



But they constrained him, saying, Abide with us: for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. And he went in to tarry with them.

And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.

And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.

And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

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

THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

JESUS LIVES!

The following poems were included with others sent by Bro. Ellsworth Graf, Akron. Sis. Emery had gathered and cherished them.

This is the earth-shaking fact: Jesus is alive. This is the essential, wonderful truth. It is the bright sunshine, clearing away the deepest depression. The world is a dark, mixed-up megalomania. Its pursuits lead to nowhere. Its joys are vain and vanishing. Where Jesus is, there is joy, peace, and righteousness,

If Jesus Came to Your House

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two—
If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do.

Oh I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honored Guest,
And all the food you'd serve to Him would be the very best,
And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him there,
That serving Him in your own home is joy beyond compare,

But when you saw Him coming,
would you meet Him at the door
With arms outstretched in welcome to your heavenly visitor?
Or would you have to change your clothes before you let him in,
Or hide some magazines, and put the Bible where they'd been?

Would you turn off the radio and hope He hadn't heard,
And wish you hadn't uttered that last loud hasty word?
Would you hide your worldly music, and put some hymnbooks out?
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?

And I wonder—if Jesus spent a day or two with you,
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?
Would you keep right on saying the things you always say?
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?

Would you take Jesus with you

everywhere you'd planned to go,
Or would you maybe change your plans for just a day or so?
Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest friends?
Or would you hope they'd stay away until His visit ends?

Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on,
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last is gone?
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do,
If Jesus Christ in person came to spend some time with you.

True life is the reality of holy truth. The world dwells in escapes from reality, in mirages that move in strange circles. Darkness is meandering. It leads to nowhere, nor does its traveller know where. If . . . IF only the Lord is called upon from the heart . . . then His glorious life is revealed. Count the cost. With the cost, even one day is worth more than worlds of emptiness. Jesus really is alive. His saints really live, now! and the promise has His recompense. Today it's in heavenly joy, His own joy; it is with problems, storms, tempests . . . but love grows. There is awakening, awareness of eternity. Stronger and stronger here . . . more and more at home in the city to come. Work and joy tastes the power of the world to come! Glorious home, and nowhere would we rather be. We want to take up our cross daily and live for Him.

Unawares

They said the Master is coming to honor the town today,
And none can tell at what house or home the Master will choose to stay.

Then I thought while my heart beat wildly, What if He should come to mine?

How I would strive to entertain and honor the Guest divine.

And straight I turned to toiling to make my home more neat.
I swept and polished and garnished and decked it with blossoms sweet.

I was troubled for fear the Master

might come ere my task was done,
And I hastened and worked the faster, and watched the hurrying sun.

But right in the midst of my duties a woman came to my door . . .

She had come to tell me her sorrows and my comfort and aid to implore.

And I said I cannot listen, nor help you any today.

I have a greater thing to attend to, and the pleader turned away.

But soon there came another . . . a cripple, thin, pale and gray,
And said, O let me stop and rest awhile in your home I pray.
I have traveled far since morning; I am hungry and faint and weak;

My heart is full of misery, and comfort and help I seek.

And I said, I am grieved and sorry, but I cannot help you today.
I look for a great and noble Guest . . . and the cripple went away,
And the day wore onward swiftly and my task was nearly done,
And a prayer was ever in my heart that the Master to me might come.

And I thought I would spring and meet Him, and treat Him with utmost care,

When a little child stood by me with a face so sweet and fair,
Sweet, but with marks of teardrops, and his clothes were tattered and old.

THE SILVER LINING

Grabill, Indiana 46741

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A finger was bruised and bleeding,
and his little bare feet were
cold.

And I said, I am sorry for you; you
are surely in need of care,
But I cannot stop to give it: you
must hasten other where,
And at the words a shadow swept
over his blue-veined brow,
Some one will feed and clothe you,
dear, but I am too busy now.
At last the day was ended and my
toil was over and done;

My house was swept and garnished,
and I watched in the dusk
alone,
Watched, but no footfall sounded,
no one paused at my gate.
No one entered my cottage door;
I could only pray and wait.

I waited till night had deepened,

and the Master had not come.
He has entered some other door, I
cried, and gladdened some
other home.

My labor has been for nothing, and
and I bowed my head and
wept;

My heart was sore with longing,
and in spite of all I slept.

Then the Master stood before me,
and His face was grieved and
fair.

Three times today I came to your
door; I craved your pity and
care,

Three times you sent me onward,
unhelped and un comforted,
And the blessing you might have
had is lost and the chance has
fled.

O Lord, dear Lord, forgive me.
How could I know it was Thee.

My very soul was ashamed and
bruised in the depths of hu-
mility,

And He said the sin is pardoned,
but the blessing is lost to thee,
For failing to comfort the least of
mine, you have failed to com-
fort me.

The final breath comes. The
hands of the clock move. God's
twelve is struck. At home in beau-
tiful beautiful glory, with joy of
upturned faces we know, radiates
in Jesus' life . . . familiar faces,
hearts of sweet nectar of life,
learned togetherness, in time's
pressing moments . . . His welcome
and His everlasting embrace . . . on
and on and on, with never never
an end . . . and this life, the here
and now moment is priceless for
gain.

CHILDREN'S HOME

We have been having true win-
ter weather here with ice and a
lot of snow. It has sometimes hin-
dered the traveling about, but is
so very beautiful.

We are happy . . . the arrival of
another couple who will act as
houseparents for the second home.
Doug and Sue Kellenberger have
moved to Leo from Elgin, Illinois,
after experiencing the Lord's call
to this work. They both are 27
years old and have a seven-month-
old daughter, Rachael.

Sue has been a member of our
church since 1963. After high
school, she went through register-
ed nursing training. She spent two
years teaching in Japan, from 1971
to 1973. Doug was converted in
1970 and served in the Army from
1970 to 1972. He went to the Uni-
versity of Illinois to study land-
scaping, and was self-employed in
that field before moving to Leo.
We welcome the Kellenbergers to
the Children's Home and feel they
will certainly be an asset here.

We appreciate the many volun-
teer hands that have helped make
the work go faster, and welcome
any others who would like to help.
We kindly ask to send a card or
phone the children's home, so
scheduling of the work can be
maintained.

Your Children's Home Committee

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

ALTO MI

Donna Steffen

Friend Fred Grawberg is home,
after spending time in the hospi-
tal. We are happy to see him in
church again . . . Our friend, Bren-
da Paton (Jerry) was hospitalized
for surgery. We are thankful that
she is also feeling better. Brenda
is the daughter of Sis. Virginia
Schutte.

We have had a lot of severe win-
ter weather in our area. On Feb.
15, church services had to be can-
celled because our church road was
shut with snow drifts. Several of
our elderly members find it hard
to assemble with us in the winter
months. We depend so much upon
the Lord to supply us with spiri-
tual food, with our spiritual rela-
tives—and how much more we
should praise Him and thank Him
when these requests and blessings
are granted.

Sis. Lena Roth remains about
the same. She gets around quite
well, although she has chest pains
and feels so weak. How we love and
esteem this precious sister . . .

When things go wrong, as they
sometimes will,

When the road you're trudging
seems all uphill,

When the funds are low and the
debts are high,

And you want to smile, but you
have to sigh,

When care is pressing you down
a bit,

Rest if you must, but don't you
quit . . .

Don't give up, though the pace
seems slow;

You may succeed with another
blow.

And you never can tell just how
close you are;

It may be near when it seems so
far,

So stick to the fight when you're
hardest hit.

It's when things seem worst that
you must not quit!

We are happy to have our Min-
istering Bro. Elmer and Sis. De-
liah Schrenk back with us. They
spent several months vacationing
in Texas.

MORTON IL

Emma Knapp - Jerry Neukomm

"Except the LORD build the
house, they labour in vain that
build it . . ." Feb. 11, a blessed eve-
ning was shared by many, as our
Elder Bro. Joe Braker had the de-
dication ceremony for our newly-
constructed Fellowship Hall. Truly
the Lord blessed the labor that
was given so unselfishly by so
many. May the fruits of this ef-
fort be evident to the glory of God.

Feb. 14 and 15, we were privi-
leged to hear the testimonies and
witness the baptism of three dear
souls: Sara Neukomm (Bro. Al and
Sis. Jerry), Kathy Fahlberg (Ro-
ger and Dorothy), and Hans
Schuon (Bro. Karl and Sis. Elsa).

Elder Bro. Ezra Feller assisted in this holy task.

We were blessed with much spiritual food from our ministering brothers who have visited us. They were Elder Bro. Ezra Feller (Cissna Park), Bros. Leroy Hartman (Peoria), Simon Wagenbach (Tremont), Todd Feller (LaCrosse) and Bob Grimm (Goodfield).

Who's New: Feb. 16, Bro. Steve and Sis. Ann Hauter, of Champaign, welcomed a baby daughter, Sara Lynette into their home. The happy grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Hauter and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Causey . . . Little Paul Michal was born on Feb. 18 to Sis. Vicki and Dave Getz. Bro. Richard and Sis. Phyllis Green and Elton and Joan Getz are the grandparents.

The Lord thy God, He it is that doth go with thee; He will not fail thee. Bro. Joseph Hauter was laid to rest Feb. 21. Among his survivors are Sisters Ida Bauman, Ann Hauter, LaVerne Heiniger, Bro. William B., Phillip C., Arthur O., and Ben F., all of Morton.

Announcement has been made of the engagement of Friend Scott Koehl (Bro. Al and Sis. Ellen) and Kathy Davis (Galen and Gladys Davis). A June wedding is planned.

"I wish to thank all my friends and relatives for their prayers, cards, gifts, telephone calls and visits while I was in the hospital." Sis. Grace Birkey.

Our hospital patients were Bros. Ed Teubel, Phil Getz and Sisters Rose Stetzler and Emma Knapp.

AKRON OHIO

Lynda Pamer

The Lord willing, Sis. Lena Wright will observe her 98th birthday on March 13. We understand that she is well and that she still corresponds with her family. Sis. Lena's address is: 9125 San Diego Rd., Atascadero CA 93422.

Several of our congregation have been hospitalized. Among these were Diane Bako (Eugene), Sis. Kathryn Novotny (Bro. Charles), Sis. Marie Dakovich, and Bro. Stanley Francis. Amy Ritzman (Earl and Diane) had surgery to remove a needle from her knee.

We were glad that Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier (Rittman) came and taught us from God's holy word. He then assisted our Elder Bro.

Rudy Graf in bringing to us the memorandum.

BERN KANSAS

Esther and Stella Moser

"While I live will I praise the LORD: I will sing praise unto my God while I have any being."

Now that is really saying a mouthful! What is this happy one saying so boldly? A free translation of the text might put it this way: As long as I live, I'll have nothing but good things to say about God. I don't care what tough breaks may come my way. You can count on this: I'll give praise to God—anywhere, anytime, always!

Rryan Wayne Hartter arrived Feb. 9 to join Christopher and Joanne in the home of Bro. Neil and Sis. Evelyn. Grandparents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Ella, Bro. Wayne and Sis. Pearl Miller (Ft. Scott).

Guest ministers: Bros. James Ramseyer (Bay City), Joe Aberle (Sabetha). We extend our appreciation and thanks to them . . . Visitors always welcome.

Sis. Sarah Meyer is a new resident at the Apostolic Christian Home. She was able to have a room with Bro. Lou, who has been a resident for several years.

Sis. Mamie Strahm (Bro. Alphie) is hindered in getting around, due to a broken bone in her foot.

Teach Me, Lord

Teach me obedience, Lord, to see The face of the Man of Galilee, Who even from Golgotha's friendless view Cried, Father, forgive them for what they do.

BURLINGTON IA

Edna Pohl - Elaine Eisenmann

"The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him . . . in truth. He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and save them."

Kent Oberman is the first convert in the new church, for which we are so grateful. He is the son of Bro. William and Sis. Rozella Massner Oberman. We pray he will ask the Lord of his desires. We may have to wait for certain desires, but if we hold fast to the Lord, all things are possible. His word does not change, from old gen-

erations to the present, so may we all look diligently in His word for the answers . . . not as we think is right but what His word tells us.

As each new penitent soul comes to the Lord, it brings to mind our own experience, never a regret through the years for having sought the Lord . . . only deep gratitude for His mercy in casting our past sins into the sea of forgetfulness, as He promised. It is a great blessing to find comfort from our Father in Heaven, when trials or depression assail us . . . ever lifting our burdened heart, to journey on, and hoping for a good and faithful end.

When we first sought the Lord, we were anxious and fearful, lest He would come and we not saved. Lo, many years have passed, but we hold fast to our merciful Lord. As our elder brothers mentioned in the conference report of believers, we must be doers also. Satan believed and trembles. Pray the Lord's precious word be not distorted in these latter days.

Feb. 1 was our first Lord's Day in the new house of worship. Open house and dedication services will be announced later. Also in the new edifice, Sis. Sarah Gerst is able to be wheeled in her chair, without steps or being lifted, as the brothers did, and willingly. Her daughter-in-law, Josephine, is good to bring her, as Sarah lives in son Georges' home, at Columbus Junction.

FAIRBURY IL

Joyce Huber

Bro. John Hartman is a new Sunday School teacher. May God be with him in his efforts to teach the youth.

Jeffrey Dean is the name of the new baby boy born to Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Myrna Moser. Jeffrey is blessed to have playmates of brothers and sisters. His grandparents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Perceda Moser of Fairbury and Sis. Sadie Riggensbach of Latty.

Loretta Huette and Paul Zimmerman were united in marriage, with Paul's father, Bro. Perry Zimmerman performing the ceremony. Loretta's parents are Bro. and Sis. Lyle Huette. The new couple are residing in Fairbury, and Paul is a carpenter.

Bro. Albert Sohn and Bro. Walter Koehl are in the hospital.

Bro. Tom Leman of Elgin, Illinois visited here, and Bro. Tom gave us an inspiring message.

FRANCESVILLE IN

Helen Huber - Sharon Neihouser

On a Wednesday evening, Jan. 18, we gathered together for our annual business meeting, to care for the physical part of our church. The following offices were filled: Trustee, Bro. Phil Gutwein; Ushers, Bros. Harry Yaggie and Alvin Furrer; Sunday School Teachers, Sis. Kristine Leman, Pam Vogt, and Linda Leman, Bros. Keith Getz, Mike Gutwein, Dave Metzger, and Jim Gudeman; and Hail Aid, Bro. Wayne Putt.

I Corinthians 12 was mediated upon, very fitting for the evening. Even as the parts of the physical body work together and need each other, and when one is deficient the rest compensate for it, so it should be in the church, which is the body of Christ. Each one needs the other to work successfully together, and when one suffers, we all suffer, and when one experiences joy, we all do.

We are happy to report that there are four converts in our congregation, and we pray for them and for many more to find the way of salvation.

On Feb. 8 we had a severe snow-storm, and we were unable to have church; we surely did miss it. May we cherish the times that we can gather together, and count it a privilege. What would it be like if the time came when we would not be permitted to worship?

Three engagements have been announced: Sis. Bobbi Wuethrich (Bro. Bob and Sis. Phyl) to Bro. Kent Erb (Bro. George and Sis. Elaine), both of our congregation . . . Sis. Mary Overmyer (Bro. Lee and Sis. Velda) to Bro. Mike Scheiber (Bro. and Sis. Harold Scheiber) of Congerville . . . Mim Cook (Herb and Sis. Suz) to David Weuthrich (Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb).

Bro. Doug and Sis. Margaret Leman have been added to the Family of God. Bro. Ed Frank (La-Crosse) assisted in the provings and baptism. We welcome them into our fellowship. They are the son and daughter-in-law of Bro. Sid and Sis. Fern Leman.

Hospitalized were Sis. Cheryl

Scheffer and Edith Traub, for surgery.

GIRARD OH

Louisa B. Lance

"Praise ye the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts: praise him according to his excellent greatness . . . Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD."

How thankful we are for the few nice days we have enjoyed, after several weeks of real cold weather with lots of snow and ice . . . to have the sun shining so nice . . . makes us feel that spring is almost here. Even though we did have lots of snow, we do thank the Lord that we could gather in the Lord's house each Sunday, to worship and hear God's word proclaimed.

There has been quite a bit of sickness, as is usual for the winter. Bro. Carl Gasser is at home and improving; he is able to get around some with a walker. Sis. Ella Deislinger is present each Sunday and getting around real well. Emma Lou Deislinger's recovery seems very slow.

April is Silver Lining collection for Girard.

Sis. Minna Emch has been ill with the flu; she was taken to the home of her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Sells (Marjorie) for two weeks, but has returned home, still very weak. We were glad to have Bro. Joe and Sis. Alma Emch, after several weeks absence on account of failing health. They were happy to have their daughter, Mrs. Jess Binion (Loretta) from Florida spend a week with them. It has been a long time since she has been able to visit her parents. Mrs. Ruth Emch has returned home, after having been confined to the hospital for some time.

. . . Would like to share this prayer with you . . .

You are ushering in another day,
Untouched and freshly new,
So here I come to ask you, God,
If you'll renew me, too;
Forgive the many errors that I
made yesterday,
And let me try again, dear God,
To walk closer in thy way;
But, Father, I am well aware I
can't make it on my own,

So take my hand and hold it tight,
For I can't walk alone.

LATTY OH

Karen Klopfenstein - Diane Stoller

Bro. Gray and Sis. Linda Grant are the happy parents of Brian Lee, born Jan. 30. Little Brian was a surgical patient, but is now home and doing fine. Grandparents are Bro. Tom and Sis. Delores.

"Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me . . . This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." Bro. Ben Maibach (Detroit) helped in this important work on Feb. 8. May we ever strive to remember these teachings.

Our dear convert, Eli Pfister, passed away Feb. 13. We are thankful that he had peace with his Creator. Surviving are his wife, Emma, and seven children. Three sons preceded him in death.

On Feb. 14, two hearts were united in holy matrimony. David Wenninger (son of Bro. Donald and Sis. Josephine) and Deb Daeger are the happy couple.

Our surgical patient was Bro. Al Zeltwanger. He is now home.

"We wish to express our sincere thanks to everyone who remembered us during the illness and passing of our loved one. We appreciate the prayers, food and gifts." The family of John Metzger.

PRINCEVILLE IL

Ruth Ricketts

Troubles are often the tools by which God fashions us for better things.

One afternoon the sky became suddenly very black, and the dark clouds rolled swiftly, almost frightening one. Soon the dark clouds passed, there were a few claps of thunder, and then the sun shone again. In the East was a most beautiful rainbow. It seemed that God was there to tell us not to be afraid, for He still keeps His promises. Is it not the same in our spiritual life? Sometimes everything is dark and seems we hardly dare for the sunshine again, but it does come if we keep looking up.

We still have several very sick loved ones in hospitals and nursing homes. Our friend, Frieda Berchtold is still receiving therapy in a nursing home. Sis. Clara Berchtold

has been very ill, doesn't seem to have an interest in anything anymore. Bro. George Seidel shows little improvement, but his family is hopeful he will be able to come home soon. Sis. Nellie Woertz has been very ill, and is in the hospital. Sis. Mary Leuthold is hoping to get home in a few days from Mayo's, where she has been confined to the hospital, suffering from blood clots in her arm and leg. Joey Martin, little son of Bro. Ray and Sis. Edna, has been quite ill and in the hospital. They were expecting to bring him home soon, for which we are hopeful.

Another of our older pilgrims has laid down her cross. Sis. Pauline Knobloch, who had been residing at the Peoria Church Home the past three years, suffered a stroke, affecting her speech and one side. After a few days, she was taken back to the church home, where she suffered another stroke and was in a coma for a week, before she closed her eyes Thursday, Feb. 19. It was just a year before that one of her dear grandsons, Bro. Kenneth Knobloch was smothered in a grain bin, and since that time Pauline has longed more and more to go Home.

She had given her heart to the Lord as a young girl, and served Him faithfully for 70 years. Her concerns were for her children and grandchildren. She spent many hours making cross-stitch quilts for each of them. She was born in Finsteroth, Wttbg., Germany, Aug. 9, 1890, a daughter of Johann and Jacobena Schambach Feucht. She came to the United States in 1897. On Dec. 11, 1910, she married William G. Knobloch in Lester. He died on July 19, 1952.

Surviving are four sons, (Bros.) Edward and William (Nick) of our congregation, Bob of Morton, and James of Bradford congregation; five daughters; Sis. Esther (George) Kieser of Bradford congregation, Sis. Ruth (Dave) Kieser and Sis. Lillian (John) Elsasser of Princeville congregation; Irene (Bob) Weyeneth of Costa Rica, and Rose Ann (Richard) Aeschleman of South Bend, Indiana; one sister, Sis. Frieda Streitmatter of the Eureka Church Home. She was preceded in death by one son, five grandsons, six brothers and six sisters.

Bro. LeRoy Hartman and Bro.

Charles Hemmer of Peoria conducted the services, assisted by our local ministers. Pauline had weathered many a storm and kept her faith, and though parting brings pain, we can rejoice. She was laid to rest in the church cemetery beside her husband. The family express their thanks to everyone for kind deeds, prayers and thoughtful acts while their mother lived at the Home and for them during their time of bereavement.

A number of relatives from Iowa came for the funeral, and stayed to worship with us on Sunday. Bro. Carl Feucht of Lester was our guest minister. The truth was brought out clear and plain, the friends kindly invited to come and taste of God's love, the members warned to try to walk carefully. At the end, who will be there to grasp our hand to help us over the gulf?

Sisters Vera and Elda Martin have purchased a home in Sarasota and have asked to share their address. It is 2338 Linwood Drive, Sarasota FL 33580.

ROANOKE IL

Mae K. Hodel - Edith Sauder

Whatsoever things are lovely,
Live them in your heart;
Whatsoever things are just
Is man's noblest art;
Whatsoever things are honest
Let every man embrace;
Whatsoever things are pure
Lend beauty to your face.
If there be any virtue,
If there be any praise,
Think of these things . . .
Let them design your days.

Bro. Edwin Hohulin assisted Bro. Eugene Bertschi reading the memorandum, Sunday Feb. 15. We thank all the elders for reminding us of our duties and obligations unto our Lord. May we ever have grateful and humble hearts to be a shining light to all around us.

Bro. Elmer Bucher ministered to us Feb. 22.

Our dear friends, LeAnn Moser (Bro. Glen and Sis. Christa) and Clark Leman (Bro. Bruce and Sis. Marge) have found peace and wish to give a testimony of their faith in the near future.

Bro. Larry and Sis. Sharon Neukomm have a baby son, Jeffrey Ervin. Michelle, Tammie and Phil-

lip welcomed him home . . . Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Aeschleman welcomed a daughter, Heather Kathleen. She has a little brother at home, Jeremy.

Mr. and Mrs. Glen (Carol) Martin have a little son, Jesse Joshua. He is their first child . . . Brian David is the name chosen for the new son of Bro. Tim and Sis. Jean Hoffman. Twins Kim and Kirk, and Nathan welcomed him home.

Bro. Warren Hodel, Bro. Richard Bowald, Sis Cynthia Aeschleman, Sis. Laura Weyeneth, little Cheryl Hoffman, Sis. Marie Farney, and Sam Belsly were hospitalized and are home again. Bro. Andy Unsicker returned to the Apostolic Christian Home yesterday, Feb. 25.

Sis. Anna (John) Mangold observed her 89th birthday. She hasn't been able to assemble with us for some time.

Sis. Cheryl (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Ann) Sauder and Bro. Fred Janssen (Mr. and Mrs. Carl Janssen) were united in marriage Feb. 22. **Where God in truth abides, where two join hand and heart, We find a threefold cord not lightly rent apart.**

TOLEDO OH Lydia Meister

He giveth more grace, when the
burdens grow greater.
He sendeth more strength when
the labors increase.
To added affliction, He adds His
mercy,
To multiplied trials, His multiplied
peace.

When we have exhausted our store
of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere
the day is half done,
When we reach the end of our
hoarded resources,
Our Father's full giving is only be-
gun.

His love has no limit; His grace
has no measure;
His power no boundary known unto
men,
For out of His infinite riches in
Jesus,
He giveth and giveth and giveth
again.

The Conference Letter was read and explained to our congregation by Elder Bros. Ben Maibach and

Loren Stoller, Jan. 15. It is always uplifting to have our elders with us. We are thankful for their grave concern for their Flocks. May we all try to make their tasks lighter.

Sis. Lydia Schlatter has been at the Cleveland Clinic for tests. We hope soon to have her with us.

Due to the severe weather conditions, Sis. Emma Schick was unable to worship with us much of the winter. With warmer weather sure to come soon, we hope that we can all be together again to worship our Lord.

WINTHROP MN

Carol Messner - Marcelle Dapper

"Give, and it shall be given you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over . . . For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall measured to you again." Our hearts and prayers go out to the many souls in want and need since the devastating earthquake that hit Guatemala. In times like these we appreciate what our World Relief does.

Lynda Miller (Sam), daughter-in-law of Bro. Carl and Sis. Sophie, was hospitalized for surgery, and her recovery has been good.

Clarence Messner wishes to thank everyone for the cards received on his 50th birthday.

"Let us not therefore judge one another any more. . ." Romans

When you're forming your opinions, do it carefully—go slow; Hasty judgments oft are followed by regretting, that I know, And in arguments be careful not too quickly to decide— Try to look upon the subject from the other fellow's side.

WOLCOTT IN

Marjean Lehman - Arles Kropf

A Christian, now baptized,
To me much grace is given.
Why was this granted me?
That I with Christ am risen!
This is the holy aim;
He who does this neglect
Cannot truthfully claim,
I'm one of God's elect.

As the strains of this hymn were sung in our assembly on Feb. 1, we welcomed into the fold our new brother and sister, Fred and Mary

Beth (Schwab) Basham. Ministering brothers here to share the week-end with us were Roy Wernli of Lamont; Wendell Gudeman, Francesville; and Ken Schneider, Remington. Although outside the snow was blowing, inside was warmth and a feeling of true joy and love.

Our friends, Ron and Donna Kyburz are parents of their first child, Daniel Eugene, born Jan. 27. Bro. Leroy and Sis. Edna Kyburz are paternal grandparents.

Sis. Reva Waibel again had to have surgery, but we are thankful she is home and improving . . . Sis. Nancy Christopher was a patient at Caylor-Nickel Clinic at Bluffton for treatment.

Our best wishes go to Nancy Furrer and Terry Harris, who were married on Feb. 14.

Our area has had several severe winter storms, with much drifted snow and ice since Christmas, but now are enjoying more spring-like temperatures.

BRADFORD IL

Jane Leman

Elder Bro. Leroy Huber (Eureka) reminded us in his sermon that we cannot serve two gods. Our Lord and Saviour in Heaven should be the one and only God we serve, and it is the second god that would destroy us, whatever it may be, land, money, etc.

We also thank our other visiting ministers: Bro. Robert Walder (Congerville) and Bro. Art Baurer (Princeville).

With regret we report that Bro. Jerry and Sis. Doris Kuntz and family have moved back to their home church of Oakville, after assembling with us for five years.

Our sympathy goes to Bro. Jim Knobloch and Sis. Esther (George) Kieser, in the death of their mother. We shall miss Grandma (Sis. Pauline) Knobloch, as she often assembled with us.

Bro. Alfred Hausmann is again able to assemble with us, and his hand is still healing satisfactorily. He sends this note: Words fail us to express our thanks for the prayers, visits, cards, flowers, gifts and food received while in the hospital and since returning home. . . A sincere prayer out of a humble heart availeth much.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

BLUFFTON IN

Ruby Gerber - Rhonda Steffen

Give thanks to the Lord! We are fortunate to have many new lambs added to the fold. They are: Janice Steffen (Bro. Glennis and Sis. Irene), Carmon Pfister (Bro. Tom and Sis. Barb), Holly Ringger (Bro. George and Sis. Evelyn), Linda McAfee (Bro. John and Sis. Irene Neuenschwander), Kevin Aschliman (Bro. Bob and Sis. Ida), Derryl Aschliman (Bro. Millard and Sis. Alice), Mark Nicholas (Mr. and Mrs. Max Nicholas), Don and Rick Fiechter (Bro. Carl and Sis. Mary), Brad Compton (Harold and Betty), Jon Kaehr (Bro. Roger and Sis. Pauline), Steve Longenberger (Bro. Harry and Sis. Devonna), Marcia and Doyle Reinhard (Bro. Don and Sis. Sarah), Larry Stoller (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Flossie), Steve Schwartz (Bro. Lester and Sis. Sally), Ed Steffen (Sis. Marie and late Bro. Harold), Darryl Gerber (Bro. Wilmer and Sis. Clara), Gordon Gerber (Bro. Frederick and Sis. Margaret), Kay Fiechter (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Bernice), Tim Steffen (Bro. Leroy and Sis. Elizabeth), Tonya Frauhiiger (Bro. Melvin and Sis. Lucille), Jim Schwartz (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Leona), and Bob Gerber (Bro. Bob and Sis. Evelyn).

Our prayers are with Sis. Marie Moser as her husband, Bro. Nelson passed away on Feb. 22. He is survived by two daughters, Sis. Gloria (Bro. Terry) Steffen, Shelia (Kent) Sprunger; one brother, Bro. Ervin; one sister, Sis. Goldie (Bro. Arthur) Kipfer, and one foster sister, Sis. Mary (Bro. Sylven) Gerber.

The Lord has given some new responsibilities to Bro. Bill and Sis. Cathy Stoller. They are the parents of Christina Jo. . . Bro. Bob and Sis. Mary Honegger are the parents of Joseph Tyler, born Feb. 19. . . On Feb. 22, Bro. Sam and Sis. Darlene Habegger were blessed with Jill Renee. . . Rachel Ann has given joy to Bro. John and Sis. Sue Kipfer. . . Jim and Kathy Lantz welcomed into their home Cybil Renee.

On Feb. 15, Karen Coyne and Scott Kaehr were united in marriage. The groom's parents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria. Bro. Don and Sis. Mary are the bride's parents, and Larry's folks are Sis. Sara and the late Harry Reinhard.

We appreciate the presence of many visiting ministers: Bros. Theo. Beer, Walter Rehklau, Joe Ramsier, Simon Wagenbach, Elmer Hartter, John Steiner, and Vernon Wettstein.

Hospital patients were Bro. Russell Steffen, Sis. Gladys (Bro. Walter) Fiechter, Bro. Leonard Dubach, Sis. Ida Gerber, Sis. Mary (Bro. Bill) Steffen, and Sis. Lucille (Bro. Walter) Kaehr.

CONGERVILLE IL

Mary Leman - Sharon McClure

Our visiting ministers were Bros. Leroy Huber (Eureka) and Gene Lehman (Wolcott). We certainly appreciate their labors.

On Feb. 14, Cheryl Schieber, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Alice, was united in marriage to Kelly Bowen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bowen of Danvers.

Another couple have chosen to walk life's pathway hand in hand. The engagement of Bro. Mike Schieber, son of Bro. Harold and Sis. Alma, to Sis. Mary Overmeyer, daughter of Bro. Lee and Sis. Velda (Francesville) was announced Feb. 15.

We rejoice that friend Annette Zimmerman, daughter of Bro. Orville and Sis. Lulu, has turned to the Lord in repentance.

Loved ones hospitalized this month are Sis. Lorene Schieber, Sis. Tillie Sauder, who resides at the Eureka Home, and Bro. Rick Knapp.

A farewell singing was held on Feb. 22 for Bro. Kurt and Sis. Jane Ehnle, who are leaving our congregation and moving to Princeville. We wish them God's blessings in their new home. They will be missed, and we hope they will visit often.

March is Silver Lining collection for Congerville.

JUNCTION OHIO

Gwen Manz-Betty Manz

We shared a very blessed weekend Feb. 21-22 when our friend, Lester Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn) gave his testimony of faith and was baptized. We welcome him as a brother in our precious faith. We enjoyed the fellowship of our many visitors, especially Elder Bro. David Bertsch (Leo) and Loren Stoller (Latty) and Ministering Bros. Walter Rehklau (To-

ledo) and John Steiner (Oakville). Bro. David also assisted Bro. Loren in sharing the conference conclusions with us.

Other ministers who shared the word with us were Bros. Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield), Henry Dotterer (Rittman) and Robert Beer (Mansfield).

John Rose (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty Manz) fell 24 feet from a roof, while on a construction job. He suffered a head concussion and compound leg fracture. We are happy to hear he is home again.

Morris: Combined collection time is April.

LA CROSSE IN

Marilyn Zeltwanger - Carolyn Levy

We were happy to have with us Bro. Rod Huber (Valparaiso) on Wed. evening, Feb. 11. Bro. Andy Virkler (Bay City) visited us Sun. Feb. 15. We received many spiritual blessings from God's holy word through the ministry of these dear brethren.

A precious bundle of joy, a son, was born to Bro. Bill and Sis. Joan Frank. Lucas Andrew is their first child. Grandparents are Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Lea Frank and Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knobloch (Bradford).

Come, come sweet rest, which leads to God
And brings us to our blessed Saviour.

In that blest place, where face to face,
The ransomed host sings to God's praise and favor.

With sadness we bid farewell to Bro. Sam Frank, as the death angel came for him . . . But we believe he often yearned for this time when he could go home to his eternal rest. Bro. Sam was one of the old pillars in our church, having reached the age of 86 years. He was born in Morton in 1889. He had been in failing health the last few years. He is survived by one daughter and two sons: Sis. Mary Gudeman (Bro. Art) and our Elder Bro. Ed Frank, also Bro. John Frank (Bluffton) . . . also surviving are one brother, Bro. John Frank, and one sister, Sis. Clara Welk, both from Morton. Bro. Maurice Frank (Leo) conducted the funeral services, assisted by Bro. Merle Bucher.

Funeral services were held Feb. 24 for Harvey Swing. He was the son of the late Bro. and Sis. Joe and Lydia of our congregation.

Our community was hit by two week-end snowstorms, causing us to assemble only one-half day, both Sun. Feb. 1 and Sun. Feb. 8. Now as the month is near to the end, we find the snow all melted. As we see the crocus and tulips peeking their heads from the earth, we have the hope of spring . . . So also, as we see the prophecies being fulfilled in the world, we believe that the end-times are close at hand. Therefore, every day we must work toward our salvation and be not weary, for we shall reap if we faint not, and let us do good unto all men, for the fruits of the Spirit are: love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

We are thankful to report that Sis. Melva Bucher (Bro. Vernon) has been released from the hospital and is improving.

MANSFIELD OH

Lucille Groh

I was in such prison
Oh so dark and cold
Like a lost sheep wandering
From God's eternal fold
Then the gates swung open
Jesus said to me
I have signed your pardon
Now you may go free.

Jesus signed my pardon
This I surely know
Took my place on Calvary
Now I won't have to go
All my life I gave Him
He gave His for me
When He signed my pardon
There on Calvary.

We rejoice with Eileen (Domka) Jones, the daughter of Bro. Steve and Sis. Ruth Sabo Domka, who has received pardon, has found precious peace, and is awaiting baptism. Only those who have experienced this pardoning grace can know the true joy of being a child of God. We wish her much grace, and know she will have much happiness in her new-found faith.

We are pleased to report Bro. Byron Rice, Sis. Marcella Sauder, Sis. Freda Beer and Friend Tom Roberts have been restored to a

measure of health and have been able to assemble with us again, after having surgery. Loved ones hospitalized are: Sis. Freda Dinger and Sis. Mary Sabo. Mary is in serious condition; however, the doctors do not know the cause of her illness.

Our beloved hymns are so much a part of a Christian's life, and they do so much to uplift us. Upon questioning old and young alike, it was interesting to note some of the comments pertaining to this subject and what they mean to each individual. One dear old sister said she loved the hymn PRECIOUS MEMORIES, because as she sits alone day after day, her only comfort is the risen Saviour, and then she passes her time thinking of her precious memories, one being that of her foster mother, who lived to be 103 years of age . . . how kind she was and who led such a God-fearing life . . . A young sister said, "I was drawn to the Lord and could finally submit to His will when the song WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN was sung. It made her think of her deceased father and his godly life; she wanted to meet him someday, and only through our risen Saviour's promise could she attain heaven and meet her father.

Another dear sister, who had gone through a great trial due to the loss of her beloved companion, said one evening, She knows not whether she was awake or asleep, but a vision came to her, and in her mind's eye, it seemed as though her mother who had long gone to rest stood beside her. She said, "Mom, I can't go on any longer". Her mother said, Oh yes you can . . . BE TRUE BE TRUE, THE LORD IS BY THEE STANDING, JOYFUL AT LAST WITH HIM WILL BE THE ENDING. With these words of encouragement, she was able to go on . . . Another said, my sister was taken in death, and I could find no comfort, no reasoning for the happening, then the song, OH WHERE IS THE HOME OF THE SOUL TO BE FOUND was sung, and this brought great comfort and relief. Another said, I was brought into conviction the day I heard TWO WAYS, O MAN, ARE THERE FOR THEE . . . Another said, when I heard them singing ON CHRIST THE SOLID ROCK I STAND, all

other ground is sinking sand, she knew she wasn't standing on the solid rock and knew her ground was sinking sand; she had to do something about it . . . she did. Because there is so much power in the blood, another said, I love WHEN I SEE THE BLOOD.

The beloved hymn 205, in the Zion's Harp, ABIDING IN JESUS is a favorite of another, because, as a little child, her grandfather would give out this song in the Rittman church for the children, and now, being a grandmother, at night when sleep does not always come, the verses of this beloved hymn comes to mind and memory and brings joy and comfort.

A brother mentioned as a sinner the song ALMOST PERSUADED was sung, and the last words, ALMOST BUT LOST struck him; what a terrible plight . . . ALMOST BUT LOST!

WHAT HYMN MEANS MOST TO YOU? WHY?

OAKVILLE IA Phyllis Siegle

God's inspiration dwelt within, as we heard Bros. James Ramseyer (Bay City) and Robert Grimm (Goodfield) minister the gospel to us.

Tom Ohnmacht has been announced as having peace with God and is awaiting his proving and baptism. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ohnmacht of Oakville. Let us, as believers, have a prayer in our heart and words of encouragement on our lips for those who desire to live in Christ.

So many thoughts go through our minds,
We can't believe he's finally here
. . .
After all those endless waiting days,
He's arrived now, so wonderfully dear.

An infant son was welcomed into the home of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Priscilla (Bowers) Frank Feb. 9. He was given the name, Kison Lynn and is their first child. Grandparents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Clara Frank and Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian Bowers of Wichita. Great-grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Clara Frank and Mr. and

Mrs. D.H. Brunt of Galveston, Texas.

By the Holy Spirit's prompting, we have heard the teaching of the Parable of the Sower expounded several times this month. Truly, as often as we hear God's word, it never grows old. We were reminded of the tremendous importance the condition of one's heart plays as we go to God's house. This will determine the location where the seed will fall, if fruit will be forthcoming, and its quality. How fitting it was when the Hymn 108, Zion's Harp, entitled "The Field and the Fruit" was then selected and a portion of it sung.

Oh my Lord Jesus, Thee I pray,
My heart for Thee make useful;
And for Thy seed prepare the way.
Grant that it may be fruitful!

It would be truly sad if our heart would be unhealthy, and our assembling around God's word would have been in vain.

All our hearts were saddened by our church being vandalized. By the helping hand of many believers and friends, it is hopeful we will be able to assemble in our building on Sunday.

Prayer should be the key of the day and the lock of the night.

PHOENIX AZ Julie Hoerr

We have truly been blessed with encouraging messages of the precious life with our Lord and Saviour, from Ministering Bros. Jim Ringger (Bradford), Henry Grimm (Morton), Ed Alt (Cissna Park), William Funk (Garden Grove), Joe Braker (Morton), Noah Herman (Tucson).

Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara Schupbach are grandparents of Amy Marie, daughter of Connie and Joe Beer . . . John and Sis. Bonnie Greenbank rejoice with little Toby over Timothy Ray, born Feb. 12. Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank of Akron O are paternal grandparents.

Peace I give unto you — How joyful to report that Leon Baumgartner has this blessed peace and is looking forward to baptism.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Lena Vege on the passing of her sister, Mary Madsen. Mary has

worshipped with us while visiting Sis. Lena in Phoenix.

It is a joy to see our little church filled on Sundays and Wednesday evenings with so many winter visitors. We surely enjoy their visits.

It was nice to see Bro. Ernest DeMille at church during our unusually warm weather; also, Sis Kate Blumenschein is able to assemble with us, following her illness.

March is Silver Lining collection for Phoenix.

Our Sunday School classes and youth group enjoyed a blessed fellowship the week-end of Feb. 21 and 22, as the Tucson church hosted Phoenix and California churches.

Bro. Joe and Sis. Lavina Dotterer and Sis. Carolyn have moved to 16225 Cave Creek Rd., Space 124, Phoenix AZ 85032.

Past experience should be a Guide post, not a Hitching post.

PURDUE

Kris Leman - Kathy Tanner

God's inspired holy word was brought to us this month by Bros. Don and Art Gudeman (LaCrosse) and Bro. Karl Westphal (Francesville). As the hymnwriter wrote, "Let your whole life be an offering to God and to Christ the Lord . . .", we find as believers that we must daily give our will unto the Lord and patiently wait on Him, that we may obtain the promise . . . so friend, when life becomes all snarled up, offer it to our Lord and let Him untie the knots.

RITTMAN OH

Grace Gasser

Lest we should forget the wonder and magnificence of His creation, God gave us children to keep reminding us, and pointing out how truly great He is.

Last week, our 3rd grade math class was suddenly interrupted, when two little first grade girls burst into our room, and breathlessly exclaimed, "Do you remember those bulbs you planted a long time ago? They're sprouting; Come and see them! Of course we hurried at once to our little flower garden, and in the cold February wind, stood and gazed in wonder and awe at our crocuses and hyacinths, which were pushing

their way through the cold, snowy ground. Only a child could fully appreciate the great miracle that had taken place in the seemingly lifeless bulbs, which we had buried under the ground many snows ago.

Children, there is something special about you. You are like a fresh breeze to us who are too busy and too tired . . . You are life's reminder to believe in God.

Those who have been hospitalized for surgery have been: Sis. Kay Nieman, Bro. John Steiner, and Beverly Moore. Sis. Mary Zolinger and Deborah Christian, infant daughter of Bro. Ronnie and Sis. Joanne, have also spent time in the hospital. We were happy to have our dear aged Sis. Emma Rigenbach assemble with us again, after being absent for a number of weeks due to illness.

On Feb. 1, Bro. Rudolph Graf of Akron assisted Bro. Joseph Ramsier in reading the memorandum. We certainly appreciate the many kind services rendered to us by our dear elder brethren.

The Bridge Builder

An old man going on a lone highway
Came at the evening, cold and gray,
To a chasm, vast and deep and wide . . .
The old man crossed in the twilight dim;
The sullen stream had no fear for him,
But he turned when on the other side
And built a bridge to span the tide.

Old man, said a fellow pilgrim near,
You are wasting your strength with building here.
Your journey will end with the ending day;
You never again will pass this way.
You've crossed the chasm deep and wide.
Why build you this bridge at eventide?

The builder lifted his old gray head.
Good friend, in the path I have come, he said,
There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This chasm that has been as naught to me

To that fair-haired youth may a pitfall be.

He too must cross in the twilight dim—

Good friend, I am building this bridge for him!

SARDIS OH

Linda Indermuhle

A note of thanks: I would like to express my thanks to each one who remembered me with cards, gifts, visits, and prayers while I was a surgical patient in the hospital, and for all their kindness when I came home. I would also like to share with you the following poem I copied from one of the cards. It gives me so much comfort and assurance, especially at this time, and maybe it may help to ease another's burden or make their day a little brighter. Sis. Rosella Figel.

On the Wings of Prayer

Just close your eyes and open your heart
And feel your worries and cares depart.
Just yield yourself to the Father above
And let Him hold you secure in His love.

For life on earth grows more involved
With endless problems that can't be solved,
But God only asks us to do our best,
Then He will take over and finish the rest.
So when you are tired, discouraged and blue
There is always one door that is open for you
And that is the door to the "House of Prayer"
And you will find God waiting to meet you there.

And the "House of Prayer" is no farther away
Than the quiet spot where you kneel and pray,
For the heart is a Temple where God is there,
As we place ourselves in His loving care.
And He hears every prayer and answers each one
When we pray in His name "Thy will be done",
And the burdens that seemed too heavy to bear,

Are lifted away "On the wings of prayer".

TAYLOR MO

Lena M. Haerr

"The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth."

We appreciate the visiting ministers. Feb. 8, Bro. Albert Wuthrich, Pulaski, was with us when they visited their daughter and family.

Henry Hodel, husband of Sis. Loida, had surgery Feb. 20 at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, Illinois. We are thankful the surgery seems a success. We know God hears all prayers and how thankful we are, that we can put all our trust in Him.

I had the blessed privilege to be in Leo and witness four testimonies and baptisms. Truly miracles are performed when sinners can become precious children of God. My thoughts went back fifty years, to the time when Bro. David Bertsch's grandfather, Bro. Eli Winzeler heard my testimony. Bro. David reminded me so much of his grandfather in the way he advised, and left the dear souls feel his love and concern for them. So much we have to be thankful for!

BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL IL

Ann Kellenberger - Paula Knapp

Several families enjoyed services at the Home for the Handicapped in Morton on Friday evening, Jan. 30. . . Also on Feb. 15, our congregation had services at Wood Hill Towers (Home for elderly). They certainly appreciate everyone who comes to worship and sing with them. May the youth always find a few moments to spend with the aged.

We can feel the Spirit is still working in the hearts of man. We rejoice with our friend, Kevin Nussbaum (Bro. Byron and Sis. Neola—Forrest) who has turned to our Lord in repentance. We wish him God's guidance and understanding.

Much happiness is brought into a home when we are blessed with a new baby. Sue and Tim Meiss welcomed a baby boy on Feb. 19. He has been named Nathaniel Jacob. First-time grandparents are Ed and Sis. Barb Meiss and Elbert and Fern Williams, all of Heyworth . . . also, Bro. Ron and Sis. Kay Hein-

iger have received a precious bundle, Brett David. Brett arrived on Feb. 20 and has one brother, Mark. Their grandparents are Bro. Leo and Sis. Beulah Funk (Gridley) and Bro. Arthur and Sis. Verena Heiniger (Morton).

Our congregation felt fortunate to have visiting minister, Bro. Lenny Meyer (Chicago) visit us.

Bloomington-Normal hosted Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship on Sunday evening, Feb. 22. It is such a joy to hear the youth sing. We are looking forward to hosting the remaining churches on Feb. 29.

April is Silver Lining collection for Bloomington-Normal.

CHICAGO IL

Kathy Schlatter

The Lord gave grace that Friends Steve Lau and Martie Grivet might be added to the fold. Saturday, Feb. 14, they were proved; Sunday, they were then baptized. Elder Bro. Dan Koch, Tremont, and Bro. Elmer Schrenk, Alto, assisted our Elder Bro. Dale in the Lord's work. May the Lord smile upon them, protect them in all temptations, and grant them His love to do all that is His will. His special blessings be upon Bill Klaus, too, in his repenting. We rejoice with him, his wife Sis. Peggy, his family in Eureka, and all the angels in heaven.

We wish to remember Sis. Elizabeth Zimmerman, who fell, breaking the large bone in her upper arm. She had to be hospitalized, but is now home.

The week of Feb. 14-21, my husband and I accompanied my father on a Caribbean cruise. The experience provided us with many memories and some enlightening sights and thoughts.

The island of Haiti is a beautiful example of God's creation; the Haitians, however, are extremely poor people. Children beg on street corners, along the roadsides—even on mountaintops. Sometimes they have merchandise to sell; oftentimes they merely cry, "Give me money, give me money, give me money" . . . And they're all barefoot, clothed in little better than rags. Their houses are sometimes only thatched huts, mostly 12' x 12' or smaller. We may recoil at their outright begging, but we've been given ever so much more than they have. Are we to judge?

Seen from a huge ship at night, in the reflected moonlight, the sea overwhelms one with its vastness, beauty and power. But He who made it made us, too, and sent His Son to die for us — that's more overwhelming.

Eighty-degree winter weather (contrasted with our especially cold winter) and the many differences in just the Caribbean islands we visited (Haiti's steep mountains, Puerto Rico's rain forest, the hilly terrain and white sand beaches of St. Thomas and St. John in the Virgin Islands, and Nassau's beautiful harbor, beaches, and underwater "forest", to name a few) . . . made the infinite richness and variety of God clearer to us.

And, though far from home and our larger church fellowship, we listened to sermons on a cassette tape recorder — and revelled in God's goodness, for His giving man the technology but more so for His giving men the words to speak. May we forever praise His name.

ELGIN IL

Mary Moser

Feb. 1, Sis. Roubie and Bro. Gene Brown were united in holy matrimony. Sue was originally from New York. Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss from Forrest was here for this blessed occasion. We thank him for ministering the word of God to us.

A girl, Charlene Kay, was born to Bro. Ron and Sis. Nancy Schambach on Feb. 13. Charlene has 3 sisters to welcome her home.

We are the only Bible the careless world will read;

We are the sinner's gospel, we are the scoffer's creed.

We are the Lord's last message, given in deed and word.

What if the type is crooked, what if the print is blurred?

May we strive, with grace from above, to let our light shine while we go about our daily duties.

Sis. Nina Willaert was in the hospital for surgery and is now back home doing fine.

Martha Bauer would like to thank all of those who were so kind to her during her hospital stay and recuperation at home. She appreciated the prayers, gifts, cards and visits.

EUREKA IL
Cathryn Wettstein
Salome Schumacher

The new year now is two months gone,
 And soon it shall be seen
 That God awakens all the flowers,
 And the grass will soon be green.
 All we need is to look around
 And see the birds returning,
 To sing us songs in the early morn,
 From them God's goodness learning.

Those who have been hospitalized, but are home again are the following: Sis. Melba Mangold, surgical, Eureka Hospital; Bro. Wayne Kupferschmid, medical, Eureka Hospital; Sis. Anna Bittner, medical, Eureka Hospital; Sis. Bertha Meiss, surgical, Champaign Hospital.

Those still in the hospital: Sis. Tillie Sauder (Bro. Dan's wife) was in Eureka, but then taken to Methodist in Peoria; Hulda Koelling, medical, Eureka; Bro. Sam Leman, surgical, Methodist; Sis. Eliza Leman, medical, Eureka; Sis. Mary Leuthold went to Mayo Hospital. She was a resident in our "Home" before going . . . Bro. Richard Franks—medical patient in Eureka Hospital.

Dean Miller, son of Melvin and Bertha, is in Eureka Hospital. He is in isolation because of his illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Wind of Metropolis, Ill. were blessed with their 3rd daughter, born Dec. 7. She is named Elizabeth Dawn. Kristine and Julie are happy with a little sister.

A new resident at the "Home" is Sis. Anna Bittner.

Death—Bro. Isaac Stoller, age 95 years, passed away at the "Home", where he lived for more than 2 years, Feb. 21. His funeral was Feb. 24, conducted by Bro. Walter Anliker. He is survived by his wife, Sis. Marie; two sons, Bro. Leroy of El Paso and Ben of Morton; 2 daughters, Sis. Vera Kibler, Peoria, and Mabel Wittmer of Eureka; one brother, Ed of Spokane, Washington; and Sis. Mary Strieb of Fairbury. Burial was in Roanoke Church Cemetery. Bro. Isaac was the oldest member of the Eureka church. Bro. Joshua Broquard spoke a little at Bro. Isaac's funeral—he was our only visitor this past month.

FORREST IL
Kathryn Steidinger
Beverly Eisenmann

Bro. Rich and Sis. Marian Rieger have two new granddaughters. Dick and Jacki Rieger have named their little girl Kimberly Kay. She has two brothers, Jeff and Jason. Elizabeth Ann is the new addition to Ron and Diane Rieger's family. Bobby and Becky are their other children. The Harley Honeggers are Elizabeth's grandparents also . . . Bob and Mary Beth Decker have been blessed with a daughter, too. Cari Ann's brothers are Eric and Collin, and grandparents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Mary Ann Rieger. Bro. Manny Rieger is her great-grandfather . . . Ron and Sis. Linda Kinder have another little boy, Aaron William, who will be a playmate for Tory. Bro. Elmer and Sis. Wilma Bachtold are his grandparents.

Jill Zimmerman (Maurice and Joy) and Thomas Rock have announced their engagement, and are planning a May 29 wedding . . . Planning a June 6 wedding are Mary Jean Koehl (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Gladys) and Benjamin Daily . . . Wayne Gerber (Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther) and Carolyn Dameron have set July 10 as their wedding date . . . Another couple with wedding plans in late summer are Mary Jo Aberle (Bro. Bill and Sis. Jean) and Mark Rieger. Fred and Jane are Mark's parents.

Our newlyweds are Paul Zimmerman (Bro. Perry and Sis. Dorothy) and Loretta Huette (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Edith). They were married Feb. 7, and are living in Fairbury . . . Also, Kim Farney (Dale and Hariette) and Douglas Benway, whose wedding was Feb. 21, will live at rural Strawn.

Bro. George Lehman was undergoing treatment at the hospital for several weeks. Sis. Robin Kupferschmid also was in several days for tests. Sis. Eleanor Honegger fractured a bone in her leg, when she slipped and fell on the ice. Several of our older members have been confined to their homes this winter. As we visited one of our aged sisters, she mentioned how she misses being in church, and is longing and looking forward to the time when her health improves and the weather is warmer, so that she too can gather around God's word again.

We all look forward to those hours, and often wonder at how fast the precious moments fly as His word is read and meditated on. Whether it's our faithful home ministers or visiting brothers, it is the same life-giving word, and we all receive a portion to help us thru the coming days with their trials and cares. Bro. Harold Schmidtgall of Gridley, Ill. and Marvin Schmidtgall and Walter Anliker of Eureka were our recent visiting ministers. One of our brothers left us with this thought—Hell will be full of good intentions.

FT LAUDERDALE FL
Bert Aeschliman

We find in St. Matthew chapter 4, From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, REPENT: FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND. Surely we in Ft. Lauderdale have been richly blessed in seeing the Lord's work here. Carolyn Akel (Sis. Louise Akel and Charles Akel) and Sis. Denise Mueller (Ambrose and Doris Mueller) gave their testimonies & were baptized, with the aid of our shepherd and elder brother, Ben Maibach. These precious moments of faith are rejuvenating to the Christian's spiritual life, and we pray that many more friends and loved ones could find the grace to follow Jesus' command; "Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

We will miss Bro. Henry and Sis. Frances Schwartz, who have moved back to Indiana. How marvelous it is to feel and know that the Lord has a place in heaven for the true and faithful, and we know He will always be with Bro. Henry and Sis. Frances.

We are still privileged to have many visitors congregate with us, and enjoy meeting and greeting new and old acquaintances in the Lord. We wish to thank those visiting ministers who so unselfishly give of their talents: (Bros.) Elmer Bucher of Francesville, Bob Pohl of Burlington, Roy Luginbuhl of Rockville, Harold Gramm of Morris, George Gramm of Gridley, and Roy Weiland of Bay City. We hope all our visitors will come again.

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

GOODFIELD II**Elna Grimm - Verna Hartter**

"Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." And we also are joyful that we have two new converts who have found peace with God: Kent Kloter (Bro. and Sis. Edmund and Lorraine) and Lucy Hartter (Bro. and Sis. Richard and Verna).

Dave and Jan Wiegand have a new little daughter, Jill Ann. Grandparents are the Russell Yoders, Danvers, and Bro. and Sis. Simon and Mary Ellen Wiegand, Goodfield. Great-grandmothers are Sis. Mary Aberle, Sabetha, and Sis. Rose Wiegand, Eureka.

We extend our sincere sympathy to our Sisters Elsie Hohulin and Eloise Diggelman, in the passing of their brother, Bro. Clarence Stoller, Gridley.

Our Sis. Susie Nohl has entered the hospital for treatment.

Margit Hartter (Melvin) was hospitalized with an eye injury. She is back home and recovering now, for which we are very thankful.

GRIDLEY II**Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein**

"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."

We know that we serve Christ by serving one another . . . And what we are doing to the least brother or sister we are doing to our Lord. If we bring joy to our brother's heart, we also cause the heart of our Saviour to rejoice. May we always seek to possess this great love for one another, and delight in pleasing our brother for his good to edification.

Our ministering brother, Elmer Witzig, was in the hospital, and we are glad that he is able to assemble with us again. Sis. Setta Klopfenstein was in the hospital. Our friend, Chet Stortz was in the hospital.

Sonia Kuntz, daughter of Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma Kuntz, is engaged to be married to Tim Vercler, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Vercler.

We were privileged to have two visiting ministers with us: Bro. Ron Heiniger from Bloomington and Bro. Vernon Leman from Eureka.

"Thank you for all visits, prayers, cards, gifts and kind deeds while I was in the hospital, A.C. Home in Eureka, and since coming home." Sophia Kaupp

March is Silver Lining collection for Gridley, Ill.

HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

" . . . let us not be weary in well doing . . ." "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men . . ."

With the impetus of such directives, we hope to move ahead in faith with the building project for expansion, as soon as weather permits. The plan for the physical facility is to double the capacity for residents, with corresponding room for added operating facilities. The goal for making a Home for an additional number of residents is to review and to re-emphasize our original desire to analyze the comprehensive needs of each resident as he comes to live here. Then with a combination of love, skill, and the smile of God's blessing, hope to nurture the beauty of each one's soul and thus help him to function to his capacity.

Before coming to the Home on Sept. 11, 1972, Lucy Endress lived near Speer, Illinois, and later with others of her family in the area. Her parents, Henry and Marie Schmidgall Endress now are both deceased. Three brothers: Art, Ernest, and Sam, and five sisters: Martha Nonemann and Helen Heilman of Detroit, Emma Herman of Morton, Miriam Messerli of Peoria, and Esther Sutter of Arizona make up the complete family.

It is a pleasure to enjoy Lucy's pleasant smile each day, as she goes about her duties of helping in the kitchen and helping other residents in many ways. Her free time finds her doing embroidery work or other handwork. It is mutually enjoyable to have her as part of our Home family.

The usual classes keep the residents busy and happy. One highlight was the privilege to take walks during those very first warm spring days. All of us rejoice . . . " . . . lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come . . ."

The sympathy of the staff and residents is extended to our admin-

istrator, Robert Knobloch and his family, because of the loss of his mother, Sis. Pauline Knobloch of Princeville. May the comfort of God's word sweeten the sorrow of separation.

The annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is scheduled for March 30. Please reserve the date and watch for notification by mail.

Our thanks go to Roanoke, Forest, and Congerville, who took time to fit our Friday evening services into their busy schedules.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY
Barb Landes**Springtime**

a time of renewal
blades of green grass cover the
brown earth
flower buds burst open with
sweet fragrance
trees sprout tiny green leaves
baby birds peck out of their
shells to begin a new life
a time of warmth
the sun's warming rays encour-
age the growth of tiny seeds
the warmth brings happiness and
security to a child at play
and encouragement to a tired
soul
a time for enthusiasm
children run barefoot in the
grass
the housewife hums as she hangs
clothes outside on the wash-
line to dry
the farmer plants his seeds with
the hope of a bountiful harvest
. . .

Christian, are you experiencing
a springtime in your heart?

a time of renewal
Jesus Christ, whose blood has
covered your sins, is the su-
preme ruler of your life
fruits of the Spirit surround
your life as a fragrance, be-
cause you attentively listen to
the Holy Spirit's guidance
your new life in Christ is streng-
thened by daily devotions and
a determination to follow
Christ's teachings
a time of warmth
your love for Christ—
enables you to encourage the
spiritual growth of brothers
and sisters in Christ
brings happiness and security

to others by your good deeds
and kind words
makes others desire to live for
Christ because they see the
joy within you
a time for enthusiasm
praise the Lord for His goodness
read the word with an open
heart
pray with fervor and thankful-
ness
share your faith with others—
plant gospel seeds and pray
for a bountiful harvest

Springtime . . . a challenge for us
all.

We want to thank Bros. Tom
Leman, Jim Hoerr, and Everett
Hari for bringing us God's word
during the month of February.

LAMONT KS

Jane Isch

We enjoyed many blessings
when Bro. Harvey Grimm of Bern,
Bro. Vernon Leman of Eureka, and
Bro. Willis Wiegand of Goodfield
brought the message of salvation
to us.

Our friend, Emma Enz, is now
making her home at the Madison
Manor, after spending a couple
months in the hospital, resulting
from a fall.

Sis. Matilda Emch spent some
time in the hospital, and we're
thankful she is able to be home
again.

LESTER IA

Alice Metzger - Donna Metzger

Bro. Chris Kellenberger passed
from this life on Feb. 12, at the
age of 85. A staunch pillar of the
church, he was a man of many tal-
ents. In his retirement years, he
helped make his corner of the earth
more beautiful with his outstand-
ing flower beds, in spite of crip-
pling arthritis. He is survived by
sons, Bro. Henry and Bro. Ernest,
and daughters, Sis. Salome (Mrs.
Albert Knobloch), Sis. Viola, Sis.
Elgeva (Mrs. Art Knobloch), Sis.
Alice (Mrs. Arnold Metzger), and
Sis. Della (Mrs. Silas Metzger), as
well as his wife, Sis. Lena . . . al-
so Bros. David, Henry, Nathan,
Herman of Elgin, Ill., and Bro.
Ernest of Morris, Sis. Rose Moser
of Lester and Lena Warner of
Sioux Falls. Services were con-
ducted by Bro. Dennis Warner
and Bro. Harvey Grimm, Sabetha.

The family expresses their appre-
ciation for all kindness, prayers,
gifts, cards and memorials offer-
ed at the time of their bereave-
ment.

Bro. Herman Stickling under-
went major surgery at a Roches-
ter, Minn. hospital and is improv-
ing satisfactorily. Bro. John Ger-
ber was released from the Roch-
ester hospital and is recuperating
at home. Sis. Pam Knobloch was
hospitalized, and is being cared for
at home. Kent Metzger, son of
Bro. Gene and Sis. Dolores, under-
went eye surgery and is getting
along fine.

Dustin Dean is the new little boy
born on Feb. 4 to Bro. Melvin and
Sis. Wilma Knobloch. He has a sis-
ter and three brothers, and grand-
parents are Bro. and Sis. Emil
Knobloch and Bro. and Sis. John
Tanner.

We rejoice with Bro. Martin and
Sis. Zelma Knobloch, that their
daughter, Susan and her husband,
Pete Van Wyhe, have turned their
backs on the world and have sought
the Lord in repentance.

Sis. Edna Mogler has left our
community to make her home in
the nursing home in West Bend.
We miss her cheerful countenance
in church.

Bro. Jerry Leuthold was dis-
charged, after serving six years
in the Air National Guard.

Connie Kellenberger, daughter of
Bro. Henry and Sis. Elaine, and
Douglas Bergstrom were united in
marriage in her parent's home by
Elder Bro. Leo Moser.

MILFORD IN

Linda Beer - Coleen Beer

February brought us many hap-
penings, unusual for this time of
year, cold weather and deep snow,
snowbound visitors, and warm
weather, all which resulted in mak-
ing us enjoy our warm fellowship.
We take so much for granted.
Through it all, we hope it can be
said of us like God said about Ab-
raham, "For I know him, that he
will command his children and his
household after him, and they
shall keep the way of the LORD, to
do justice and judgment; that the
LORD may bring upon Abraham
that which he hath spoken of him."

We want to thank the visiting
brethren . . . Bro. Bill Gerst, Alto,
and Bros. Walter Anliker and Ver-
non Leman from Eureka. We al-

ways enjoy those who come to
share God's word and worship with
us.

Among our fellowship, we have
several unable to worship with us:
Bros. Sam Reimschisel and Charlie
Wiesser, Sisters Inez Brooks, Lau-
ra Wuthrich, Louise Rapp, and Ma-
ry Goode. We know they need our
prayers, and they have assured us
that they pray for us who are able
to gather in the Lord's house of
worship.

Sis. Sue Schieler had surgery and
seems to be recovering well.

We miss Bro. Henry and Sis.
Alice Beer, who have gone to Flor-
ida to visit their children.

We would like to mention one of
our oldest members, Bro. Lew
Rassi; he was born in 1888 in Mor-
ton. He moved to Milford in 1907.
His good wife is the former Anna
Shick from Gridley, Kansas. He is
known throughout the community
and churches for his years of hard
work and being to church on time
nearly every Sunday. His life's la-
bors include running his hatchery,
selling his chicks, and farming.
Lew always has a smile & a hardy
handshake on Sunday.

NAUMBURG NY

Eleanor Herzig

We truly enjoyed another bles-
sed week-end Feb. 7 and 8, when we
could witness the testimony and
baptism of another dear soul, Jo-
anne Demorest (Clifford and Sis.
Jane). Elder Bros. Rudolph Graf
and John Bahler were with us for
the week-end, and also shared the
reading of the memorandum with
us on Sunday evening.

Andrew and Emma Virkler cel-
ebrated their 33rd anniversary on
Jan. 21 at the Bender Nursing
Home (where they are both re-
siding), with a small gathering of
relatives and residents of the nur-
sing home.

Matthew Herzig, son of Bro. Ron
and Sis. Eleanor, was hospitalized
for a few days.

Bruce and Gayle Hirschey and
Aaron, 2½, have welcomed a new
little bundle of joy into their home,
Jacob Edward, born Feb. 24.
Grandparents are Bro. Leland and
Sis. Bernice Hirschey and the
Glenn LaMoys of Plattsburg. Ja-
cob also has two great-grandmo-
thers, Sis. Rose Hirschey and Sis.
Huldah Farney.

Amelia Virkler Steria, 96, wi-

dow of John Steria, passed from this life on Feb. 24. She had resided at McAuley Hall in Watertown for several years. Our sympathy goes to her survivors: two daughters, Mrs. Aurelius (Helen) Steiner, Croghan, and Mrs. Milton (Verna) York, Lakeland, Fla.; a son, Wilbur Steria, Schenectady; and a brother, Andrew S. Virkler of the Bender Nursing Home.

NEW MARTINSVILLE WV Minnie Weltz-Della Witschey

After a few weeks of very rough winter weather, we have had several lovely days of sunshine and small early flowers are in bloom; new life is beginning to show in many ways, assuring us that spring is not too faraway.

Mrs. Aleta Durig, wife of Harry Durig, former residents of this city, passed away in Parkersburg on Feb. 23.

Henry Myers of Washington, Pa., and Glenn Frumm of Alexandria, Va., both the nephews of Della Witschey, have been ill in their respective towns, but are improving at this time.

Mrs. James Wade, daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade, was a surgical patient in a Cleveland, O., hospital the last of February, and is doing nicely.

Margaret Witschey and Elizabeth Hawkibs visited with their brother, Ralph and family in Parkersburg on Feb. 21 and 22.

Harry Fiess has been a hospital patient for some time, having suffered a heart attack in early February.

Mr. and Mrs. William Murdock Sr. visited with their son William Jr. and family in Huntington, on Feb. 21 and 22.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade, accompanied by friends, visited patients in the Turtle Creek Nursing Center in Parkersburg on Feb. 25.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams of Akron have returned to their home, after enjoying the sunshine in Florida for several weeks.

We almost had a flood on Feb. 16 through the 20th; another day of heavy rain in the upper watersheds would have sent the river over its banks. Many of the low-lying areas were flooded, but no damage done.

SARASOTA FL

Lyn Blunier — Sandra Price

We know that the story of God's

love and power is so old, and that through the ages it has been so tried by fire and yet endures to this day. Bros. Elmer Bucher (Francesville), (Elder Bros.) Roy Sauder (Peoria), Sam Anliker (Lamont), (Bros.) Harold Gramm (Morris) and Henry Beer (Milford) have visited us and shared in this old, yet always refreshing love and power of God's word.

The Saviour has passed this way in our little church again, and we welcome Mrs. Irene Ziggler, a tourist resident into our fold, and also Karen Getz, daughter of Bro. Mel and Sis. Margret Getz of Peoria. When we are babes in Christ, we cannot comprehend just how close the Saviour hovers over to protect and guide us, and how fervently His people pray for us, that Satan will not regain the power he once had over our lives.

Sis. Linda Miller was hospitalized, and we are thankful she can worship with us again.

Sisters Elda and Vera Martin of Princeville have purchased a home on Linwood Drive, and we welcome them so, and trust that they can feel the love of God richly here too.

Our annual business meeting was held, and new officers of Sunday School teachers were filled by Bro. Richard Martin, Sis. Kathy Price, and Assisting Sisters Aldene and Elda Martin; trustee, Bro. Doug Sabo; and treasurer, Bro. Glenn Price Jr.

Our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach, assisted by Elder Bro. Roy Sauder, read the memorandum to us, and it is always a time of examination. . . though we can never expect that mark of perfection, may we strive for it . . . for truly there is no higher standing than to be near to the heart of God.

Our little church has been filled to overflowing, and yet there is room . . . the address is: 333 Honore Ave., or call Bro. Phil Weinzier at 371-4155 for information.

SILVERTON OR

Joan Dietrich

Our gracious Lord is the giver of untold blessings. So oftentimes we take for granted those which we daily enjoy. Among these is our health. We are thankful for dear ones here who have been granted health again.

Friend Verna Bolliger was able

to assemble with us, after an extended knee injury. Sis. Judie Knecht is home again, after being hospitalized with pneumonia. Sisters Margaret Wanner and Mildred Dietrich have missed one or more assemblings, due to illness or misfortune. May we appreciate our health among His countless gifts.

Look for the Rainbow

For each thistle, there's a flower;
For each thorn, rosebuds appear.
For each day when rain clouds
gather,
A rainbow dawns bright and clear.

March is Silver Lining collection for Silverton.

TREMONT IL

Lydia Rassi - Mary Jane Leuthold

Christopher Benjamin came to dwell in the home of Ben, Sharon, and Angela Dawn Pflederer of Rockford, Illinois. He was born Jan. 25. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. William Lennox of Louisville, Kentucky. Paternal grandmother is our Sis. Helen Pflederer.

Cynthia Jane Bernier and Duane A. Miller have announced their engagement and approaching marriage. Maternal parents are Mr. and Mrs. James T. Bernier, and paternal parents are Ed and Doris Miller, all of Tremont.

Sis. Leah Winzeler is recuperating at her home, and wishes to extend her sincere thanks to all who remembered her with prayers, visits, food, cards and flowers.

Our Sis. Emma Springer is confined to the Pekin Hospital, after suffering a stroke. She is undergoing therapy.

Visiting ministers, Bros. Ben Fehr and Don Sauder, Roanoke; Harold Zeltwanger, Bremen; and Cleo Rinkenberger of Pulaski served our congregation with some very inspirational messages. May the Lord bless each one for their visit.

Ryan and Betty Hild celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Feb. 25. Betty is Sis. Leah Winzeler's daughter.

We extend our sympathy to Jerry and Sis. Melba Hangartner, in the passing of his father, Joe Hangartner of Roanoke.

As the Easter season approaches, let us remember our strength and our security lie not in earthly

things, but in Christ the Lord, who died for us and rose as King of Kings.

TUCSON AZ

Gloria Bauer

As Tucson is blessed with warm sunny weather, we likewise have been warmed by precious teachings from God's word.

The first Sunday of February was our Annual Pancake Supper. The brothers and young boys prepare and serve the complete meal. Visiting with us that day was Ministering Bro. Ed Alt of Cissna Park.

Also visiting Tucson this month were: Ministering (Bros.) Bill Funk of Garden Grove; Jim Ringger of Bradford; and Henry Grimm of Morton. We thank these Brothers for their labors of love.

The last week-end in February, our church in Tucson had the pleasure of hosting the California and Phoenix young people. The week-end was full of activities. On Sunday, Elder Bro. Joe Braker of Morton was guest minister. Also, Elder Bro. Roy Farney and Bro. Richard Schupbach of Phoenix were here. Our guest ministers, along with our local ministers, Bro. Noah Herman and Bro. Jim Funk filled the day with many inspiring words and teachings. The warm sunshine and the mountains in the background added the finishing touches to a week-end filled with Christian fellowship and memories.

WEST BEND IA

Mrs. Melvin Fehr

Mrs. Raymond Anliker

Sis. Edna Mogler, a long-time member of the Lester congregation, is now making her home at Clear View Manor Nursing home, here in West Bend. Sis. Edna is very active in crafts, and she assembles weekly with our congregation. We wish her God's blessings as she enjoys life with many of like faith at the home.

Feb. 9, Sis. Emma Gerber entered her eternal rest, after she spent 95 years on the pilgrimage way. Sis. Emma was the oldest member of our congregation. Surviving are Sis. Clara (George) Bruellman, Sis. Tillie (Sam) Mogler, Sis. Helen (Paul) Strahm, Mildred (Jack) Scuffham, Ervin Gerber and 100 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Feb. 15, a beautiful Sabbath Day, we were privileged to have Bro. Dale Moore of Elgin, Iowa, and Bro. Dennis Warner of Lester in our midst . . . expressing to us the importance of being obedient, to take up life's cross, and put our trust in God, and He will help us to life's end. We wish to thank them for their efforts and we welcome them to come again.

Our hospital patients are Sis. Ida Metzger and Sis. Kathy Fehr.

We are happy to report, Bro. George Bruellman is now recuperating in his southern home in Saratota.

Feb. 1 was truly a day of blessings, as Sis. Julie Anliker, daughter of Bro. Ray and Sis. Louise, and Bro. Pat Zaugg, son of Bro. Oscar and Sis. Frances were united in marriage by Bro. Gene Marti. Bro. Gene expressed that a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

God has placed responsibility into two homes, as they were blessed with precious babies. On Feb. 10, Bro. Dan and Sis. Eunice Fehr became the parents of a girl, Jodi Marie. Little Cory will welcome her home. Grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Matilda Fehr of West Bend and Bro. and Sis. Ervin Metzger of Elgin, Iowa . . . Bro. Ken and Sis. Jill Rinkenberger were blessed with their third son, Jessie Lee, born Feb. 13. Scott and Jermy will welcome him into the family circle. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Cleo Rinkenberger of Pulaski.

WICHITA KS

Glennis Allenbach

In our newsletter this month, Bro. Ed, in suggesting topics for us, included these two questions: Do you remember how wonderful it was when you discovered the reality of our risen Saviour? Is there anything in that memory that should be passed along to the Silver Lining readers? This question overwhelms me. I'm not sure I can put into words my personal experience, but I would add this for our friends who might read this.

You may read of a certain place, you may study all about it, from vital statistics to pictures, even know the maps, but until you've been there, it is not a reality to you. The same with a new food or recipe. You can read about it, picture it, but until you've tasted it,

it is not a reality. So until you've been there and tasted this rebirth, it is not a reality; the Saviour is not a reality to you.

One of the things that stand out in my mind is when I began to see the "panoramic" view of the Bible . . . How the Old Testament had to be the forerunner of the New Testament, and how perfectly they stand together, how perfect God's plan is! I remember thinking, so that's why this happened or that happened. **It all fell into place.** It was as the Bible mentions — the scales fell from my eyes!

Some relatives of ours were kind enough to send me something that they thought worthy of passing on, perhaps in the Silver Lining. This article was about a subject we've heard many times, when a person justifies themselves not attending church with the line, "I have had religion rammed down my throat all my life". The author went ahead to say that he had food rammed down his throat all his life, and still loves to eat; he was made to comb his hair and bathe and still does. His mother tried to teach him right from wrong, and it never occurred to him to blame his mother for any misbehavior on his part. He added, that his wife and him had never rammed religion down their children's throats, unless that is what you call trying to bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

We have had lots of company lately, and enjoyed the fellowship of several "pot-luck" dinners.

Our choir is progressing nicely. We have excellent attendance. We are so optimistic, we have set the date for our first concert.

LEO IN

Mrs. Elias Souder

Testimonies were given on Saturday evening, with baptism on Sunday for Kenneth and Jill Norr, Loren Klopfenstein and Pam Frank. We were all happy to welcome them into the church.

Announcement has been made that Gary Garman has peace.

The 25th Anniversary of Ruth and Louis Garman was observed Jan. 26. They are the parents of Gary.

Stephen and Carolyn Bollier are the parents of a little son, named Andrew Stephen. The little sister, Jennifer will be happy for the com-

panionship.

The new address for Frances and Henry Schwartz is Towne House Rest Home, 2209 St. Joe Center Apt. 225B, Fort Wayne IN 46825.

Sun. Feb. 29, we were blessed with a guest minister from the Latty congregation, Ray Sinn. There also was a carry-in dinner at the fellowship center including visitors of our churches nearby, as a welcome to Sue and Doug Kellenberger. There was a song service in the evening.

Bro. Phil Schlatter has been in church again.

ATHENS AL Hazel Vibbert

Plans are beginning to take shape for our new church.

The hospital patients have been: Winfred Kelly, at Lester Alabama. He is the father of Sis. Cathy Kelly . . . Mrs. Barnett was in Athens Hospital. This is Sis. Doris Moore's mother . . . Sis. Ora Massner's son was shot in Nashville, Tennessee. His home was being robbed. We are thankful he is getting better. Harold Haggermaker had surgery. He is doing fine. He is the son of Bro. Carl. Terry Vibbert is in a long leg cast, due to a knee injury.

Here is . . . that Sis. Clara Heiniger wrote. She has really worked hard here in Alabama:

"Praise ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD . . . From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the LORD'S name is to be praised."

I praise God for His unexpected blessings each day of our lives, which He has granted us.

. . . Visited the Athens church Sun. Jan. 25, which is 36 miles from my Hillsboro home, and always a great blessing to be in their fellowship on the Lord's Day, also to all the other churches.

What a privilege (after many years teaching Sunday School) to be sitting at the feet of Jesus in worship services, and drink in the holy word of God, the precious food of life needed to go forth during the week in reaching precious souls, while the door of grace is still open.

An unexpected blessing announced for a fellowship dinner Jan. 27 was told to all for Miss Clara for these 22 years in Alabama.

Tears of humbleness flowed, and so unworthy of the loved ones of Athens doing this, thus thankfulness and praise to God from whence all blessings flow, for their great love to share with me. Over 31 attended, as many had to be at work and had to miss the precious fellowship and of the wonderful food prepared by loving hands of the dear ones in that area . . . meeting loved ones I had not seen since they were small children, as dear Sis. Minnie Kyle, the oldest one, in the 80's, had her grown-up grandchild (of Bro. and Sis. James and Louise Tosh of Columbia, Tenn), Randy . . . Many times when Bro. Otto Norr visited us, we would drive there for a time of fellowship around God's word. We were so glad that Bro. and Sis. Henry Perry was able to be with us.

I was led to take many large print New Testaments with Psalms, also the small large print Bible with Psalms for hospital patients, for the sisters to deliver where needed . . . and pray all will be workers for Him, who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood.

The Song No. 202 in Hymns of Zion (What various hindrances we meet) is precious, and is for every child of God to read, that we ever be **Doers of His Word!**

Again, I humbly thank all the dear loved ones up North for all the love to share and give during the past years of my life in Alabama, also during my nervous breakdown, when God showed in great letters to go to Tucson for 5 months . . . and learned to know and love the Tucson church, congregation, which were rich blessings of fellowship together. My greatest joy, just as the woman touched the hem of His garment, she was made whole and praise God for healing my body also.

I know I had failed in praising God, and woke up to keep praising Him for all He has done for all of us.

Start Praising

If your prayers seems weak
And few words you can speak
Start Praising!

If words just won't come,
And your mind feels dumb,
Start Praising!

If nothing comes out
And your faith you must doubt
Start Praising!
If distractions assail
And worldly things prevail
Start Praising!
If Joy is missing
And for peace you are wishing,
Start Praising!

ALTADENA CA Linda Cooper

Bro. Ed Frautschi had the misfortune of breaking his ankle, and must spend time at home while it heals. Bro. Simon Bahler underwent eye surgery and is doing well. He was able to attend church soon after the operation.

Tucson church again hosted a western fellowship week-end for the Phoenix and Altadena Bible class students and young friends and members. A large group from our church went and enjoyed the trip and fellowship.

We thank God for their safe journey along the highway.

Feb. 15, Bro. Ken Cooper and I were joined together as man and wife. The holy ceremony of marriage was impressive, and we were thankful that so many brethren and friends could witness our exchange of vows that were based in this love and our faith and trust in Him. It seems hardly possible that such a commitment as marriage would even be undertaken without His guidance and blessing, and yet in the world today marriage is begun often without thought or mention of His holy name. How wonderful it is to rest in the assurance that God will bless us and keep us in His grace, as long as we continually look to Him for guidance, whether in marriage, or in the most important commitment of any one's life, salvation.

CISSNA PARK IL

Grace Bauer - Marilyn Knapp

If you see someone without a smile, give them one of yours!

Our hospital surgical patients were Sis. Bena Hari, Sis. Bertha Meiss, and Bro. Elmer Bauer. Bro. John Lackey, Bro. Ed Alt, and Sis. Emily (Clarence) Rudin were hospital medical patients.

Our friend, Rick Knapp is spending about 6 weeks at home. He has been a patient at Loyola Hospital for many months. He will return to the hospital again for further

treatment and therapy.

"Sincere thanks to all who remembered me with prayers, visits, cards and gifts during my hospital stays and since I am home." Eulalia Eisenman.

A baby girl, Lindsey Nicole, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Hari of Michigan. Paternal grandfather is Alvin Hari of Cissna Park. She is also welcomed to the family by her Aunt Gail.

We are happy that our Ministering Bro. Kenneth Weerts is able to resume his duties, after his surgery.

Each spring a million daffodils
Break through the frost-sealed
earth,
As if God wrote in flower gold
The message of rebirth.

ELGIN IA Eleanor Butikofer

Spring cannot be far away, for we have heard a robin, and we know this bird is the true harbinger of the season which follows winter. Then too, this very morning, three wedges of wild geese flew over our home, honking as they winged their way to their nesting areas, traveling in a north-west direction.

Gregory Scott is the name of the new baby boy born to Bro. John and Sis. Janetta Schupbach. Their daughter Jill will no doubt be delighted to receive a companion.

Sis. Anna Schupbach, who had surgery on her knee at Iowa City, is back in her home, enjoying much success in the way of her walking. It's really very nice to see her again in our church services. Mother, Sis. Elizabeth Schneider, has improved considerably since returning home from the hospital. We are happy that she can be at home, after spending about seven weeks in the Postville hospital. The care she received there was excellent, and we certainly appreciated that.

Sis. Alta Thoman is a patient in the University Hospital at Iowa City. Her back pain persists, but next week the doctors plan to put her on a new drug which we hope will help this condition. We certainly miss her presence at our services, and we all send her our sincere greetings. Her patience is something to marvel at; we can take a lesson for ourselves.

About a week ago, a snowstorm hit this area. We received about twelve inches. The ice and snow blocked roads and caused electric and telephone failures, but due to faithful workmen everything is practically back to normal. The farmers rejoice because of the moisture received for the fields.

The ladies of our church have been working on items for World Relief distribution. Sis. Marie Butikofer's home is the meeting-place for this activity; however, considerable work is done in the respective homes, between the meeting dates.

The midweek services at our church have been discontinued for a time, as per usual during the wintertime due to weather and road conditions.

The Bible

Its light is like the body of heaven
in its clearness.
Its vastness like the bosom of the
sea.
Its variety like scenes of nature.

INDIANAPOLIS IN Patrick and Judy Dubach

There lives in Judea a man of singular virtue, whose name is Jesus Christ. His followers love and adore Him as the offspring of the immortal God. He calls back the dead from the graves, and heals all sorts of diseases with a word or touch. He is a tall man, well shaped, and has an air of reverend respect. His hair is of a color that cannot be matched . . . His cheeks without spot or wrinkle, beautiful, lovely red; His nose and mouth formed with exquisite symmetry; His beard, the color of His hair, reaching below His chin. His eyes are bright blue, clear and serene, and look innocent, dignified, manly, mature. In proportion of his body, most perfect and captivating. He rebukes with majesty, counsels with mildness, whether in word or deed, with eloquence. No man has seen Him laugh, but He has wept frequently in the presence of man. He is temperate, modest and wise . . . a man for His extraordinary beauty and divine perfection, surpassing the children of men in every sense.

We were privileged to gather

early Sunday morning, Feb. 15, to hear the testimony of Andrea Neuschwander, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Chuck and Doris. She was baptized following afternoon services by Bro. Alf Bahler (Wolcott). Bros. John Yergler and Carl Kipfer (Bluffton) also joined us that day. Following the baptism, a supper was held in the church for all the visitors who joined us for this happy day. We welcome Sis. Andrea to the flock with open arms, proving again the door of grace is ever open.

We have been blessed with two new innocent babes. Born Feb. 13 to Bro. and Sis. John and Mary Isch, a daughter, Kathryn Ann. On Feb. 22, a daughter, Andrea Nicole was born to Bro. and Sis. Eric and Jinny Zeller, their first. Congratulations to all!

Other ministers who visited us were Maurice Frank—Leo; Ken Schneider—Remington; Todd Feller—LaCrosse.

April is Silver Lining collection for Indianapolis.

IOWA CITY IA

Lynn Banwart - April Wiegand

We thank Bro. Bob Grimm of Goodfield for coming to Iowa City and serving as our minister for this month. For our Thursday night service, Bro. John Steiner, Oakville, preached the word, and others from Oakville were there also.

February is usually a rather dull month for most people. To students, it seems that the semester will never end and warm weather will never begin. One very cold night I was waiting for the bus. I was getting extremely irritated the longer I waited for the bus. Just happening to look at the sky, I noticed the most beautiful sunset and a peaceful feeling overwhelmed my body. Forgetting all about the cold and my selfish thoughts, the bus soon came, and I went home that night feeling really good. I get such a good feeling whenever I notice and appreciate God's creation, and I hope that others can feel the same way.

LAMAR MO

Becky Hohulin - Gail Banwart

O how lovely is the morning,
when it is begun with God . . .

As I sat here this morning leaf-

ing through our well-loved and cherished Zion's Harp hymnbook, I came across this song, and the thought occurred to me, how beautiful our mornings really are when they are begun with God in prayer. We can think back and remember how empty our days were before we found our loving and merciful Saviour, and it humbles us and makes us very thankful that the Lord in His mercy and compassion reached down and touched us, that we could have peace and fullness in life. So, as the songwriter has written, we can certainly agree that all is well when we begin the day with God.

Our World Relief sewing group has been busy sewing quilts and rolling bandages. A group of sisters meets every Thursday afternoon at one of the homes, and then in the evening, the younger brothers and sisters meet for a couple hours of work and fellowship. It is certainly rewarding to feel that we are doing something for others, and surely the Lord will bless all those who spend their time and talents and give of themselves in His name.

We have been richly blessed with beautiful weather the last couple of weeks. The temperature has been in the 60's and 70's almost every day. We certainly can't complain when the Lord gives us such beauty. We could use some extra moisture, but I have to think that if everything always went our way, what an ungrateful people we would be.

Sis. Elaine Braker, who is in R. N. training at Springfield, Mo., departed on Feb. 29 for Iowa, where she will be for a couple of months for part of her training. She is planning on making Elgin her home church while she is gone. We wish her much grace, and welcome her return home.

Sis. Arlene Marti (Bro. Dean), who was in the hospital for knee surgery, wishes to express her thanks to those who remembered her while she was in the hospital, and since her return home. She is still on crutches, but gets around quite well.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork."

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

BAY CITY MI Carolyn Schamback

Peace like a river
Flows through my soul . . .

Two more souls have confessed peace with God and man and await baptism: Jay Schlatter (Bro. Bob and Sis. Betty) and Kathy Lalonde (Mr. and Mrs. Lalonde). Several others have made a beginning in repentance, and we pray for this peace for them . . . It really is uplifting to see more faces in the "family circle"!

Fred III has joined the family of Fred and Helen Knochel, Sidney and Greg. His paternal grandparents are Sis. Nettie and the late Bro. Fred Knochel.

Several more were hospitalized: Bro. Emery Molner, Sis. Mary Ramseyer, and Florence (the late Bro. Ray) Wieland.

"Bro. Emery Molner and family wish to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and gifts while he was in the hospital for surgery."

Bay City subscribers: If you have not already done so, there is still time to pay for your Silver Lining.

BREMEN IN Marian Germann

What makes heaven for you? Is it the gold, the jasper? The singing, the meetings of loved ones? What if all these were not in heaven, would it still be heaven for you? There is a song that has the answer, "Jesus is what makes it heaven for me."

Feb. 8 was a very special day, as two hearts were united in marriage. Sis. Cindy Suttor and Bro. Eric Meister were wed on this cold and snowy day. Bro. Ed and Sis. Carolyn are Cindy's parents, and Elmer and Edith Meister are Eric's.

Sis. Aldean Feldman had surgery on her foot, and it is coming along well. Sis. Aldean really feels the prayers of those who remember her. Bro. Silas Laidig is in the hospital and has been seriously ill. We are glad and praise God that he is doing better . . .

On Feb. 25, Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman, Loren Stoller, and Dave Bertsch lovingly assembled with us and read the memorandum

April is Silver Lining collection for Bremen.

Bro. Walter Rager lovingly talked to us on Feb. 29.

May God bless all and give His peace to all.

CROGHAN NY Alice Virkler

On the week-end of Feb. 8, we were privileged to gather with the Naumburg congregation, to witness the testimony and baptism of another dear friend. We are so thankful that God's true word is still going forth and that our young people are still answering this important call. We welcome Sis. Joanne Demorest into our congregations. Our elder brothers, John Bahler and Rudolph Graf were with us for this blessed week-end. On Sunday evening, they read and deliberated on the conference report. May each of us strive each day to follow the wonderful teachings in His word and the advice and direction of our brothers in the faith, and that on that wonderful and blessed day we may reach our eternal reward.

Our Ministering Bro. Norbert Steiner could be relieved of his pain, by spending ten days in the hospital in traction for his back. We are thankful that he could return to our assembly and minister unto us, after an absence of several weeks. Bro. Lowell Virkler was a hospital patient a few days for tests. Noel Virkler, son of Bro. Ted and Sis. Mae, has returned to Sunday School, after having his tonsils out. Sis. Minnie Farney has been able to return to her home; she fell at her home and was hospitalized for some time. Sis. Pam Herzig has been unable to assemble with us a few Sundays. Pam is currently undergoing skin grafting, which is being done in the doctor's office. Sis. Barbara Virkler remains a hospital patient, and Sis. Mabel Ebersol is a patient. We can see how God answers the prayers of a congregation on the behalf of His children . . .

On Wednesday evening, Feb. 25, many of us enjoyed an evening of fellowship, when we held a covered-dish supper and song service.

Bruce and Patty Petzoldt have welcomed their second son, Benjamin Bruce, born on Feb. 4. He was also welcomed home by his brother, Travis, and his grandparents, Donald and Sis. Rita Petzoldt, and Martin and Naomi Hirschey of Low-

ville. Benjamin has four great-grandparents to love him: Bro. Ted and Sis. Amelia Belle Virkler, Mrs. Lydia Mellnitz, and Mrs. Vera Hirschey, and he has a great-great-grandmother, Mrs. Tina Farney, mother of Sis. Amelia Belle.

Our sympathy is extended to Sis. Mabel Ebersol and her daughter, Fern Reed and family. Fern's husband, Francis, was called from this life very suddenly, after suffering a heart attack.

FORT SCOTT KS

Aleta Banwart

Wednesday, Feb. 18, Elder Bros. Raymond Banwart and Samuel Anliker (Lamont) read and discussed the latest conference memorandum. It is so wonderful to have a solid foundation to stand on, in such an unstable time as we are living today. We thank these dedicated brethren for their blessed instructions.

Sis. Kathryn Banwart and Sis. Lydia Hawkins were our hospital patients. We're happy to have Sis. Kathryn returned to health, and look forward to Sis. Lydia returned into our midst again.

Bro. Charles and Sis. Karen Sinn opened their home to a blessed evening of singing Feb. 21. We are so fortunate to be able to worship without fear of persecution. We should praise the Lord and Saviour for our many blessings in these latter days.

PEORIA IL

Betty Miller

Feb. 21 was the funeral of Sis. Pauline Knobloch, who was a beloved member for many years. She brought gifts to babies, poems to the sick, and was so kind, loving and busy. The last three years, she lived at our Home on Skyline Drive. Our sympathy to the survivors and friends she leaves behind.

Feb. 17 my dad, Bro. Conrad Woerner, had emergency surgery. He had an aneurism of the aorta. Feb. 18, Dad's 72nd birthday, the surgeon removed two blood clots from his upper leg. In the days following, however, the lower leg died and had to be amputated Feb. 23 above the knee. Feb. 26, he was put on a kidney machine. He is still an extremely sick man, in intensive care at St. Francis Hospital. It is difficult to write about someone so close, because each fact

carries with it so many feelings, prayers, and thoughts. May God strengthen us and do His will, for it is always best. To all the dear ones whose prayers joined ours in their ascent to the Lord, thank you. He is hearing and is answering and we can feel it. Please continue!

Others who have been in the hospital and who will also appreciate your prayers are Sis. Marie Weisshaupt, Sis. Leona Race, Sis. Matilda Hoerr, Sis. Joan Hoerr, and Ellen Meister.

The wedding of Bro. Michael Honegger and Sis. Diane Meister took place Sunday, Feb. 15, on Grandma Maurer's birthday. Sis. Judy Meister was maid-of-honor. The girls are daughters of Bro. Paul and Sis. Rhoda. Bob Gangloff, brother-in-law of the groom, was best man. Bro. John and Sis. Wilma Honegger are the groom's parents.

It is a pleasure to see our church grow. New babies are Eron Lee Kipfer, born to Sis. Linda and Bro. Ron, and Jody Leigh Herman, born to Sis. Lois and Bro. Allan. Both girls were born Feb. 26. The Hermans have three other girls, Debbie, Jill, and Christie.

Dean and Linda Kellenberger have a little son, Jason Paul, born Feb. 20. Grandparents are Bro. Gene and Sis. Velma Kellenberger and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Snider.

This note was submitted in memory of Gladys Oppenheim, who died in January 1975: "God took a special friend away. Although we do not wish her back, special memories still linger in our hearts." Ilene and Ardith . . . It could reflect the thoughts of many of you about dear friends who have passed away.

"My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth."

"I want to thank the loved ones who remembered me with thoughts, cards, gifts, visits, and for your prayers during my stay in the hospital and since returning home." Sis. Leona Race.

REMINGTON IN

Amelia Schini - Mildred Clauss

I will serve Thee because I love Thee;

You have given life to me.

I was nothing before you found me;

You have given life to me!

Our dear friends, Ron and Brenda Clark, gave their testimonies and were baptized on Sunday, Feb. 8. The weather was very bad, but we were thankful that Bro. Ed Frank of La Crosse could be here to assist Bro. Alfred Bahler in this important work. Ron and Brenda are the son-in-law and daughter of Bro. Earl and Sis. Arlene Kilgus, and we gladly welcome them as a brother and a sister in the Lord.

Our dear friend, Eric Knochel, son of Bro. Al and Sis. Evelyn, is repenting of his life of sin and seeking peace with God and man. We rejoice with him and his family, and pray that God will grant him the needed grace for each new day.

Bro. Edwin Bahler was hospitalized for tests, and Bro. Herb Schieler was hospitalized for surgery.

Sis. Lili Bahler and Bro. Dale Koehl were united in marriage on Feb. 29. Bro. Ed and Sis. Lois Bahler and Bro. Charley and Sis. Esther Koehl are parents of the couple. There were many guests from a distance present for the occasion, including Ministering Bros. Floyd Schmidgall and Alpha Moser from Morris and Bro. John Lehman from Bern.

Bro. Jake and Sis. Emma Bahler celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. They have asked us to include the following note: "We wish to thank everyone for the kind remembrances, letters, cards and gifts extended to us on the occasion of our 50th wedding anniversary."

He who puts God FIRST will be truly happy at the LAST.

PHILADELPHIA & UNION CITY

Carolyn Roberts

Bro. David and Sis. Emilia Pancharician welcome their new baby, Amilia to their family. Two brothers and one sister also welcome her.

Bro. Louis Schoenleber is yet not able to attend services with us.

Bro. John and Sis. Mary Diggelman's son, Richard is being transferred from his present job with Eastern Kodak in Rochester, New York to Cape Town, South Africa for two years. Our prayers for his protection and safety will surely be with him . . . and know he will be missed by all.

Friends Gerald and Joan Schieber welcome a new baby daughter into their family. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Carl Schieber of the Congerville congregation.

We welcome the parents of Mrs. Ken Belsley from Illinois, who are now making their permanent home with our friends, Ken and Roberta.

VALPARAISO IN

Marie Heinold - Cam Feller

We are so very sad today, Wednesday, Feb. 11. Our beloved minister, Bro. Harry Bucher, age 81, was laid to rest. He departed from his earthly life in the early morning hours of Feb. 9, after suffering a massive coronary just a few days after Christmas. We ask, why one so active, after approximately 50 years in the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ, should be taken from us . . . But we must not question what God has let happen. He in His all-wise plan and miraculous way just recently provided another minister for our little church, and we are so thankful. Bro. Harry, too, was so grateful for this blessing, little realizing his labor would soon be over. The love and friendship he gave to everyone, and his deep concern and love for our little Valparaiso church will be sadly missed.

Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) had words of comfort in reading Paul's second letter to Timothy, chapter 4: "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." Bro. Rod Huber assisted in the service.

We again extend our heartfelt sympathy to Bro. Harry's dear wife, Sis. Lena; his daughter, Bernadine (Mrs. Art Martin of Cissna Park); his 4 sons, Lowell and Deloss of Valparaiso, Harry Jr. of Hobart, and Bro. Wally of Francesville . . .

The family of Bro. Harry Bucher wishes to extend a thank you for the many prayers, cards, visits, words of encouragement, food, flowers, memorials and gifts during his illness and since his death.

We appreciate all our visitors so

much. Also, a warm thank you to Ministering Bros. Wendell Gudeman, Ed Frank and Art Gudeman (both of LaCrosse) for their service this past month.

Our dear friend, Mary Stump is back in the hospital and is suffering much pain in her illness.

"Be still, and know that I am God". Have you ever thought what great things are done in silence? In silence the lily unfolds, silently the day is born, and silently the shadows fall at eventide . . . Silently the stars take their place in the sky . . . Silently the seasons come and go, and the sun sheds forth her light . . . In sacred silence, God works in the hearts of men.

LEXINGTON KENTUCKY

Glenda Huber

"But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Many of us have already found this precious promise to be real in our own lives. Oh, that we might be able to apply these promises to our own hearts and minds, that they may be edifying and strengthen our faith, that we may more closely walk with our Lord.

We've had some that have been hospitalized: Chau Phan and Lulu Lowry. They are now recuperating and doing very well, for which we thank the Lord.

Through this month we were privileged to have with us many visitors from our following churches: Francesville, Bradford, Roanoke, Toledo and Bremen. It's always a joy to fellowship with those of like mind and faith.

PORTLAND OR

Connie Steffen

Easter is nearly here again, and the wonder of it is ever new, almost beyond words. The Agony of Gethsemene, The Crucifixion of The Holy Lamb Of God, and the shedding of His blood for the remission of our sins . . . How can we express the feelings of our unworthiness? Then His glorious resurrection! That all men might know "Truly this was the Son of God". Can we imagine the sorrow of Mary Magdalene? . . . And then her joy when Jesus softly spoke her name? . . . And Peter, can we imagine his grief after having de-

nied the Lord, then to find His body GONE, possibly thinking, Now it's too late to tell Him I'm sorry . . . then the forgiveness that must have flooded His aching heart when he met Jesus. There are so many more, thousands down through the ages whose lives have been changed from deepest despair to peace, when they have met The Lord on their personal Emmaus Road.

Bro. Paul Rumbold is progressing well, following surgery, and is now able to assemble with us again. Everyone else in our little church family is reasonably well, for which we are most grateful.

ZAPATA TEXAS

Tillie Kellenberger

Louise Engle

"Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God."

Visiting elders, Bro. Noah Schrock, Burlington . . . Edwin Ringger, Gridley . . . Edwin Hohulin, Goodfield; Bros. Henry Grimm and Vernon Leman.

Spring is really here in Zapata, the area . . . Harvesting is in full swing. Carrots, cabbage, onions and lettuce are being hauled to packing plants. Most of the fruit has been harvested, and the trees are beginning to bloom. The native trees are in bloom in beautiful shades of yellow.

Our weather has been warm and beautiful this winter, for which our many visitors enjoy. Our peak attendance at our assembly has been 104.

Bro. Chuck Kellenberger, grandson of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Minnie Kellenberger of Elgin Ill., is spending a month here.

Bud Sauder was called to be with his mother, who is very ill at Mansfield.

We extend a hearty welcome to anyone travelling this way, to assemble with us at the Community Building at Siesta Shores, Zapata, Texas. There is an Apostolic Christian Church sign on Highway # 83.

GRIDLEY KS

Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr

A teacher often used to take a clean sheet of white paper and make a small black mark in one corner. Then holding the paper up.

before her class, she would ask the children what they saw. "I see a black mark" was the answer most of them gave. Very few ever said, "I see a sheet of white paper with a little black mark."

Isn't this the way we often see most things in life . . . We often fail to see the whole of anything, for the black marks usually stand out. When we look at others, we are so quick to notice their black marks or faults—Just as the class failed to see the white piece of paper as a whole. Dear ones, let us strive to direct our attention to the clean, good and whole parts of our fellow neighbors.

Our annual election was held. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker was present to preside over the meeting. The following were elected to fill new offices: Sunday school teachers, Bro. Eldon Metzger and Sis. Donna Somerhalder; Sis. Barbara Kraft—substitute; Sunday School superintendent, Bro. Ephraim Young; Silver Lining Assistant, Sis. Doris Bahr; Cemetery Board, Bro. Ivan Beyer; Building Aid, Bro. Eldon Metzger; Trustee, Bro. Rudy Bahr; Property Aid, Bro. Al Grimm; Carlot arrangement, Bro. Doug Kraft. We pray God will richly reward all who have been selected to undertake these new duties.

Our dear friend, Brian Bahr, son of Bro. Roy and Sis. Doris, has expressed a feeling of peace and a desire for baptism. Announcement was made for the hope of granting this privilege for the week-end of March 21.

Sis. Elizabeth (Frank) Beyer has returned to assemble with us, after a period of two months confined to home, due to illness. It is indeed a blessing to have those reassemble with us whom have been missing from our assembly.

PULASKI, IOWA
Ernestine Wuthrich
Janice Rinkenberger

Our visiting minister was Bro. Bob Walder (Congerville). We thank him for his wonderful message.

Jesus' Nearness

Jesus, lowly Saviour
Was a humble child.
Came on earth to enter
Humble hearts and mild.

He will share His blessing

To each heart and home,
Journeys with us daily,
Leaves us never alone.

I can feel His presence,
And His guiding hand;
Lovingly He leads us,
To the Father-land.

SHIODA JAPAN
Willis R. Ehle

It was the first time this young man had ever entered a Christian church. Of course, he was hesitant and unsure of himself. He was a stranger in the territory of those who know the living God through the Lord Jesus Christ. We tried to be kind and make him feel at home, and now this young man, whose name is Endo San, comes to church every Sunday. It may not be just because we tried to be friendly, but that certainly makes it easier for the stranger to keep up the relationship and to come and listen to God's word, which is able to make one wise unto salvation. See II Timothy 3:15.

Speaking of being kind to newcomers, Deuteronomy 10:19 teaches us, "Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt." Also Hebrews 13:2 teaches "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares." The teaching is clear and plain; every stranger, every newcomer who comes into our churches should be met with the utmost in hospitality. Never should the stranger, the newcomer be permitted to feel that he or she is without a friend, without someone who cares, and understands the feeling of being alone. Forget self in the interest of others. The Lord Jesus did.

The old gentleman is 88 years old, and as I walked into his bedroom he was reaching, with some difficulty, for a cup of tea to get himself a drink. His name is Saegusa, and I've known him for years. He visited with our elder brethren when they first came to Japan 21 years ago, a very interesting gentleman who made a profession of faith as a young man, and who is still a member of a more distant church. He is a good friend of our church and has been helpful. When we built our church building here 20 years ago, he and his family served the carpenters

lunch and contributed several hardy palm trees for the front of our church. Now he lies in bed, his physical strength finally running out. It is reported that as a young man he suffered considerable persecution in this area for his faith.

I read several verses from a Psalm for him, and as I said, "Amen" he began to pray, although up to that point he hadn't even indicated that he recognized me. His prayer was not very understandable, because of his age and weakened condition, but also because he has suffered a partial stroke. The word for thanksgiving came out loud and clear very often, and this I thought was commendable. Also, the phrase, "for just a little while yet" was clearly understandable. God knows his heart.

Life goes on; some come, some go. "In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." Fortunate and blessed are we if our departure from this life can be, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, simply a moving from this life to a life much more glorious and wonderful, where the fellowship with our King and with the saints will be complete.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Brenda Tucker

Lord, help me be more aware
Of things I cannot see—
The peace of mind, the courage
The strength you give to me,
The guidance and direction
And forgiveness from above—
Lord, help me be more aware
Of Your abiding love.

Truly the Lord blesses us in many ways each day that we live. We should each strive to be more aware, so that we could be lights unto others. What a blessing it would be if someone could find the Lord through the light of a Christian.

We were blessed with the presence of Bro. Jim Ramseyer of Bay City. They were on campus for a few days, and the fellowship we shared was truly a blessing. We would like to thank Bro. Jim for sharing God's word with us.

Our thanks also go to Elder Bro. Lester Hartter, Bern, and Bros. Sam Huber and Joe Aberle, Sabetha.

KIOWA KS**Janice Frieden**

Amazing grace, how sweet the
sound

That saved a wretch like me.

I once was lost, but now am found.

Twas blind, but now I see.

Twas grace that taught my heart
to fear,

And grace my fears relieved.

How precious did that grace ap-
pear

The hour I first believed.

If every child of God were to look back to the time of their conversion, I'm sure these beautiful words would fit each one . . . for all of us were wretched and blind, and only by God's precious grace were we changed. Therefore, when we, as children of God, see souls still seeking this precious Way we have found, our hearts can't help but rejoice . . . So as the angels in heaven are rejoicing, so are we that our dear friends, Tom and Gay Farney through true repentance have found peace with God, and are awaiting baptism.

We were truly uplifted by two evenings of Christian fellowship in singing praises to our Lord, but were disappointed that, although it was our turn to have services at the Kiowa Manor, we were unable to, due to a flu epidemic in this area.

We would like to extend our thanks to several visiting ministers who were in our midst, and lent themselves to bring us blessed truths from God's word. Ministering Bros. Edwin Ringger—Gridley, IL, and Willis Weigand, Congerville, joined us for Sunday services on the 15th, and Ministering Bro. William Funk, Garden Grove, was with us for midweek services on the 4th.

We have a new addition in our midst, and pray that God will bless little Heidi Sue and her parents, John and Sis. Linda Liggenstoffer. Maternal grandparents are Wilmer and Sis. Elizabeth Dick, and paternal are Homer and Agnes Liggenstoffer. Sis. Emma Dick is Heidi's great-grandmother.

We were saddened to learn that Bro. Tom and Sis. Kathy Freed are moving back to Indianapolis. We have enjoyed having them in our midst and will miss them. Wherever they go, it is our prayer that God will ever be near.

Sis. Alice Tanner was a hospital

patient for a short time, but is now, we are happy to see, in our midst again.

ROCKVILLE CT**Carlton J. Lanz**

PEACE OF MIND . . . The Bible, if it offered nothing else, would be invaluable to us as a handbook in developing personality. Its pictures of men and women, both good and bad, are very complete and very true to life. They make excellent models and patterns. From each, we can learn how to build secure lives. We can form our personalities so that we can live happily with ourselves, with others, in harmony with God and man. One of the most desirable things for which we all strive is **PEACE OF MIND**. This happy state comes when we are able to adjust ourselves to our surroundings, and through knowing what we do and say is right in the sight of God.

Our Bible tells us many stories of men and women who were carrying on such struggles. They were trying to live satisfactorily in various situations. Since these people were human, they made errors, and in many cases, the Bible shows us the errors they made, so that we may avoid them—if we are wise . . . But the principal emphasis is put on their strong points. If we will read about these people with understanding, they can be of help to us all in forming habits that will make for peace of mind throughout our lives.

In writing briefly about these faithful men and women, these great heroes and heroines, I reach back in memory to my childhood days, as many of our readers will agree . . . when at our breakfast tables and also at supper-time the Bible was read. Many times our dad would read to us children about these great prophets and pious, God-fearing men and women. Our young minds were tender and receptive. We loved these fascinating stories and to hear of the miracles that were seen. I can recall my mother, who did not speak good German, yet she said to me, "Ya es war zu weinen ven kein Heiland wer". I said to her, "What do you mean by this?" She very motherly explained, "If there was no Saviour, there would be no Heaven for us". This I will always remember.

Births in February: A son, Ryan Michael, on the 2nd to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Terry Kupferschmid, their first child. Grandparents to the infant are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Florence Kloter and Bro. Werner and Sis. Clara Kupferschmid . . . A son, Seth Michael, on the 9th to Bro. Brian and Sis. Jane Webb. They have one other child, also a son, Aaron. Grandparents are Bro. Roy and Sis. Helen Luginbuhl and Bro. Clinton and Sis. Eloise Webb . . . On the 11th, a son, Luke Edwin to Michael and LuAnn Hoffman, their first child. His grandparents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Martha Mangold and Bro. Edwin and Sis. Elsa Hoffman.

DETROIT MI**Charlotte Barton**

On Feb. 20, little Brandon was born to Bro. Richard and Sis. Jan Schoch. Their two daughters, Tania and Lisa are also excited to have a baby brother.

April is Silver Lining collection for Detroit.

Again we had to bid the farewell greeting. Sis. Judy Metzger has finished her internship here. She now has a job in Sarasota. We pray God will bless and provide for her. We shall surely miss her, but now she'll be a blessing to Sarasota as she has been here.

CHAMPAIGN - URBANA IL**Diane and Howard Leman**

February and March were eventful months for our congregation, filled with both sad and glad news. We rejoice with Shelia McCoy, who has made a decision to surrender her life to our Lord. Her parents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Loretta Baumgartner from Cissna Park . . . Other good news—a baby daughter, Sara Lynette, was born Feb. 16 to Bro. Steve and Sis. Ann Hauter. First-time grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Hauter and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Causey, all of Morton. Steve is a student at U. of I.

Much to our regret, two families are leaving our church and moving to Indianapolis. Bro. Mark and Sis. Kai Alt and daughter, Janelle, along with Bro. Bill and Sis. Connie Witzig and son, David will be leaving in April. We are also sorry to lose Art and Marlene Mueller and sons, Ryan and Darren, as they will head for Clinton, Wisconsin.

DALE WILGAND
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Art will be starting in the practice of veterinary medicine. We will sorely miss the fellowship of these couples and their children.

We do praise Jesus that Bro. Bob Simpson is now home, successfully recuperating from major surgery.

We have truly appreciated the ministering efforts of Bros. Ed Alt, Ed Ringger, Ed Hohulin, and Art Baurer.

TOKYO JAPAN

Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue

It is unfortunate that many bad things are happening in this world, and people are busy for material

things. However, we are happy and thanks to God that we can have many blessings and mercy through the cross of Jesus our Lord.

Bro. Toshio Uchida of Shioda visited our church with Bro. Willis and Sis. Lois Ehnle and family on the fourth Sunday in February. After our noon lunch, Bro. Uchida took responsibility for our afternoon Bible class.

Today, March 3, is girl's festival day, and it's from the Shinto religion. Mothers and children are dressed up and go to the shrines and temples—"for their daughters future happiness". After that, they invite their neighbor children

for the festival supper and celebrate it . . . The main dish for most dinners, probably some kind of raw fish, as I noticed the local fish market was especially crowded with patrons, as the owner was busy calling out bargains from his lovely display of fish. Most Japanese are very busy and faithful for such kind of things—more than coming to church on Sunday. **Need and Prayer.**

We are now planning our spring fellowship meeting, to be held on March 20, the Lord willing. The location will be at Fujino, a place in the scenic mountains between our two churches.

ALIVE FOR EVERMORE

Henry Souder Jr.

Death. It is bitterly contagious, and spreads to blacken all the soul.

Who can say he does not hear an end of life? the stroke of midnight? Worse still, sin-infesting sickness is maddening. It pales the face of the soul . . . and man does not realize it! Away, thoughts are pushed, away. Darkness is home. Sin the habitat. The breath of the will of the dark winds is breathed. Rushing headlong toward eternal abyss . . .

Jesus would go, one day at Calvary. He would hang motionless, still. His utterances would have come and gone—living power is wonderful. "I thirst" . . . the fountain of living water thirsty. The great I am. He who created, sustained a thousand fountains, sunshined streams . . . deep, cold water . . . athirst. Love's every detail is wealth, unsearchable reaches. This loving Saviour, Victor at life's most momentous extremity, bearing, braving, the end, with the deepest travail of soul, and now athirst.

"It is finished" . . . It is forever. The record is on high. The account is settled! What is finished? Every mark, every movement, each deed is finished, the balancing of the sins. Abel's blood cried for revenge and retribution. That of the

Son of God calls for FORGIVENESS! It is grace. He who keeps perfect book knows! Peace . . . wonderful peace.

Our sunset glows, because He died . . . "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost." Our death indeed can be beautiful. The body sleeps . . . the spirit departs . . . it knows, it leaves. There is a destination, a known port of arrival! He left here, that we may never be a stranger in His home. There is much alike in the details of the time of sorrow then and now . . . The place and the stone . . . the carrying of the silent body . . . our custom is a nice suit or dress, face up, the coffin . . . there was linen, the spices . . .

We know what it is to die. Our thoughts have went through it—fear and wonder . . . It need not be fear . . . actually, a very sweet moment, for we are at peace, His peace, His own.

The third day came Life! Joy. Everlasting happiness. Every dark cloud is rayed and rainbowed. There is victory and comfort. "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen" . . . Risen! Happiness flows in endless song. Corpses? no not corpses, but

sleeping bodies, sweet, sweet rest, with the spirit awake in heaven, awaiting the sure Dawn, in just a little while.

Our Lord Jesus is a real person . . . "hand'e me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones . . ." He came from the cave, alive. Into every grave of His own now shines the full glory of His coming promise. Just like He came alive. He talked, communed, fellowshipped. Heart to heart. They said,

"Did not our heart burn within us, while he . . ." We need the fire stirring. It is wonderful, reality of living, aliveness, eternity's history begun now. In Him is joy unspeakable and full of glory.

He broke bread with the two . . . and ate with loved ones. Instantly, intensely, earnestly He listens and understands each one of us. He talks; He walks. The fellowship of our Lord is delightful! He is the firstfruits. The time comes when all His own are together.

The clock's been striking. All through life, but the twelve sound is out there. Where? The morning always comes. Praise Him who is our living Lord! Think of it!

. . . "and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."