

THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

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BEAUTIFUL HOPE

(Title supplied by the editor . . . Bro. Fred Grimm, Taylor, Missouri, now residing at home in heaven, loved the glories and joys awaiting. It seems more and more the end looms closer. The lands, peoples, strivings—the history of today edge closer and closer to the actuality. Listen to Bro. Fred and the blessed word, and rejoice in God's great goodness!)

John is called up into heaven. He finds the door open, and receives a promise that God will show him what things must be hereafter. John sees a throne in heaven, and around the throne 24 seats, and 24 elders sitting, clothed in white, with crowns of gold on their heads.

John sees Him on the throne, with a book in His hand. Sheets of paper rolled up were called scrolls. The edge of the rolls were sealed. Someone had to be worthy to break the seals. John wept much because they couldn't find anyone worthy (to redeem). Christ came, took the scroll, the book, and began to loose the seven seals. He was the only one willing and able to redeem the world.

In the book of Ruth, we have a wonderful example of the plan to redeem put into effect at that time. Boaz, a near relative, was willing and able to; he redeemed it, and with it received Ruth as his wife. From this family in generations after this, our Lord and Saviour was born. What wonderful things God can bring out of circumstances that look dark and gloomy for a time, and they surely did for Naomi. Now the Lord blessed her again. The dear Lord, who will redeem the earth in the end-time has already redeemed us, and we will become His Bride at

the marriage supper of the Lamb.

The Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 8:19-22: "For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope. Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now."

The prophets spoke in many places of this redemption of the earth. Isaiah says, **The wilderness and solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and bloom as a rose. . .** "And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water." When the Redeemer comes, the whole earth will be similar to what the Garden of Eden originally was.

The Prophet Amos describes it in this way: "Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine. . ." Of the animals, the prophet Isaiah says, "The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock: and dust shall be the serpent's meat. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, saith the LORD."

It is interesting to read of Christ's reading about Himself in the synagogue at Nazareth in Isaiah 61:1. This is quoted in Luke 4.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He anointed Me to

preach the Gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

An important thing is what took place here . . . Christ knew the prophecy and what was to come in the future. This was all perfect in His mind. He purposely stopped reading and left off these words: "and the day of vengeance of our God". Had He read this phrase, He could not have said that all of this was fulfilled this day.

"I saw the heavens opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war" . . . "And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."

As soon as the Lord returns with His saints, the beast and the false prophet will be cast into the lake of fire. Satan will be bound and cast into the pit. There will follow 1000 years of peace, blessings and prosperity under the rule of the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

For years, God's people have been praying. **Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, in earth as it is Heaven. We shall reign with Him on the earth.**

Do you yearn for Christ's coming again. Let's hope so.

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

TO ALL CHURCHES

Bible Society reports:

The good news of God is spreading everywhere. So far this year we have received reports from nine of our churches as to the amount of money that was sent to the various Bible Societies. With your help we can give our Elder Body a complete report before the conference in August. May the dear Lord lead us in this work . . . A. C. Churches of America, Henry Grimm Sr., 111 East Edgewood, Morton IL 61550.

MAYWOOD CA

Ruth Dapper

Bro. Pete Schick has not been able to assemble with us for quite some time. Sis. Julia Molinkovich is unable to attend regularly. They are both up in age, and have been faithful in attending our church for many years. We are still very grateful that Sis. Julia's daughters are able to assemble with us.

Bro. Pete & Sis. Mary Schick have sold their home in Garden Grove, California, and are moving to a new high rise complex for senior citizens in the Downey area.

We are happy for every soul who can find the grace of God yet in these trying times to turn to Him in repentance. Our dear friend, Ruth Vaughn, has found the need to seek her Saviour. We wish her much grace to continue on in this fine work which she has begun.

On April 27, the young group of the Altadena congregation spent the day worshipping at our congregation in Maywood; we thank them for their love and fellowship, hoping they will find it worthwhile to come again; it refreshes the spirit of all the older folks, yet to find these young hearts still have the fear and love of God.

We have had much rain and wind this winter here . . . now that the warm sunny days have arrived and time for travelers to begin vacations. . . We would welcome anyone who would be in the California area to come, visit and worship with us at Maywood.

AKRON OH

Linda Pamer

Speak to my soul, dear Jesus;
Speak now in tend'rest tone.
Whisper in loving kindness, Thou
art not left alone.

Open my heart to hear Thee,
Quickly to hear Thy voice.
Fill Thou my soul with praises; Let
me in Thee rejoice.

We are thankful that Bros. Eugene Fetter (Toledo) and Ben Stavenik (Mansfield) came to visit and minister to us.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Rose Luginbuhl have a new baby girl, Kim Marie. They have three other children—Ted, Terri, and Kelly. Bro. Ernest and Sis. Louise Graf, from here, and Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Luginbuhl (Rockville) are Kim's grandparents.

Vacation Bible School is planned for the week of June 16. We surely cannot spend too much time learning about the ways of the Lord.

ALTADENA CA

Linda Witzig

We are happy to have Sis. Doris Hecker assemble with us again. The Lord has blessed her with improved health, and we are thankful for His blessing.

The high school graduates this year are Sisters Laurie MacDonald and Susan Witzig, and Bros. Dale Hackenjoes and Don Cooper. May the Lord guide and direct them in their new jobs and anticipated college studies.

ALTO MI

Donna Steffen

We are thankful that Monica (Tim) Steffen has turned her back to the world and has sought the Lord in repentance. Tim Steffen is also repenting, and we rejoice with both. Tim is the youngest son of Sis. Helen Steffen. How grateful we are that they have the grace of God to direct and sustain them in their new walk of life. Tim's employment has taken them to Peoria, where they are now living, along with their young son, Paul. We will miss them. Our thoughts and prayers are with them often. "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."

Bro. Jim Ramseier (Bay City) came to minister to us. We thank him for his messages of love. We heard how time is running short, and that Jesus is coming soon! . . . "the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your

whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Those who will be graduating are, Sis. Joyleen Blough (Bro. Noah and Sis. Marguerite)—from Grand Rapids Junior College, Marilyn Schutte (Sis. Virginia) and Penny Oesch (Bro. Joe and Sis. Melva)—both from high school. We trust the Lord will bless them as they seek His will for their lives and future.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks for the many prayers and expressions of kindness and sympathy during the illness and death of our loved one. The family of Ernest Roth.

My name is Time. I haven't always been and I won't always be, but right now I'm on the move, measuring out life . . . Men wait for me, submit to me, fear me, but no one can stop me . . . Except God. He is in control and He says I am running out . . . Most men couldn't care less. They think I'm on the move forever. But I'm not. And when I stop, eternity will keep right on going . . . And it will be too late for repentance; too late for getting right with God through Jesus Christ, His Son; too late for faith. Just forever left, for tears and anguish and regrets . . . Now is the day of salvation. Will it be that day for you? . . . My name is Time and I'm on the move . . . I'm nearing the end. And I'm taking you with me . . . into eternity. God says, **Now is the accepted time.**

ATHENS AL

Hazel Vibbert

The Peoria choir was down to visit the Alabama churches and to

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sing for us, the last week of April. We really enjoyed the singing and fellowship. Come again soon.

Our visiting minister the 24th of May was Bro. Earl Kilgus; his wife, Sis. Arlene; and his parents, Bro. Henry and Sis. Lydia Kilgus from Forrest. We really enjoyed your visit, as we have known Bro. Henry and his family for many years. He was our elder for many years and has made around 60 visits to Alabama.

Sis. Dessie Sinard has been a hospital patient at Athens Hospital. Some of the people of the church worked at cleaning up the grounds where we plan on building the new church.

Gary Vibbert will finish his basic training in the U.S. army on May 29. at Ft. Knox KY, and will then take A.I.T. schooling. He is the son of Charles and Hazel Vibbert. As the school children will soon be getting out, I hope they will have a safe and happy summer.

BERN KS

Esther and Stella Moser

July 27 is the date chosen for their wedding by Bro. Leland Eslinger (Bro. Martin-Sis. Arlene) and Sis. Patsy Metzger, Lester. Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn are her parents.

Our visiting minister at a mid-week service: Bro. Ed Knecht, Silvertown.

On a recent Sunday, we sang a farewell song for Bro. Terry-Sis. Mary Farney, as they were leaving for a new location at Leo. They will be house parents at one of the Apostolic Christian Children's Homes now under construction. Terry, Mary and baby Amy will be missed in our midst. However, we wish them well in their new undertaking.

Ezra Meyer (Bro. Lou-Sis. Sarah) was hospitalized with a broken leg. Ezra was crossing the street to his home when hit by a car. The leg is in a cast, and he gets around with the aid of crutches.

Bro. Robert-Sis. Janet Meyer's children, Jimmy, Kimberly and Carla each had a round with pneumonia.

An interesting visitor from Switzerland is Bro. Irwin Bauman. As he plans a lengthy stay, he is working for Wenger Manufacturing in Sabetha. Irwin is a brother to Paul Bauman, who assembled

with us for nearly a year. Irwin reports a new son, Markus, recently joined Andrea and Stephan in the Paul Bauman home.

July is collection month for the Silver Lining. Please pay your reporters.

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL IL

Jeanie Haerr - Ann Kellenberger

We were thankful to have a number of visiting ministers with us: (Bros.) Roy Farney (Phoenix), Elias Somerhalder (Eureka), Edwin Ringger (Gridley), Philip Sauder (Cissna Park), Homer Reinck (Toledo), and Edwin Hohulin (Goodfield).

May 3 and 4 we felt privileged to hear the testimonies and witness the baptism of Jim Howell and Larry Mariani, who are now our dear brothers in faith.

"Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." Our Elder Bro. Dan Koch was here May 21 to serve Holy Communion. Assisting Bro. Dan was Bro. Edwin Ringger from Gridley. We certainly felt humble and thankful as we were able to partake in this holy event.

For our monthly hymn sing, we all enjoyed having the Peoria choir with us. Our hearts were filled with spiritual joy as we listened to the beautiful praises being sung to the Lord.

BLUFFTON IN

Melanle Gerber — Donna Drayer

Our shut-ins have been Gretchen Kaehr, Sisters Lydia (John) Kaehr, Mary (William) Steffen, Marie Gerber; and Bros. Jacob Meyer, Nelson Moser, and Lester Meyer. May each loved one and their families feel the comforting, loving presence of our Almighty God.

Sis. Patty Meyer and Bro. Scott Schwartz recently made known their engagement. The couples parents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Glenda Meyer and Bro. Lester and Sis. Sally Schwartz . . . A summer wedding is being planned by Sis. Gale Reinhard and Bro. Jerome Reinhard. Gale's parents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Bertie Reinhard, and Jerome's parents are Bro. Aaron and Sis. Irene Reinhard.

Dan and Trudy Strahm became parents of their first child, Jeremy Daniel, on June 2. Jeremy's grand-

parents are Bro. Aden and Sis. Mae Strahm.

Deborah Meyer and Larry Nutter became man and wife on May 31. The bride's parents are Paul and Sis. Sara Jane Meyer. We wish them God's richest blessings.

BRADFORD IL

Rebecca Endress

David and Carol Heinz became the parents of another little boy on May 2, when Kory Michael was born. Kory has three brothers, Kraig, Kurt, and Kyle. Bro. Carl and Sis. Velma Hancher are the maternal grandparents. We are so happy that Carol has found grace to repent, and hopes to bring her testimony before the church soon.

Mother's Day, May 11, was the wedding day of Bro. Don Manz, Junction, and Sis. Connie Ehnle. They will be living in Paulding, where Don teaches school. We wish them God's blessings; we will miss Connie, but know she will receive a warm welcome in the Junction congregation. Don and Connie's parents are Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz and Bro. Ben and Sis. Audrey Ehnle.

We enjoyed the visits of ministering brothers, Sam Schlatter (Junction), Simon Wagenbach (Tremont), and our Elder Bro. Dave Kieser, who were here for the wedding; also Bro. Earl Gerber (Forrest), when he spent a Sunday here with the Metz family. We appreciated the visit by Bro. Edwin Ringger (Gridley) on Sunday, June 1.

Many traveled to Gridley to sympathize with Bro. Jim and Sis. Lyola Ringger and family, with the death of his mother, Sis. Emma Ringger. May God comfort them and especially her husband, Bro. Henry.

We sang farewell to the Bro. Roy Stoller family, who have moved from their farm near Cambridge and will assemble at Peoria from now on.

"I want to thank each one for the prayers, cards, gifts, and all kindness shown to me while I was in the hospital and since returning home." Gladys Klumpp . . . We are happy to have Gladys back among us in church, after her hospitalization and illness at home. Joan Leman, daughter of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Jane was hospitalized for surgery. She got along fine

and is recuperating at home.

Congratulations to our high school graduates. They are Mark Ehnle (Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna), Cheri Elsasser (Bro. Duane and Sis. Doreen), Joan Endress (Sis. Lois), and Sally Stisser (Bro. Lonnie and Sis. Lottie). The three girls plan to find jobs locally, and Mark will be farming with his dad. Barb Kieser (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma) and Cindy Knobloch (Bro. Nick and Sis. Gladys) graduated from eighth grade.

BREMEN IN Marian Germann

"As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the LORD is round about his people from henceforth even for ever."

Isn't it a comforting thought that God is always by us for our protection. This past month we had Holy Communion. It was a very blessed evening, shared by Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman and Theo. Beer.

We were happy that Bro. Gene Lehman was able to assemble with us and bring God's personal message to each of us.

As the school year ends, we are glad to have our college students back to assemble with us. Also, we have several high school graduates. They are Bro. Steve Carothers, Sisters Cindy Suttor, Shirlev Meister, and Martha Kaehr. Also graduating is Monica Saenz. Monica is a foreign exchange student from Columbia South America, and she has spent the last year with Sis. Martha Kaehr and her family. We pray God's blessings and guiding hand upon each of these graduates.

We are very happy to have Bro. Lou Gerber back in the midst of our congregation. We praise God for His healing and guiding of Lou.

On June 6, Bro. Henry and Sis. Leah Sauder celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. May God bless and comfort them every day.

The hand of death swept over our congregation. On June 2, Bro. Joe Bauman passed from this life to heaven's glory, after a lengthy illness. Many of the people will remember Bro. Joe's great help as song leader and Sunday School teacher. Joe is survived by his wife, Sis. Bernice, a son, Max, and two daughters, Mrs. Theresa Hemphill and Mrs. Delores Drawert.

CHICAGO IL Kathy Schlatter

Each day is a miracle to be thankful for. In May we were happy to have many visitors, especially Bro. Bill Gudeman, Elgin, Il., who ministered to us on Mother's Day. We're "losing" some more people from Chicago. Sis. Jeanie Getz, Morton, who has just finished school up here, has been announced to Bro. Bob Barth from Roanoke. Sis. Carol Ringger, who has been in our area working, is engaged to Bro. Byron Stoller from Gridley, Il., and Jenny Gerst, daughter of Bro. Arnie and Sis. Mari, is graduating from high school. She plans to attend Illinois State University at Normal this fall. We wish all three God's richest blessings and hope to see them all back in Chicago often (especially you, Jenny!).

We breathe a thankful prayer with Miklos and Aranka Bozzay. June 3, his children arrived safely from Hungary. We also praise our Lord for those who have been in the hospital, for tests, for surgery. Velda Fox, Bella Slagel, Pearl Bozzay, and Sis. Emily Lehmann are all home and doing much better. Our prayers are with Sis. Maria Benko who is still hospitalized.

Have you ever listened to a child read a story aloud quite fluently—and then answer your question "What was the story about?" with a shrug of his shoulders and "I don't know"? That isn't enough, is it; one must read and strive to understand and remember. In the same way, we should approach our own Bible reading!

CISSNA PARK IL Margaret Rudin - Grace Bauer

Have you prayed today?

These four words hung in the form of a plaque on my parent's wall in the dining room, and what a dynamic message they portray. Much of the world ignores the standards of righteous parents. Prayer was one of their standards. It imparted their concern, knowledge, wisdom and thankfulness, while they lived, and speaks to us yet today, even though they are with the Lord.

Prayer does change things.

This being the month for Father's Day, I can recall our father as he went about his busy activi-

ties, often was heard humming hymns from the Zion's Harp. One of his favorites was 241. Surely this must have helped him to stay close to his Saviour and keep peace within his heart.

The engagement of Sis. Louise Drayer was announced to Bro. Emmanuel Manz from Junction. Best wishes are extended to them.

The 40th wedding anniversary of Bro. Ben and Sis. Marie Laubacher was observed with open house in their new home to their friends and relatives.

Congratulations are extended to our 15 graduates from high school and college. We wish them God's blessing in their future lives.

Vacation Bible School starts June 9 and lasts through the 20th.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Young, a daughter, Cheryl Rae. She has a brother, Jeffery, to welcome her. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bohner and Bro. Jeff Young are the grandparents. After a few days at home, little Cheryl again was hospitalized and had to undergo surgery. She is home again and getting along fine.

Our sick: Bro. Harry Walder; Sis. Esther (Mrs. Paul) Hodel; Mark Kaufmann, son of Bro. Don and Sis. Gladys; and Tommy Stock, son of Bro. Lester and Sis. Arlene were all hospital medical patients. Sis. Mary (Mrs. Joe) Hofbauer and Clara (Mrs. Herbert) Hofer were surgical patients. Sis. Mabel Vogel had the misfortune of breaking her wrist. Our friend, Sam Lober has been taken to the VA hospital in Danville. Bro. Jon Anderson again has been hospitalized in Houston, Texas. He has undergone surgery and expects to be home in a few weeks. Bro. Will Feller is a hospital medical patient.

Our friend, Rick Knapp, son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Mary, was severely burned in an automobile accident, when his car went out of control. He was thrown from the car. The car caught fire near where he was thrown. He was quite badly burned and was rushed to Carle Hospital, and later transferred to Loyola Medical Center by helicopter, where he remains a patient and will be there for some time. His address is: Rick Knapp, Room 2341, Loyola University Medical Center, 2160 S. 1st Ave., Maywood IL 60153.

We are thankful Sis. Bertha

Meiss and Sis. Kate Walder are again able to assemble with us.

Sis. Katherine Maul, age 78, passed away April 30 at the Hoopston Hospital. Her husband, John preceded her in death in 1969. Survivors are 2 daughters, Mrs. Wilma Watson, Mrs. Marvin Martin, a son, Glenn; two brothers, Sam and Alpha Lober.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Mary and Bro. Urban Bauer over the loss of her mother, Sis. Bertha Beer. Bertha had made her home with them the past 8 months.

Bro. Adam Knapp, age 81, passed away May 27 at his home, after a long illness. Survivors: his wife, Sis. Lizzie; a daughter, Mrs. Alma Dreyer; sons, Bros. Melvin, Earl, Ralph, Wayne and Charles; one brother, Bro. Fred, and sisters, Carrie Hari, Reka Hoerr, Verna Lehmann and Mrs. Lydia Ogren. Services were held May 30. We will miss Bro. Adam in our midst. He and Sis. Lizzie had walked together for 58 years.

The family of Adam wishes to thank everyone for the cards and visits during his illness and their kind expressions of sympathy since his death.

Bros. Arthur Gudeman and Everett Hari were our guest ministers. We were recently reminded of the Ship Of Faith. We cannot of ourselves build our ship. We have to keep our ears open and listen to that still small voice. We have to abide in the Ship of Faith or we will be lost. Hang on, and God will be there to meet us.

Sis. Reka Hoerr has gone to the Apostolic Christian Home in Eureka to make her home there. We will miss her and hope she will be able to visit us often.

CONGERVILLE IL

Mary Schrock — Mary Leman

We shared a blessed evening as we heard the exhortations of the memorandum. Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont) assisted our Elder Bro. Josh Broquard in this spiritual work. God's word was shared with us through the ministry of four visiting ministers: Bros. Harvey Grimm (Bern), Elmer Bucher (Francesville), Nathan Steffen (Elgin), and Marvin Schmidtgall (Eureka). A thought left with us . . . David was quick to admit he had sinned. We should be more like this and not try to

justify our wrong doings.

Another bundle of joy, Jonathan Adair, born May 14, came to live with Bro. Rick and Sis. Kathy Knapp. He has a brother, Derrick, and a sister, Sara, to help take care of him. Grandparents are Bro. Frederick and Sis. Marge Knapp and Bro. Bill and Sis. Clara Kempf of Eureka.

After prayerful thought, Bros. Kurt Ehnle and Bill Dietrich Jr. were elected Sunday School teachers; Bro. Fred Zimmerman was elected to complete Bro. Ken Knapp's term (who moved to Taylor). Appointed to the World Relief Committee was Bro. Roy Schrock. We wish them God's direction in their undertakings.

Our medical patients were Sis. Matilda Sauder, Sis. Elizabeth Zobrist and Sis. Fannie Schieber, with Sis. Fannie submitting to surgery. A window fell on Sis. Carolyn Ott's hand, causing some possible bone damage and badly bruising it. All are home again, including Bro. Emil Stahl and Carl Eglin, who were in at the last writing . . . "I want to thank all who remembered me with prayers, visits, cards and gifts during my stay at Mennonite Hospital and since I'm home." Emil Stahl.

The Lena Schieber family wishes to express their thanks and appreciation to friends and relatives for their prayers and help during the illness and death of their mother. A special thanks to the nurses at the Eureka Home.

CROGHAN NY

Alice Virkler

A Favorite Recipe

Take a cup of kindness,
mix it well with love,
Add a lot of patience
and faith in God above,
Sprinkle very generously
with joy and thanks and cheer—
And you'll have lots of "angel food"
to feast on all the year.

If each of us would follow this recipe for "angel food", we would surely have much to help us throughout each day of our life.

Our high school graduates include Wanda Farney, daughter of Allan and Myrtle Farney; John Purvines, son of Larry and Sis. Louise; Andy Virkler, son of Sis.

Charlotte; Loren Virkler, son of Bro. Lowell and Sis. Celia; and Steve Widrick, son of Gilbert and Betty.

Bro. Leon Ebersol was confined several days in the hospital, and has been able to return home. Sis. Barbara Virkler has been able to be with us again, and Joe Farney, son of Bro. Donald and Sis. Alice, was a hospital patient several days with the measles. Lucy Woolschlagger has not been able to assemble with us since her stay in the hospital several weeks ago.

"We want to express our thanks to all our friends, neighbors, and relatives for their expressions of thoughtfulness, love, and kindness shown during the illness and death of our husband and father Reuben Farney." Sis. Lovina Farney and family.

BURLINGTON IA

Edna Pohl - Elaine Eisenmann

Another school term is over, and many of us look forward to summer vacations. We plan to have our Sunday School picnic June 8, to mark the end of the school year.

Sincere congratulations to Claire Schleitlin, son of Bro. and Sis. Charity, who graduated from high school this year. We wish him a successful and happy future.

Sis. Mayne Gerst is vacationing in the Holy Land for a couple weeks. We hope she has an enjoyable and safe trip.

ELGIN IL

Mary Moser

What a wonderful change in my
life has been wrought,
Since Jesus came into my heart!
I have light in my soul for which
long I have sought,
Since Jesus came into my heart.

We enjoyed a blessed week-end when Mary Hein (daughter of Matt and Arletta Hein) was added to the fold. What a joy it was to hear her testimony and witness her baptism on Sunday, June 1. We rejoice with her in the peace she has found, and wish her God's grace as she walks down the narrow path of life.

We are very thankful for the visit of Bro. Clarence Yackley from Phoenix. May God richly bless him for his labor of love.

On May 4 a dear sister in faith,

Sis. Karoline Kuehner, celebrate her 97th birthday. She is the oldest member our Elgin congregation has ever had and has been a soldier of the cross for 78 years. We trust that God will bless her.

Bro. Elmer Getz was elected Sunday School teacher. We wish Bro. Elmer God's richest grace to teach the children about the Bible.

Hospital patients were Sisters Bena Gudeman, Ruth Ann Getz, Ann Schmidgall and Lydia Stettner.

Graduating from high school are Ruth Ann Moser (Bro. Earl and Sis. Jeanette), Lynette Gudeman (Bro. Bill and Sis. Evy), Diane Knobloch (Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara), Ken Kellenberger (Sis. Marilyn and Bro. Jerry), Rachael Schambach (Bro. John and Sis. Elizabeth), Denise Steffen (Sis. Eleanor), Sis. Julie Tobler (Sis. Madelyn and Merle), Laurie Schock (Bro. Norman and Sis. Virginia), and Colleen Flannery (Janice).

We were blessed with four precious new babies. A girl (April Ann) was born to Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy Schifferer. She has three brothers to welcome her home. . . A baby boy was born to Sis. Peg and Bro. Don Heiniger. They have chosen Chad Michael for the name. He has two brothers, Scott and Brian. . . Sis. Jeanie and Bro. Bob Schambach have a baby girl, Stacia Jean. Eric and Todd are her brothers. . . A little boy, Matthew John was born to Connie and Tom Schambach. He has a brother, Jason, at home.

On June 4, Bro. Dale Eisenmann from Chicago assisted Bro. Herman Kellenberger and Bro. Nathan Steffen in serving us holy communion. What a blessed occasion when a whole congregation can be united more firmly together in the body of Christ. May we all strive more earnestly to obey Him.

"We wish to thank everyone who remembered us on our 50th wedding anniversary, on May 14, with cards and gifts." Sis. Mary and Ed Moser

ELGIN IA
Eleanor Butikofer

Communion was served to us. We thank Elder Ed Lanz for assisting our resident elder in this sacred event. A number of weeks before this took place, Bro. Paul Butikofer reminded the congregation that

they should prepare their hearts and minds so that they might partake; in other words, if there was something they should make right before God or man, this would be the time to take care of if they were to be worthy of the sacrament. A person can sense the nearness of our dear Lord, His love and sacrifice performed out on Calvary, while being served that which represents His blood and body He so freely gave for our sakes.

We wish to thank everyone who remembered our mother with cards, flowers and prayers while she was hospitalized. Only yesterday was she able to return to her home, after being in the hospital for over two months. We thank God that she improved so remarkably from the effects of a stroke.

Bro. Lloyd Kraft's visit to our church was very much appreciated. . . Happy to learn that their daughter's operation performed at Rochester, Minnesota was a success. These folks live at Gridley, Kansas. We thank Bro. Lloyd for expounding the scriptures to us.

LaVerne Schneider's daughter, Sheryl was one of the students who graduated from the Elgin High School. May God always bless her throughout her life.

June is truly a beautiful month. The meadows and hay fields are already lush with greenery. The corn rows are in view. The snowball shrub is loaded with white blooms, and the columbine plants, in various hues of blue and pink, are gracing the flower garden area. The barn swallows have returned and are constructing their nests on one of the beams in our barn; as they wheel about in the air, one is reminded of our God, who truly is a wonderful Creator. May we live worthy of His greatness and love.

FAIRBURY IL
Joyce Huber

We greatly rejoice that we have had testimonies and baptisms every other week-end, and pray for these that have now made the covenant with God to continue to grow in grace.

One week-end, Ben and Lydia (Munz) Nussbaum testified of the Lord in their life and were baptized; another week-end, Warren and Shirley (Koehl) Fehr and Robert and Colleen Kaisner gave their

testimonies, and another Chris and Kay (Honegger) Steffen and Bill Kaeb (son of Bro. and Sis. Dave Kaeb).

We also enjoyed visiting elders and ministers these week-ends: (Bros.) Wendell Gudeman, Loren Stoller, Joe Kaisner, Loren Strahm, Everett Hari, Earl Gerber, and Perry Zimmerman.

We are sorry for those being hospitalized: Bro. Chet Meyer (surgery), Bro. Ezra Steffen (surgery). Sis. Elsie Bachtold. Bro. Albert Sohn, Bro. Walter Moser, and Sis. Salome Zimmerman.

FORREST IL
Kathryn Steidinger
Beverly Eisenmann

We are thankful for the ministering brothers who have brought the word to us. We enjoyed having Bros. Uriel Gehring, Bill Kupferschmid, Virgil Metzger, Ken Schneider, and Elder Bro. Dale Eisenmann.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Joe Kaisner, and other relatives, in the death of Joe's brother, Friend Sam Kaisner.

Sis. Mildred Traub had surgery and is now recuperating at her home. Sharon Roth (Bro. Les and Sis. Ruth), Sis. Betty Nussbaum (Dean), Bro. Ed Wenger, Candice Stoller (Bro. John and Sis. Patsy), Tami Ifft (Warren and Sis. Betty), Sis. Irene Traub, and Mark Friedman (Henry and Sis. Marge) have all been hospital patients. . . glad to report that each of these are home again. A farm mishap resulted in a broken leg for Bro. William Honegger, who is getting around on crutches.

A large group gathered to clean the church. It was a joy to work together and have a big job accomplished in a short time, by the working of many hands in unity.

Sis. Sherri Ifft (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma) graduated from nurses training as a RN and is now employed at the Fairbury Hospital.

Bro. Harold Schmidtgall of Gridley was our guest minister on May 18, when Sis. Dorothy Wenger (Bro. Ray and Sis. Miriam) and Bro. Dan Virkler from Rockville were united in marriage.

David Bach (Bro. Ed) and Cheryl Demry exchanged wedding vows and are now living at Towanda.

Sis. Mary Wenger (Bro. Albert & Sis. Nathalia) & Bro. Marvin

Bachtold (Sis. Dorothy & the late Bro. Alf) announced their engagement, with plans for a late June wedding.

This union of our hearts
Shall stand through grace in Jesus;
We walk the path of life,
While cheer and trust increases.
Where God in truth abides,
Where two join hand and heart,
We find a threefold cord,
Not lightly rent apart.

A baby girl, Janelle Sue, has been a welcome addition to Art and Jana Lehmanns' family. Bro. George and Sis. Alice are her grandparents.

We are all happy for our friends, Jane and Gary Brown. Sometime ago, Jane turned to the Lord in repentance, and now Gary, too, was given the grace to repent. Now they can walk the path together.

Our Bible Class spent an enjoyable week-end in Elgin. Now a number of them have graduated from high school and will be pursuing different occupations. May they never forget what they have learned in Sunday School.

Bro. Alf and Sis. Lizzie Geyer have moved to the home in Eureka. Sis. Lizzie hasn't been able to assemble with us for several months; however, we miss having them in our community.

As we are reminded of fathers during this month of June, we thank God for each faithful forefather, and ask for His blessing on each father of today, to carry on with the same courage.

Notice to Forrest Silver Lining subscribers: July is collection month for the Silver Lining. Please pay your dues to Bro. Larry or Sis. Cynthia Kaisner. Thank you.

FT LAUDERDALE FL

Kathy Sutter - Henry Schwartz

In days of youth seek ye the Lord . . .

We rejoice in the good news that Heather Weiland, daughter of Bro. Jim and Sis. Arlene, has given her heart to the Lord. As a young student, Heather will probably face many questions of her faith and beliefs. In the busy world of teenagers, her answers will no doubt seem ridiculous to some, unbelievable to others . . . But, as Heather has already found, there will be some, too, who will be

touched and will remember.

Bro. Fred Meyer was hospitalized for surgery. We are glad for his swift recovery and for the continuing reports of good results.

Our best wishes and congratulations to Sis. Sue Gerber, as she completes her course of training and graduates from college. We wish her continued success and the blessings of the Lord on all future endeavors. Sue is the daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Vi Gerber.

We enjoyed the visits of Bros. Al Schneider and Roy Luginbuhl of Rockville, and Bro. Bill Kupferschmid of Bloomington.

The Dragolus Zarkovacki family from the Nazarene (Apostolic Christian) church of Akron has moved to Ft. Lauderdale and is assembling with us. Originally from Yugoslavia, they have experienced persecution for their faith and know the full value of the freedom of assembly which we so often take for granted.

FRANCESVILLE IN

Sharon Neihouser - Helen Huber

We were richly blest when Bro. Ray Sinn of Latty spent a Sunday with us, and also many other couples from the Latty congregation. The Christian fellowship we can enjoy is truly a blessing. Bro. Ray left us a question to ponder, "Where will you spend eternity?"

On May 18 a program was held for the graduates, & each of the following were presented with the most important book of any text in life—The Holy Bible. The graduates were Doreen Gudeman (Bro. Willis and Sis. Margaret), Rhonda Yaggie (Bro. Irvan and Sis. Lois), Kitty Wuethrich (Bro. Chris Lee and Sis. Ruth), Suzanne Wuethrich (Bro. Otto and Sis. Donna), Miriam Cook (Herb and Sis. Suzanne), Blake Wuethrich (Bro. Bob and Sis. Phyliss), Gary Erb (Bro. George and Sis. Elaine), Craig Erb (Don and Mildred Erb), and Joan Gudeman (Walter and Gertrude).

Hospital patients were Bros. Morris Eshleman and Mark Novotny. We are happy to report that both are recovering very well.

On May 5, a precious bundle arrived in the home of Bro. Fredrick and Sis. Madeline Gutwein. This little girl was named Greta Elaine, and has three brothers and two sisters to welcome her home.

We rejoice that Sis. Lena Yaggie can again assemble with us, after being laid up with a hip fracture for several months.

GARDEN GROVE IA

Eileen Funk

We were encouraged and uplifted when my parents, Ministering Bro. Clarence and Sis. Vera Yackley from Phoenix visited us. We thank him for his labor of love.

We certainly enjoyed the fellowship of our visitors this past month. We welcome everyone to come worship and fellowship with us. You may contact our minister, Bro. Bill Funk, R.R. 1 Garden Grove IA 50103 . . . Tel. No. 515-443-2661.

GIRARD OH

Louise Lance

"O come, let us sing unto the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods."

In memory of our parents:

G. A. Emch was born at Woodsfield, Ohio, June 10, 1856, a son of Benedict Emch, who came from Switzerland; he and our mother, Mary A. Fuchs (Fox) were married on March 13, 1884 at New Martinsville, West Virginia. They lived on the home farm near there, where they raised their family of ten children, until the year of 1906, when they moved to Wayne County, Ohio, near Rittman. We attended the Rittman church, which was very small at the time.

Mother had never heard of our faith until she met my father, but soon the true light was revealed to her. She repented and was baptized in the watering-trough, down over the hill from our house, in December of 1886. I am not sure when my father was baptized, but it was soon after my mother, into the Apostolic Christian faith, then commonly called the German Baptist Church.

Father was a carpenter by trade, but spent most of his life farming. I shall always remember the good teachings and wonderful Christian example our parents set for us. Beside raising our family, they took two nephews to live with us

for some time after their mother died, and they also raised a little girl whose father died, leaving the mother with several small children and no way to support them. She was with us until she was 18 years old.

In 1914 they moved to a farm near Girard, where my father served in the ministry for some time.

There are three sons still living. Bros. Joe, Jesse, and Carl, two daughters, Sis. Esther Saylor and myself. Mother passed away June 14, 1927, and father on Feb. 4, 1941. They did not leave us a large estate, but something more precious than silver or gold. . . . it was that we should always love God and seek to do His will all the days of our life.

We did not have any visiting ministers with us this month, but we do want to thank our Bro. Harold, who has been so faithful in bringing us the word of God each Sunday, and we do thank him and Sis. Kathryn for their help and many deeds of kindness. We have resumed the midweek service, since the weather is good. We appreciate having any members or friends to come and worship with our small congregation at anytime; you are always welcome.

With the sick . . . Bro. Carl Emch has been moved from the St. Elizabeth Hospital to the Sleigh-Bell Nursing Home. He likes to have company, and always has a big smile for us when we go to see him. Bro. Jesse Emch is recovering slowly and is back in his own home now. Emma Lou Deislinger has returned home from the hospital and is improving.

GOODFIELD IL
Elna Grimm

If you look for beauty,
Don't look afar.
The most lasting beauty
Is right where you are.

Don't search distant countries,
Beneath foreign skies,
And miss all that's lovely
In front of your eyes.

. . . And what could be more beautiful than a baby! We have two new babies to report. Erika Ann was born to Bro. and Sis. Bill and Terry Hart, Goodfield, on

May 16. Grandparents are Mr. Chas. Hart, McCleansboro; Mrs. Chas. Wright, E. Peoria; and Bro. and Sis. Bob and Elna Grimm, Goodfield. Great-grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Henry and Kathryn Grimm, Morton; Bro. and Sis. Ezra and Ollie Feller, Cissna Park; and Mrs. Earl Daley, Washington. . . . A baby boy was born to Bro. and Sis. Glenn and Bev Joos, Deer Creek, on May 17. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Howard and Vera Heinhold and Bro. and Sis. Bill and Clem Joos, all of R.R. Deer Creek. Great-grandmother is Sis. Katie Heinhold, Goodfield.

Sis. Bertha Heiniger (Sam), Deer Creek, has not been feeling well this spring, and just recently fell, suffering bruises and gashing her arm quite badly, requiring her arm quite badly, requiring quite a few stitches. Sis. Hilda Leman, Goodfield, entered the Methodist Hospital in Peoria the first part of June to undergo major surgery.

It was refreshing to have Bro. Andy Virkler from Bay City with us on Sun. May 25. He reminded us how easy the Lord has made the way for us to follow if we will simply trust. . . . And on that great day how great will be the dividends.

Donna Lou Knapp, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Wes and Mildred Knapp, Goodfield, and Stephen Baner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Baner, Eureka, were married at the Goodfield Fellowship Hall on Sat. May 24.

GRIDLEY IL

Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein

The growing season is in full swing, and God continues to give the increase to the many seeds which have been sown. An older sister once commented, that she felt almost the closest to God when she was working with her plants and flowers. We can think of the wisdom and truth of Christ's teachings in which He often used the examples of plants and trees. We, like the trees, are to grow and bear fruit. We must abide in Him, even as living branches are abiding in the vine.

Some plants take longer to germinate and mature than do others. As an inexperienced gardener, I was tempted to replant a few rows of seeds that didn't come up for quite awhile after the rest of our

garden was well on its way. . . . But I resisted the temptation and waited a little longer. Sure enough, they came up and continued to flourish. Similarly, we should exercise patience with one another. It takes some individuals longer to become rooted in the true faith, to overcome weaknesses and faults, and to grow in the grace of God. . . . But we need these dear ones, and if we are gentle and kind with one another, God will bless us and bring about the desired fruit.

We were saddened by the passing of our dear Sis. Emma Ringger, but rejoice to have the confidence that she is now relieved of earthly pain and sorrow and is resting in the Lord. She passed away on Thursday, May 22, and her funeral was the following Sunday. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to her husband, Bro. Henry Ringger and the other members of her family: her daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Skaggs; her sons, Jacob J., Henry W., Bro. James D., and Ronald R.; her brothers, Walter Yergler and Jess Yergler; her sisters, Sis. Hermine Miller, Sis. Laura Martin, Mrs. Lulu Schlipf, and Miss Lillian Yergler. Sis. Emma's family wishes to sincerely thank those who remembered their wife and mother with cards and gifts during the past two years of her illness. They feel this was a kind way to be of help and encouragement to her.

Sis. Mary Martin and one of our converts, Julia Schieler, were in the hospital.

"Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD." We were pleased to hear the engagement announcement of our ministering brother, Byron Stoller, to Sis. Carol Ringger, also of Gridley.

Congratulations graduating seniors! They are as follows: Gail Gramm, Bradley Gramm, Dave Gramm, Wendy Low Ah Kee, Cathy Klopfenstein, Sara Kuntz, Kurt Sievers, Kieth Kuerth, Richard Schlipf, and Ann Stoller. "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

The concluding installment of roll call of our residents here includes: Martha Jane Clymer, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Donald Clymer of Goodfield; Ro-

bert Tiffan, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tiffan of Ohio; Dean Stoller son of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Stoller of Spencerville IN; Lyle Steffen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Steffen of Goodfield; Douglas and Kenneth Clauss, sons of Mrs. Mattie Clauss and the late Jephtha Clauss of Woodburn IN; Richard Troxel, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Troxel of Gary IN; Miriam Schulz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Seth Schulz of Lowville NY; and Kathryn Hess, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Frederick Hess Jr. of Akron.

These dear ones and those who have been mentioned in previous months comprise our "family", and they consider this their home. What this Home means to each one is expressed in many different ways. Perhaps it is the smiling welcome we receive when arriving for work; perhaps it is the unexpected shy kiss on the cheek and the "I love you", as we walk down the hall; at another time it could be evident in the relief felt after talking over a problem. In many ways and at many times can the "heart climate" of the Home be felt.

Trying to measure the worth of a home, whether this one here or yours, is like trying to set boundaries on a summer breeze or to calculate the fragrance of a rose. Perhaps its worth is most closely related to the love which is in it, for "home" is where character is built and where sacrifices for the sake of the happiness of others are made. Jesus said that we should love one another "as I have loved you". This should apply to all people and all circumstances, and surely our prayer is that it applies to our Home.

Our grateful thanks go to the ministers and brethren from Princeville, Champaign-Urbana, Bradford, Peoria and Gridley, who made the effort to conduct the Friday evening services during May. How beautiful are the feet of those who spread the gospel of peace and bringeth glad tidings of good things!

The final session of the American History Class, taught by a sister in faith who had generously donated her time, was on May 29. A mini-graduation and refreshments marked the occasion. Our thanks to the instructor are sin-

cere indeed . . . At the May birthday party, an armchair trip to Hawaii was made possible by two volunteers who had been there and were willing to share their films . . .

The teacher and her class of piano students chose the Home as the place to hold a piano recital on May 22. A very appreciative audience of residents and friends thought the experience worthwhile.

We wish it were possible for you to take a walk with us on the grounds of our Home to observe the beauty of nature. There is the Biblical garden which prompts our thoughts to go back to Jesus' time; there are the many kinds of trees skillfully placed here and there; there is the bird song (Surely birds sing praise to their Creator; should not man do as much?); there are the flowers in their proper places (including a flower bed representing a flag for a bicentennial observation); and there is a general atmosphere of peace and quiet. This beauty, enhanced by the lovely spring sunshine, seems like a testimony to immortality.

GRIDLEY KS

Julie Strahm — Wilma Young

June is the month set aside for us to honor our earthly fathers. I would like to share a beautiful piece entitled, "When God Made A Father."

God created a father. An angel nearby said, "What kind of a father is that? If you're going to make children so close to the ground, why have you put father up so high? He can't even kiss his child without stooping very low!" God smiled and said, "If I made this father childsize, to whom would my children look up to?" The angel then looked at the large, rough hands God had given to the father. "Why have you made such large hands? They can't manage diaper pins or small buttons or rubber bands on a little girl's pony-tails!" God smiled again and said, "I know, but they are large enough to hold everything a small boy empties from his pockets and yet just right to cup a child's face in, plus big enough to hold a sleepy girl on the way home." God worked, giving a father few choice words, but an authoritative and firm voice, with eyes that saw most everything, but remained calm and

tolerant. God added—Tears, to the manly father. "See—A father can love just as much as a mother!" . . . And the angel turned away and questioned no more.

What a blessing it is to join together and partake of our Lord's Supper, one with another. Our Elder Bros. Sam Anliker and Raymond Banwart lent of themselves to serve our congregation Holy Communion. It seems, as Christians, we can feel refreshed again, after being able to partake together of our precious Saviour's Body and drink in remembrance of His death and suffering.

Sis. Dora Young, of Wichita, was admitted to the hospital, after awaiting an appointment with a doctor of orthopedics in Emporia. Treatment consisted of a couple of weeks with medication, to clear up an intramuscular infection of her hip and leg. Sis. Dora is feeling some better now and is back in her home.

We so enjoyed and want to thank Bro. Clarence Yackley of Phoenix for expounding the word to us. We are so grateful to have those who are willing to come to our small congregation and share with us God's precious teachings.

Bible School has begun here for this summer. Sis. Dorene Metzger and Sis. Wilma Young have lent of themselves to teach our young children of God's word. We so appreciate their help and concern for these young souls welfare.

HUNTSVILLE AL

John Wagler

Permission has been granted by the city to expand our school by an additional 58 children, including first and second grades. If anyone would be interested in teaching first grade next year, please contact us. Work has begun on the addition to the school building. Most of the work will be done by ourselves. Anyone wishing to help with the work should call or write us. (John's address is 4003 McCally, Huntsville AL 35805.)

Twenty-nine boys and girls five years of age will graduate from Kindergarten this year.

Two young people have been added to the membership recently: Sis. Diane Faulkner and Bro. Alex Gunnison.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Barb Landes

"If you were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?" The Bible tells us the tree is known by his fruit, and even so faith if it hath not works is dead, being alone. The Lord has blessed each one of us so richly. What a challenge and privilege it is for us as believers to live a life pleasing to God and to reach out to others, sharing the love our Lord has given to us so freely.

On May 9, our ISU Bible Study Group held an end-of-the-year picnic at Fairview Park in Normal. We were happy that so many brothers, sisters, and friends attended the picnic and shared in the evening of fellowship. We want to thank Bros. Bill Leman and Tom Witzig and Sisters Janice Herrmann and Nancy Funk for the service they gave us this past year as Bible Study officers, and our thanks goes to Bro. Joe Schrock for sponsoring our group. We also want to thank Bros. Ron Heiniger, Joe Schrock, and Charles Sauder for teaching us from God's word during the last three weeks of Bible Study for the 1974-1975 school year.

Beginning June 5, we plan to have Bible Study on Thursday nights throughout the summer months. Everyone is welcome to attend.

INDIANAPOLIS IN Patrick and Judy Dubach

Someone wrote that the man who can sing *It is well with my soul* at a time in his life when *Sorrows like the sea billows roll* has learned the secret of the Lord.

Such a man was Horatio Spafford, a lawyer in Chicago. When the great fire swept the city in 1871, he lost all his material possessions. Later, he sent his wife and four children to Europe, while he applied himself to retrieving his lost fortune.

They sailed on Nov. 15, 1873. In mid-ocean one afternoon, six days after they left, the ship collided with a sailing vessel. Gathering her children on deck immediately after the collision, Mrs. Spafford knelt in prayer, asking God to save them, or make them willing to die, if that were necessary. Fifteen minutes later the boat sank!

They were cast into the water and separated. She was taken out of the water, unconscious, but the children were lost. Days later, Mrs. Spafford landed and cabled her husband: "Saved Alone".

On receiving this news, Horatio exclaimed: "It is well; the will of the Lord be done!" . . . and to give an expression of his faith wrote the hymn which has blessed so many souls in deep trouble, "When peace, like a river, attendeth my way . . ."

To all of us whose faith falters from time to time, we commend Spafford's faith in the One who understands and never fails.

Our small congregation feels deep regrets when we hear of a family moving away from us. Two such families have felt it necessary to leave Indianapolis, to seek job opportunities elsewhere. Bro. and Sis. Tom and Carolyn Frank and their three children—Celise, Clay and Micah, have moved to Plymouth, Ind. and will attend church in LaCrosse. Bro. and Sis. Dave and Becky Pearson have moved to Chicago, where Dave has found employment. Becky is with her parents, Bro. and Sis. John and Edie Mayer, awaiting the birth of their second child, while Dave commutes week-ends until they can be reunited. We all will miss both of these families very much, and our blessings and Best Wishes go with each of them.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Maurice Frank—Leo and Gene Lehman—Wolcott. Both blessed us richly.

IOWA CITY IA

Twila Whipple - April Wiegand

One night as we were talking about discipline in work, my teacher asked if we knew that the word discipline meant "To teach so as to mold." . . . So then truly when we are chastened by the Father, it is only so that we may be molded more to His likeness.

Visiting ministers this month were Bro. Kenneth Dietz (Bradford) and Bro. Ed Lanz (Oakville). Surely the Lord's blessing is full, whether there be few or many that gather in His name.

JUNCTION OH

Benita Schlatter - Betty Manz

We received many good teach-

ings from our visiting ministers. They were Bros. Ben Hartzler (Rittman), Eugene Pamer (Akron), Gary Maibach (Rittman), Eugene Fetter (Toledo), and Ken Schneider (Remington). Bros. Ben Hartzler and Eugene Pamer also informed us of the plans and progress of the future nursing home in Rittman.

Several of us were privileged to attend the wedding of Bro. Don Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn) to Sis. Connie Ehnle (Bro. Ben and Sis. Audrey) of Bradford on May 11. We welcome Sis. Connie into our assembly.

We're glad to have Maburn and Sis. Julia Hale back from their winter stay in Florida. Sis. Mary Sauder is also back at the home of Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn Manz.

The engagement of Bro. Emmanuel Manz to Sis. Louise Drayer of Cissna Park was announced. May the Lord richly bless their lives together.

Best wishes go to our four high school graduates. They are Russell Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn), Helen Manz (Bro. Emmanuel), Mark Schlatter (Sis. Juliet), and Karen Schlatter (Sis. Esther). May they ever look to God for guidance in their future.

KIOWA KS Janice Frieden

A scripture came to mind as I thought of graduation this year: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge" . . . We work so hard in school and college to gain knowledge and skill in our chosen field in life, but sometimes, amid our work and study, we forget the most important choice we have to make in this life and that is, where we want to spend eternity. Do we want to walk along the broad way of pleasure that leads to eternal darkness, or do we want to choose the narrow way of self-sacrifice that leads to eternal life? Do we choose to gain the whole world and lose our own soul, or lose our life for His sake and gain eternal life? God has left this decision to us, and no one else can make it . . . And if, by the grace of God, we make our decision for Christ, we will know that . . . The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge . . . for only then will we truly understand God's perfect plan of salvation through Je-

sus Christ our Lord.

It is our fervent prayer that God will bless Susan Guthrie, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Florence, as she graduates from college, and Alan Ott, son of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Irma, as he graduates from high school.

The 18th was a day of blessing for us as we welcomed Ministering Bro. Roy Wernli of Gridley into our midst and enjoyed two inspiring messages of love from God's word. It was also a sad day for us as we bid farewell to Jeffrey, Debbie, Cheri and Missy Frieden, who are moving to Howard, Kansas. It has been a joy to have them among us, and we will greatly miss having them. May all the blessings of our Lord be with them in their new home.

Due to the beginning of our busy season, Wednesday evening services have been postponed until fall, but we still had a wonderful evening of fellowship as we gathered for our monthly singing.

Our dear Sis. Lottie Bartel celebrated her 82nd birthday this month, and just to see her abiding faith and trust in her Maker is a light to all of us. We don't know how long our lives on earth will last, but when we see the faithfulness of our elder brothers and sisters in faith, our faith is renewed and strengthened, so that our greatest desire is to stay true to God until He calls us home.

I know not what the future hath of marvel or surprise, assured alone that life and death His mercy underlies.

LA CROSSE IN

Lorene Moser - Marilyn Zeltwanger

There is a gate that stands ajar,
And through its portals gleaming,
A radiance from the Cross afar,
The Saviour's love revealing.
Oh depth of mercy! can it be
That gate was left ajar for me?

We were refreshed in the spirit by many precious teachings that were brought to us by Bro. Harold Schmidgall (Gridley), April 27. He invited the unredeemed to let Jesus open their heart with His key.

Baby girl Kathryn Sue was born May 7 to Bro. Eugene and Sis. Evelyn Heinold, who has come to

share their lives and love. Two little sisters, Christine and Rachel welcomed her. Grandparents are Bro. Aaron and Sis. Grace and Sis. Edna Klein (Peoria).

We welcome and are happy that loved ones have moved to our area and will be assembling with us, Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan (Knoblock) Frank from West Lafayette and Bro. Tom and Sis. Carolyn Frank and children from the Indianapolis congregation. They are living in Plymouth, Ind.

Our high school graduates are: Sis. Mary Lynn Feller (Bro. Lynn and Sis. Mary Ann), Norma Troxel (Bro. Phil and Sis. Mary), Marianne Paarlberg (Conrad and Donna), and Beth Fritz (Otto Jr. and Muriel). We wish these young people much success and happiness and, most of all, God's blessings in their future.

Edward Frank (our elder) was born June 8, 1920, in Kouts, Indiana. In 1937 he answered the call of the Lord. The year of 1945, he was united in marriage to Sis. Leah Aeschleman (Roanoke). Bro. Ed took over the farm the same year, when his parents, Bro. Sam and Sis. Nettie retired and moved to town. God blessed them with seven children, six who have been converted and three are married. God's Spirit entrusted Bro. Ed to speak God's word in 1963. The duties of a deacon came in 1967. The responsibility and its cares of an elder came in 1971.

LAMAR MO

Gail Banwart - Marie Marti

The Apostle Peter closed his second epistle with the admonition to his Christian friends, Grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. That exhortation is equally valid for us today. But how do we grow spiritually? We can effectively conquer pride by cultivating the virtue of humility. Jesus said, "Blessed are the meek". Who are the meek? Not the weak, but rather those who are forgetful of self; those who are not vain or arrogant; those who do not begin every sentence with "I" . . . and those who put service above self, as Jesus did in his dramatic demonstration of humility, when he assumed the role of a humble servant and washed the feet of the apostles.

We received a true blessing through the messages of inspiration brought to us by Bro. Raymond Roth of Kiowa. We thank him for coming.

Our prayers and concern go out to Sis. Rose Widmer, who is in a Joplin hospital with a broken hip. Kurt Marti also spent some time in the hospital.

"What makes a home", a mother once asked her little boy . . . And this is what he said, "You, Mother, and when Daddy comes, our table set all shiny, and my bed—and, Mother, I think it's home because we love each other."

The home of Sis. Janice and Bro. Dan Braker was blessed with a new baby girl, Robin May, who was born May 1. Grandparents are Sis. Mabel Springer and Sis. Luetta and Bro. Raymond Braker.

LAMONT KS

Jane Isch

We have been blessed with visiting ministers. Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart from Ft. Scott. Bro. Max Reimschisel and Bro. Al Langhofer from Wichita have spent themselves on our behalf. We want to thank them for their untiring labors and invite them to visit again.

Another pillar in our congregation has gone to his heavenly home. Bro. Pete Fankhauser passed out of this life on May 12 at the age of 93 years. He had undergone surgery the previous day for a broken hip. He is survived by eight sons and three daughters. Services were conducted by Elder Bro. Sam Anliker and Bro. Roy Wernli.

On May 24, we were privileged to hear the testimony of our friend, Kathy Burnham. On the following day, we were able to witness her baptism. We rejoice with the angels in heaven and welcome her as a beloved sister-in-faith. We wish Bro. Max and Sis. Kathy much joy in serving their Creator, and pray the Lord will bless them and their little family.

Bro. David Wernli and Friend Janette Luthi have graduated from Kansas State University in Manhattan. Jay Luthi was our high school graduate.

Bro. Roy Wernli had the misfortune of a propane water-heater exploding while he was lighting it. He is suffering from second degree burns on his face and arms,

and is a patient at KU Medical Center in Kansas City. Bro. Roy has labored to us so faithfully, many times alone, and it is hard to express how much we have appreciated his efforts.

We would welcome anyone coming through our area to take the time to assemble with us.

Patrick Funk, 10-month-old son of Bro. Glen and Sis. Sally, spent a few days in the hospital at Wichita.

LATTY OH
Le Ann Laukhuf
Karen Klopfenstein

In sickness or sorrow,
In sunshine or rain,
In good times or bad times,
In peace or in pain,
In joy and in sadness,
With friends false or true,
Remember that always
God's caring for you!

Bro. Emil Stoller underwent neck surgery the beginning of May. He is now back home and attending church. Sis. Irma Stoller is in the hospital for tests. We hope that soon she will be able to come home.

We were encouraged by the testimonies and baptism of our friends, Sharon (Rager) Parady (Bro. Carl and Sis. Louise) and Lois Grant (Bro. Tom and Sis. Delores) on the week-end of May 17-18. Assisting our Elder Bro. Loren were Elder Bros. David Bertsch (Leo) and Eugene Bertschi (Roanoke) and Ministering Bros. Walter Rehlau and Walter Rager from Toledo. We are thankful that we now have two more souls in the family of God . . . My joy is in knowing when I call He's always there.

May has been the month for new babies. Bro. George and Sis. Sharon Keysor had their 5th child, Chad Lee; Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria Grant welcome a 2nd child, Brad Phillip; Sis. LeAnn and Bro. Gus Schlatter, a boy, Adam Trent; first-time parents are Jim and Tam Stoller; Angela Marie was the name chosen . . . and Lamar and Shirley Stoller are the parents of a 3rd girl, Amber Adrian.

High School graduates: Rob Stoller (Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvene), Brad Stoller (Ralph and Ruth), Rhonda Stoller (Bro. Dennis and Sis. Nola), Marsha Stoller

(Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva), Jill Stoller (Bro. Loren and Sis. Esther). JaNahn Schlatter (Sis. Lillian and John), Beverly Plummer (Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann), and Stanley Sinn (Bro. Carl and Sis. Bertha). We extend our congratulations to you graduates, and hope that each one of you may one day soon walk in God's light.

Our young group traveled to Princeville on Memorial Day weekend. We want to thank our brothers and sisters in faith for the kind hospitality and fellowship shown to us.

LESTER IA

Alice Metzger - Donna Metzger

Through taking Holy Communion we were renewed and refreshed spiritually, for as a body we were drawn to Calvary, to feel the impact of Christ's sacrifice for all of us. Elder Bro. Ed Frank, La-Crosse, assisted our Elder Bro. Leo Moser in leading us in this Holy Sacrament.

We were thankful God directed other visiting ministers to our church. Bro. Roy Luginbuhl, Rockville, and Bro. Simon Wagenbach, Tremont, expounded God's word for the welfare of our undying soul. Bro. Joe Braker, Morton, was with us for the proving and baptism of Roy Metzger Jr. . . . In a most inspiring testimony, Roy revealed how he appreciated that the church had been preserved for him and his generation. Roy is the son of Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn Metzger.

Sis. Patsy Metzger, daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Evelyn, was announced to be engaged to Bro. Leland Esslinger, Bern. A July wedding is being planned.

Bro. Chris and Sis. Lena Kellenberger observed their 60th wedding anniversary with a family dinner. Attending were all of their children and nearly all of their grandchildren. They wish to thank everyone for cards, gifts, and well wishes on this happy occasion.

Bro. Chris was hospitalized several days after the anniversary, but is home again and feeling better. Other hospital patients were Sis. Salome Knobloch and Barb Metzger. Bradley Kellenberger, son of Bro. Henry and Sis. Elaine, was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident and is improving slowly. Sis. Carrie Metzger was transfer-

red from the hospital to the Rock Rapids Care Centre. Fred, her husband, is hospitalized. We should not neglect the sick in our prayers.

Several homes have been blessed with new babies. Mindy Joan was born April 26 to Earl and Barb Meyer. She has a sister, Marla. Grandparents are Sis. Emma Meyer and Mr. and Mrs. John Boer . . . Molly Ann was born April 27 to Jim and Lois Metzger. She was welcomed home by three brothers. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mariann Metzger and Bro. and Sis. Simon Wagenbach . . . On May 12, Ray and Kathy Metzger became parents for the first time. Their little girl is Kristie Rae, and grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mariann Metzger and Mr. and Ray Leubecher . . . Jerad Earl was born June 3 to Bro. Art and Sis. Cris Metzger. He has two sisters and one brother. Grandparents are Bro. Ernst and Sis. Ella Metzger and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Morgan.

"Words cannot express appreciation for the many kindnesses shown to us and prayers for us during our illnesses." Bro. Emil and Sis. Flora Metzger and family . . . We are happy to report that Emil and Flora are both feeling better and able to go about their duties. By accepting their lot without complaining, they have been a light for all to see.

MANSFIELD OH
Lucille Groh

Many prayers have gone up to the Father for loved ones. Bro. Frank Graszl had been repairing a roof, and upon completing his job, started back down the ladder. However, because tar was on his shoes, he slipped from its rung and fell approximately 30 feet, landing on cement. He suffered a skull fracture, concussions and other injuries. We are so thankful to God that we are able to report, he is now out of the hospital and able to assemble in church . . . Other dear ones hospitalized are: Bro. Donald Cordrey, Sisters Clara Grossenbacher, Shirley (Graszl) Roberts, Freda Dinger, Martha Kleshinski, and our beloved friends, Noah Sauder, Donald Pierce and James Durkin.

Our aged sister, Emma Bucher, fell at home but is getting along fairly well.

On May 19, the Vesper Choir

presented a beautiful inspiring program, painting a beautiful picture in song of the glories of heaven for the believer & the doom of the sinner who wished that he would have been ready for that Great Judgment Morning.

June 1 was truly a day of rejoicing, when our dear Melvin Sauder gave his testimony what the Lord has done for him and then was baptized. Our dear elder brothers, Rudolph Graf and Joseph Ramsier were present with us for this occasion.

Our friends, Duane Dotterer and BeverLee Zeller were married on May 23. Duane's parents are Bro. LaVern and Sis. Christine Dotterer and BeverLee's are Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Zeller. The newlyweds will be living at Sunnyview Mobile Home Park, 1496 West Fourth St., Mansfield.

We trust the following verse will be of comfort to Bro. Dale Gabor and family in the loss of his dear mother, Julia Gabor, and to Sis. Leora Bocka and family in the loss of their father, Bro. Albert Gasser of Rittman:

Oh think to step ashore
And find it heaven,
To clasp a hand outstretched
And find it's God's hand.
Ah think to step from storm and
stress
To one unbroken calm . . .
To awake and find it home!

MILFORD IN

Linda Beer - Nettie Haab

Asleep in Jesus! Blessed sleep,
From which none ever wakes to
weep!

Funeral services were held May 11 for Sis. Bertha Beer. She was 91 years old and was the oldest member of our congregation. Surviving are two sons, Bro. Don from Milford, Walter from Bremen, and one daughter, Sis. Mary (Urban) Bauer from Cissna Park, with whom she had made her home for the past eight months.

Rodney Allen came to bless the home of Bro. Dick and Sis. Gwen Steffen. Grandparents are Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy Steffen of Milford and Bro. George and Sis. Isabelle Bauer of Cissna Park. Little Rodney was born the morning of Sis. Beer's funeral and would

have been her first great-great-grandchild . . . A son Joseph, was born to Jim and Debbie Beer on May 16. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Ruth Beer.

We're sorry to see Bro. Tom and Sis. Tammy Speicher leave our congregation and move to Indianapolis, where Tom will be continuing his education at Butler University.

Fred Hoerr and Martha Pace of Columbus, Indiana, have announced their engagement. Bro. Bob and Sis. Marguerite Hoerr are Fred's parents.

Bro. Sam Reimschisel is in the hospital again. We hope he will soon be able to return to his home.

We appreciated very much Bro. Ben Hartzler of Rittman spending our Wednesday evening services with us June 4.

MINNEAPOLIS MN

Kathryn Olson

We all appreciated the visits of Ministering Bros. Harold Gramm and Alphi Moser (Morris) and Lloyd Kraft (Gridley KS). We sincerely thank these brethren for sharing God's teachings with us.

One day at an auction, a man bought a vase of cheap earthenware for a few pennies. He put into the vase a rich perfume—the attar of roses. For a long time the vase held this perfume, and when it was empty it had been so soaked through with the sweet perfume that the fragrance lingered. One day the vase fell and was broken to pieces, but every fragment still smelled of the attar of roses.

We are all common clay—plain earthenware, but if the love of Christ is kept in our hearts, it will sweeten all our life, and we shall become as loving as He.

MORRIS MN

Esther Schaefer
Corrine Schmidgall

Many were the blessings we received on May 4. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker of Lamont and Bro. Noah Gerber of West Bend were with us and fed us out of God's word. In the evening, Bro. Anliker helped our elder, Bro. Paul Fehr serve holy communion. Bro. Ron Heiniger of Bloomington also spent a Sunday here, and brought many good teachings. We thank all the brothers for making the efforts to come and visit us. As this will

again be vacation-time for many, we would invite anyone who comes this way to stop and worship and fellowship with us.

A baby boy, Leon Chad, was born on May 13 to Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn Luthi. He has five brothers and four sisters to help welcome him. Bro. William and Sis. Lillie Luthi are the grandparents . . . Baby, Randy Allen, arrived on May 28 to make his home at Aldean and Charlotte Luthis. He has a little sister, Lori. Virgil and Mildred Sauder and Albert and Myrtle Luthi are the grandparents. (Bro. William and Sis. Lillie great-grandparents.)

Thirteen of our young folks received their high school diplomas: Sis. Doris Koehl (Bro. Edward and Sis. Lillian), Roy Koehl (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys), Carol and Danny Luthi (Harold and Bernice), Gary Moser (Bro. Alphai and Sis. Pearl), Sam Moser (Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce), Verle Sauder (Virgil and Mildred), Gary Schmidgall (Bro. Gene and Dorothy), Danny Schmidgall (Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila), Kathy Wulf (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Violet, Sis. Lyn Zeltwanger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty), Marvin Moser (Bro. Chris and Sis. Marion), Deann Spohr (Wilbert and Ruth). We wish them God's guidance as they choose occupations, or go on to schools of higher learning.

We have some who had to spend time in hospitals. Guy Koehl (Eddie) suffered a broken arm, when he fell from a horse. Bro. Larry Nohl was overcome by fumes while working with pesticides. Bro. Otto Schaefer and Bro. Keith Schmidgall were surgical patients.

Lillie and I sincerely extend our heartfelt thanks to our many friends and relatives for the get-well wishes, gifts and flowers, and prayers offered, while in the Hospitals and at home, by the many brethren from various churches. Bro. William Luthi.

MORTON IL

Emma Knapp - Peggy Joos

The third day God said, let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind. Spring has burst forth in all its glory, as we look about and see the beauty around us, that God in his love for us created.

April 27, the following engagements were announced: Sis. Jean Getz (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Lois) to Bro. Robert Barth (Bro. Morris and Sis. Ida Mae) of Roanoke . . . Sis. Sara Hermann (Bro. Donald and Sis. Eileen) to Bro. Gregg Peters (Clarence and Geraldine) . . . Sis. Melinda Krantz (Bro. Harold and Sis. Ruth) to Bro. Scott Le-man (Bro. Bill and Sis. Helen) of Roanoke May 4, Sis. Dawn Kaiser (Bro. Warren and Sis. Tillie) to Bro. Roger Spangler (Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Spangler) of Mackinaw. May 11, Sis. Dianne Schmidgal (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lucy) to Bro. Scott Koch (Bro. Paul and Sis. Florence) of Tremont. We wish God's blessings for these couples as they plan their futures.

We had a most blessed week when we could welcome four dear souls into our fold and fellowship. April 24, Elizabeth (Peter) Yentes gave her testimony and was baptized. Because of her ill health, this blessed sacrament took place in her home. Mary Shick, Ralph and Lydia (Baer) Hauter gave their testimonies on Sat., April 26, and were baptized on Sunday. We pray God will richly bless them.

Who's new: Geana Kaye, arriving on May 2, is the second daughter to bless the home of Bro. Steve and Sis. Lynn Roeschley. Grandparents are Sis. Mabel Roeschley and Bro. Andy and Sis. Irene Lehman of Sabetha. Great-grandparents are Bro. Frank and Sis. Neomi Bauman and Mrs. Clarence Roeschley of Deer Creek . . . June 1, Ron & Sis. June Slagel welcomed their 3rd son, David Gene into their family. He also has three sisters eagerly awaiting his coming home. Grandparents are Rosemary and Russell Maurey and Ray and Caroline Slagel.

Visiting ministers were Bros. Uriel Gehring (Burlington), Jim Ramseyer (Bay City), Sam Huber (Sabetha), Steve Rinkenberger (Cissna Park), Fred Knapp (Congerville), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), and Virgil Metzger (Urbana). We thank them for bringing the precious word to us.

Where two join hand and heart, We find a three-fold cord, Not lightly rent apart. June 1, Sis. Karen Wyss & Bro. Randy Kellenberger were joined in holy matrimony. Parents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Lydiann (Metzger) Wyss and Sis.

Marie Kellenberger of Sabetha. May they enjoy the blessings from on high.

Our Vacation Bible School is now in session, and we hope many precious seeds will be planted in the hearts of children and that the fruits will be evident in their future lives.

Our loved ones who have spent time in the hospital are Lou Ora Binkele, Ila Kaiser, Sis. Ruth Strunk, Sis. Sylvia Schmidgall, and Norman Hermann, Ed Docus, Steven (Wayne) Galbrieth, Bros. Sam Getz, Frank Bauman and Emanuel Jacob (who is now residing in the Eureka Home).

NAUMBURG NY Eleanor Herzig

Michael Hirschey, son of Bro. Leland and Sis. Bernice, and Elaine Post, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Post were married on May 17.

Hospitalized were Sis. Viola Karcher, Everett Virkler, Sis. Lena Virkler, and Bro. Elmer Taube. Lena has not been able to assemble with us for some time. We were very happy to see Bro. Elmer and his wife, Sis. Minnie, assemble with us again, after Bro. Elmer's lengthy illness.

Our hearts were saddened at the passing from this life into eternity of Bro. John Hany, who was 87. The funeral was held May 2 by Bro. Leland Hirschey. He is survived by his widow, Sis. Lucy; a son, Frederick, of Bright, Michigan; seven brothers, Otto, Bro. Werner, and Bro. Walter, of Rockville; Adolph, Herman, Paul and Carl in Switzerland; a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Marti, Switzerland.

Bro. Terry Virkler, son of Bro. Bernard and Sis. Carolyn, and Norman Hirschey, son of Bro. Leland and Sis. Bernice, have both graduated from college . . .

NEW MARTINSVILLE WV Minnie Weltz — Della Witschey

What would have been a very good season for strawberries has been cut short, because of the heavy rains we have had the past two weeks. Several inches of rain has fallen the past few days, with heavy storms and tornado warnings at times.

Albert Barth, a son of the late William Barth of Terrapin Ridge, passed away on June 3 after a long

illness. He is survived by his widow, two sons, one brother, two half brothers, and two half sisters. Services were held on June 5, and interment was in Greenlawn Memorial Park.

Mrs. Laura Lee Blair of Moundsville passed away in the nursing home at Sistersville on May 30; she was 85 years of age. Interment was in the church cemetery on Limestone Ridge on June 2.

Virgil Hassig of Limestone Ridge has been on the sick list for some time, but still is able to keep going . . . Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Timmis of Canton, O. (The former Lizzie Hassig of Limestone Ridge) are both confined to the home of a daughter in Ohio City.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Barth of Parkersburg visited with relatives here on June 4.

The largest class of graduates ever to receive diplomas from the local high school were graduated on June 2, 165 in number. Two of the girl graduates were from the Limestone area, a great-granddaughter of the late Dan and Ella Riggerbach and a great-granddaughter of the late Ed and Emma Barth.

Stephen P. Hanna, a great grandson of the late Emma Barth, was united in marriage to a girl from a nearby town, on June 7.

OAKVILLE IA Martha Wiegand

Much is said about the virtues and values of mothers, especially on the day set aside annually for commemorating them. Let us give a similar salute to our beloved fathers and the fathers of our children whose loving efforts in providing for their families, both materially and spiritually, often go unnoticed . . . For they are the head of the Christian household, just as Christ is the head of the church.

Bro. Don and Sis. Carol Schmidgall are the happy parents of Jeffrey Allen, their second child and son. Grandparents are Bro. Hartzell and Sis. Marian (Moser) Schmidgall, and Bro. James and Sis. Eunice (Wiegand) Wuthrich of Morton.

Ted Michael is a welcome addition in the household of Bro. Al and Sis. Martha Wiegand. He was born June 6. Grandparents are Bro. Orel and Sis. Rose (Thomas) Stein-

er and Sis. Edna (Fisher) Wiegand (the late Bro. Joseph Sr.).

PEORIA IL Betty Miller

Congratulations to the following graduates: Sis. Barbara Thomas, ISU, and from high school, Cynthia Case, Camille Clatt, Jeanne Haefli, Ruth Hoerr, Sis. Myrna Herman, Debra Hunziker, Louise Unsicker, Kevin Plattner, Rod Joos, Bro. Michael Honegger, Bro. Greg Herman, Pam and Ken Ober, Bro. Rick Plattner, Bro. Randall Feucht, and Nanette Fehr.

Prayers for the return of good health to the following sick: Sis. Alma Ziegenhorn, Sis. Margaret Schumacher, Bro. Walter Hess, Bro. Les Bittner, and Bro. Walt Plattner.

Thanks to the visiting ministers, Bro. Simon Wagenbach and Bro. Hartzell Kaisner.

Best wishes to all the newlyweds. May 4, Bro. Ken Koch and Sis. Amy Holden were united in holy matrimony by Bro. Roy Sauder . . . Lois Thomas and Alan Boaz were married at Fellowship Hall May 10 by Charles Hemmer . . . Bro. John and Sis. Wilma Honegger's daughter, Jill, was wed to Bob Gangloff May 25.

Sympathy to the families and friends of the deceased. Bro. Will Kupferschmidt, 87, passed away May 11 at the A. C. Home. His funeral, conducted by Bro. Jim Hoerr, was May 14 . . . Sis. Elizabeth Broquard, 89, died. Her funeral was May 22 . . . Bro. George Woener of Tremont, cousin of Bro. Conrad Woerner, passed away.

Rejoicing to the following born-again Christians: Bro. Walter Bittner and Bro. Jake Simon, May 7, and Sis. Barbara (Mrs. Keith) Schafer, June 1.

Love to the new babies. May 23 a girl, Kimberly Dawn, was born to Sis. Pat and Bro. Skip Meister. Also blessed with a daughter as their firstborn are Bro. Joe Jr. and Sis. JoAnne Hoerr, whose Kristi Lee was born May 27. Bro. Ron and Sis. Carol Kellenberger have a son, Philip John, born June 1.

Many attended the benefit dinner sponsored by Peoria choir at Fellowship Hall May 17. The program following the delicious dinner was beautiful and inspirational, as the choir sang praises to the

Lord with sincerity, enthusiasm, coherence, and perfection from practice.

Bro. Ken Hoerr conducted the services at the Home for the Handicapped May 23.

The family of the late Bro. William Kupferschmidt wishes to thank everyone, especially the staff and volunteers at the Home who took such excellent care and showed such kindness to him his five years there.

PHOENIX AZ Julie Hoerr

Many enjoyed a blessed weekend May 31-June 1, when Leona "Tony" Bentley and Ruth Vaughn were added to the fold. Truly it was a joy to hear of the happiness they found in their new lives. We are grateful Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) and Carl Kinsinger (Altadena) could assist Elder Bro. Roy Farney with the provings and baptisms of Bro. Dale's aunts.

We were reminded that we not only trust in the Lord, but the Lord has put His trust in us. How careful we must be to remain faithful and a light for Him, NOT a stumbling block to our brethren and friends.

Our friend Bob De Maine has yielded to our Lord's calling and turned to Him in repentance. We pray God may bless and guide him in this new pathway.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Geraldine and Bro. Clarence Beyer in the loss of her father, Bro. Pete Fankhauser. We will miss Bro. Pete, as truly he was a strong pillar in our church. He spent many winters here before our church was completed.

Bro. Alphi Fisher and Bro. Harry Roth were hospital patients. We are thankful God blessed the work of the physicians, and are looking forward to their assembling with us soon. We miss Bro. Paul Froelich and hope he can soon be in our presence.

Our congregation welcomes Bro. Henry and Sis. Ora Schrenk back, after spending several years with the Tucson congregation.

Our prayers and love go with Bro. Loren and Sis. Betsy Schrenk, as Bro. Loren has completed medical school and will be serving his residency in Detroit.

High School graduates are: Bro.

Jacob Hoerr (Bro. Ron and Sis. Evelyn), Curt Kaufman (Bro. John and Betty), Jody Knochel (Bro. Herb and Sis. JoAnne).

Grade School graduates are: Sis. Deanna Beery (Bro. Dick and Sis. Marie), Patty Carpenter, Cheryl Farney (Bob and Janet), Steve Freed (Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith), Herbie Knochel (Bro. Herb and Sis. Jo Anne).

PORTLAND OR Mrs. Don Cremer

"For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." In this beautiful spring season, we can almost imagine the wonders of nature giving praise to their Creator. From the smallest delicate blossom to the deeply-varied green hillsides, spring shows forth the glory of God; this same bursting forth of joy and peace is in the heart of every believer!

I'm happy to include in this month's writing the address of dear friend, Annie Miller. She enjoys mail and will appreciate receiving letters from anyone who wishes to share with her. Write her at: Mrs. Annie Miller, Mountain View Convalescent Care Center, P.O. Box 749, Oregon City OR 97045.

PRINCEVILLE IL Ruth Ricketts

It is always a blessing when we have visitors, and this month has been no exception. The Christian fellowship we have enjoyed is beyond measure and is something we should treasure highly. Early in May, (Bros.) Fred Knapp of Congerville and Bill Gerst of Alto ministered to us. A most blessed day was enjoyed. Bro. Steve Rinkenberg of Cissna Park was among visitors on Mother's Day, and he gave the mothers a very fitting tribute they so rightly deserve. Matthew 24 was the basis for meditation in the afternoon.

The single sisters took over the kitchen duties on Mother's Day, and served and furnished the lunch as a labor of love and respect.

We are thankful some of the Bradford brothers and sisters worship with us on Wednesday evenings. We enjoyed having Bro. Roy

Ehrle minister to us one evening, and Bro. Kennie Dietz another. We were reminded to keep our lights burning bright.

It was a great joy to have a number of young members from Latty, Toledo, and Mansfield spend a Sunday with us. This same Sunday, the Bible class from Eureka came to worship with us, bringing their teachers and some parents. Following afternoon services, the Bible classes from Eureka and Princeville sang two songs. As these young voices blended together, it brought joy to our hearts that our young people enjoy singing praises to God.

Sis. Marie Eberle had the misfortune to slip and fracture a bone in her ankle. She has a walking cast and is able to get about very well. Bro. Walter Joos fell and fractured a wrist and is wearing a cast. Bro. John Joos spent two weeks in the hospital recovering from a heart attack. He is improving and was able to worship with us. We are so thankful that Sis. Mary Leuthold has been able to worship with us the past few Sundays, in the afternoon. With grateful hearts she, Sis. Mary, and Bro. Silas wish to thank everyone for the cards, visits, the prayers uttered in their behalf, and all the acts of kindness shown during her shut-in days . . . Sis. Ida Huber is feeling more at home in her new surroundings at the A.C. Home in Peoria, and was glad to spend a few days at her own home, and also worship with us a Sunday morning recently. We are thankful when our loved ones can be content where they live. We are always glad to meet Bro. George Wagenbach, and happy his family make it possible for him to worship with us here at "home". For the past few months he has been living at the A.C. Home at Eureka.

Three of our sisters reached another milestone in their lives this past month. My mother, Sis. Ollie Ricketts passed her 91st year, Lydia Feucht reached her 90th year, and Sis. Nellie Woertz is now 80. All enjoy coming to church and also are busy with their daily chores at home. Bro. Emil Stahl observed his 86th birthday quietly in his home being unable to get about so well.

One of our faithful sisters, Lena Stichling, who observed her 89th

birthday in March, has laid her armor down and has gone to rest in the Lord. She has been in failing health for several years. She had been in the hospital two weeks, when the death angel came for her early on the morning of May 29. She was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, on March 1, 1886, a daughter of Karl and Katherine Siegle, and came to this country in 1901. She married Karl Stichling, who was a widower with nine young children. He died on March 2, 1967. Lena mothered these children, as well as the eleven born to her and Bro. Karl. Funeral services were held Sat. morning, May 31, with Bro. Dave Kieser and other local ministers officiating. She leaves 97 survivors, among them five sons: Walter, Danny, and Theodore, all of Princeville, Alvin of Wyoming, and Victor of Peoria; five daughters: Helen Kraft, Jennie Meservey, Nettie Dallinger of Princeville, Bernice Streitmatter of Edelstein, and Carolyn Snyder of Newport News, Va., 6 step-sons, Ed & Bro. Ben of Peoria, John of Glasford, Fred of Chicago, Bro. Herman of Ellsworth, Minn., and Carl at home; two step-daughters, Sis. Elise Stahl of Dunlap and Anna at home.

Sat. evening, May 31, a number assembled to hear the testimony of new-found faith of our friend, Ronnie Baer, son of Bro. Herman and Sis. Mary. When asked what prompted him to change his way of life, Ronnie said he had the desire for a long time, but could not gather the courage. When his father had surgery, he was deeply impressed by the love and concern shown by the members to his family. When he encountered a road block, in a dream, he realized he either had to go as he had been doing, or gather courage to go to someone and tell them he wanted to turn and walk another way. God was good to him and granted him grace to carry through in the right direction. With baptismal services on Sunday, he is now a dear brother in our precious faith. How thankful we are for him and his dear parents, and glad that his grandparents, Bro. George and Sis. Sauder of West Bend could be here to share in this blessed week-end.

January and July are the months for collection for the Silver Lining for our congregation. Anyone who

has not contributed so far this year may do so in July.

"Our sincere thanks for your kindness in remembering me with prayers, visits, gifts and the many beautiful cards, while I was in the hospital and since returning home." John Joos.

Bro. Ben Streitmatter is happy to be at his home and is slowly regaining his strength, following brain surgery. They feel great strength and comfort in prayer. One of the sons made the remark that a lot of people surely must have been praying for him. "We wish to express our sincere thanks to everyone for the cards, gifts, visits, and prayers, and all the ministers who came and prayed for us. They were deeply felt while in the hospital and since returning home." Bro. Ben and Sis. Alvina Streitmatter.

PULASKI IA

Ernestine Wuthrich
Janice Rinkenberger

On May 18 Elder Bros. Noah Shrock, Sam Anliker, Leo Moser and Eddie Lanz visited our congregation. Saturday evening, the memorandum was read and explained to us. Bro. Leo Moser was installed as our elder, as Bro. Noah is retiring. Noah has faithfully served the Pulaski congregation for over 50 years. We will miss his visits here. We pray the Lord will always keep His protecting guidance over them. In Bro. Noah's farewell to our congregation, he read the scripture "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." May it be the Lord's will that all can live up to this statement and be found among those in the heavenly home.

We all should be thankful our elders have concern for the welfare of our churches. They give so much of their time, and we are not always aware of the sacrifices they make with families and earthly labors.

Bro. Dennis Warner was also here the same week-end.

Tony Rinkenberger fell and broke his arm.

"I wish to thank everyone who remembered me with cards, gifts and visits while I was in the hospital. I could feel the love, prayers

and nearness of all." Albert Wuthrich.

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

Lorene Pfladderer - Elaine Anliker

God's grace is again evident as we have ended another school year at Purdue. We feel that all of us have been richly blessed. Through the love of the brethren, we have been encouraged and strengthened throughout the year. We are thankful, first of all to God, and then to the brethren, for the many words of wisdom spoken unto us. We especially want to express our appreciation to Bro. Edwin Bahler for directing and supporting us.

For our last service, Bro. Orville Ringger (Bluffton) ministered unto us.

Those who have achieved their goal in school are graduates Sis. Gale Reinhard (Bluffton), Roberta Clauss (Remington), and Bro. Roger Knochel (high school).

Officers for the next school year are Bro. John Reinhard, President; Bro. Jeff Gutwein, Vice President; and Sis. Connie Schieler, Secretary-Treasurer.

As new addition to the Purdue Group, we welcome Doreen Gude-man (Francesville), and Sis. Jane Leman (Remington), who have taken employment here.

REMINGTON IN

Amelia Schini - Mildred Clauss

Bro. Steve Rinkenberger, Cissna Park, was our visiting minister on May 18, and he brought timely teachings to our high school graduates in the morning message. Our graduates are: Bro. Roger Knochel (Bro. Al and Sis. Evelyn), Eddie Bahler (Bro. Edwin and Sis. Lois), Don Beckley (Elmer and Nancy), Jane Braker (Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara), Lynn Clauss (Paul and Wilma), Kent Nussbaum (Marvin and Essie), Brent Waibel (Bro. Harold and Sis. Arleta). We pray that each of our graduates will be blessed with the wisdom which we read of in Proverbs 9 "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

Our congregation was also blessed with visits from Ministering Bros. Clarence Kachelmuss of Forest and Walt Anliker of Eureka. May God reward them for their efforts in bringing us the word.

Darrell Phipps, son of Gary and

Lois, had an emergency appendectomy, but is now recovered . . .

Sis. Lillie Frey remains a patient at Home Hospital Extended Care, Lafayette, where she is recovering from surgery to repair a broken hip.

Graveside services were held for Joshua Dale, infant son of Phil and Diane Isbell, who died at birth on May 30. Grandparents are Bro. Harold and Sis. Marie Schieler of Remington and Mr. and Mrs. Porter Isbell of Science Hill, KY. Little Joshua is also survived by a sister, Megan, 1½ years old.

Our Bible class spent Sunday, June 1 in Francesville, where the Bible classes from the Indiana congregation gathered for Christian Endeavor. On Sat. evening, the students and their teachers enjoyed a weiner roast and fellowship at the 4-H Building in Reynolds, Indiana.

Bro. Rich and Sis. Edna Leman wish to express their thanks to their relatives and friends who helped to make their 25th anniversary a most blessed occasion.

RITTMAN OHIO

Grace Gasser

As I think of the variety of happenings which are to be reported this month, I am reminded of the words of the wise man of old: "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die . . . A time to weep, and a time to laugh . . . A time to get, and a time to lose" . . . This also brings to mind the thought, that whether we are enjoying prosperity or suffering adversity, let's remember the words, **This too shall pass.** May these words keep us from becoming too involved with the joys and sorrows of the present, but instead, keeping our eyes on the One who never changes.

We are overjoyed with the dear friends who are seeking the Lord in repentance. They are: Ronda Ramsier (Bro. Bob and Sis. Inez), Carolyn Stoller (Sis. Mary and the late Bro. Carol), Linda and Judy Stoller (Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Mary), Nettie Baltic (Bro. Mitch and Sis. Violet), Gaylord and Cheryl Beery (Bro. Robert and Sis. Martha). We certainly wish them God's grace and victory each day, as they seek to lay a firm foundation on the Solid Rock.

We were thankful to see Bro. Robert Gasser in church again, after having major eye surgery. Though he has endured many serious illnesses, Bro. Bob always displays a positive attitude, which is an example to us all . . . Our prayers are with our dear friend, Wayne Beery, who lies unconscious after a strange accident. Wayne was found underneath his car by his parents, Bro. Robert and Sis. Martha, as they returned home from church one Wednesday evening several weeks ago . . . Other hospital patients have been: Ed Roth, Rudy Zollinger, Daryl Bauman, Bros. Herman Ingold, Forest Hartzler, Raymond Marty, Sis. Bertha Bauman, and Matthew Baltic, infant son of Bro. Dan and Sis. Betty.

Many friends and relatives attended the funeral services on Sun., May 25 for Bro. Albert Gasser Sr., who had reached the high age of 90 years. Surviving are 6 sons, Elmer, Harry, Lester, Wilford, Bros. Emmett and Albert Jr.; 3 daughters, Sisters Leora Bocka, Wilma Ramsier, and Aldine Ramsier.

Visiting ministers have been: Bros. Robert Walder, Congerville; Kenneth Indermuhle, Sardis; Aaron Steffen, Alto; Gene Pamer, Rudolph Graf and Ernest Graf of Akron. We appreciate their willingness to serve us, and welcome each of them back.

Bro. Joe and Sis. Lilas Rufener are the parents of a son, Linden Eric. Linden joins 3 brothers and 1 sister . . . Jeff and Elsie Maibach have a little boy named Eric Lee . . . Jerry and Sandy Amstutz welcome a second girl named Jennifer.

Weddings: Gerald Maibach, son of Bro. Andy and Sis. Lillian, was married to Mary Wellman . . . The wedding of Dale Pelfrey and Beth Hartzler, daughter of Bro. John Jr. and Sis. Joan, took place on May 24.

The following engagements have been announced: Bro. Craig Emch (Bro. Dave and Sis. Eileen) to Sis. Gale Snyder . . . Bro. Richard Steiner (Bro. John and Sis. Wilma) to Sis. Pat Klotzle (Bro. Irwin and Sis. Jane).

Sis. Leona Dotterer wishes to thank all from other congregations as well as our own who remembered her during her hospitalization . . . We're thankful that Leona is

well enough to assemble with us again, as we always miss her smiling face when she isn't there.

ROANOKE IL

Edith Sauder - Mae Kae Hodel

There were four announcements this last month: Bro. Scott Leman (Bro. Bill and Sis. Helen) and Mindy Krantz (Bro. Harold and Sis. Ruth) of Morton . . . Bro. Robert Barth (Bro. Morris and Sis. Ida Mae) and Sis. Jeanne Getz (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Lois) of Morton . . . Bro. Duane Blunier (Bro. Sam and Sis. Elizabeth) and Sis. Eileen Hohulin (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marie) . . . Bro. Mike Finlev (Chester and Sis. Ethyl)—Goodfield. and Sis. Kathy Sauder (Bro. Willard and Sis. Dorothy). May God richly bless these dear ones with His love and peace.

The Apostolic Christian Home in Roanoke held open house Sunday, May 18, and was dedicated Sunday, June 1, by Bro. Eugene Bertschi. He invoked God's blessings on this Home, that was just a locked, empty, desolate building when it was purchased in December. It took many hours of labor and work to redecorate and remodel to meet state regulations. There are now 26 living in the home. It takes people, life and love to make a Christian Home. May everyone living there find happiness, peace and love. Thanks to all that have given time, service, and help in this project.

"Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth."

Our dear friends, Larry and Sharon Neukomm have found peace with God and wish to give their testimony June 22.

Larry and Edith Yordy have a little son, Scott Matthew, born April 27. Bro. Glen and Sis. Margaret Hodel and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Yordy are the grandparents.

Our dear friend, Margaret Designe has been hospitalized.

We have enjoyed having and hearing our visiting ministers: Bro. Frances Rother, Morton; Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger, Gridley; Bro. Robert Grimm, Goodfield; Elder Bro. David Bertsch, Leo; and Bro. Joe Zimmerman, Morton.

Bro. Bruce Leman was selected as our new minister. We wish him God's grace and guidance in this great responsibility.

"I would like to express my gratitude for the many cards, visits, flowers, gifts, and the prayers for me in the hospital and since I am home. It was all greatly appreciated. Sis. Caroline Hodel.

SABETHA KS

Mrs. Joe Steiner

Bro. Lester Hartter, Bern, assisted Bro. Gene Marti in serving us the Lord's Supper.

Our high school graduates are Kara Marti, Sis. Mary Wenger and Sis. Marcel Meyer. The college graduates are Sis. Libby Meyer, Bro. Rick Kellenberger and Joe Strahm.

Bro. Rick and Sis. Karen Kellenberger will be leaving our community, as he has accepted a position as a veterinarian at McHenry, Illinois. They will attend the Elgin church.

Bro. Randy Kellenberger and Sis. Karen Wyss were united in marriage at Morton on June 1. We wish them the Lord's blessings.

Sis. Kate (Heiniger) Ott passed away at the Sabetha Community Hospital. She had been a resident of the A.C. Nursing Home since 1968. Services were held in Sabetha on June 2, with Bros. Carl Hartman and Joe Aberle officiating. Burial was in the Sabetha Cemetery.

SARASOTA FL

Linda Miller

How blessed 'tis when we as lambs,
Are gathered round our Lord;
In youthful years with tender
hearts,

To hear the Master's words.
We love to hear the words of
truth;

We'll do our best in days of youth,
That we may sit in realms above,
To share in Jesus' love.

How truly blessed it is, when we can look at the small children and see them gather as little lambs round the shepherd. We are to be so thankful that there is such an interest in our Sunday School. The hearts of the young will be the church of tomorrow. Our humble prayers are that they will believe and see the way, that the church may stand unchanged throughout the years.

A Sunday School song period has been added for our young ones. Much enjoyment has come out of

it for all. Our Sunday School rooms are located off the side of the kitchen and dining areas. Many times our singing has extended over until the time that church is over and people are being seated for lunch. The real pleasure comes with the enjoyment that the older ones get from the singing as they are being seated.

The entire congregation rejoices as another soul has found his way to Christ and has found peace with God and man. Rodney Getz has been announced for peace and awaits proving and baptism. We praise the Lord for all His lambs.

We would like to formally extend a hearty welcome to the Bob Blunier family, formerly of Roanoke. Bro. Bob has been with us for some time, but the first of May, Sis. Lyn and their two children, Bryan and Cara were able to come and settle here. We are happy to have them as a part of us.

We miss the Maibach family very much, as they have returned to Detroit. We are all thankful for our Elder Bro. Ben and his family, and hope that they will be back with us soon this summer for a visit. May the Lord look over all of His lambs until we may meet again.

SARDIS OH

Karen Indermuhle

" . . . whom the LORD loveth he correcteth; even as a father the son in whom he delighteth."

We should praise the Lord for providing us with a Dad. . . A Dad who shows love and concern; who gives us kindly discipline and direction according to the Father's guidance; who shows to us much patience and understanding.

We children in return can be a blessing to our Dads, as they see us walking in the light, following the word of God, and in keeping on that path of truth and love. God bless you, Dad!

We were richly blessed when Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville) shared with us the teachings in the word. The fellowship one with another is a beautiful gift from God.

Sis. Willetta Indermuhle appreciates each card she received in remembrance of her birthday and wants to thank everyone for their kindness.

Delmis Figel (Sis. Rosella and

John) and Greta Skobilew were married in May. They are now living in Milwaukee. We wish them God's blessings in their life.

SHIODA JAPAN

Willis R. Ehnle

On May 10 I was teaching English to a high school boy named Hara San. San is a title used for men or women, and in keeping with the formality of Japan the title is used except when speaking of someone in your own family. In the process of teaching English, I told Hara San that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins, that He had done no wrong and He could have escaped, but He did us the favor of dying in our place. His sober response was, "Did He die by His own hand?" and I was shocked.

"No, Hara San, the Lord Jesus Christ did not die by His own Hand. He taught us to love our neighbor as ourself, and there must first be love and respect for one's own life before there can be real love and respect for our neighbor. This would eliminate suicide. Jesus' death and suffering was quite a different matter. As He stated in His prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, He would gladly have been spared the suffering for our sins and the death which accompanied that suffering, but as the Son of the true and living God, He was the only one qualified to be a ransom for the rest of us, so that we have the opportunity to be free." I Timothy 2:6 "Who gave himself a ransom for all . . ."

Fusako Erb, beloved wife of Glenn Erb formerly of Francesville, who lived in Tokyo, passed away on May 17 at the age of 49 years, following a lengthy illness. Bro. Akito Inoue and I held the funeral services at the Air Force Chapel near their home. We were thankful to have had the opportunity to read to her the Holy Scriptures . . . to explain to her what Christ did for her and for us all on the cross . . . for her willingness to listen and to try to grasp it all . . . for her open-heartedness . . . for the fact that she did not blame God for her illness, but rather cried out for God to help her . . . for the devotion which she and Glenn displayed toward each other . . . and for the fact God blessed them with two wonderful children, JoAnn and Jerry, who can now be a comfort

to their father as together they seek God's guidance in life.

SILVERTON OR

Joan Dietrich

On Sunday, May 4, we were privileged to spend the afternoon and evening listening to the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference. Portland also gathered with us. We all were uplifted and encouraged to hear our elder brethren speak on the different issues and exhort the true word of God. May we strive to uphold those things and do our part.

There's a special sunshine in the home—

A gladness in the air

That seems to breathe the happy news—

A brand new baby's there!

May He protect the precious child
He's placed with our care,

And guide those little footsteps

In the paths of faith and prayer.

We were blessed with a precious bundle from heaven. Becky Jo was born May 9 to Bro. Jim and Sis. Joan Dietrich. Grandparents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Mildred Dietrich (Silverton), and Bro. Gus and Sis. Martha Feucht (Lester). Our prayer would be that we can be given grace enough to raise our family in the fear of God. How thankful we are that we were privileged to have parents that taught us the Heavenly way.

TAYLOR MO

Marie Butikofer - Janelle Scott

On Mother's Day we were blessed with two ministers, Bros. Bob Pohl (Burlington) and Arnold Gerst (Chicago). We are always glad for brethren who are willing to visit and bring us God's true word. Both their wives have their mother living here.

We have six high school graduates: Bro. Danny Sutter (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Margie); Sally Riney (Irene and Gene); Bonnie Plank (Barbara and Buddy); Johnnie Feller (Bro. Don and Sis. Judy); Wendy Grimm (Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna); and Olav Skinnes, an exchange student from Norway who has been making his home with the Rineys. Those who go to higher learning or seek employment, may they remember that

there is One who is ever willing to help if they ask Him, and may none forget the teaching they received in Sunday School.

Ruthie Hoerr (wife of Lewis) will graduate from the School of Nursing as an R.N. It took much work and effort for her to achieve this goal. She will appreciate having more time for her family.

Wednesday evening, Olav showed slides of his home and family in Norway. It was very interesting to hear him tell of the difference in their lives and ours in the United States. Fish seems to be their main meat. He had never tasted hamburgers until he came to the United States. He prefers hamburgers to fish and will miss them when he goes back to Norway in a few weeks. To Olav's surprise, the people here were very friendly. He will be missed by all in Sunday School, which he attended regularly with the Riney children.

Jimmy Sutter, son of Bro. James and Sis. Lois, has been suffering much pain in one eye. So far the doctors are not sure what is causing it.

The evening of May 30 ended with severe rain, wind, and hail-storm. Just a few hours before, the fields with corn, beans, and wheat were beautiful. Some are now a total loss. We can only stand in amazement to realize what a storm can do. With all the disappointments, we still find reasons to be thankful that no human lives were lost or hurt. Bro. James Sutter's home, which is not all refinished since the flood, had all windows broken to the west and had some water damage. May God give grace to endure all trials and disappointments.

TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki - Marie Inoue

Many important steps have been taking place in the world now, and many people have to know about true repentance before our Almighty God. We who have been redeemed really thank Him and praise the Lord as we realize how much He loved us through His death and resurrection. The Sunday School and my English classes seem to be improving step by step. My real prayer is that some of the students would come to true repentance before the Lord some day.

Last Thursday evening, 8 gath-

ered for Holy Communion service to remember Christ's broken body and shed blood for the sins of the whole world. Following the partaking of the sacraments, we received exhortations from our Bro. Willis Ehnle. Also mentioned was the thought of encouraging new people and friends to attend church, doing whatever we can personally with God's help that hearts can be opened to the ways of the Lord. A special tie of our brotherhood was felt, as we practiced the holy greeting at the close of our meeting.

Another close tie in God's plan, we have noticed a dove's nest for the first time in our thick fuji vine on our trellis outside our living room window. We enjoy watching how the parents lovingly care for the nest which contains little ones.

It seems that time does not permit for as much correspondence as we would like, so Akito and I take this opportunity to extend our thanks and appreciation for cards, gifts of love, and prayers uttered since the birth of our son, Koichi. May God's blessing be with you. Ko-chan and I will be spending the next 6 weeks visiting my family and brethren in the US, the Lord willing.

TREMONT IL

Lydia Rassi - Mary Jane Leuthold

Let us greet each day in the spirit of thankfulness. Many blessings lie in everyday living . . . the marvel of good health, the dearness of home and loved ones, the little treasures money cannot buy, the wonder of the world of nature, freedom under God, and the bounty which we enjoy in the good land.

May 4, the wedding of Sis. Amy Holden and Bro. Ken Koch was solemnized by Bro. Roy Sauder. May God's blessings dwell deeply in their new home together in Tremont . . . Sis. Karen Wyss and Bro. Randy Kellenberger took their wedding vows June 1, by Bro. Joe Braker . . . Wishing them the Lord's rich blessings in their home in Tremont.

Announcement has been made of the approaching marriage of Sis. Carol Steiner, daughter of Bro. Dave and Sis. Sophia and Bro. Cloyce Gress of the West Bend Congregation. He is the son of Bro. Fahey and Sis. Marie Gress . . . The marriage engagement of Sis.

Diane Schmidgall and Bro. Scott Koch was announced. Their parents are Bro. Bruce and Sis. Lucy Schmidgall and Bro. Paul and Sis. Florence Koch. We wish the rich blessings of our Lord upon these dear sisters and brothers.

Our community was saddened, when the death angel entered our congregation and took our dear Bro. George Woerner to his eternal home. He leaves two daughters, three sons: Sis. Mary Ellen (Carl) Sinn, Tremont; Joan (Ronnie) Stoller, Ft. Wayne; George Jr., Kennie, and Fred . . . two sisters, Sis. Elizabeth Woerner and Sis. Pauline (Willis) Sauder, and three brothers, Bro. Chris, Ben and Carl.

We were blessed with the visit of (Bros.) Joe Stoller and Walter Hermann of Princeville. We wish to thank them.

Our dear Sis. Rose (John) Schurter is a patient at Pekin Hospital . . . Our dear Bro. Willis Sauder had the misfortune to fall and break his hip. He is at the Pekin Hospital and is feeling some better.

We miss Sis. Ilene Roberts and daughter, Sis. Jody and son, Robin, who have moved to the Gridley area. May the Lord continue to bless them.

TUCSON AZ

Gloria Bauer - Rita Bertschi

Why God Made Fathers

God knew that children all would need someone secure and strong . . . To shelter and protect them and to teach them right from wrong . . . That's why God made fathers. God knew all children needed someone to be their guide . . . To count on and look up to and in whom they could confide . . . He knew as they grew up they'd need the reassurance of Someone with faith and trust in them who would always give them love . . . That's why God made fathers.

As the Arizona spring eases into summer, our congregation wishes well those who are leaving us for a few months. After his second year at the U of A, Bro. Dale Knapp is spending his summer working in Illinois and is staying with Bro. Eugene Funks of Eureka. We will also miss John Sommerhaider, who will be enjoying his

summer break in Phoenix with his parents. Ruth Blessman plans to accompany her grandmother, Sis. Martha Blessman, to Wisconsin. As does our church decrease in number, so does God bless us with an increase—We warmly welcome to Tucson Stan Knapp of Bloomington-Normal. Stan recently graduated from ISU and plans to make Tucson his home. We welcome back Sis. Esther Sutter, who was visiting relatives in the East. Bro. Jay Bertsch was hospitalized for surgery and is now recovering.

May 18, the Phoenix Junior Bible Class spent the day with us. In the evening, the Sunday School classes roasted wieners at the Fellowship Hall and "young and old alike" enjoyed the picnic.

UNION CITY & PHILADELPHIA Carolyn Roberts

Bro. John Diggelman is our head minister at Union City. Since we do not have a resident elder, Bro. John Bahler, Rockville, takes care of the oversight for our congregation. Bro. John (Diggelman) was born in Rockville Aug. 11, 1894, baptized in Aug. 1917. He came to the Union City area as a young man and secured employment in the Post Office. Later he married Mary Isch of Bluffton, and was blessed with a son, Richard, who works for Kodak and lives in Rochester, New York.

In May 1954, Bro. John became the minister at Union City. Over the years, many passed on to their reward, while many moved away to other churches. Because of these circumstances, the labors of John seemed fruitless and discouraging at times, but the Lord added increase, and in May 1964, Bro. Edward Aeschleman became Bro. John's co-worker in the ministry. Several other families from our churches in the west located in the Union City and Philadelphia area. Bro. David Roberts became the third minister in Union City in March 1974. The Lord has blessed the work in the East in spite of the seemingly small number. Services are being held in the Philadelphia area as well.

We are confident that the Lord has blessed the efforts of our dear Bro. John, who is not seeking the praise of man, but will be rewarded when he stands in the presence of his Saviour and hears, "Well done,

thou good and faithful servant”.

Our congregation is always happy to hear from Sis. Freda Wartman, who is making her home in the Eureka Home. She reports being very happy living there . . . We will surely miss Sis. Marie Walch, who will be in Vermont for the summer months, due to her employment.

Sis. Elsa Welti is recovering from her second successful hip surgery for arthritis. Her last surgery was only a few short months ago.

The Lord shone his favor and blessings on our Philadelphia congregation over Memorial week-end, when 36 visitors, brethren and friends worshipped with us on Sunday.

Our thanks to the Lord for the possibility of obtaining the 2nd group of several hundred pairs of new shoes that will be given to the World Relief project. Our thanks also to the Bluffton and Leo sisters who helped in sorting and pairing them while visiting us.

VALPARAISO IN

Marie Heinold - Cam Feller

Our little church was very thankful for the visit of Elder Bro. Gene Bertschi from Roanoke, his companions and our many other visitors this month of May. A beautiful time of the year to travel—refresh one's thinking—renew acquaintances and appreciate our Creator's handiwork.

We were reminded—True love is willing the ultimate good to the other person . . . True humility is not withdrawing oneself . . . True humility is not thinking of oneself at all.

WEST BEND IA

Mrs. Melvin Fehr

Mrs. Raymond Anliker

High School graduation is over; our graduates are: Lars Jensen—exchange student from Denmark—son of Earl Banwarts; Larry (Harley) Bruellman, Brian (Gene) Bruellman, Sharolyn (Arnold) Metzger, Lyla (Silas) Metzger, Sandy (Albert) Banwart, Melanie (Nathan) Mogler, Mary (Betty and the late Richard) Schmidt, Karen (Clifford) Grimm, Janece (Ivan) Schmidt, Sis. Ellen (Richard) Zaugg, and Bro. Pat (Oscar) Zaugg. We, as parents, have deep

concern for our young graduates as they leave our homes for employment and schools of higher learning. We wish them God's blessings, that they take the many teachings and our prayers, as He takes each of them by His hand and leads them to His righteous pathway . . . is Mother and Dad's prayer.

We are thankful that our hospital patients are back assembling with us again; they are; Sam Mogler, Sis. Ida (Earnie) Schmidt, Marilyn (Wayne) Schellhammer, and Bro. Eugene Bruellman.

First-time parents are Bro. Michael and Sis. Lila Wirtz, a son, Matthew Alvia, born April 27. Grandparents are Bro. Verner and Sis. Beverly Wirtz and Sis. Emma Meyer of Lester . . . Bro. David and Sis. Yvonne Bruellman a daughter, Denise Ione, born June 1. Bro. Victor and Sis. Marilyn Banwart and Bro. Harley and Sis. Adele Bruellman and Denise's grandparents. May all parents be granted wisdom from above in rearing their children.

The engagements that have been announced are as follows: Bro. Cloyce Gress (son of Bro. Fahey and Sis. Marie) to Sis. Carol Steiner, (daughter of Bro. Dan Sr. and Sis. Sophie) of Tremont . . . Warren Kellenberger (son of Bro. Ernest and Sis. Edith) to Moira Prince of Humboldt, IA . . . and Kenneth Traub (son of Sis. Corrine and the late Bro. Fred) to LeAnn Thilges of West Bend. May God's blessings be with all of them.

WICHITA KS

Glenis Allenbach

Smile, you're on God's camera! . . . We Christians have lots of reasons to smile. We attach smiling to happiness: they go together. Smiling is a good witness. The following are some scriptures that bear this out: “. . . whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he.” . . . “Happy is the man that findeth wisdom . . .” “Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God”.

We were happy to have visiting ministers: (Bros.) Harry Sutter of our Florida church, Ronnie Allenbach of the Kiowa church and Sam Huber of the Sabetha church.

We were pleasantly surprised Mother's Day, to have the children

and young people sing for us. Sis. Carol Carter and husband Earl have devoted much time in their home for this; it is much appreciated. One of our young men gave a touching tribute, by expressing the love felt for their mothers.

Our Bible School starts this week, and we feel it is very worthwhile. If each child learns only one truth to carry with him, then it hasn't been in vain.

We are happy to welcome Bro. Marty, Sis. Lavilla, and Billy Joe Langhofer into our midst. Marty has just received his degree and is going into veterinary practice in this vicinity.

After Wednesday night service, a lovely reception was held for our 1975 graduates of high school and college.

Keep smiling!

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDRENS HOME

Work has been progressing, with efforts directed toward finishing the bricklaying on the outside, and taping and filing the drywall joints on the inside, to prepare for painting. Preliminary approval of the waste treatment facility plans was received (one of the time-limiting items to finish the home on schedule). Paint, wall paper, carpeting, beds, and major furnishings and appliances will arrive soon.

We are so thankful Bro. Terry and Sis. Mary Farney and 4-month-old daughter Amy arrived June 1. Terry and his wife will serve as administrator and house parents in the first home. Terry's home was at Wichita and Bern (a member for five years). Mary's home was Bern, where she taught chemistry and general science in Junior and Senior High School. Since their marriage, Terry has worked in farming and farm management.

In the next four to six weeks, a major effort will be made to complete the first home for occupancy. We will need much volunteer labor. All who can help should contact their local Children's Home representative, or call 219-627-2114. We wish to express our thanks to the many individuals who have given their continued financial support and prayers for the Lord's guidance to enable the completion of the homes.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

WINTHROP MN

Carol Messner - Marcelle Dapper

Baptized into Thy name most holy,
O Father, Son and Holy Ghost,
I claim a place, though weak and
lowly

Among Thy seed, Thy chosen host.
Immersed with Christ, I'm dead
to sin;
Thy Spirit now shall live within.

Before a cloud of witnesses, four dear souls were garnered into the fold as brothers and sisters in our most precious faith. They are Kenneth Messner, Marvin and Geraldine Messner and Laurie Clapp. After baptism, a supper was served, and then we assembled together to partake of Holy Communion. As brethren of ONE body, sharing salvation through His grace, we drank ONE cup . . . break ONE bread because of Christ's suffering on the cross for the sins of the whole world. Anew we could each one within his own heart promise to serve the Lord more fervently in obedience to His word. We certainly express our love and appreciation to our Elder Brethren, Leo Moser, Lester; Lester Hartter, Bern; (Bros.) Earl Banwart, West Bend, and Noah Miller, Minneapolis for ministering to us and sharing the many spiritual blessings we received throughout the day.

Graduates are Sis. LeAnn Messner, Craig Dapper, Mary Messner, Randy Stresemann, Joy Berskow. May the Lord lead and guide them in their future lives.

After committing our meeting to the Lord in prayer, we held our annual election. New Sunday School teachers are Darrel Schmidt and Sis. Gertie Messner. Bro. Mark Schmidt and Sis. Janet Mogler are the new substitutes. Bro. Dennis Messner is the new superintendent. We pray for them as they accept their new responsibility in teaching the youth.

The children enjoyed our annual Sunday School cook-out held in Gaylord Park. There will now be vacation for the summer months. Precious are the little ones; they will be our future church.

WOLCOTT IN

Arles Kropf - Marjean Lehman

Can we Gethsemane forget? Or

there Thy conflict see, Thine agony and bloody sweat, and not remember Thee? When to the cross we turn our eyes, and rest on Calvary, Oh Lamb of God, our sacrifice, we must remember Thee.

We were blessed to take the Lord's supper together on May 4. We're thankful Elder Bro. Joe Waibel from Bay City was with us to help serve.

Our high school graduates are: Sis. Luane Bahler, Kent Blume, Tim Schwab, Dwight Waibel, and Neal Widmer. We wish them God's guidance and blessings in the future.

Jeff Blume was home on a 30-day leave from the Marines before beginning an 18-month tour of duty in Hawaii.

The engagement of Debbie Stoller, daughter of Bro. Richard and Sis. Viola, to Gary Royer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Royer has been announced. We extend our best wishes.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA IL

Howie and Dianne Leman

Now that the students are home for the summer, we have a smaller group at our services. We do appreciate all the visitors that come during the summer months.

Our Vacation Bible School will be the last week in June. We anticipate many visitors, as several children usually bring friends from school or the neighborhood.

We are sorry to hear the news that Al and Sis. Loretta Leman and son, Rod, will be moving to Minneapolis in August. Al has accepted a position with the veterinary College of the University of Minnesota. He has been on the U. of Illinois staff the past several years. We will truly miss them.

EUREKA IL

**Cathryn Wottstein
Salome Schumacher**

Our visitors have been more than we have had for some time. We are thankful for all and hope they return soon. They were: (Bros.) Joe Braker—Morton, Art Bahler—Fairbury, Roy Sauder—Peoria, Noah Schrock—Oakville, Joe Schrock—Congerville, Ed Knecht—Silverton.

Hospital patients, but home again are: Sis. Leah Moser—medical in Eureka Hospital . . .

Bro. Laurence Zimmerman, surgical, a Peoria hospital.

Birth—A girl to Bro. and Sis. William and Judy Cottrell, born April 24. She has been named Janel Ann. She has three brothers.

Engagements: Sis. Eileen Hohulin from Roanoke and Bro. Duane Blunier have been announced. Her parents are Bro. and Sis. Bob and Dit Hohulin, his parents Bro. and Sis. Sam and Elizabeth Blunier.

May 25, Bro. Tom Stoller and Sis. Edith Blunier were united in marriage by Bro. Leroy Huber. Their address is R.R. 1 Eureka.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wind and two daughters, Kristine and Julie are now living in Metropolis, Illinois. Bro. and Sis. Theo. and Amy Stoller are Mrs. Wind's parents.

Sometime ago, two more of our friends announced their engagement. They were Connie Hewitt and Randy Grusy. Her parents are the Jim Hewitts, and his Bro. and Sis. Alf and Martha Grusy. They will be married soon.

The new wing that was added to our old Folks "Home" opened May 1. Those who have entered since are: Susie Grusy—widow of Isaac Grusy, Eureka, R.R.; Sis. Anna Schumacher, Roanoke; Bro. Andy Schumacher, Roanoke; Bro. Emmanuel Jacobs, Morton; Sis. Ricka Hoerr, Cissna Park; Bro. and Sis. Alf and Elizabeth Geyer, Fairbury; Sis. Ollie Kempf, Priscilla Fehr—Eureka R.R. . . . also several more friends were added.

Know Each Other Better

Since I have been asked to give a history of my life, I, Elias Somerhalder will give a brief summery. I was born July 18, 1895 at Gridley, Kansas to Jacob and Anna Ott Somerhalder. When I was 2½ years old, my father was shelling corn, powered with a large windmill, and I ran up to the sheller to throw an ear of corn in the self-feeder, and took hold of the feeder chain. I lost three fingers on the left hand. I was the youngest of seven children; one sister passed away as a child.

I lost my mother when I was 14 years old, and I promised her on her death bed that I would give myself to the Lord, which bothered me until I repented at the age of 19 years.

When I was 20 I came to Gridley, Ill. to work for Joe Keurth and Joe

Yergler for a year. During the winter I went to German school there, where Sis. Mary Nohl taught. I went back to Kansas, and the following summer of 1918 I went to Burlington, Oklahoma to work. Then on July 27, 1919, Mary Allenbach and I were married by Elder Gottlieb Kurz. We had nine children, of whom seven are still living, four girls and three boys. I also have fifteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

In 1935 I was chosen to become a minister and later was made an ordained deacon. I farmed until 1963, when I retired and built a new home in Burlington. I lost my loving wife Feb. 7, 1968 and lived alone until April 13, 1969, when I was married to Emma Klaus of Eureka. We lived in Burlington until May 1974, when we moved to Eureka, 506 Valley Ct., into one of the duplexes that the A.C. Home built. At that time I requested to become inactive in the ministry at Eureka. The Lord willing, I intend to be in Kiowa in August to present my resignation completely from the ministry, after having served half of my life, which is 40 years.

I am so thankful that the Lord has led me through grace to the church of my faith, where I was nurtured by the bread and water of life from Heaven.

DETROIT MI

Charlotte Barton - Deb Knochel

"And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven."

I asked one of our young Sunday School children how she was going to get to Heaven. Innocently and uncertainly she said, "I'll jump up?" I slowly shook my head . . . And quickly she added, "Jesus will come down and help me get up." She didn't know how to get to heaven, but she knew Who was going to help her. May we all realize who is, with His abundant grace, helping us even now reach Heaven.

A precious little girl, Carmen, was born June 3 to Bro. Paul and Sis. Margaret Jackson. May she be a special blessing to them.

With Christian joy and happiness we also welcome another

child into our fold, a child of God, Sis. Jeanie Alan (Bro. Ben and Sis. Lois Belsley). How wonderful to listen to still another proving and witness the baptism of one of God's chosen.

On Memorial Day week-end we enjoyed having Bro. Edwin Bahler of Remington worship with us. We certainly cherished the enriching messages Bro. Edwin brought to us.

Again, we unwillingly had to say goodbye and God be with you to another of our sisters. Jane Leman has moved to La.

We are thankful and grateful that Bro. Ben Maibach and his family are again with us. We always need the shepherding, guidance and love of our elder.

BAY CITY MI Carolyn Schamback

Sitting in my yard as I write, I wonder how anyone can disbelieve in God, as he beholds the beauties of nature; the flowers, trees, a productive garden, and the blue, blue sky above. How could all this "just happen?"

Our friend, Arnold Rechsteiner, husband of Sis. Ella, has passed away at 82. They have four daughters and ten sons in this area.

ROCKVILLE CT Carlton J. Lanz

Many of our readers are familiar with, and in one way or another, have experienced some sort of mishap or major tragedy. To be sure, when they do occur, they are not pleasant. There are also those, however, who have been spared of these misfortunes, as was I for many years until recently, when losing my footing, as I stepped hurriedly on some sand, I was thrown face down upon a berm, fracturing the femur in my right leg; I became a victim of one of these bad breaks. With some reluctance and hesitancy I'm including this in my reporting . . . But as I lie here on my hospital bed, I could not but be moved and touched with the showing of such kindnesses, the many beautiful cards, with personal notes added and the prayers offered; this makes me become indebted to so many. These kind deeds and visits to my bedside left me to feel that I was not alone. I can now only say, "Thank you all very much".

Hospitalized for various reasons is Bro. John R. Gottier, for surgery; Sis. Alma (Schneider) Skipper, normal surgery and soon to be discharged. Bro. Paul Lanz is suffering with plebitis; he has been discharged.

On Sunday prior to my confinement, the church enjoyed a most blessed day, when two friends had given their testimony concerning their conversion and were baptized . . . one, Benjamin Kloter in his 80's and James Schneider in his early 20's. Jimmy is the son of Bro. Albert and Sis. Gladys Schneider, and Ben is the last in his family. Both went on their way rejoicing. At the evening service, a large attendance was present at the commemoration of the Lord's Supper. Elders, Bro. Rudolph Graf of Akron and Bro. John Bahler conducted this rite.

The marriage of Sis. Emily Aberle to Bro. Guy Champ took place on Sunday, with Bro. John Bahler solemnizing the vows in the presence of the entire congregation. Reception followed and was held at Bro. Edwin and Ernestine Aberles' home (parents of the bride). Guy's parents are Sis. Elsa and Russell Champ. May their home and lives have place for the Spirit of God.

To a great extent our church at Rockville has a likeness of a great ship which has set sail for an important port. We are sailing together, with our hopes set for that beautiful New City, that New Jerusalem. Our trust is in our Captain and his men to guide our voyage safely to port. There are times when the waters were rough, and also times when they were smooth and calm. For 32 years, our beloved elder, Bro. John Bahler has been at helm. Confidently, we can in all sincerity say, Bro. Bahler, a true servant of God, has done his work well. The church during his time has never been out of control, but unity is evident. The aged, those of middle age, the youth and friends hold Bro. John in their highest respect. May God, in whom Bro. Bahler has always put his trust and faith, bless him, that if it is His will, he may carry on . . .

At present there are 8 dear young friends to be baptized. Many troubled souls have found comfort and relief as the result of sound advice given by Bro. Bahler.

Wm. Pfister
R. 4
Bluffton, Indiana 46714

**LEO IN
Mrs. Elias Souder**

Julie Maxfield, Gary Garman and Linn Stoller are high school graduates.

Our Vacation Bible School began Monday, June 7 and will continue on through next week.

We welcome Mr. and Mrs. Terry Farney and little Amy to our church and community. They are taking on the administrative work at the children's Home. We pray God will guide and bless them in their efforts.

Sis. Minnie Bertsch is still at the Indian Village Health Center, Ft. Wayne. She is doing very well and enjoys visitors . . . Sis. Pearl Greuter spent some time in the hospital.

On May 8, Bro. Leonard Meyer of the Chicago church spent Sunday with us. Many blessings were received from his ministering.

Joseph J. Conrad was born July 27, 1876, lived his entire life in the Leo-Grabill area. He departed this life May 10 at the age of 98; he would have been 99 in July. He

is survived by three daughters, Thelma Schlatter, Grabill; Dorthea Winzeler and Berniece Getz, Ft. Wayne. He was converted by grace through faith in Jesus Christ about 24 years ago and became a member of the Leo Apostolic Christian Church. Funeral services were conducted May 13 by Bros. Loren Stoller and John Bollier.

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

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

FELLOWSHIP

Henry Souder Jr.

It transcends this earth and is where home is real. Priceless ties . . . loving links . . . Kindred interest . . . from Him who has neither beginning nor ending. This is fellowship, God's authentic, never-ending togetherness.

The beautiful truth of love is the gem light. Eternal life. Words go beyond all boundaries of time, and any of our limits . . . "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ."

Fellowship means a common, together interest. In Roman times it described the agreement of marriage. Peter and John were in a business and work fellowship with James and John. They helped each other. They worked for a goal.

The kingdom of heaven is populated with His people His saints. They are born into it. They are indeed brothers and sisters. We see in the same direction, care with the same care, hope in the same glad happiness. Family ties grow.

What is this? We sit in heavenly places? Actually! Deep is the breathing. His spiritual family lives. We are at home, now, in the heavenlies. It says so in the scriptures; they are always true. There:

"And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus".

The kingdom of heaven, here and now, is within us. Today. We are one in spirit with God. As He lives in us, our spirit has a wonderful heavenly feeling. Here only is true rest. Heavenly blessings fragrance our heart. Joy soars. This is the everlasting family of God. Beautiful, beautiful . . . pure, kind, caring, lovely. Storehouses are richest riches . . .

Fellowship makes His house His home. Satisfied, forever. Going no more out. The spiritual ties of today are on and on. Nothing lost, everything gained. His family has the Father, most wonderfully kind and pleasant.

He knows we want to be with those we love . . . Remember how Jesus said, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob together? father-son, grandfather, grandson. The apostles. Love won His way in each other's hearts . . . In a dreamland of coming glory, they will be sitting together. Paul, writing to his beloved ones, sweetly meditated with them how wonderful it will be at His coming . . . And what does it say about together with Him in the clouds? And comforting one another with these words?

It's going to be the same fellowship—the unmistakable, identical love here. We shall see, crystal clear and shine forth as the morning. The Lord revealed we would be as the angels. Gabriel is a particular identity. There is Michael. Individual to care and care about, one to know and be known of. Moses and Elijah, separated from the apostles by centuries and never seen before, were instantly, unmistakably recognized by Peter, James and John . . . It says we are going to be like Jesus. Look at His appearances after He arose.

Joy awakens. Delightful is the happy knowledge. It is Jesus! These are beautiful, glimpses into eternal ages. We shall know each other fully.

Nothing foreign to this happy fellowship can come in there. What a relief to know the last unpleasant encounter is past. We must be diligent, listening to the voice of God. We dare not lose our way. We want His Home.

I tell you, there is just nothing like it. Happiness, riches, fellowship with our God and Saviour . . . and one another. Glory be to His name, forever.

Only God could give such perfect happiness.