

A new grandson was welcomed by happy grandparents, Bro. Harvey and Sis. Sylvia Banwart. Dale Robert was born to Bro. Jerry and Sis. Arlene Banwart (Congerville). They have three little daughters.

Who can cheer the heart like Jesus, By His presence all divine? —We surely could feel His presence Sunday evening, March 23, when the Easter story was presented to us with inspiring poems and the beautiful hymns that were sung by the quartet and choirs. We thank the Francesville choir and Bro. Karl Westfall for the closing message and prayer.

This union of our hearts Shall stand through grace in Jesus—Easter, March 30, brought many visitors to witness the impressive marriage vows of Sis. Barbara Frank, daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Leah, and Bro. Bill Stoller



(Lotty), whose parents are Bro. William and Sis. Florence. Elder Bro. Ed Frank performed the ceremony. We will miss Barb's sunshiny ray and her absence from our congregation.

God does not seek out brothers to speak His holy word. In the morning we were privileged to have Bro. Richard Aber'e (Indianapolis) bring us the inspired word of truth.

### SHIODA JAPAN

Willis R. Ehnle

Have you ever heard of Easter caroling? Why not make it a regular practice? On Easter morning, the children in our Sunday School went with their teachers to sing resurrection songs, or Easter carols, to several neighbor homes where there is an interest and an appreciation. Our salvation, and most specifically, the redemption of our bodies, is affirmed by the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. ". . . even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." Especially in the time of illness, the scriptural teaching of the redemption of the body, the promise of a greatly superior spiritual body is comforting, consoling and reassuring. "So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown in corruption; it is raised in incorruption:"

I attended a wedding feast for the son of a neighbor who is in our Kumi, or group of about 10 houses, a social unit in rural Japan within which all residents are supposed to work together in meeting the issues of life. At the wedding feast, we all sat on cushions on straw mats on the floor at a Japanese Inn, while speeches were made explaining about the bride and bridegroom. Then we had a meal of raw fish, oysters, clams, squid, octopus, and other sea foods. It was fresh and excellent quality. As we ate, rice wine or sake was served one to another; I refused to accept any wine, and settled for orange juice. Excusing myself early, I went to visit someone in the hospital, and on the way home I passed the home of one of our former kindergarten children where a crowd had gathered. Grandmother had passed away and they were preparing for a funeral. Births, weddings, and funerals are important events. The way these events are met in society

at large, compared to how they are met by children of God, cause me to exclaim, "It's a poor substitute." They are too shallow and the emphasis is on human beings, instead of on God or Christ. That in all things he (Christ) might have the preeminence.

### VALPARAISO IN

Cam Feller - Marie Heinold

"Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like-minded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." Love and unity was shared with our Elder Bros. Ed Frank (LaCrosse) and Wendell Gudeman (Francesville), at the reading of the memorandum on Thursday, March 6. We can be thankful and praise God for His word which tells us the way to eternal life, and the guidance of our dear elder brothers.

Our small flock has truly been blessed, as Bro. Rod Huber, his wife Sis. Mary, and their four children, Rodney, Brent, Candice, and Travis have decided to make Valparaiso their church. We have really enjoyed their love and warm fellowship among us, and the Francesville congregation gave them their blessing as they changed churches.

God's word was shared with us through the ministry of three visiting ministers: (Bros.) Arnold Gerst (Chicago), Merle Bucher (LaCrosse), and Vernon Leman (Eureka).

### TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki - Marie Inoue

"I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" We had a very blessed Easter. It is very wonderful that the Lord gave us a hope of eternal life through His cross and resurrection. We had an early Easter service here in Tokyo church, and 4 of us went to the little park near our church. It was cold there, so after our service we ate our breakfast at Bro. Akito and Sis. Marie's home. It is important to remember Christ for His resurrection. We really thank our Heavenly Father for His great gift

through His Son, Christ Jesus our Lord. The sisters prepared an Easter lunch that Sunday. We really enjoyed it, especially "Osushi", the rice with many vegetables and chicken meat which Sis. Yoshiko Sakuta prepared.

Sis. Kathie Huber's sister, Sis. Pam visited from Peoria church. Kathie is really excited, and they are visiting at our church, country in Yamanashi-Ken.

A few words in addition to Bro. Yamazaki's news . . . my neighbor lady asked me when we were going to take our baby to the Shinto Shrine. This is often done to "protect" the new baby from demons and also to "bless" him; many of this land do not actually believe this, but it is part of the custom. I replied, that we wouldn't be taking him to the shrine, but hope to take him to church with us every Sunday. It certainly is a privilege and blessing to believe and know that our Redeemer liveth, who once was dead and arose again.

We enjoyed taking our friend, Rich Diggelman to the country church with us about a month ago. He was in Tokyo on business with Kodak. His parents are Ministering Bro. John and Sis. Mary Diggelman of Union City.

On March 21, we had a one-day fellowship meeting in Yamanashi-Ken at a minshuku-home, with meals and lodging facilities in the mountains. Shioda church was hosts, and the theme was **The 12 disciples**. We enjoyed the meditation presented about these men, who left all to follow the Lord.

### MANSFIELD OH

Lucille Groh

Thank you for the valley, I walked thro today;  
The darker the valley the more I learn to pray.  
I found you where the lily's blooming by the way,  
And I thank you for the valley I walked thro today.

Loved ones on our sick list are: Sis. Mary Sauder who submitted to surgery, is now at the Geriatric Center, 50 Blymyer Avenue, Mansfield, Sis. Caroline (Richard) Sauder had surgery on her wrists and arms and is now home with her wonderful family who are happy



to have "mom" home. Our aged sister, Tillie Oesch, suffered a heart attack and was hospitalized for several weeks. She had her Bible on the table beside her at the hospital, and the doctor asked her if she reads in it. She said, "Yes, every day, sometimes more." He asked her what she liked to read, and she said about the Lord and Peter. He asked her why, and she said, "Peter loved the Lord; he was a common man like we, and often was outspoken and got himself into difficulty, but he could always humble himself and the Lord always forgave him". He said he liked Peter, too. Sis. Alice Graszl had been a hospital patient in Phoenix while on vacation, and upon arriving home had to be readmitted for emergency treatment because of severe bleeding. She is now much better and we're happy to see her in church again. Sis. Freda Dinger fell, broke her arm and is in the hospital. Sis. Martha Kleshinski continues to be on the sick list and we miss her, as well as Bro. Martin, who so lovingly cares for her.

Two new little faces will soon be coming to church. A little daughter, Tamara Ann Baltic, was born Feb. 26 to Bro. Pete and Sis. Karen Baltic. A first baby, for Bro. Clair and Sis. Beverly Keever, a son, named Chad Henry arrived on March 13.

Wedding bells rang on March 22 when our friends, Mary Ann Sauder and Daniel Domka were married by Bros. Kenneth Sauder and Rudolph Graf.

We have a very happy sister, Martha Cordrey, because she sold her home and is now living in an apartment at the Apostolic Christian Retirement Center, 455 Logan Rd. Apt. 20, Mansfield.

Sunday, March 23, the Sunday School presented a beautiful, inspiring Easter program. How thankful we are that Jesus was willing to die for us and that we can have eternal life if we fulfill His commandments.

#### FORREST IL

Kathryn Steidinger  
Beverly Eisenmann

Hope looks beyond the showers,  
Seeing all clear and fair;  
Hope sees the garden blooming  
Before the flowers are there.  
Hope listens for the robins,

And hears the song they sing,  
Telling us winter's over  
And once again it's SPRING!  
Hope, like the wings of angels,  
Soars upward — ever higher,  
And Hope that's bright and shining  
Can bring your heart's desire!

Bro. Dan Schlatter and Sis. Josephine Zimmerman were united in marriage the 16th of March. Visiting us that day was Ministering Bro. Merle Kaisner of Fairbury . . . On March 23, Bro. Perry Zimmerman solemnized the wedding of Bro. Jerry Endress and Sis. Luann Nussbaum. Jerry is the son of Sis. Mildred, and Luann is the daughter of Bro. Dean and Sis. Betty. They will be attending church at Princeville. Present to share their joy with them were Bros. Art Baurer and Walt Hermann, Princeville and Elmer Bucher, Francesville.

Other ministers who have brought the word to us were Bros. Leroy Huber and Walter Anliker, Eureka; Vernon Schwab, Wolcott; and Art Bahler, Fairbury.

Jon Ricketts had a short hospital stay, with injuries from a car accident. Several others have been in the hospital: Sis. Kathy Lemman (Bro. Jerry), Cathy Roth (Leonard and Marilyn), Julie Ricketts (Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean), Bro. Frank Honegger and Shawna Adams (Terry and Sis. Sharon).

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Mildred Traub in the sudden death of her husband, Edward, age 60. Although Ed had been seriously ill with a heart attack several months ago, he seemed to be getting along quite well. We enjoyed having him in our midst yet on Sunday, and then on Monday his life was suddenly taken. Funeral services were held March 28, with Bro. Josh Broquard assisting the home ministers. Other survivors are a son James; a brother Ben; and 3 sisters, Mary Stahl of Peoria, Naomi Frank of Dunlap, and Margaret Traub of Silver Lake, Indiana.

The clock of life is wound but once,  
And no man has the power to tell  
Just when the hands will stop,  
At late or early hour.  
Now is the only time you own;  
Live, love, toil with a will.  
Place no faith in tomorrow,  
For the clock may then be still.

"I wish to thank everyone for

the cards, gifts, visits and prayers while at the hospital and since returning home." Rosetta Stoller . . . We are happy that Sis. Rosetta has made a good recovery from surgery and is able to assemble with us again.

#### ELGIN IA

Eleanor Butikofer

Twass grace that taught my heart  
to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed.

Sis. Anna Schupbach wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with cards, letters, gifts, visits and prayers while at the hospital. She is now able to be alone again in her home in Elgin . . . happy to state, the operation performed on her knee was a success, for which we are all thankful. She was able to attend church services last Sunday, and it was very nice to have her in our midst.

Sis. Lena Schupbach has the distinction of being Elgin's oldest citizen. Recently she reached her 96th birthday. Friends and relatives called to give her their best wishes. She is quite qualified to give us early church history. Her father was in the ministry for many years. He and Bro. Wenger were some of our early church ministers. The bread for their noon-day lunch was home-baked, and the butter home-churned. Lena was baptized in the river which flows quite close to where our church was formerly located.

We were blessed last Sunday in having a guest minister, Bro. Robert Walder from the Congerville church. Part of 27th chapter of the gospel of Matthew was read as the text. I don't think we will forget the graphic picture he presented to us of our dear Lord's crucifixion, of the awful pain and anguish He suffered for the sins of us so that we might through grace inherit a place of eternal bliss. Before Bro. Walder finished, he urged us to cooperate well with the shepherd of our flock, relating of how the responsibilities of an elder really are numerous and can be weighty.

Speaking of elders, we do appreciate having a resident one, up until 1968 none residing here. In



the fall of 1968, Bro. Paul Butikofer was ordained. Except for a few years spent farming near Taylor, he has farmed in our area. He also does carpentry as a sideline. He married Sis. Mildred Frederick in 1949. They have one son, Bro. Tim, who is married to Sis. Kathy (formerly Banwart) of West Bend. Bro. Paul is now 52 years old. We appreciate the interest he has in his congregation in its various aspects.

The ladies are to be commended for the nice work they accomplished, doing the annual cleaning of the interior of our church building.

The meeting of the ladies at Sis. Marie Butikofer's home is once every month, instead of once every week as stated in my last report. They meet to work on World Relief projects.

The wedding of Bro. Charles Schneider and Sis. Susan Banwart of West Bend took place on the 23rd of March. They will live here at Elgin in a country home. We welcome Sis. Susan into our midst.

The robins, red-winged black birds and meadowlarks have returned from their winter quarters. Spring is truly a miracle. May God give us eyes to see the beauty and behold His majesty in every living thing. May we see in lacy leaves and budding flowers the Hand that rules the universe with gentleness and power.

#### TAYLOR MO

Marie Butikofer - Eleanor Yackley

Good Friday evening, we heard the Sunday School children tell the beautiful Easter Story. If it were not for that first Easter morning, our lives would have no meaning—no hope of eternal life . . . So may we show Him our love by being obedient to His holy word.

Only a week ago we thought spring was here—temperature up to 70, crocus blooming and hyacinths and tulips budding, robins coming to find earthworms. A week later we experience another cold spell, with low temperature, freezing rain, and snow forecast. In due time, spring will come again.

The plans for the Fellowship Hall are nearly complete. As soon as weather permits, the basement will be dug, and building will begin. May we never forget to thank God for blessing us with means to build

it, and may we always use it to His honor and His glory.

We had many visitors from various places. We had a blessed Lord's Day on Palm Sunday, when Bro. Art Gudeman and others were here. The many timely warnings of prophecies fast being fulfilled were plainly and kindly given. We know many prayers go out for loved ones, that they may answer the call soon.

Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Phyllis Knapp and family have now moved into their own home, after waiting a few weeks to get possession. Bro. Mike and Sis. LuAnn and family are now comfortably settled in their home . . . we welcome them.

We are sorry to hear that Wendy Grimm, daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Dona, has mono. We hope her confinement will not last too long as she is still in high school.

Beyond the sea of Galilee

And ways which Jesus trod,  
And hidden there are those high hills

Where He communed with God;  
Yet on the plains of common life,  
Through all the world of men,  
The voice that once said

Follow Me  
Speaks to our hearts again.

#### GOODFIELD IL

Elna Grimm

I fell in love with spring today!  
It happens every year,  
For when I hear the robin's note,  
His gladness and his cheer . . .

And when I see the azaleas  
In crimson beauty rise;  
The brightly-colored tulips  
reaching  
Toward the sunlit skies . . .

And when I scoop a handful of  
The rich brown earth again,  
And feel the very pulse of it,  
It is right there and then . . .

I fall a helpless victim to  
The season's wealth of cheer;  
I fall in love with spring anew . . .  
It happens every year!

Bro. Ernest Diggelman of our Goodfield congregation has had the opportunity to do some traveling in Europe. As a result of the knowledge he has gained pertaining to the churches and people of our faith, some brethren have requested his assistance in organizing a trip. He has agreed to help those

of our faith who are unfamiliar with the necessary arrangements that should be made in planning a trip, particularly to Switzerland and the Holy Land. Anyone who would be interested in being a part of such a group should write to him: Ernest Diggelman, 1301 W. Chestnut St., Bloomington Il 61701 . . . or call . . . area code 309 828-7677.

Bro. Eli Hohulin wishes to thank everyone for the cards, gifts and prayers during his illness. Everything was very much appreciated.

#### The Glorious Resurrection

Earl Banwart

Now all who believe, repent and become renewed in heart and spirit shall also be partakers of the resurrection of the living. "For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive. But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming." Then His redeemed can die no more, for we will be equal to angels and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection. Blessed are they who rise on that first resurrection.

Coming back to the morning when Jesus had risen from the grave, the disciples were sad because their Lord had been crucified. When they were told the grave was empty, they felt lost and in despair, as sheep without a shepherd. They felt their hope had all vanished. But little did they realize, God had planned this way of salvation and how the Lord should rise the third day, until the time the eleven disciples were together and the Lord came in their midst and said, "Peace be unto you." Then, he opened their understanding that they could understand the scripture, and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations.

After that, he led them out as far as Bethany and blessed them, and then parted from them. They returned to Jerusalem with great joy.

So also is the joy in every heart who experiences a true repentance, and the Lord speaks peace to the heart. Let us thank God, which giveth us victory over death through our Lord Jesus Christ.



Wm. Pfister  
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### Salvation—Lowell Stoller

The dark hours of that first Good Friday when Jesus hung on the cross in pain and in anguish are passed deeply into the heart of a soul that is called to repentance—when only the Lord can cause one, through His word, to fully understand and realize the price that had to be paid to satisfy God, where it is written in Isaiah 53:11, "He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied . . ."

. . . as the Lord lay dead in the grave, so we become dead to sin, having no more desire to live in sin, but rather to be alive unto

righteousness. Again, as the Lord arose on that first Easter Morn, out of the grave unto a glorious resurrection, where even God sent the angels down into the garden, so it is after the dark hours of repentance are over. God gives the peace that passeth all understanding, and a soul is relieved and forgiven by the Almighty God. How wonderful is the plan of salvation!

Then again, we want to remember the words written in Romans 6:5, "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection".

As Christ arose out of the grave,

so shall we also arise out of the grave and stand before God to give account of this life . . .

Thanks be to God, that He did not leave His Son lay in the grave, but lifted Him up, a victor over death, sin and the grave. He is now in the heavens, interceding for you and me, when we fall to our knees in prayer.

. . . let us believe and have faith in God, for we shall all see Him as He is. Today we think, **How shall it be?** . . . but let us be on the safe side and live for God, that we need not fear our parting day, but look forward to a better home with Jesus and the angels.

## THE GLORIOUS PERSON, JESUS CHRIST

Henry Souder Jr.

It is wonderful to consider, The wonder of Jesus, the Son of God. Little ones come into our lives and grow up. They live in our hearts. This living is so entwined they are a part of us. This Jesus draws and unites, and we never want to leave.

This person is real. He said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." Life is what lives. It thrives and knows, feels, is joyful. Anyone who has not felt the surge of the awakening of life just is missing everything. Things of the world are miserable and unimportant. Life brings seeing in the spirit—a whole new world, alive with spiritual color . . . and that is eternal.

"And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." This knowing is a treasure above all treasures. We become acquainted with someone; we know them. The meaning of His "know" is deep and rich. We may be introduced and prize highly meeting such and such. Who is this tho' we are prized to know? Ah, it's heart warmth! It's perfect charity . . . Splendor that

glows. It's knowing the Eternal One . . . feeling His feelings . . . loving His loves . . . treasuring His hopes . . . dying His death . . . living His life.

"Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." His friends! Really? Richer than the richest billionaire! When we feel down and out, weary with sin, wrongs worry and burdens burden . . . then to feel His power drawing in His word.

Confession finds the greatest friend and the greatest friendship ever known. It is a real Jesus that said, "Son, be of good courage; thy sins be forgiven thee." It is a real peace, for it is His own kind of peace, surpassing all understanding.

As we go along, He shows how great His love is. Lesser ones might want us to escape some of the valleys. He knows "tribulation worketh patience; And patience experience; and experience, hope . . ." He has weighed our tests beforehand. "For our light affliction, which is but a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory." He does

not leave us without comfort and joy. One day of trial and distress is worth more than everything in the beggarly old life. His gladness has views. They endure forever. He is actually up there, sitting at the Father's right hand. He really talks of ourself to the Father. What a friend who cares.

See Him? Face to face? Really! ". . . we shall see him as he is." The glory and joy of that moment, what surging, overflowing hope it holds. He took the cutting whip lashes; they healed us. His body endured the intense physical, spiritual and mental agonies for us. What glories we glimpse, the radiant horizon. One day we can look into His own face, see His expression . . . know He looks. His own kindly smile, meant for us . . . indeed, what He gives! We will want nothing more.

He satisfies in showering such eternal blessings, our heart will sing for joy. We richly live, for OF His eternal Spirit we shall reap. Ages on ages, no end. What a rich One, to give reaping we have yet to fully understand.

Let us gladly serve such a glorious Christ.