



And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel.

Yea, ye yourselves

know, that these hands have ministered unto my necessities, and to them that were with me.

I have shewed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive.

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

THE SILVER LINING

A LIGHT for BELIEVERS

THE PROMISE OF ETERNAL LIFE THROUGH FAITH

John Luginbuhl (Rockville Church)

All spiritual life comes to us through the grace of God . . . and life everlasting is secured to us by the resurrection of Christ from the dead.

It is man's highest honor and glory to be united to the living God. We enter into fellowship with Jesus Christ, and He with us; here and now the heavenly life begins, which here and hereafter is to be enobled. The word of God emphasizes the fact that true believers already have eternal life.

Here we are the sons and daughters of God and heirs of glory. There is a holy joy that springs from the sense of pardon, from the hope of heaven.

As we become like Christ, we become noble in manhood, purified in heart, and exalted in character. The day of conversion is to many a day of transformation. It was

the time when darkness, doubt and unbelief fled away, and the glorious light, hope and joy shone with undimmed splendor on their path. Christ became their light and life. There is no other foundation, than Christ, upon which we can build a hope of eternal life.

He whom God has chosen we must make precious . . . So as one enlists in the service of our Lord, it is for life. There is no discharge, no surrender, and no retreat. The highland piper was captured by the soldiers in Napoleon's time. They asked him to play a march, and he played it . . . that he should play an attack, and he played it . . . and that he should play a retreat, but the pipes would give forth no sound. All he said was, **I never learned that.**

And so it is for a Christian to

be faithful and loyal to the Lord as long as life endures . . . And then can one expect to receive that distinguished service cross from the Lord, with an honorable discharge on that day when He will return and permit all redeemed to enter into his kingdom.

The scripture teaches, all true Christians are of God's building. It is a gradual process, and they are still in the hands of the divine and loving architect. The Bible is the only plumbline to build by, and it must be used constantly and conscientiously. The best rooms are to be reserved for our precious Master and Lord . . . and we are to be spiritual lighthouses in this sin-darkened world. If we build on the Rock of Ages, we can stand firm in the severe test of the day of judgment.

From Froelich, words of wisdom

. . . inner witnessing, censuring, punishing, accusing and disciplining, no carnal man knows anything, for the world cannot receive the Spirit of Truth, and in its place has made of the grace of God, a broad highway of every kind of sin and vice, upon which the profligate and impenitent are pronounced righteous, whereas the true grace of God is first a saving and then a disciplining (an instructing) grace.

But its discipline and instruction is another than that of the law, for Moses has a visible office, in tables of stone, and is a visible schoolmaster who handles each transgression with corporal punishment and correction. To him the disobedient, bad boys . . . go to

school . . .

Not until we have recognized the purpose of the law and **at the same time** that of the death of Christ, and with contrite hearts have **believed** so as to die with Christ unto the old man and to renounce the service of the devil, can we advance to the higher school where the Holy Ghost teaches and disciplines us **inwardly** that we may become instructed in heavenly things and the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven by Him, as real children of God . . .

But the Holy Ghost is such a pure, gentle Teacher and instructor of the children of God that they must obey His merest beckoning, so as not to grieve Him. His discipline is hidden within, and

a pure, tranquil heart is necessary to hear Him. He dislikes to contend with us if we are wont to be unruly and vexatious; and if we grieve Him by continual unfaithfulness and disobedience, He will eventually forsake us . . . and then the apostatized can sin and be carnally and worldly-minded and no longer feel it, because they no longer have any disciplining . . . From here things go down grade without a stop.

THE OPEN GATE

The poetry following was handed to Henry by Sis. Thelma (Mrs. Philip) Schlatter. The plan of God is knit. The beautiful parts become a whole. God weaves our life, presented to Him, with His perfect pattern. On that great day, the winner can look back. The cross is

the triumphant pattern. Grace blends into a beautiful, perfect whole, His glorious harmony.

Take pleasure in infirmities. That is His success. When we are weak, then are we strong. In the cross of Christ we glory!

(Continued on next page)

THE SILVER LINING

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Broken Things

I often wonder where it stood,
That home of long ago;
Was it beside the great highway
Where crowds passed to and fro?

Watching the burdened oxen pass,
He fashioned easy yokes—
And resting places, sure and strong
For all the weary folks.

I'm sure the door stood open wide,
And near, the children played.
They loved that wondrous Carpenter;
None ever was afraid.

He came to mend earth's broken things,
To rest each weary soul,
His body broken on the cross—
Broken to make us whole.

It is with pity and love we look on someone who does not have Jesus. Time's wasting, frittering away, for nothing. It is an endless chase, a pursuit of emptiness.

Not so the treasures of heaven. These are meaningful moments. Time is spent in the employ of the King of Kings. The tempest and the tears of the deep, He guides through . . . rich are the belongings; lovely shines the golden life of Home.

Yes, He is all-conquering . . . And in what seems little and big something works for good, in His love.

Great Grace

His grace is great enough to meet the great things.
The crashing waves that overwhelm the soul,
The roaring winds that leave us stunned and breathless,
The sudden storms beyond our life's control.

His grace is great enough to meet the small things,
The little pin-prick troubles that annoy,
The insect worries, buzzing and persistent,
The squeaking wheels that grate upon our joy.

The very best treasure in heaven is eternal life, to know the Father and Jesus. Wealth that worlds cannot measure. Getting to know Him better is the why of

the storm-tossed moment. There's wealth in being closer and closer to our Christ. Growing means greater love, and that goes on.

Lightning flashes. Troubled streams frown . . . winds roar . . . There is a sweetness from the storm. There is a cross, a daily carrying. His voice we love to hear; His heart gladdens and comforts. Such ageless, radiant life.

Jesus On The Sea

When the storm of the mountains on Galilee fell
And lifted its waters on high,
And the faithless disciples were bound in the spell
Of mysterious alarm, their terrors to quell
Jesus whispered, Fear not: it is I.

The storm could not bury that word in the wave,
For twas taught through the tempest to fly;
It shall reach his disciples in every clime,
And his voice shall be near, in each troublous time,
Saying, Be not afraid: it is I.

When the spirit is broken with sickness or sorrow
And comfort is ready to die,
The darkness shall pass and in gladness tomorrow,
The wounded complete consolation shall borrow
From his life-giving word, "It is I".

When death is at hand, and the cottage of clay
Is left with a tremulous sigh,
The gracious forerunner is smoothing the way
For its tenant to pass to unchangeable day,
Saying, Be not afraid: it is I.

When the waters are passed, and the glories unknown
Burst forth on the wondering eye,
The compassionate Lamb in the midst of the throne
Shall welcome, encourage and comfort his own . . .
. . . Be not afraid: It is I.

Will that Gate open for us? Will the time come when we are really going in? How wonderful will be who and what we will see

at first-hand. The hour comes. Our mouth will be filled with laughter, our heart with song!

His own know. The splendor of the Open Gate shines in their hearts now. More than the setting sun in gold, that splendor shines all the way. We look at glorious things unseen. We know, for we have Him . . . His dreams always come true!

Remember what He says, About seeing through a glass darkly now? It's beautiful, color beyond our fairest dreams. Yet, there is more.

The Image of the Heavenly

I wonder if ever a rose was found and there might not be a fairer!
Or if ever a glittering gem was ground and we dreamed not of a rarer!
Ah never on earth do we find the best,
but it waits for us in the land of rest,
And a perfect thing we shall never behold
till we pass the portal of shining gold.

Splendor from His Open Gate! There is His rejoicing of hope. He has light with joy unspeakable and full of glory. No equal in earth is there, not even seen by mortal man. It is His perfect day.

"Note: Apostolic Christian Churches and Ministers 1977 edition, Latty church telephone number should read 419-399-5220." Or-el Steiner.

AKRON OH
Lynda Pamer

God gives the best to those who leave the choice to Him.

Bro. Dave Roberts visited our congregation and brought us good teachings from the Holy Scriptures.

Bro. Gordon Greenback and Sis. Elizabeth Heib (Bro. Leo) were hospital patients, but are now able to be at home. Bro. Gordon expects to return to the hospital in the near future. Bro. Elmer Graf underwent surgery, but is able to be at home and assemble with us.

Friend Bill VonGunten passed away, leaving his wife, Sis. Fred-

da, and three sons — William Jr., Carlton, and Leroy.

"I would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, and visits during my hospital stay." Howard Dockus . . . Howard is seeking the Lord.

LA CROSSE IN

Carolyn Levy - Grace Heinold

Another pillar of our church, Sis. Bertha Heiniger, passed away Feb. 25 at the Knox Nursing Home, where she had been a resident for several years. She was 90 years old; her husband Bro. Henry is 89. She was always a very humble sister and a light to us all. She had longed for a long time to go to her heavenly home. She is survived by her husband, Bro. Henry; three daughters, Sis. Mary Troxel and Ida Bruder—LaCrosse and Sis. Louise Yaggie, Francesville.

Glenna Marquardt and Jake Rinkenberger (Bro. Charles and Sis. Martha) were united in marriage by Bro. Ed Frank on Mar. 6.

That same evening, these dear ones decided to give their lives to the Lord. They are now seeking life's most prized possession, their salvation. They are moving to Congerville, where Jake is employed. May God ever be their unseen guest.

The engagement of Sis. Jaelyn Nuest (Bro. Jack and Sis. Vera) and Bro. Dan Schmidgall (Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila) was announced. Dan lives in Morris . . . Dwight Nuest (Bro. Lester and Sis. Ann) and Anita Walter plan to be married in July.

Bro. Aaron Heinold had the misfortune of breaking his leg while working and has his foot in a cast.

Our hearts rejoiced as we heard the wonderful news that Tom Troxel (Bro. Phil and Sis. Mary) also has turned to the Lord in repentance. We are so thankful for each soul that seeks this better way. May he feel God's nearness each step of the way.

ROANOKE IL

Edith Sauder - Mae K. Hodel

How they put Him in the tomb
And rolled a great stone there;
Yet when they came to seek Him,
The darkened tomb was bare.

How He rose to live again
In Heaven's holy light,

Bringing hope and faith to men,
No matter what their plight.

Men rejoice in thankful prayer
As this tale is told,
Knowing that His blessings
Are more precious than pure gold.

Bro. Charles Farney, who had lived 5½ years at the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home, passed away Feb. 23, at the age of 89. Surviving are three sons: Bros. Alvin of Roanoke, Ira of Eureka, Earl of Morton; and three daughters, Sis. Edna Roth, Mrs. Helen Brown, and Mrs. Margaret Hodel. Two sisters survive, Sis. Minnie Farney of the Eureka Apostolic Christian Home and Sis. Sophia Funk.

A new little sunbeam, Jonathan Jay, was born to Bro. John and Sis. Linda (Bucher) Hodel. Little Jessica is happy to have a playmate.

Sis. Angela (Joe) Rassi is hospitalized, following an accident. Sis. Esther Weyeneth is in the hospital, since her return home from Florida.

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you." We are glad our dear friend, Steve Fischer has found peace and wishes to give his testimony March 26. He is the son of Bro. Richard and Sis. Dorothy Fischer.

Bro. Lee Beer (Bro. Jesse and Sis. Shirley), Milford, and Sis. Sandra Barth were united in Holy Matrimony. Elder Bro. Theo. Beer ministered to us so kindly that day, also (Bros.) Jesse Beer, Elmer Hartter, and Vernon Leman were our visitors.

Bro. Ed Aeschleman from the Union City church spent the past Sunday with us.

TOLEDO OH

Josephine Reklau

The response of a young child to a question in Sunday School . . .

Why do we not have as many miracles today as in the days when Jesus was on earth?

Because now we have the Holy Bible to prove that Jesus is the Son of God. When Jesus was on earth, He performed miracles to prove He was the Son of God. Now if we have faith, we know He is the Son of God. It says so in the Holy Bible.

Sis. Geralyn and David Beard have a son, Michael Joseph.

We must trust; faith asks no questions.

WEST BEND IA

Mrs. Raymond Anliker

Becky Banwart

God blessed Harold and Marie Fisher with a new daughter, Carrie Sue, born Feb. 16. One sister, Anita, welcomed home the new bundle of joy. Grandparents are Bro. Philip and Sis. Katherine Fisher and Bro. Joe and Minnie Siegle of Oakville.

Wishing them the Father's nearness, tho their lot be woe or joy. The Father's nearness has been shared to our hospital patients: Bro. Manuel Gerber, Bro. Noah Anliker, Leona McCue, Sharolyn Metzger, Sis. Sandra Butikofer, Don Haverman, Eva Banwart, and Harry Thomann. Bro. Noah Anliker is now convalescing at Clear View Manor Nursing Home in West Bend. Let us remember our dear older brothers and sisters in prayer and visit them from time to time. A blessing can be reaped by all who fulfill this duty.

Our congregation welcomed Elder Bro. Samuel Anliker and Bro. Roy Wernli of Lamont on Tuesday evening, March 8. We were blessed with many teachings of how we should walk the straight and narrow path that leads to Eternal Rest. We pray a special blessing to them as they labor in the vineyard.

"We wish to thank everyone who sent cards for my 90th birthday, also to all who took part in the special dinner for me, my family, relatives, and friends at the Apostolic Fellowship Center. We have many fond memories." Frank Dogotch and Sis. Katie.

ALTADENA CA

Linda Cooper

Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from Him cometh my salvation.

Our hearts rejoiced as we listened to the testimony of our new brother, Leonard Locher, and witnessed his baptism March 13. We look forward to three other dear friend's provings in the future.

Bro. Joe Kaisner, Forrest, served us faithfully on the pulpit while visiting. Has it appeared to you that as our older brothers preach, a special great love for

Christ and our heavenly Father is reflected often in tearful, humble expressions of thanksgiving and meditation? Perhaps it is because they have been walking with our Saviour for so many years, and have many reasons to thank Him for His goodness throughout their lives. It seems they are especially desirous to give their Lord all the honor and love due Him, and so should we all.

The February youth fellowship week-end spent in Tucson was enjoyed by our young Sunday school children and members. We thank the Tucson church for all the love and kindness extended to us.

BERN KS

Esther & Stella Moser

My Prayer of Faith

When skies are sometimes darkened,

All light hidden from my view,
I place my faith and hope above;
His light comes shining through.
The purpose of His plan reveals
There is no need for fear.

My prayers are always answered;
I feel God's presence near.

Bro. Vernon Leman, Eureka was a guest at Fellowship Center, Sabetha, one evening. A large gathering heard Vernon explain the World Relief Program more fully. He also showed slides on some of his travels. Our thanks to Bro. Vernon for his time and efforts in this work.

Our guest minister was Bro. Art Bahler (Fairbury), who was in our area along with a large number of visitors, mostly from Fairbury and Forrest. It was a blessed day of worship and fellowship.

We extend our sincere sympathy to Sis. Stella Wenger in the passing of her brother, Bro. John Moser, Lester. John was born and lived near Bern until shortly after his marriage to Rose Kellenberger, when they moved to the Lester area.

Our hospital patients: Bro. Dale Strahm, with a back problem; Sis. Frieda Strahm (Bro. Aaron), medical; Frieda is now a resident at the Apostolic Christian Home . . . Sis. Stella Moser (Bro. Reuben), medical. Stella has now gone to the Mayo Clinic for tests and observation . . . Bro. Alphie Strahm has a broken bone in a thumb, due to a chore accident.

BLUFFTON IN

Marti Yergler - Becky Gilliom

"For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh." Bro. Donn Steffen (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Dee) was united in marriage with Sis. Karen Gramm (Bro. Herb and Sis. Jane) on Feb. 27 in Gridley Illinois.

"But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it . . ." A lamb was added to our flock, Sis. Shelly Reimer.

Steve and Beverly Miner are happy parents of their new son, Bartley Allen. (Grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Lucille Frau-higer.) Jack and Carla Girod are the happy parents of their first child, Brandy Lee. (Grandparents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Alice Geisel.)

It is always a blessing to have those back with us who have been ill. Hospital patients were: (Bros.) Steve Reinhard, Elmer Isch, Henry Stoller, Oscar Schaefer, Joel Schaefer, Homer Fiechter, Dave Reimschisel; (Sisters) Mabel (Jay) Rauch, Judith Pfister, Sue (John) Lantz, Joyce (Howard) Baumgartner, Elma Kipfer; Glen Fiechter, Scott Kaehr and Luke Rinkenberger (Bro. Jim and Sis. Jean).

What a blessed Sunday we had when Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington) and Bro. Elmer Bucher (Francesville) brought the word to us. Also, we were blessed with the Francesville Choir. The beautiful hymns bring us so close to our Lord and remind us of our heavenly home above.

Bro. Simon Wagenbach (Tremont) brought us the message on a Wednesday night service.

Our sympathy to Bro. Aden Strahm in the death of his nephew, James Strahm Blume . . . also surviving is his wife and mother.

The following is a note from Bro. Eli Gerber: "May God bless each one who remembered me with gifts of love, each bearing a prayer on my behalf during my illness. Thank you so much."

Make this your daily prayer: Bless me, heavenly Father, forgive my erring ways, Grant me strength to serve THEE, put purpose in my days . . . Teach me to be patient in everything I do, content to trust YOUR wisdom and to follow after YOU . . . And help

me when I falter, and hear me when I pray, and receive me in thy kingdom, to dwell with THEE some day.

CISSNA PARK IL

Grace Bauer - Marilyn Knapp

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.

Our converts, Bob and Sally Rinkenberger, son and daughter of Bro. William and Sis. Marge and David and Sis. Margaret Kupferschmid, were added to the fold. They gave their testimonies on Feb. 26 and were baptized the following day. We wish them well in their new walk with the Lord. We want to thank our visiting minister Bro. Robert Beebe, who brought us so many good teachings.

Kathleen (Ifft) Young has repented and founded peace with her God and is looking forward to baptism. We are thankful for everyone who will give their heart to the Lord in these latter days.

Our Bible class traveled to Tremont on Feb. 20 for Youth Fellowship.

Our hospital patients were Sis. Katie Walder, Sis. Mary Knapp (Bro. Earl), and Bro. Elmer Jacob. Surgical patients are Bro. William Feller and Sis. Clara Vogel (Bro. Walter). Sis. Marilyn Maul fell and broke her ankle.

Bros. John Otto and Ed Feller Sr. still remain as patients in the nursing home.

A son was born to Stephen and Jeanice Ficklin. He was named Kenton Roy and joins a sister, Sherrri. Grandparents are Bro. George and Sis. Caroline Gudeman, maternal great-grandmother, Sis. Anna Gudeman of Cissna Park.

Bob Knapp, son of Bro. Melvin and Sis. Doris, escaped injury from a car accident, which took the life of his friend and seriously injured Steve Feller, grandson of Bro. William and Sis. Lillian Feller.

We are happy to have Bro. Joe Gerst from Iowa City with us. He has been sent here for employment in Hoopston for several

months. We will all miss him when he returns to his home.

"The family of Ben Waldbuser wish to extend our sincere thanks to the friends, neighbors and relatives for deeds and kind words of sympathy during the sickness and loss of our dear husband, father and grandpa."

CONGERVILLE IL

Sharon McClure - Judy Wettstein

As spring again is approaching, we see the miracles of God's creation. It reminds us of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus, who said, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live".

We know the door of grace is still open, for we have three new converts; Sara Dietrich, daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Sarah. . . We want to welcome Glenna and Daniel Rinkenberger to our congregation and rejoice that they too have sought the Lord in repentance. They have moved from La Crosse; he is the son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Martha of La Crosse. Not one of us can afford to bypass the opportunity God has given.

The engagement of Cynthia Zimmerman, daughter of Bro. Sam and Sis. Louella, to Tim Kauffman of Decatur has been made known.

Hospital patients have been: Sis. Mary Sides and Betty Miller (Mrs. Kenneth), both surgical.

"I wish to thank everyone for their prayers, visits, cards, gifts and phone calls while in the hospital and since returning home . . . thanks to all those who brought food. A special thanks for the sermons on tapes which helped me pass the weeks of convalescing." Betty H. Miller

FORREST IL

Kathryn Steidinger
Beverly Eisenmann

Our hospital patients have been Bro. Leroy Koehl, Sis. Wanda Kupferschmid (Bro. Al), Bro. Eli Walter, Scott Friedman (Henry and Sis. Marge), Sis. Peggy Young (Bro. Terry) and their son Tommy, and Shannon Farney (Bro. Roger and Sis. Janet). Several of these were patients because of flu, which is prevalent in our area.

Many good teachings were shared with us through the visits of Bros. Merrill Laukhuf (Latty), Ken Schneider (Remington), Ben

Fehr and Bruce Leman (Roanoke), and Earl Banwart (West Bend).

Our Sunday School children are eagerly practicing their parts, to tell us the story of Christ's death and resurrection at this Easter-time. Jesus has paid it all by dying there on the cruel cross. He has taken all the debt away. We need only to bring our sinful heart to him in repentance, to be cleansed by His shed blood to be as white as snow within.

Dying for me,
There on the cross He was dying
for me;
Now in His death my redemption
I see,
All because Jesus was dying for me.

Risen for me,
Up from the grave He has risen
for me;
Now evermore from death's sting
I am free,
All because Jesus has risen for me.

Living for me,
Up in the skies He is living for me;
Daily He's pleading and praying
for me,
All because Jesus is living for me.

Coming for me,
One day to earth He is coming for me;
Then with what joy His dear face
I shall see,
O how I praise Him—He's coming
for me.

LEO IN the editor

Beautiful! It's beautiful, what the Lord is doing. It is right, just and wonderful. God is preparing for ages beyond this little day.

Bro. Philip Schlatter has been in the hospital. Just below the hip is the fracture or fractures. Another time, on earth's journey, Phil was driving. Something happened. Sis. Thelma, his wife, said; This was our happy day; somebody must have prayed. It was on a curve and one wheel was rolling . . . it was hard for her to see how the vehicle could have otherwise been controlled. Today the journey is a little different, with a somewhat changed crest ahead . . . but it is ahead.

Hattie Farney, a sister in Kansas, was 76 when Bro. George Lambert and I visited her. Her

smile is her service for the Lord. A long face is a stranger to her. She wants to be a light.

Bros. Theo. Beer and Walter Steffen visited and served the Lord. The beautiful white hair of Theo. tells the meaning of the Proverb in action, a crown of glory, for he is found in the way of righteousness . . . Walter has among others a special treasure in the Father's house, their and our Bonnie, his daughter.

The Lord is gracious and kind. He prepares us for things in time and eternity. Mother and I were with dear ones at the Yackleys at Wichita. Mother's path was not too far from the open gate . . . George Lambert was showing things to come. He was singing: **With friends on earth we meet in gladness, while swift the moments fly.** Anticipation looks forward to really living the life of that song: **We'll never say goodbye in heaven.**

Years ago before George was converted, his dad was reading; the chapter was Matthew 24, at verse 15. With the word, "Daniel", his dad fell over and went home . . . George, Ernie and his brother were sitting on the front steps . . . the hearse had taken dad's body. One of the boys speaks: "If we're going to see dad again, we're going to have to change our life . . ." They came to the Lord.

When we see the work of God, it is indeed beautiful. He weaves beauty from sickness, sorrow and trials. His way is always best. How glad we'll embrace this on yonder shore.

LESTER IA

Joyce Knoblock - Alice Metzger
We'll say good-night here, but good-morning up there was sung by the choir at the funeral of Bro. John Moser, who passed away March 5. Conducting the services were Elder Bro. Sam Anliker and Bro. Dennis Warner. Bro. John was called into eternity after a brief illness, having driven to church the previous Sunday. Survivors are his widow, Sis. Rose; seven daughters, Sis. Ione DeHaan, Mariann Metzger, Betty Jean Leuthold, Estelle Leuthold, Evelyn Metzger, Donna Gerber, and Janet Wysong; and two sons, Elder Bro. Leo and Bro. Frank. His presence will be sorely missed by all of us.

Two little boys were born at the same hospital on the same day,

Feb. 19. Benji Lee was born to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Shirley Kellenberger. He has three sisters; and grandparents are Bro. Chuck and Sis. Esther Koehl, Morris, and Bro. Henry and Sis. Elaine Kellenberger . . . Rick Allen is the new boy at the home of Bro. Dale and Sis. Chris Metzger. He has three sisters and one brother. Grandparents are George and Martha Knapp, Goodfield, and Bro. Jake and Sis. Donna Metzger.

A girl was born on March 13 to Lynn and Marlys Doorneweerd. Sherri Lynn is their first child. Grandparents are Sis. Karoline Doorneweerd and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mariann Metzger.

Little Clay Metzger, son of Keith and Mary, had corrective surgery on his hand at a Rochester hospital. Other hospital patients were Bro. Elmer Metzger, Bro. Nathan Knobloch, Sis. Iola Knobloch, and Sis. Alice Metzger.

NEW MARTINSVILLE W. VA Minnie Weltz - Della Witschey

The snow and ice left this area without causing any hardships, while there was a great chance of a heavy flood if the run-off had come quickly, so all were very happy that we escaped a major flood. Weather conditions have been quite good; many shrubs and trees did not survive the intense cold of the past winter; flower and fruit trees are beginning to show signs of spring.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mullett, of Doolin Route, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on March 10 at their home with their immediate family. She was the former Sarah Virginia Hassig (Jennie), a daughter of the late Viola and Jacob Hassig. He was the son of the late Samuel and Louise Mullett and was a lifelong farmer. They are the parents of two daughters, Harriett and Ruth, both of home, and one son, John, who lives near them with his family of three daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams of Akron were the guests of the Barth families during the first of the month.

Miss Della Witschey has been confined to her bed, with influenza, in the Lewis Wetzel Nursing Home for several days. She had a birthday on March 16 and received many cards and well wishes from her family and many friends.

Edward and Ray Kocher spent several days the last of February in Florida with their sister, Ruth Kocher Lee, who with her husband are making Florida their home.

PHOENIX AZ

Julie Hoerr

Our joys are endless in many areas. It is only the multitude of prayers from all our congregations praying for Elder Bro. Roy Farney's restoration of health, that we are again hearing him preach God's holy word from our pulpit. Our thanks to our deacon, Bro. Richard Schupbach, for lending himself in this time of real need.

"For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ." This beautiful salvation is being sought by Dave Hodges, who has been worshipping with us these past several months . . . **Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?** In answer to that voice, we all have heard, Keith Kaufman (son of Bro. John and Mrs. Betty Reyna—Morton) gave his heart to the Lord. May both our converts ever feel His precious nearness.

On Wednesday evening, Feb. 23, Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman (Francesville) brought us a timely message on the most beautiful gift ever—becoming a child of God. Feb. 26 we were grateful for the messages delivered by Elder Bro. Paul Fehr (Morris) and Bro. Carl Hartman (Sabetha). In the evening, we had a pot-luck supper before services. We thank these brethren for lending themselves and look forward to their return.

On March 6, little Nicole Lee Baum made happy grandparents of Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara Schupbach. Her parents are Bro. Robert and Sis. Christine Baum of Morton.

Our surgical patients were: Bro. Alphi Fisher, Sis. Cathy (Jerry) Emch, Sis. Christine (George) Schuester, and Ester Harmon. Bro. Earl Sanders is in the hospital for studies.

New addresses are: Bro. Ed and Sis. Shirley Zollinger and family, 2855 E. Jasmine, Mesa, AZ 85203-Tel. No. 602-832-5694. Bro. Don and Sis. Cathy Emch and family, 3620 W. Greenway Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85023.

We thank our many, many winter visitors for visiting us and look forward to your next visits.

Church building progress note: The assembly floor has been poured, the basement is built, and the decking is poured.

Pure religion IS LOVE in ACTION

RITTMAN OH

Marlene Dotterer

"A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you . . ." Truly, Bro. Alpha Hartzler of the Princeville congregation feels this, as he gave his testimony of faith the week-end of Feb. 26 and 27. A bus load of family and friends from Rittman, including his parents, Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara, went to share in the blessed moment.

Another precious week-end was spent on March 6, when Bro. Robin Stoller and Sis. Joanne Walder were united in Holy Matrimony. We will certainly miss Sis. Joanne as they make their home in Latty. Parents of the couple are Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvane Stoller of Latty and Bro. Donald and Sis. Martha Walder of here. Many visitors shared the week-end with us, including Elder Bro. Rudolph Graf (Akron), and ministering brothers, Kenneth Indermuhle (Sardis), David Roberts (Philadelphia), Sam Schlatter (Junction), and Ray Sinn (Latty). We thank them for lending their services.

Again the Lord has bestowed His healing powers on several from our congregation. Recovering from surgery are Sis. Margaret Calame and friends Art Curie and Merle Saurer. Our eldest sister, Emma Riggenbach, has been ill and confined to her home. While sick, she celebrated her 92nd birthday. Mary Alice Bauman remains a shut-in. We miss her bright smile at church.

All children in a special way . . . **Belong to God above . . . And I am sure He favors them . . . With everlasting love.** The Lord has blest with additions to families. Tom and Valerie (Maibach) Thompson welcome another daughter, Tracy Lynn. Michelle Lynn is the first-born of Bro. Robert and Sis. Mardel (Stoller) Dotterer. Joining his sister, Jeremy Steven was born to Bro. Steven and Sis. Connie (Stoller) Bauman. Mike and Kathy Steiner welcome their second daughter, Emma Michelle. Terry and Charlotte (Christian) Waibel announce the birth of their second

daughter, Nettie Christine. Craig Alan is the name given to the first boy of Dale and Marilyn (In-gold) Jaquet. He has one sister at home.

"Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations . . ." May we ever help Sis. Elizabeth Dotterer of the Mansfield congregation feel welcome, as she is now a resident of the Apostolic Christian Home.

May is Silver Lining collection for Rittman.

SABETHA KS Mrs. Joe Steiner

Easter, and a waiting earth
Released from winter prison . . .
With tree and flower and shining
sky,
Calling, **He is risen!**

We enjoyed having Bro. Arthur Bahler, Fairbury, as our visiting minister.

The engagement was made known of Sis. Joan Plattner and Bro. Kevin Nussbaum, who are both employed at Bloomington, Illinois. We wish them much grace and happiness as they make their plans for their future life together. Their parents are Bro. Henry and Sis. Loree Plattner, Sabetha, and Bro. and Sis. Byron Nussbaum of Fairbury.

SARDIS OH Linda Indermuhle

We had such a blessed Sunday when Bro. Joseph Ramsier (Rittman) visited us. Bro. Joe read and explained the summary of the brotherhood conference. I was reminded of the song No. 32 in the Zion's Harp, **Who Shall Abide?**

He who in the truth abideth,
Stays afar from every lie;
And with all his heart is striving
Seeking truth all good reviving
He who keeps his tongue from sin-
ning,
Helps his neighbor, cheerful still.
He who nothing harmful preaches,
Only what, God fearing, teaches.
He who does not heed the godless,
Shunneth falsehood with a will.
Doth not practice fraud nor swear-
ing,
Right and innocence upholding.
He whose hands are clean and
spotless,
And whose heart is free from ill,
Keeps his conscience pure and
holy,

Trusts in God, is meek and lowly.
He who truth and love attaineth,
And in holiness remaineth;
He will in the church abide
And in Salem's hall reside.

SILVERTON OR Kathy Dietrich

Our area has again received the much-needed blessing of rain in the past few weeks. By having such a very dry winter, we were reminded how much we need the gentle rain that usually falls all winter. We should not take it so much for granted, and be more thankful for it and the abundance it brings to us.

However, and somewhat because of the dry weather, the work on the new church building is progressing quite well. It is encouraging to watch the developments, and we feel the Lord's blessing in it. We want to thank all of the visiting brothers and friends who, while spending a few days here, willingly gave of their time and talents to help.

We appreciate having visiting ministers, Bro. Robert Miller, who spent a Sunday with us, and Bro. Garth Steffen, who was with us for Wednesday evening services. Both of the brothers are from the Portland congregation.

TAYLOR MO Lena M. Haerr

"Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:"

Make us of one heart and mind;
Courteous, pitiful, and kind;
Lowly, meek in thought and word,
Altogether like our Lord.

Many visitors from many different churches attended a happy, blessed day March 6, when Bro. Jeff Gutwein, Francesville, and Sis. Wendy Grimm were married. Wendy's father, Bro. Roy, had the ceremony, with Jeff's uncle, Bro. Karl Westfall, Francesville, also taking part. Visiting ministers, Bros. Ezra Feller, Cissna (Wendy's grandfather), Todd Feller, La Crosse, Kenny Dietz, Bradford and others were here.

It was with thankfulness that Wendy's grandmother, Sis. Louise Grimm could attend, being the first time, since her surgery that she was in church. Sis. Louise

wishes to thank everyone for remembering her with prayers, flowers, gifts and cards while at the hospital and since she was home.

We were glad that Bro. Marvin Schmitgall, Eureka, stopped in Taylor last Wednesday night. Bro. Marvin brought the message so clear and plain. We appreciate the visitors, but we do so appreciate our own ministers too.

Resurrection message: In my yard the flowers are blooming all around . . . Dogwood blossoms sweetly and crocuses abound . . . Daffodils are standing, dressed in brightest gold . . . Lovely lilac blossoms now start to unfold . . . Spring flowers bring their message of Easter peace and cheer . . . They say **The blessed season, Resurrection time, is here.**

ATHENS ALABAMA Hazel Vibbert

Just Trusting

There is comfort in just trusting
Each new moment to His care,
And a real and blest assurance
In the quietness of prayer.

Praise God from whom all blessings come. We had church at the new building. This has been everyone's dream, and we thank God, and all who helped to make it come to pass. We left many happy and some sad memories behind. We hope and pray that we can all go forth and win souls for the Lord.

Dewey and Ruby Perry have a baby boy. His name is Bradley. He has Don, Lynn, Carolyn and Brenda to welcome him home. Bro. Henry and Sis. Anis Perry are the happy grandparents.

BAY CITY MI Carolyn Schamback

"Make a joyful noise unto the LORD . . ." and the Lord's presence was felt with joy on a recent weekend, when our congregation gathered to hear the Peoria choir sing. . . . Such beautiful songs of praise to our God and Saviour, and we're so privileged to be able to enjoy this fellowship. We thank the choir, and Bro. Ken Hoerr for ministering to us on Sunday.

Jason and Matthew Wieland have a new little brother, Joseph Donald, born to Brian and Char.

Grandparents are Bro. Erwin and Sis. Nina Wieland.

We always have a hope for a Heavenly home for a Christian who dies, but how comforting to know they are saved. Our hearts were gladdened, even in sorrow, when we heard how a dear one, after a week of struggling with Satan, was able to say: "I have overcome," just hours before her death. We should all live so that, at death's door, we can scorn the evil one and say, "I have overcome."

BRADFORD IL Jane Leman

We welcome Sis. Barbara (Harter) Klumpp to our congregation. On Feb. 20, in Eureka, she became the bride of Bro. David Klumpp. They are living at R.R. 3, Wyoming. Bro. Ray and Sis. Eunice (David's parents) have moved to a new house in Bradford, close to our church.

A precious baby girl, Donna Sue, was born into the family of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Wilma Kieser. Also welcoming the new baby are Barbara, Joseph, Mary Ann, Robert, and Matthew. Grandparents are Sis. Emma Moser (Elgin, Il.) and Bro. Sam and Sis. Lucille Kieser (Bradford).

A thank you to Bro. John Steiner (Oakville) and Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto) for ministering unto us.

What a blessed week-end when Elder Bros. Leroy Huber (Eureka), Joe Braker (Morton) and Dave Kieser (Princeville) came for the provings and baptisms of three precious young souls. Martha Kay Kieser (Bro. David and Sis. Shirley), Deanne Klumpp (Bro. Ray and Sis. Eunice), and Marcia Kieser (Bro. Loris and Sis. Martha) are now our sisters-in-faith.

BREMEN IN Marian Germann

"Happy is that people, . . . whose God is the LORD." Happy? Are we always happy? When Satan seems to throw his hardest blows at us, do we stand and give thanks to God for being our head. May God grant us grace to be "happy" in the Lord.

On Feb. 22, our dear Sis. Pauline Clauss passed on to eternity, to be with the Lord. At 94, Pauline was our oldest member, and she died after an extended illness. Sis. Pauline was born in Germany, and at a

young age took over the duties of a mother for her brother's eight children, after their own mother died. In 1936, Pauline married Bro. Charles Clauss, who preceded her in death. She was preceded in death by eight brothers and five sisters. Surviving are numerous nieces and nephews, including: Harley, Elmer, William, and Roy Meister of Bremen; Bro. Lester Meister of Latty; Ezra Meister of Crystal City, Texas; and Sis. Mildred and Sis. Ernestine Meister of Bremen. Services were held in Bremen and Fairbury, where she was laid to rest.

March 14, God blessed the home of Bro. John and Sis. Jan Schini with their second daughter, Betsy Kay. Brenda has a little sister to take care of now.

"We wish to thank all who showed so much love and kindness during Aunt Pauline Clauss' illness, for prayers, gifts, cards, and for all who would come and sing for her . . . also, the ministers who came to pray with her. She always enjoyed everything everyone did for her." The Meister Family.

"Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised . . ."

BURLINGTON IA Mayme Gerst

I WILL BE WITH HIM IN TROUBLE; I WILL DELIVER HIM, AND HONOUR HIM.

We enjoy so much the food served by loving hands on Sunday noon, and how much more we enjoy the SPIRITUAL food given us by our dear ministers CHOSEN BY GOD, who so lovingly proclaim HIS word. May we strive more diligently to obey. We thank Bros. Nathan Steffen, Elgin, and Charles Sauder, Tremont for their messages. Reading Titus 2, the fifteen verses so clearly tell all ages how we should live. It would be well to read it often. Surely the Bible has an answer for every problem.

Sis. Judy (Bro. Uriel) Gehring is home from the hospital, after 16 days there from a blood clot. Coming home on Saturday afternoon, she was in church Sunday forenoon. How much we miss it when we cannot be there.

Laverne and Sis. Kim Salek are the parents of a precious baby girl, Jaime Lyn. She has two sisters, Cari Ann and Ericka Rose. Grand-

parents are Bro. and Sis. Bill and Rose Oberman.

As the editor of Silver Lining suggested we talk to some of our members regarding SICKNESS and DEATH, I would like to share this with you.

During a lifetime, the believer passes through many different experiences, all designed by HIS HEAVENLY FATHER to make him a fit candidate for eternal life. The follower of CHRIST is informed by the Chief Shepherd he must TAKE UP HIS CROSS DAILY, DENY HIMSELF AND FOLLOW HIM, and by this means he remains a lamb of Jesus flock.

Our heavenly father very wisely keeps hidden from us what the future holds for us in this life. If we knew what tomorrow, next week, next month would bring, we might despair, and become confused concerning our eternal outlook.

One of these contingencies is a death in the immediate family. Our first response "It can't have happened", and we fall into a state of shock. The first few days followed by the funeral and the condolences of brethren and friends are still in a daze, but the certainty now becomes real. We must accept it as HIS WILL and begin, by HIS GRACE, to make the proper adjustments to life, with a loved one gone to his eternal reward. Time now seems to pass ever so slow, but as time goes we lean on GOD for strength. We relive some of the pleasant memories together and long to see them again, but are reminded afresh that this was HIS will and what HE does is well done, and again continue on, even rejoicing that we are heaven-bound, and that death is merely an intermission period between this life and eternal life, and realizing more fully that we too have an appointment with death.

Bodily afflictions are also the lot of many a believer, and when we become the one, we respond perhaps differently than we thought we would. Suddenly these afflictions become ours. We cannot work, we are bed-ridden, hospitalized, and diagnosed. We then realize it has happened to us. We were not immune. It is only when we go through these experiences ourselves can we fully understand. We realize we are expendable, and we ask GOD to give us GRACE

to accept, believing that **All things work together for good to those who love the LORD**, and we are exercised by the virtue of patience, which increaseth our faith. How true the way of the cross leads home. We are now more deeply impressed with the words of Paul: I reckon . . . the sufferings of this present world are not worthy to be compared to the **GLORY** that shall be revealed in us. Let us rejoice in **HIM**.

Dark Shadows Fall in the Lives of Us All

Sickness and sorrow
come to us all,
But through it we grow
and learn to **stand tall**
For trouble is **part**
and parcel of life,
And no man can grow
without struggle and strife
And the more we endure
with patience and grace,
The stronger we grow
and the more we can face—
And the more we can face,
the greater our love,
And with love in our hearts
we are more conscious of
The pain and the sorrow
in lives everywhere,
So it is through trouble
that we learn how to share.

DETROIT MI Bonnie Popp

Jesus, where'er Thy people meet,
There they behold Thy mercy seat;
Where'er they seek Thee, Thou
art found,
And every place is hallowed
ground.

Our fellowship in Detroit has moved in faith, to plan and build a new place of worship. It is our desire to follow as the Lord would lead and to proceed in unity, humility and order. Please be mindful of us in prayer as we undertake to provide, to the honor and glory of God, a dwelling where we, as well as friends, loved ones and strangers alike, can worship the Lord God and listen to His word in truth.

It has been awhile since Bro. Larry, Sis. Marcia and the three little Belsleys have left us to make their home in Bluffton, yet I would take this time to extend our prayer and best wishes . . .

With the all-covering shadow of
His wings,
With the strong love that guards
from evil things,
With the sure power that safe to
glory brings—
Thus may He keep thee.

We were happy to have Bro. Ed Aeschliman minister unto us. As the children in Sunday School made preparation for the Easter program, many asked for longer and more difficult pieces to say. They were very eager to serve as much as they could. Are we, as adults, as eager to serve?

Take the task He gives you gladly;
Let His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calleth,
Here am I; send me, send me!

EUREKA IL Cathryn Wettstein Salome Schumacher

On Sunday, March 20, Sis. Barbara Hartter and Bro. David Klumpp of Bradford were united in marriage by Bro. Walter Anliker. Her parents are Bro. and Sis. Leonard and Ann Hartter. His parents are Bro. and Sis. Ray and Eunice Klumpp from Bradford. The newlyweds will live near Bradford.

Our visiting ministers have been: (Bros.) Harvey Grimm, Bern; Roy Ehnle, Jim Ringger, Bradford; Fred Knapp, Congerville; Paul Butikofer, Elgin, Iowa.

Philo Fehr, age 89, passed away at Methodist Hospital on Monday, Feb. 21, where he had been a patient one week. Surviving are two sons, Bro. Oliver, Deer Creek, Bro. John of Forrest; three daughters, Grace Staub—Peoria, Sis. Cynthia Aeschleman—Roanoke, and Dorothy Shoreman of Morton; two sisters. His funeral was March 24, with Bro. Vernon Leman in charge, burial in Roanoke Cemetery.

Bro. Charlie Farney, age 89, passed away in the "Home," where he had lived nearly six years. He was taken to Roanoke for services. He passed away Feb. 23. Sis. Clara Berchtold, age 77, passed away at the "Home" March 1, where she had been only a short time. She was taken to Princeville for services. Pete Funk, age 87, passed away at Eureka Hospital March 2, shortly after being admitted. He was taken to Gridley for services.

A sister also lives at the "Home"; she is Sis. Elizabeth Funk.

Saturday afternoon, March 5, a small group of members gathered at the "Home" to hear our friend, Louis Niergarth express himself as to his conversion. He was then baptized and now is our brother-in-faith. He is paralyzed from his waist down, after a tractor upset on him about 10 years ago. He is a person with a lot of patience, does very little complaining, and carries his cross very well. We all rejoice and are happy for him, that Bro. Louis has the faith to believe that some day he will have a place in heaven prepared for him, where there will be no pain and suffering at all. May God ever be near him.

That evening, we gathered in God's house to hear the testimony of two children of Bro. and Sis. Robert and Jean Knapp. They were Becky and Ron. Bro. Walter Anliker helped Bro. Leroy in this. The next day, they were baptized and are now a brother and sister in faith. Bro. Kenneth Knapp from Taylor had the last prayer.

Two Births: A son to Steven and Audrey Rocke, born March 1, named Shannon Dale. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Richard and Marge Rocke. This is their first grandchild . . . Bro. and Sis. Roger and Wendy Blunier are parents of their third son. His name is Merle Wade. He has two little brothers who will play with him. He was born March 7.

Two new residents in the "Home" are Anna and Mary Wettstein from Congerville.

Sis. Carrie Huber was a patient in Eureka Hospital for a short time. Bro. Paul Rocke remains quite ill in Eureka Hospital. Levi Anliker is a medical patient in Eureka Hospital.

FAIRBURY IL Joyce Huber

We rejoice that Gwen Kaisner, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Merle Kaisner, and Diane Hoffman have given their testimonies of their faith in Jesus as their Saviour and Lord, and were baptized, becoming children of God.

Visiting ministers were Bro. Ed Kloter and Bro. Kenneth Weertz.

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Walter were married 25 years March 8, and their children, Dale and Carol, hosted an open reception for their

silver anniversary. Mrs. Walter is the former Arlene Zimmerman.

Carol Thames, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Phil Thames, had the unfortunate experience of breaking her leg. Also hospitalized were Bro. Lyle Huette, Sis. Vi Bachtold, and Bro. George Saathoff.

Sis. Pauline (Meister) Clauss, 94, formerly of Fairbury, passed away; funeral services were held here. She lived in Peoria, until moving to Bremen to live with her brother.

Sis. Rachel Saathoff reached her fourscore years, and observed her 80th birthday March 31.

Many of our churches met at our Fellowship Hall here; reports were given and projects discussed on the many World Relief activities. May all of these endeavors redound to the honor and glory of God.

FRANCESVILLE IN

Helen Huber - Sharon Neihouser

On a Wednesday evening, we were privileged to have Bro. Ken Schneider (Remington) minister unto us. He left us with much food for thought, and especially to prove the spirit, so that we do not become deceived. One Sunday afternoon, we enjoyed the message and visit of Bro. Edwin Bahler (Remington).

Hospitalized were Sis. Sharon Huber and Bro. Dale Gudeman. We are happy to report that Bro. Keith Getz is now home and recovering quite well.

Sunday, March 6, was the wedding day of Sis. Wendy Grimm (Taylor), daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Donna, and Bro. Jeff Gutwein, son of Bro. Nate and Sis. Ad. We welcome Sis. Wendy to Francesville.

The member choir enjoyed a blessed week-end in Bluffton, and we wish to thank them for their many deeds of kindness.

We are also happy to report that we have several converts, and we pray while the waters are troubled, that others will step in and be healed.

The family of Lena Yaggie wishes to thank relatives, friends and neighbors for the many acts of kindness during her illness and death . . . also for the many cards of sympathy.

Changing address? Tell your reporter. Remember to send zip number!

GIRARD OH Kathryn Emch

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night." These words were read at the funeral service for our dear sister, Anna Hafely. Anna was 93 years old, but still read her Bible daily. We thank God for calling His child home.

Sis. Anna Enyeart is recovering from eye surgery.

GOODFIELD IL

Elna Grimm - Verna Hartter

What Is Love?

Love is an attitude—Love is a prayer,

For a soul in sorrow, a heart in despair.

Love is good wishes for the gain of another,

Love suffers long with the fault of a brother.

Love giveth water to a cup that's run dry.

Love reaches low, as it can reach high,

Seeks not her own at expense of another.

Love reaches God, when it reaches our brother.

Love is the virtue that prompted our Saviour to give His life for us. Let us thank Him anew in this Easter season.

Bro. Norman Musselman suffered first and second degree burns about his face and arms, when a propane heater exploded where he was working. He was hospitalized and medicated. We are happy to report that the Lord saw fit to spare and to heal him. Sis. Rosa Wiegand has returned to the Eureka Home, after having been taken to the St. Frances Hospital in Peoria for surgery on her legs. Bro. and Sis. Kathy Finley's infant daughter, Allecia, has been released from the hospital, where she submitted to major surgery. Our friend, Mrs. Carl Knapp, was admitted to the Eureka Hospital for tests and observation.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Bro. Oliver Fehr, in the passing of his father, Bro. Philo

Fehr, Eureka.

We thank Bros. Fritz Knapp, Congerville, and Aaron Steffen, Alto, for their visit and for the message which each one brought to our congregation.

GRIDLEY IL

Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein

Two dear souls were baptized into Christ's church and became a part of the household of faith. Larry and Carol Stoller became partakers of this blessed privilege, after giving their testimony of faith and declaring in the baptismal waters that, yes, they believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, who died and shed His blood for the remission of their sins.

A son, Benjamin Joseph Funk was born on Feb. 18 to Bro. Bill and Sis. Valerie Funk. His grandparents are Bro. Wilbert and Sis. Violet Funk of Morton and Mr. and Mrs. Brockwell of Flanagan. Bro. Will and Sis. Ollie Gramm of Gridley are great-grandparents.

In a beautiful and tranquil ceremony, made so, not by the adorning of the bride or groom, but by the presence of God's blessings and peace, Bro. Don Steffen of Bluffton and Sis. Karen Gramm of Gridley vowed their lives to one another in the bonds of matrimony. In like manner, Bro. Kevin Knapp of Cissna Park and Sis. Dixie Cargill of Gridley were also joined together in the threefold cord, of which Christ is the head.

Our visiting ministers, some of whom were with us for the weddings, were (Bros.) Harold Gramm of Morris, Maurice Frank of Leo, Andrew Virkler of Bay City, Bruce Leman of Roanoke, Tom Leman of Elgin, Ron Heiniger and Bill Kuperschmidt of Bloomington, and Ed Alt of Cissna Park.

We were encouraged by an inspiring message of faith by one of our visiting ministers. We have so many excellent examples to follow when we read of Noah, Abraham and Moses. The brother pointed out, faith is only genuine when it proves itself in action. Because of their faith, Abraham offered up Isaac, and Moses chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. It is often necessary for us to step forward in faith before the works of God are manifest. The Jewish priests, who carried the ark of the cove-

nant to the river Jordan, would never have taken it across if they had simply stood and waited for the river to first part for them. The river parted only after they had actually stepped into the water, and they were then able to go across. In our lives, our faith needs to be such that we believe that what God has said in His word is true. If we have that faith, it should impel us to be obedient.

Sis. Nadine Ringger and Sis. Mary Martin were in the hospital and are now home.

Peter Funk, age 87, passed away on March 2 at the Eureka Hospital, and was laid to rest in the Gridley Cemetery. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Minnie; his son, Nelson; his daughter Mrs. Eleanor Eft; his sister, Sis. Elizabeth Funk.

"I would like to thank each one who remembered me with prayers, cards, gifts and visits while I was in the hospital and since I have returned home." Sis. Betty Schmidtgall.

ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Barb Hoffmann

Recipe for Living

Some things a man must surely know,

If he is going to live and grow:
He needs to know that life is more
That what a man lays by in
store,

That more than all he may obtain,
Contentment offers greater
gain.

We, as students are at decision-making times of our lives. Some of us are graduating, some are declaring majors, others are finding new niches, and all of us are excitedly anticipating . . . We seem to want pre-marked road maps of our futures, and forget that God has promised grace sufficient for one day at a time. Faith is the key to contentment; faith in our omnipotent Father, who loves us and wants the best for us. Faith is leaning wholly on His promises and letting His gentle arms envelop you, knowing that today you are in the center of His will and tomorrow belongs to Him. Everyday we are learning more and more about the meaning of Hebrews 11:1.

We were richly blessed with

messages from Jim Hoerr (Peoria), Arnold Gerst (Chicago), Ed Alt (Cissna), and Lynn Klopfenstein (Alabama). One evening, the Gramm sisters from Gridley sang for us, and another evening Tim Sauder shared his slides from Honduras. Fellowship means so much to us.

JUNCTION OH

Gwen Manz

Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman) visited us Feb. 27. He related to us this story: When told to do some task, a young girl asked her mother, "Do I have to?" Her mother replied, "If you want to, you don't have to. But if you don't want to, you have to."

John Rose and Trish Smith were married on March 12. John is the son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty Manz.

Sis. Carolyn Manz (wife of Bro. Ben) spent some time in the hospital recently.

KIOWA KS

Janice Frieden

The scripture, Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth, is so true when we look around us and see how many souls are putting off until tomorrow seeking salvation through Christ. They feel there's plenty of time. But is there? A true story is told of a young lady who was urged to receive Christ, after attending a meeting where salvation was proclaimed. Hesitating, she said, "I'll seek the Lord tomorrow." But the next evening, instead of going to church, she accepted an invitation from a friend to attend a dance. When her mother reminded her of the promise she had made the day before, she replied, "I'm sorry; I don't want to disappoint John. I'm going out with him tonight if it kills me!" Hurriedly she went upstairs to dress for the party. The young man arrived and waited for some time. Finally, the mother called to her daughter. Receiving no answer, they investigated and found her slumped over her dressing table. They tried to revive her, but a heart attack had ended her life. She had put off receiving the Saviour—at the cost of her eternal soul. Where salvation is concerned, let's not put off until tomorrow what God is offering us freely today. Our choice may last

forever.

We are so happy to relate that Sis. Bea Diel, after 69 days in the Enid hospital, is home again. It's been a long struggle for her, but God has been good. Bro. Raymond Roth, Sis. Elizabeth Diel, and Sis. Alice Tanner are all home now, after being hospitalized for awhile. We are thankful to have them in our midst again. Our thoughts and prayers are always with our loved ones who are ill, and this is so for Bro. John Kraft, who suffered a severe heart attack. Although Bro. John is very sick, he is truly an inspiration, for he always has a smile when you stop to say hi!

We enjoyed two blessed week-ends of fellowship. The first was when Bro. Vernon Leman, Eureka, joined us and lent himself to instruct us from God's precious word. Then later in the evening, he showed us slides of India, where he had traveled. Seeing the way many have to live in other countries makes us rejoice for the many blessings God has granted us in America. The second blessed week-end of fellowship occurred when Elder Bro. Sam Anliker, Lamont, joined with us on Saturday evening in remembering the Lord's death through partaking of Holy Communion; our hearts were again deeply touched to consider all He had to suffer for us who are so unworthy. We were so thankful for the remembrance of Him then, and again on Sunday, our Lord's Day, when we heard two beautiful messages from the word, and then gathered later for a supper held at the Fellowship Hall.

Bro. Raymond Roth wishes to extend his deepest thanks for all the thoughtfulness shown him while he was ill.

LATTY OH

Diane Stoller - Karen Klopfenstein

We are glad to have Bro. Loren Stoller and Sis. Louise Rager back in church, after being hospitalized. Also hospitalized were Lola Laukhuf, Sis. Beulah Stoller and Sis. Nellie Sinn.

We rejoiced the week-end of Feb. 27 & 28 . . . when seven more souls were added into the fold. They were JaHahn (John and Sis. Lillian Schlatter) and Stan and Shirley Sinn (Bro. Carl and Sis. Tootie), Nathan and Nettie Ringger, Leon Klopfenstein (Bro. Ray-

mond and Sis. Catherine), and Bob Stoller (Bro. William and Sis. Florence). Bro. Rudy Graf (Akron) assisted Bro. Loren in this important work. May we ever keep the traditions that have been handed down to us and appreciate them. Other visiting ministers were Bros. Walter Rehklau and Ben Manz.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Shirley Stoller are happy to receive a son, Gabriel Mark. Grandparents are Bro. Louis and Sis. Mildred and Bro. Walter and Sis. Dorothy Steffen (Milford).

Bro. Robin Stoller and Sis. Joanne Walder were united in holy matrimony on March 6 at Rittman. We welcome Sis. Joanne to Latty. The parents are Bro. Russell and Sis. Melvenc and Bro. Don and Sis. Martha.

Vicki Laukhuf (wife of Bruce) is seeking her soul's salvation (daughter-in-law of Bro. Ken and Sis. Marge). May God ever give them both grace as they walk hand in hand in repentance.

Jim and Margo Price had their third son, Benjamin Wayne, Feb. 28. Tony and Eric welcome him home. Grandparents are Bob and Allean Price.

Bro. George and Sis. Clara Sinn had their Golden Wedding Anniversary in February. We are thankful that the Lord has been with them and blessed them together for these many years. Bro. Harold Gramm (Morris) visited and ministered on this blessed occasion . . . Bro. George and Sis. Clara wish to thank everyone that remembered them with prayers, cards, and gifts on their golden anniversary.

First-time parents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Deb Wenninger. Little Jennifer Lynn was born March 12. Grandparents are Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine.

MANSFIELD OH

Lucille Groh

CHRIST HAS REPLACED THE DARK DOOR OF DEATH WITH THE SHINING GATE OF LIFE.

On March 12, our elder brothers visited and proclaimed the gospel in truth and sincerity. After services, they also shared with us the memorandum of the conference. We appreciate their words of encouragement and advice.

We rejoice to meet and greet

our sisters, Anna Hoffman and Mary Witchie, who have been absent for a lengthy season, due to illness, and have returned to church. However, we are saddened to report that others have since been hospitalized. They include Sis. Barbara Bricker and Bros. Steve Domka and Frank Graszl. Bro. Frank was repairing a two and a half story house roof, slipped on some icy leaves and fell to the ground. In his fall, he broke both arms and severely crushed his one hand. We are thankful the Lord spared his life. Sis. Anna Engwiler, who has been ill for many years, has been moved to the Winchester Nursing Home, 70 Winchester Rd., Mansfield. We know her friends will continue to pray for her and visit her there.

Our two sisters, Emma Bucher and Elizabeth Dotterer are now residents of the Rittman Rest Home. We certainly miss them in our fellowship.

Friends Susan Zimmer (Bro. James and Sis. Clara Sabo Zimmer) and Rick Foss have been united in marriage.

Loving sympathy is extended to Bro. Jesse Beer, in the passing and great loss of his life's companion and our friend, Alice. Bro. Jesse cared for his wife for many years, as she was confined to a wheelchair because of a stroke. We know the Lord will help to comfort and fill the vacant chair.

Bro. Aaron Steffen spoke the following words at the funeral of our dear sister, Tillie Oesch. "What would it be like if there were no Saviour? What would it be like when we come to the end of life's road, and to be able to say with calm assurance, I've served the Lord for 72 years, not without mistakes, but in faith believing? What would it be like to enter heaven's portals free from all earthly cares and to be able to see Jesus?" Our dear Sis. Tillie found the Saviour, served him to the best of her ability for over 72 years, and we believe is now in her eternal rest, free from all earth's cares and trials. She was 89 years old, when the Lord gently bid her come on the morning of Feb. 26. We have lost a pillar in our church, and all of us who were privileged to love and know her will long remember her kind words of advice. She leaves three sons, Ben, Elmer and Robert; six daughters, Anna

Farney, Edith Mayer, Helen Ramsier, Emily Went, Rose Munson and Martha Oesch. One son, John and her beloved husband, Carl preceded her in death.

Beyond the silent river in the glory summer-land,
In the beautiful forever, where the jeweled city stands,
Where ever-blooming flowers send forth their sweet perfume,
My heart's most loved and cherished in heavenly beauty blooms,
And when I cross the river, the first I will adore,
Will be my loving Saviour, the one who died for me
That in the long forever, from sin I might be free.
The next one who will greet me in the mansion fair and bright
Will be my sainted mother, arrayed in garments white,
And then that grey-haired father, close pressing by her side,
Will grasp my hand with fervor, just o'er the swelling tide.
Oh the joy that there awaits me, when I reach that golden shore,
To clasp the hands of loved ones, to part with them no more.

(Note: Carl Weiss lost a top coat at the Oesch funeral. It is green and black plaid, with a "fuzzy" blue lining, size 44 or 46, with a Richman Bros. label. If anyone knows of its whereabouts, please contact this reporter).

MILFORD IN

Coleen Beer - Linda Beer

"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God."

Since man's highest purpose is to glorify God, it is possible for the believer to honor the Lord wherever he has been called to serve. The Lord longs to reveal to us the deep things of his love and grace, so that we may be more fully used. Whether in the field, at the office, attending school, or as parents in our home, as faithful laborers we can exalt His name, if we follow His instructions to "walk, even as he walked". May God give us grace to radiate blessings to others by our attitudes and actions.

If I must work with hands, that I may eat,

And sweat and labor for my daily
meat,
Whether I work with tools or
plow the sod,
My only purpose is to honor God.

Monica Lynn was born to Bro. Dick and Sis. Gwen Steffen. Two-year-old Rod looks forward to a playmate. Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy Steffen of Milford and Bro. George and Sis. Isabelle Baurer of Cissna are grandparents.

Alvin Haab was a surgical patient and is now recovering at home.

We welcome Sis. Sandy (Barth) Beer, bride of Bro. Lee Beer, to our congregation. They were married Feb. 27 at Roanoke.

IF CHRIST IS THE CENTER
OF YOUR LIFE, PEOPLE ON
THE CIRCUMFERENCE WILL
KNOW IT.

MORRIS MN
Corrine Schmidgall
Lois Schmidgall

Did you ever stop to wonder
How our Saviour's heart did ache,
As around that supper table,
With His friends, the bread did
break?

How His eyes, with grief, were
shadowed
As in tenderness He said,
One of you this night betrays me,
One whom He'd so careful led.

Oh what torture He endured there!
What compassion He portrayed,
And He bore it all in silence.
What an awful price He paid.

Do we love Him; do we serve Him;
Do we trust in Him always?
When we find ourselves in trouble,
He is just a prayer away.

What a Saviour! What a brother!
What a friend, oh Love divine!
What a precious gift from heaven.
I am His, and He is mine.

We thank Bro. Edwin Bahler
(of Remington) for sharing with
us the word of God.

The engagement of Bro. Dan Schmidgall (Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila) to Sis. Jackie Nuest (Bro. Jack and Sis. Vera) of La Crosse was made known.

Those hospitalized were: Janell Joos (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Deb),

Bro. Ben Greiner, Mary Spohr, Doug Feuenhtenberger (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen), Timothy Schmidgall (Bro. Keith and Sis. Lois).

THE UNION OF HEARTS . . .
March 19 was the wedding day of Gary Moser (Bro. Alpha and Sis. Pearl) to Doreen Koehl (Bro. Eddie and Sis. Lois). We thank Bro. Noah Gerber, who was with us for the day.

After a considerably dry winter, the Lord has blessed our area with some beautiful rains. We are very thankful for this, and pray that it can give those who plant the seed in the soil a new hope for this spring.

CHILDREN'S HOME

"Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered; And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;"

We have obeyed the Lord in coming to do his work at the Children's Home. It was not our will to do this work but His, and we therefore wanted to obey, because we loved him. Therein lies our peace, love, joy, contentment and eternal salvation — "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

Some might ask what the benefits are for such a job, and others may think this work would demand too much from them. The Lord explained that he learned to obey through suffering, and by obeying He became perfect. He left us with the true example of the humble mind of Christ, to obey only the Father's will and to do His Father's work of edifying the church and seeking to save those who are lost. We have found that anything of the Lord's will that might have appeared as suffering or unbeneficial on the outside has turned to joy, peace and soul's satisfaction within us. These resulting fruit of God's Spirit have inspired us to even want to do more and more of the Father's will.

We were happy to travel with our families to the World Relief meeting at Fairbury, and then on to Peoria for a delicious benefit chili supper, held on our behalf on Saturday evening. We were invited to speak about the progress of our Children's Home, and were very thank-

ful to have the opportunity to tell our brethren how it is God's will for our brotherhood to do this work and how He has led, comforted and helped us. Our Almighty God has not only graced us with his love and ability to care for the children, but has also graced them to be able to respond to this love and to use their minds to progress in learning and growing up.

We had a wiener roast on the back acreage. Keith, Cary, Debbie and Mary were helping burn a brush pile standing in the way of plowing a small patch of land on which we hope to spring-plant a number of fruit trees. After the work was over we took advantage of the fire and roasted hot dogs and marshmallows. Eddie had to stay in that afternoon, so Mary did a good deed and carried a couple of hot dogs and marshmallows to him, Sue and Rachael, who ate their supper in the house. The children were very enthusiastic about the whole adventure.

It is our hope and desire to soon erect some buildings and implement some livestock and chore activities, to put these enthusiastic and willing children to work. We now need some volunteer help to clean out old fence and woods, and need more in the future for project construction, depending on the planning done in our coming meetings.

NAUMBERG, NEW YORK

Betty Virkler

Confined to the hospital this month are Theodore Herzig at Lowville, Sis. Lucille Farney at Waterton, and Sis. Edith Herzig at the Madonna Home, Watertown.

We have been experiencing high water in our area after our big blizzard, and due to the flooding of the church basement at Naumberg, double church was held at Croghan, Sunday, March 20.

Our annual church supper was held at Croghan, with song service after the meal.

PULASKI IA

Janice Rinkenberger
Mary Jane Knapp

I was sitting, thinking of something beautiful, and the most beautiful thing I can think of is going to heaven and being with our Lord and Saviour. Can we imagine how beautiful it will be . . . The sur

ever shines, and we never thirst. I wish I could describe it just a little better, but it says, that no eye has seen nor tongue can tell how heaven will be.

Bro. Ed Lanz was with us last Wednesday evening. We thank him for coming and delivering to us the word of God.

TUSCON ARIZONA

Caroline Zeltwanger

The Tucson congregation was very happy to be the hostess church for the youth groups from Altadena and Phoenix churches. We are all so thankful to God for sending Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman from Francesville to be with us. Bro. Wendell's teachings enlightened all of us and gave us courage for the future.

While Bro. Wendell was with us, the congregation shared communion. We now have a renewed closeness and love toward each other.

Our own ministering brothers and Bro. Wendell also had the opportunity to counsel and encourage five friends. With greatest joy and much thanks to God we rejoice over the repentance of Tim, Mary and Fred Funk (Bro. Jim and Sis. Lou Ann); Mary Ann Bertschi (Bro. Rudy and Sis. Irene); and Lisa Baurer (Bro. Don and Sis. Gloria). It is stated in St. Matthew 18:3 ". . . Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." With this teaching in mind, our earnest prayers are with them.

Bro. Bill Dotterer from Phoenix visited and ministered to us. We thank God for his sermon.

MAYWOOD CA

Helen Julien

Our sympathy goes out to friend, Elizabeth Sanford, for the death of her husband, Jim, who passed away suddenly Feb. 27. He and Elizabeth rarely missed a Sunday attending services, until he became ill several months ago as a result of a stroke, I was told. He was losing weight rapidly, but still attending regularly. God with His infinite wisdom in commanding us to love our neighbors as ourselves showed us an example, when Elizabeth's neighbors helped during her traumatic bereavement, by making the necessary calls. Elizabeth is

deaf and cannot use a phone, something many of us take so much for granted. May the Lord comfort and spread His wing of protection over her in the days ahead.

ALTO MI

Mrs. Ronald Erismann

"The LORD is good to all: and his mercies are over all His works."

Hospital patients were Sis. Kathrine Grawburg and Sis. Melva Oesch. Sis. Lena Roth has not been able to assemble with us due to her sickness. "All my loved ones far and near, please accept my heartfelt thanks for the countless kind deeds, the love and surely many prayers in my behalf. All has filled my heart with love and made my lot so much easier. Our heavenly Father knows and sees all." Lena

CROGHAN NY

Alice Virkler

Why come ye at break of morning
To the Lord's grave in such deep
mourning.

Who'll roll the heavy stone away?
Tis away; Oh do not murmur!
Ye faithful ones, come now, draw
nearer;

The stone is gone. Oh look therein!
See angels in the cleft!
Bring joy to you bereft.
Hosanna, Hosanna!

Why seek with tears the Master
here?

He is not dead; rejoice, He lives!

We also should rejoice in this time. Our Saviour did not stay in the grave, but He arose triumphant for our cause. The stone is not left for us to roll away. In His life and death, He rolled the stone of sin away for all. If we follow Him and serve Him faithfully each day throughout our life, we shall also arise from death and grave and live with Him in all eternity.

We are thankful that Ministering Bro. Floyd Graves can again minister unto us, after a short hospitalization and recuperation for infection. Our Sunday School children rejoice and welcome our superintendent, Bro. Clyde Virkler back to his class, after several weeks in the hospital because of his knee surgery and further complications. Several of our children, friends and brothers and sisters were unable to assemble one or

more Sundays because of illness. Sisters Hazel Schneider and Cora Farney were medical patients several days. We are thankful that health can be restored to our loved ones.

Two little bundles of joy have arrived to further bless the homes of two of our families. Little Heidi G. was born on Feb. 22, and welcomed by Mom and Dad, Bro. Paul and Sis. Lisa Schambach, and little Carla. Her grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Lois Schambach and Ray and Arlene Grau, and her great-grandparents are Bro. Ted and Sis. Amelia Belle Virkler, Sis. Isabelle Virkler, and Agnes Grau.

Karen and Duane Farney, Todd and Terry, welcomed their first daughter and sister, Tracie Jo, on March 8. Tracie's grandparents are Bro. Niles and Sis. Polly Farney and Clem and Grace Briot. Her great-grandmother is Sis. Huldah Farney

Spring seems late in arriving this year, as we continue with snow and cold weather. Several farmers in the area have begun their annual duty of making maple syrup. This is a sure indication of spring.

ELGIN IL

Mary Moser

On March 2, Sis. Clara Schambach Knobloch left this world for her eternal rest. She was an inspiration to all who visited and cared for her. Her faith and patience was an outstanding testimony of her great love for her Redeemer and Saviour. She is survived by her husband Ben; two daughters, Diane and Lisa; eight brothers and three sisters. She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister. Bro. Nathan Steffen conducted the funeral service on March 5. The family of Sis. Clara Knobloch thank each one for their prayers, gifts of love and cards received during Clara's extended illness and death. . . . Also the anonymous givers that we cannot thank personally." The Knobloch families.

Sis. Rose Goll wishes to thank each one for their cards, love and sympathy extended to their family during the death of her son, Murrel Goll.

A girl, Joni Lynn was born to Bro. Bob and Sis. Jeanne Schambach on Feb. 23. She has two brothers and one sister to welcome

her home. Grandparents are Bro. Richard and Sis. Lyla Schock and Bro. Bill and Sis. Cora Schambach. On March 15, Bro. Tom and Sis. Connie Schambach were blessed with a baby girl, Jolene Kay. She has two brothers. Grandparents are Bro. Jerry and Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger and Bro. John and Sis. Elizabeth Schambach.

Sis. Martha Hugh would like to thank all who so kindly remembered her during her hospitalization.

We are thankful for the teachings of the following visiting ministers: (Bros.) Ben Fehr of Roanoke, Earl Banwart of West Bend, and Harvey Heiniger of Oakville.

ZAPATA TEXAS

Tillie Kellenberger — Luise Engle

Thy grace we need forever,
Without it we would fail.

In patience we shall conquer, conquer,

Through faith we shall prevail.

The memorandum was read by Elder Bro. Paul Fehr and Elder Bro. Ed Hohulin. May we all strive to take the advice and instructions for our spiritual welfare.

Our elders, Paul Fehr and Herman Kellenberger, served us our first communion services after afternoon services, which were very impressive.

Bros. Nathan, Ernest, Herman Kellenberger, Phil Metzger and Emil Strahm attended the funeral of Bro. John Moser of Lester; he was a brother-in-law of the Kellenbergers.

Sis. Ursel Barth had a prenatal shower for Sis. Joyce Nohl of McAllen, Texas. She received many beautiful things. A delicious luncheon was served by the hostess, assisted by Sisters Hazel Kuntz and Elsie Hohulin. There were 35 ladies present, representing many states.

The plumbing is roughed in and the cement slab is finished. They are ready to start on the structure.

What is the most beautiful thing you can think of? We did ask a dear sister, and she said a Christian home, where husband and wife can pray and read together . . . have the same Christian values.

Our meeting place: Siesta Shores Community Building, Siesta Shore Subdivision, on Highway 83. Look for the church sign. Services start

10:30 A.M., 12:30 P.M. We welcome everyone coming our way . . . Phones, Leland Plattner (Big Bass Mobile Resort) 765-4961, Zapata, Texas . . . John Perdelwitz, Zapata, Texas, 765-5334.

CHAMPAIGN - URBANA IL

Dianne Leman

On March 26 at Roanoke, Steve Fischer, son of Bro. Rich and Sis. Dorothy, gave his testimony of faith in Christ Jesus. We welcome him as a brother in the Lord, and pray for his continued growth as a Christian.

April 2 was the day for our annual Easter program. The youngsters (and teachers!) worked to present songs and verses which truly glorified Christ and His marvelous resurrection.

We welcome Bro. Conrad Kauffman to our congregation. He has moved to our area from Peoria. It is a real pleasure to have some older persons in our assembly.

School will soon be out for the summer, and students are busy finishing projects and preparing for final exams.

"We wish to thank our friends, neighbors and relatives for the kindness and sympathy during the sickness and loss of our dear husband, father and grandpa." The Family of Ben Waldbuser.

FT SCOTT KS

Aleta Banwart

The joyous miracle of giving new life has again been granted. God blessed Bro. Lon and Sis. Debbie Banwart with a precious son, Trenton Gene, born March 2. Welcoming him with open arms were his sisters, Taira and Trista. Grandparents are Sis. Mable Springer, Bro. Raymond and Sis. Kathryn Banwart. Bro. Eli and Sis. Emma Somerhalder, Eureka, are great-grandparents. . . Bro. Dan and Sis. Janice Braker, Lamar, were blessed with a precious son, Phil Ray, born March 11. His sister, Robin welcomed him home. Grandparents are Sis. Mable Springer—Ft. Scott, Bro. Raymond and Sis. Luetta Braker, Lamar. Sis. Martha Marti, Sabetha, is great-grandmother.

Sis. Lydia Hawkins has been transferred to K.U. Medical Center for continued treatment of a heart ailment. Sis. Janet Kraft was hospitalized the last few days for tests.

The Lord has called another soul

to be with him in paradise. Bro. Joseph Roy Banwart, 87, passed from this life at 7:30 P.M., Saturday, March 19. He was born April 14 at West Bend to Bro. Fredrick and Sis. Louise Nathys Banwart. He was united in marriage to Sis. Ella Mae Cordill, Feb. 16, 1913. He was a lifelong farmer until retirement and a true and faithful brother for 65 years.

Bro. Joe was preceded in death by five brothers, one sister, and a son, Clarence (14). The remaining loved ones are the widow; three sons—Bros. Earl and Albert of West Bend and Glen of Ft. Scott; four daughters, Sis's. Mabel and Helen Zaugg—West Bend, Irene Kaiser—Morton, and Ruth Bahr—Ft. Scott; five brothers, Bro. Ernie—Ft. Scott, Eli and Oscar—Lamar, Elmer—Venice, Fla., and Charles, Dill City, Oklahoma; four sisters — Sis's Elizabeth Marti and Louise Hartman — Sabetha, Esther Schaefer and Sophia Nohl, Hancock. Services were by Elder Bros. Raymond Banwart and Eugene Marti (Lamar). Burial was in the Evergreen Cemetery.

Many precious memories linger in the hearts of the many that knew Bro. Joe and his humble, gentle, soft-spoken manner. The family would like to express their thanks for the many acts of love shown them.

We thank Bro. John Lehman, Sabetha, for sharing the blessings of God's word while visiting here.

An Easter approaches, I not only think of the many sins Christ suffered for all mankind on the cruel tree, or the beautiful Resurrection, but of the second coming of Christ, to claim his chosen believers. While preparing my home for the arrival of our second child, an inspiring thought came to mind. Am I preparing daily for the arrival of Christ's second coming?

What would your answer be?

IOWA CITY IA

Lynn Banwart - Twila Whipple

Count your blessings;
Name them one by one.
Count your many blessings,
See what God has done.

We were blessed with faithful brothers to expound upon God's holy word. Visiting ministers were

Bros. Bert Butikofer (Elgin) and Harvey Heiniger (Oakville).

The Power of Prayer. Yes, the power of prayer is so important, and yet it often seems that when things are going good, that we become careless in our devotion to God, and when the road becomes rough, we know God will help us through. Let us remember to depend on God at all times, for Satan trembles when the weakest of God's children bow to their knees in prayer.

**UNION CITY NJ and
PHILADELPHIA PA
Carolyn Roberts**

Let us remember that we serve a risen Saviour. He is at the right hand of God, praying for us and waiting for the Father to say, **Now it is time to go for the Bride (children of God, the true church).** Will we be ready?

As the vacation season is fast coming upon us, we welcome visitors coming to the East to join us for a week-end. The Union City church is located just across the river from New York City. The church at Philadelphia is located two miles north of Route 202, near Valley Forge National Park. It would be well if visitors could call ahead of time, to check on the schedule of services, and also so we can plan for your coming: Ed Aeschleman, phone number 302-478-7846, or David Roberts 215-536-1075.

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Doreen Gudeman - Luann Bahler**

Many of our Purdue group were home for spring break; we are happy to have them back with us.

Bringing us God's wonderful word were ministers from Bloomington, Leo, and Chicago.

Bro. Jeff Gutwein and Sis. Wendy Grimm were united in marriage, on March 6 in Taylor. We would like to heartily welcome Sis. Wendy into the Purdue group.

The world is full of beauty, when hearts are full of love.

**WASHINGTON IL
Carole Kellenberger**

Here's a good reminder for this Easter season and all year:

May my last thought at night and my first thought in the morning be of—

A dying Saviour's love,
A risen Saviour's power,
An ascended Saviour's grace,
And a coming Saviour's glory.

We are so thankful for our visiting ministers and those who come along with them to worship with us. Brothers serving us were: Bob Walders, Leroy Huber, Walter Anliker, Edmund Kloter, Willis Wiegand, Joe Stoller, Walter Herrmann and Jim Hoerr.

SARASOTA FLORIDA

Sandra Price - Lyn Blunier

The brotherhood of Sarasota has been blessed with a new minister. Bro. Doug Sabo has received full support, along with our love, encouragement and prayers. Bro. Doug (who is the grandson of Ministering Bro. Henry Sabo of Mansfield) resides in Venice, along with his wife, Linda and little son, Nathan. We thank the Lord for Doug, and for all the ministering brethren . . . those who have been with us for the past several months or for just a short stay . . . for their words, messages, counsel, comfort and personal sacrifice.

The following ministers were with us: (Bros.) Alfred Bahler (Remington), Joe Braker (Morton), Art Gudeman (LaCrosse), Carroll Gerber (Bluffton), Robert Beyer (Croghan), Henry Grimm (Morton), Corbin Bahler (Rockville), Wendell Gudeman (Francesville), Earl Kilgus (Remington), Ed Bahler (Remington), and Paul Gasser (Akron).

It was good to share the fellowship and the kindred spirit with so many visitors this winter. A special thanks to all those who helped serve at church.

FT. LAUDERDALE FL

Caroline Akel

"He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him."

We were privileged to eat of the Saviour's flesh and drink of His blood, as we, together, partook of Holy Communion. What a blessed week-end we had! Saturday evening, our Elder Bros. Ben Maibach and Joe Braker read the memorandum. It is so good for us to receive guidance as to the path we should trod while on this earth. Holy Communion was shared after church service on Sunday.

We have been blessed with many visiting ministers. Among these were: Elder (Bros.) Ben Maibach, —Detroit, Joe Braker — Morton, (Bros.) Bob Grimm — Goodfield, Bob Pohl — Burlington, Corbin Bahler — Rockville, Roy Luginbuhl — Rockville, Roy Wieland — Bay City and Henry Beer — Milford. We are thankful for each one and for God's message, which was brought to us through them.

Recently a preaching minister shared this good thought with us: "If we are born only once while on this earth, we will surely die twice, but, if we are born twice upon this earth, we will die only once."

INDIANAPOLIS IN

**Pam Frank - Lynn Klopfenstein
Marsha Gutwein**

As spring arrives, we become aware of the fruits of the land, the renewal of life, which was dormant through winter, and the tilling of the soil. More important, however, is not to neglect our labors for the Lord. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

A furrow,
the work of a plowman,
is never a charted thing.
He must dig the plow point in, keep walking,
and move straight ahead.
There is no line to follow — he leaves the
line behind him as he goes,
the brown earth turned up, ready
to receive
the seed.

Can I drive a straight furrow,
uncharted,
step at a time, with my eyes fixed
on the
goal ahead?
If so, then can I be a laborer who
needs not
be ashamed of his work before God.

We have enjoyed visiting ministers, (Bros.) Walt Steffen from Milford, Ed Alt from Cissna Park, and Elmer Shrenk from Alto.

Bro. Art and Sis. Suz Ringger have been richly blessed, with the birth of their second daughter, Tracy Lee, born on March 6.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

BLOOMINGTON NORMAL IL**Jean O'Shea - Paula Knapp**

Our congregation has three new arrivals!

Debbie Somers has a new baby boy, Jason Douglas. He was born on Feb. 16, and has a brother and a sister. Great-grandmother is Sis. Louise Moulton — Fairbury.

Joining his three brothers at home is Andrew Harvey Walter. He was born Feb. 16, and is the new arrival of Harvey and Margaret Walter. Grandmother is Helen Walter of Fairbury.

Bro. Ray and Sis. Marcia Bauer welcomed their first child on March 11. Jill Christina is the granddaughter of Bro. Urban and Sis. Mary Bauer (Cissna Park) and Sis. Lucille Thomas (Peoria).

We extend our sympathy to Harvey and Margaret Walter and family in the loss of her mother. May our prayers be of comfort to them.

The engagement of Sis. Joan Plattner (Bro. and Sis. Hank Plattner — Sabetha) and Bro. Kevin Nussbaum (Bro. Byron and Sis. Neola—Forrest) was made known.

Visiting ministers: Bros. Si Wagenbach, Dan Koch — Tremont and Ed Hohulin — Goodfield. We are so thankful we are able to have brothers willing to proclaim God's word.

CHICAGO IL**Kathy Schlatter**

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms! Saturday, March 19, was a World Relief meeting at the Fairbury Fellowship Hall. Just meeting and greeting sisters, brothers, and relatives from a distance renews the spirit within us . . . And the work there is to do. Through our church homes and projects and other organizations to whom we send material aids, we can give of our abundance. "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

Bro. Joe Zimmerman from Morton ministered to us Sunday, March 6. We appreciated his visit and those who came with him, as well as our other visitors throughout the month from many churches. We can't feel alone when the Lord sends us brethren from other areas

to meet, greet and cherish.

I've heard something just recently about temptation, and it could probably work to dispel depression as well. Instead of concentrating and dwelling on the temptation and pleading that the Lord remove your desire (all the while keeping it in mind), go up against Satan in a positive manner. "... whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report . . . think on these things." Use your mind in the study of the Bible, in singing hymns, in doing good for the Lord, and then that temptation or depression can be forgotten, even blotted out, in constructive thoughts and deeds done to His name's honor and glory.

ELGIN IA**Eleanor Butikofer**

Our mother, Sis. Elizabeth Schneider, passed away yesterday, so forgive me for writing a rather brief column, inasmuch as it is rather difficult to concentrate on other subjects. We know that her leaving us is her gain and our loss. She had reached her 93rd birthday last October, the 16th. Romans 8:28 was one of her favorite Bible passages.

Bro. Albert and Sis. LaVerne Butikofer and family and Sis. Elizabeth Moore were in a car accident. La Verne and Elizabeth were both injured. The latter was hospitalized for a number of days. Surgery was performed to repair some facial injury. She is now at home and getting along satisfactorily. La Verne had no hospitalization and is getting along all right; her injury, too, was on her face. We are so thankful that everyone is doing as well as they are.

Sis. Lena Schubach reached her 98th birthday on the 10th of March. Many of her friends and relatives visited her on that day, to extend congratulations and best wishes. She is blessed with sufficient health to attend church services most of the time, that is usually one-half day. She can relate many interesting happenings of her younger life. Her devotion to her relatives is very evident and is real faithful to her Lord.

Bro. Gottlieb Pulfer is now in the Samaritan Nursing Home located

in Postville, Ia., is feeling better, and may soon be dismissed. We are thankful to hear of his improvement.

It is snowing here at the moment, a typical March day for Iowa. Noticed some birds on the lilac shrubs, saw some early migrating birds, robins, red winged blackbirds, and heard the melodious song of a meadowlark and a bluebird.

May God be thanked for His kind mercies and gifts, the greatest being that of the plan of salvation.

May you readers all rejoice in the glorious resurrection of our dear Saviour, the event which we celebrate at Easter.

GRIDLEY KS**Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr**

He who hateth his brother is a murderer in the sight of God and No murderer can enter the kingdom of Heaven.

Who among us want to be counted as a murderer? — Yet — when a confessed believer uses unkind gestures and remarks to try and ruin someone else's character in the eyes of others — THINK. Will you have a part of God's heavenly Kingdom?

Bro. Felder Young and Sis. Sarah Beyer have both been absent from our assembly for quite sometime, due to health.

Wounded for me, wounded for me,
There on the Cross He was wounded
for me.

Gone my transgressions, and now
I am free,
All because Jesus was wounded for
me.

**HOME FOR THE
HANDICAPPED**

Springtime, with its resurrection of nature, is always and again a lesson in immortality. How appropriate, then, that Easter comes at this time of year! If therefore there has been in the individual heart a period of spiritual apathy, does it not seem proper to let our inner selves be reawakened to a new closeness to our God. If nations spend untold millions to study the relationship of our planet to other planets, would it not profit the individual to make a Bible-based study of his relationship to the one Power who motivates the entire universe. In the Psalms we read:

"O LORD our Lord, how excellent

is thy name in all the earth! who hast set thy glory above the heavens . . . When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained: What is man, that thou art mindful of him?"

There is a constant feeling of gratitude here at the Home for all the monetary and physical assistance given by many. No less valuable are the gifts of goodness and kindness. Though they cannot be seen, they play a vast part in soothing a troubled heart or lifting a heavy load. Surely they are of great price in God's eternal plan.

Jane Aberle came to live with us at our Home in May of 1974. Her father and mother, Alpie and Irene Strahm Aberle of Sabetha, are also parents of Jane's two brothers, Elton and Roger, and two sisters, Katie and Miriam. Elton, his wife, Carrie, and their two children live in Lafayette, Indiana, where Elton is a professor at Purdue University. Roger, his wife, Lavonne, and their three children live on a farm near Sabetha. Katie is Mrs. Byron Martin of Gridley, Illinois. She and Byron have one child. Miriam is married to Jim Sutherland. They with their little twins live in Arlington, Virginia. Jane treasures her family and keeps in touch, with frequent correspondence. Workshop keeps her busy on weekdays. When here at the Home, she is constantly seen lending a hand in the dining room or helping another resident. Jane's warm, loving personality and her wise sense of responsibility make her a real asset to our Home and family.

With the advent of spring-like weather, several phases of activity have resumed in the new building. It was possible to complete roof construction during the first warm days. Duct work, the building of metal skeletons for inside walls, carpenter work, housing for roof mechanism are only a few of the activities presently going on.

How invigorating it is to our residents to be able to go outdoors for walks again, after being inside for most of the winter!

Tremont, Princeville, Bradford, Peoria are on schedule for the March Friday evening services. Knowing that there are many other worthy activities which vie for the time of our brethren from the var-

ious churches, we are sincerely grateful for the effort they put forth to come here.

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY Brenda Tucker

Beauty is truly something that God has blessed us with. It is not the things that so many people spend all their lives looking for and never find. There is beauty in everything around us, if we let it be there. Truly there is beauty in the warming sunshine, the singing of birds welcoming a new spring day, and in the tender smile of a child. In noticing these beauties, try sharing a smile; you'll soon find that it is contagious. Yes, with God there is beauty in everything. Many times it's hard to see the beauty, but if we let God guide our lives, we'll find that all works for the good—to the glory and honor of the Lord.

Visiting ministers were Bro. Alpha Strahm, Bern and Bro. Ben Wysong, Sabetha.

LAMAR MO

Jance Springer — Becky Hohulin

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all

He gave us eyes to see them
And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

Surely two marvelous pieces of creation were brought to our community with the arrival of two new babies.

Born to parents, Bro. Danny and Sis. Janice Braker was a son, Phil Ray. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Raymond and Sis. Luetta Braker, and maternal grandparent is Sister Mable Springer. This is the couples second child, with Phil's sister, Robin, being there to welcome her. Surely this new son will bring many happy hours to his parents.

A new baby son gladdened the home of friends, Tim and Brenda Frieden. His name is Brock Leon, and is the couples first child. Paternal grandparent is Sis. Edna Frieden, and maternal grandparents are Jim and Gloria Schultz.

We welcome friend, Paul Stefan, back from his studies in Indiana.

It is again a pleasure to have him in our midst.

Correction: concerning the "Know Each Other Better" on Sis. Emma Lanz: Emma was from West Bend instead of Minnesota as previously stated.

As I am writing this, my heart is exceedingly heavy, as we just have heard the news that Jeffrey Marti, the only son of Bro. Leonard and Sis. Evelyn Marti is in extremely serious condition at St. Johns Hospital in Springfield. Our prayers are with them during their anxious hours of waiting.

LAMONT KS Susan Emch

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." As we think of Easter and our Saviour's death on the cross, we are reminded that He is a Living Saviour.

We are welcoming the pleasant warm weather and enjoying the first spring flowers. It is always inspiring to witness the awakening of spring.

We enjoyed the blessings of having the word expounded by Bros. John Lehman, Elder Lester Hartter, Bern and Lloyd Kraft, Gridley.

MINNEAPOLIS MINNESOTA Josephine Esterling

TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO AND WHEN HE OLD HE WILL NOT DEPART FROM IT!

Opinions are formed early by little children. I questioned six little Sunday school pupils about Jesus and what He meant to them. They thought, and these are the answers they came up with:

Danny (5 years old), "He helps me."

Tim (6 years old), "He's my Saviour."

Kris (6 years old), "I love Him, He helps me in school; He helped Mom to get better."

Shelly (7 years old), "I pray to Him. He does lots of things for me."

Doug (5 years old), "He's my friend; He teaches me how to share; He helps me play fair and not to be naughty."

Amy (5 years old), "He helps me color my Sunday school pictures.

What beautiful simple faith is expressed in each answer. It is evident that the parents of these six children are rearing them in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Sis. Debbie Dogotch graduated as an R.N. on Saturday, March 19. She will leave our Minneapolis congregation for Peoria to look for work. Debbie's plans include a 2-month job in Tennessee in Public Health work.

Bro. Floyd Schmidgall of Morris ministered to us on Sunday, March 13.

MORTON IL

Judy Springer — Lorna Schrock

Funeral services were held Feb. 25 for Sis. Emma Speerly Schutze, age 95. She died at the Restmor Nursing Home, where she had resided for a number of years.

Our sympathy is extended to our Bro. Sam Dietrich in the death of his daughter, Doris Dietrich. She passed away on Feb. 28 at the age of 52 years.

Bro. Robert and Sis. Christine Baum are the happy parents of a daughter, Nicole Lee, born March 6. Little Nicole has two sisters, Stefanie and Stacey, and a brother, Todd. Grandparents are Sis. Mary Baum, Morton, and Bro. Richard and Sis. Barbara Shubbach of Phoenix. Great-grandfather is Bro. Sam Shubbach of Kiowa.

We wish to thank our visiting ministers who brought forth God's word to us. They included Bros. Cleo Rinkenberger, Pulaski; Lynn Klopfenstein, Landersville, and Harold Zeltwanger, Bremen.

We welcome Bro. Alan and Sis. Bev Hodel to our congregation. They moved here from Lima, Ohio, and had worshipped with the brethren in Bluffton.

Those who have been hospitalized include Bros. Don Hermann, Francis Rother and Phil Getz; Sisters Lydia Zimmerman and Hilda Roth; Clint Kaiser (son of Bro. Greg and Sis. Christine), and Marian Funk (daughter of Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Violette).

OAKVILLE IA Phyllis Siegle

Loving and kind in all her ways,
Upright and just to the end of her

days;
Sincere and true in her heart and mind,
A beautiful memory she left behind.
She had a nature you could not help loving,
A heart that was purer than gold,
And to those who knew her and loved her,
Her memory will never grow old.

Sis. Priscilla Rauhaus, 81, passed away Tuesday, March 1, in St. Francis Continuation Care Center. She was born Jan. 25, 1896 in Cissna Park, the daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Anna Miller Reeb. She married Bro. Fred Enz May 21, 1917. He died June 17, 1944. Aug. 28, 1959, she married Bro. William Rauhaus, who died June 5, 1967. Surviving: a stepson, Clarence Rauhaus, Skokie, Ill; a stepdaughter, Mrs. Marie Adams, Bettendorf; a brother, John Reeb, Hot Springs, Arkansas; four sisters, Sis. Naomi Perrine—Washington, Ill., Mrs. Clara Sauder—Clearwater, Fla., Mrs. Leona Kreipke—No. Baltimore, Md., and Mrs. Marie Best—Cedar Rapids. Her funeral was Friday, March 4.

Sis. Louise Rowell wishes to express her thanks for the cards and well-wishes she received during her illness . . . Our sincere thanks to all who remembered us with cards, gifts, and visits, as we celebrated our 60th Wedding Anniversary. Bro. John and Sis. Lena Wegman.

One of our ministering brothers related to us that in Russia there was a minister who had been taken to prison for serving God. They also brought his 12-year-old son and beat him before his father, finally even taking his life. The lad said he would rather have his life taken than to deny that he and his father were serving God. Don't we have much to be thankful for, as we can come and go to our church and worship God so freely. How long will we have this privilege?

PEORIA IL

JoAnn Rieker - Barb Geyer

Just for me, Christ died on a tree,
And arose again to set me free.
Just for me God gave His Son,
That I might live; Jesus is the one.

He did it just for me, and you and everyone,
Who calls upon the Son.

God has a plan for redemption of man,
And I chose that way; I was born again,
And now I know God's great love.
There's a joy in my heart from the Lord above.
He did it just for me, and you and everyone,
Who calls upon the Son.

Just for you; He'll do it just for you.
If you ask Him in faith, He will make you new.
Just for you, out of God's own grace,
He'll forgive your sins. You will know real peace.
He'll do it just for you, and me and everyone,
Who calls upon the Son.

With the Easter season approaching, we again focus our attention on the cross. Today is the day of salvation. Christ gave His all for us; what are we doing for Him?

The Peoria Young Group sponsored a chili supper, March 19. All proceeds will go to the Children's Home in Leo.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Myrna Hoerr have been blessed with the arrival of twin sons. Joshua Herman and Jesse Daniel were born March 8. Bro. Max and Sis. Katy Hoerr and Bro. Joe and Sis. Lucille Herman are the grandparents . . . Congratulations to Bro. Steve and Sis. Vicki Sauder on their new son, John Steven, born March 10. John has three sisters, Jennifer, Barbara, and Amy. Bro. Roy and Sis. Gertrude Sauder are the happy grandparents . . . We also wish to congratulate Sis. Lucille Thomas on her new granddaughter, Jill Christina. She was born March 11 to Bro. Roy and Sis. Marcia Baurer of Bloomington.

Sunday, March 13, we were happy to hear the engagement of Sis. Beth Meister (Bro. Paul and Sis. Rhoda) to Bro. Greg Herman (Bro. Howard and Sis. Nancy).

Our congregation was sad to hear of the death of Sis. Pauline Clauss of Bremen. Sis. Pauline assembled with us for many years.

Hospitalized were Randy Fehr,

Don Bowen, Henry Triplett, Margie Hoerr Powers; Bro. Roy Wiegand; and Sisters Louise Finck, Leila Witzig, Carrie Stiegele, Esther Weyeneth, Lena Eberle, and Lillian Cagle.

We are happy to report that our Sis. Connie Triplett has been able to come home, after spending so much time in the hospital.

Two young couples are leaving our area. Bro. Dave and Sis. Chris Zeller and their two sons, Benjamin and Seth, have moved to Gridley, Illinois. Bro. Mark, Sis. Becky, Mark Jr. and Benjamin Meister have moved to Tremont. We will miss the fellowship, but we wish them God's blessings in their new homes.

"I want to thank all who came to visit, and for the prayers offered while I was a patient in the hospital." Sis. Louise Finck . . . Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Connie Triplett wish to thank all who participated in the bake sale on their behalf. It was truly a blessing to see our brothers and sisters work together on such a project.

"The family of Amos Schafer wishes to thank the dear ones of Peoria and areas, the Tuscon and Rio Rico area for prayers, visits, cards, gifts of food, and money for memorial . . . "I wish to thank the dear ones who visited me, sent cards and said prayers after my accident while in Nogales Hospital and the Tuscon Medical Center. I thank the Lord for all the prayers, and that all my children were able to be with me in my hour of need". Sis. Marie Schafer.

PRINCEVILLE IL Ruth Ricketts

The last week-end in February was a truly blessed one. Saturday afternoon, a bus load of loved ones came from Rittman. That evening many relatives and friends gathered to hear the testimonies of three dear souls who are enjoying the blessed peace and happiness a truly converted person can know. Bros. Joe Ramsier of Rittman and Charles Hemmer of Peoria assisted Bro. Dave Kieser in conversing with them, to learn of the experiences of these dear friends.

Gerri Cole told how she could see that the members she had become in contact with had something that she did not have. She wished to possess this inner peace

and contentment, but to do so she had to choose between the church and her parents, who objected to her attending our church. The Lord has been close to her; we trust with her prayers and the prayers of the believers she will be able to stay true and be a light to her parents, with the hope they may desire to seek the better part. Carol Martin, daughter of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Esther, told how she just knew she had to turn to the Lord when He touched her heart and how she felt the prayers of her loved ones. Now she is so happy; she just wouldn't want it any other way. Alpha Hartzler, son of Bro. Ben and Sis. Clara, found it was the love of God that called him out of this wicked world of sin. **The song, Be Still My Soul, the Lord is on thy side** has a special place in heart, for it has given him much comfort and courage.

Sunday morning dawned bright and sunny, with a mantle of new-fallen pure white snow, just as our new converts felt clean and white. Bro. Joe Ramsier had morning services and read Psalm 27. "The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Bro. Ben Hartzler read St. Mark 1, telling of the baptism of our Lord. Following afternoon services, Alpha, Carol and Gerri were baptized before many witnesses and are now our beloved brother and sisters in our precious faith.

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD." All of us were glad to be present March 6, when Bro. LeRoy Hartman of Peoria was in our midst.

Sis. Clara Berchtold passed from this life March 1. She had been at the Eureka Church Home about six weeks and very sick the past few days. Her family is thankful to God that she is relieved of her suffering the past 15 months. She was born in Princeville on April 24, 1899, a daughter of Fred E. and Katherine Wieland Streitmatter. She married George Berchtold at Peoria Jan. 20, 1926. He died Dec. 16, 1968. Surviving are one son, Bro. Laverne; two daughters, Katherine Peterson and Joan Rumbold; two sisters, Sisters Lucy and Nelly Woertz, all of our congregation. Bro. Arthur Bauer and

other local ministers officiated.

Sis. Clara was a quiet, peace-loving person. Comforting words were spoken from the text found in St. John 14; "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." She was laid to rest in the Streitmatter Cemetery, beside her departed husband. The family expressed their thanks for the kind expressions of love during the illness and now during their bereavement. The cards, gifts, visits, and prayers were much appreciated.

David, the youngest son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce Blunier, spent several days in the hospital with pneumonia. He quickly recovered and is able again to be about. Sis. Edna Martin had the misfortune to step on a round toothpick, and spent several days in the hospital, taking antibiotics to prevent infection. X-rays didn't disclose anything, so she went home. The evening of the 12th day, she was soaking her foot, worked around the sore place and forced the more than half toothpick out. We are thankful she didn't have worse effects from it and glad it is healing nicely. Lavina Sloan had an eye removed and is recovering very nicely. Since the diseased eye is gone, she said she feels much better than she has for a long time, and her good eye is stronger.

Three of our friends have announced their engagements: Janet Kieser, daughter of Sis. Bertha and the late Bro. Ludwig Kieser, is engaged to Michael Weber, son of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Weber of Peoria; an August wedding is planned. Two sons of Bro. Ervin and Sis. Lorraine Martin have become engaged, Kevin to Sandra Suarez, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Suarez of Urbana; they are planning to be married June 25. Kenneth and Cindy Clark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Loren Clark, are planning an August wedding.

Sis. Josephine Endress will be spending her 94th birthday, March 19, in the hospital. Until a few days ago she was still caring for herself. Recently two of our young ministers visited her, and she had one of her better days, was alert and enjoyed their visit. She told them she was ready to die, but God

wasn't ready for her yet, so she must wait a while longer. Her eyesight is very poor, as is her hearing. A prayer was given, and she said she understood every word and was thankful for it. In the hospital she received a few cards, and when reminded of them she said, "maybe I'll get some more tomorrow."

Blessed are they who understand my faltering step and palsied hand.

Blessed are they who know that my ears today must strain to catch the things they say.

Blessed are they with a cheery smile who stop to chat for a little while.

Blessed are they who know the ways to bring back memories of yesterdays.

Blessed are they who make it known that I'm loved, respected, and not alone.

Blessed are they who ease the days on my journey Home, in loving ways."

REMINGTON IN

Amelia Schini - Mildred Clauss

I am the resurrection;
Follow Me and you shall live;
Follow Me for life eternal.
What greater gift has He to give?

Follow Me! Have we obeyed Him?
Do we walk in love and light?
Do we let His radiant Spirit
Dispel all the fears of night?

Follow Me! What peace and comfort
Can be ours day after day,
If we walk in humble service
In the Master chosen way.

Our congregation was blessed by the message of visiting ministers: Bro. Dave Weigand from Champaign on March 6 and Bro. Earl Gerber from Forrest on March 13.

Allen and Sis. Linda Oberlander are the happy parents of a baby girl, Mia Tonia, born March 6. She has three happy brothers, too! Paternal grandparents are Bro. Albert and Sis. Virginia Oberlander, Wolcott.

Calvin Schneider, son of Bro. Ken and Sis. Lorretta, is hospitalized with a broken ankle and other injuries he received in a motorcycle accident. He is getting along well, and we hope and pray

his recovery will be speedy and complete.

SHIODA JAPAN

Willis R. Ehle

"We don't know anything, we can't do anything, but we beg that you will help us." This is the phraseology used when you move into a new area in Japan, and you go around visiting the neighbors seeking their good-will. I thought this to be a classic example of humility, the only problem being that it is so extreme that one can't help but wonder if it isn't a cover-up for what one really feels. Therefore, when Scripture teaches us that "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble", due care should be exercised to make certain that our humility is genuine, and that we really do esteem our brothers and sisters, and potentially our friends, above ourselves. Even the most derelict of our friends has the potential of becoming a child of God who lives above reproach, and the most careless of our brethren has the potential of becoming a model of holiness and of service to God and the church.

The severe earthquake in Bucharest, Romania, is a reminder of the impending tribulation period. The Lord Jesus Christ instructed, "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." To true believers who have already suffered indescribable tribulation, the question might arise as to why they were not permitted to escape. Their escape will be when they stand before the Son of man and hear the words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant".

Last Sunday, after church, we all gathered at the home of Sis. Eiko Ozawa for a singing. She lives almost a stone's throw from the foot of the mountains, so we **Lifted up our eyes unto the hills from whence cometh our help**, as we sang together in her Japanese-style home. The sliding doors to the south exposure were open, letting the sunshine pour in and giving us a good view of the mountains.

There is an air of expectancy here at the Shioda Estate. The reason—Sis. Libby Meyer's parents and younger sister, Christie, are to

arrive in Japan next Wednesday, March 23, for a two-week visit. Human ties, especially in the faith, are very valuable. Let's count these ties as one of our treasures.

Scriptures teach, Present your bodies a living sacrifice, and it doesn't say anything about putting a lot of reservations and stipulations in small print. This kind of dedication we must solemnly seek after; it doesn't happen by itself. What the above Scripture means is that what we want to do, and what we don't want to do is no longer a criterion for making decisions.

TOKYO JAPAN

Yoshio Yamazaki — Marie Inoue

Our beloved friends, Mr. Nobuo and Mrs. Emiko Miyata are going to move to Osaka the end of this month. We are really going to miss them very much. They are very nice young couple and very faithful to come to church most of Sundays through whole year. Our prayer is they will be repent and become children of God some day in future, even if they are far apart from us. We believe that He always accepts our prayer.

We are thankful to God for the new restroom facilities that are being added to our church. They will be a great improvement over the former outside ones we have now. God always provides everything we need.

Bro. Sabure Utsuki has not been so well this winter, but comes to church as much as he can. We are all glad for the warmer weather that spring brings.

TREMONT IL

Lydia Rassi - Mary Jane Leuhold

We are so thankful that two dear souls have given their hearts to the One that can save them and give them peace. We rejoice with our new brothers in faith: Steve Pfleiderer (Bro. James and Sis. Lee) and Wayne Dill (Sis. Barbara Dill). We are grateful to Bro. Joshua Broquard, Fairbury, who assisted our Bro. Dan in this work. In addition to Bro. Joshua, we enjoyed Bro. Steve Rinkenberger's visit.

Our sympathy is with the family of Barbara Koch, who passed away March 7. She leaves her husband, Les and daughter, Joyce; son-in-law Gerald; her sister, Sis.

Sophia Steiner; and brothers, Bro. Chris and Victor Pflederer.

The Lord again has blessed us by sending Bro. Edwin Ringger, Gridley, to assist in reading the memorandum, Feb. 16. God's word was sounded in its truth and sincerity, and now if we will pray for a deep desire to serve Him (for our elders watch for our souls), by His grace may we attain His precious promises.

We wish to thank Bro. Harold Zeltwanger for the inspiring message he brought to us March 20.

VALPARAISO IN Marie Heinold

The heart finds hope at Eastertime,
And faith anew is born
As something rare and beautiful,
On every Easter morn.

The soul looks up at Eastertime,
While humbly men recall
The glory of a victory
The Master won for all.

How wonderful to feel spring is here again and see nature's rebirth—trees, tulips, flowers coming into bloom. Let us pray more and more for the **spiritual rebirth** of all who do not know their Saviour . . . and especially our loved ones.

A visiting sister remarked. "I have the faith that God will, in His own time, reveal Himself to our loved ones."

We appreciate our visiting ministers, Bros. Elmer Bucher and Lenie Meyer; also Alfred Bahler and Edward Frank, the elders who read the memorandum.

Sis. Lavina Schmeckpepper has been hospitalized and is in traction. Her home address is 3121 Wallace St., Steger II 60475.

WICHITA KANSAS Glennis Allenbach

We are truly blessed! We have four new members. They are all teenagers, and their youthful enthusiasm is a welcome addition.

Our new sisters and brother are: Melinda Langhofer, daughter of Bro. Al and Sis. Judy (Young) Langhofer; Christen Wullschleger, daughter of Bro. Art and Sis. Susie (Young) Wullschleger; Julie Bower, daughter of Bro. Milton and Sis. Lillian Bower; Sam Wheeler, son of Sis. Carleen (Farney) Wheeler.

Our elder brother, Sam Anliker guided their testimonies; also helping were Elder Bro. Raymond Banart and Bro. Ronnie Nelson. Many young people from other areas came to support our converts. A wonderful time of fellowship was spent. All these converts give support to the scriptures of showing a child the way to go, as their relatives are many among our brothers and sisters. The feeling from all four seemed to be that they answered the Lord's call, and certainly we know that many times the Lord does call the very young.

It was mentioned about the battle we Christians go through, but without the battle, there is no victory, and without the victory there is no crown. We know without the mountains there would be no valleys, and oh how beautiful to come upon an unexpected valley. We Christians have found this so many times, haven't we!—Thank You, Lord!

In the tapestry of life, the dark threads are just as needful for the weaver's skillful hand, as the threads of gold and silver. The word tells us when we suffer for Christ's sake, we have ceased from sin. Isn't it so — that at these times, we drink the deepest from the living water?

In your prayer of life, please include Bro. Roy Yackley, Sis. Hattie Farney and a friend, Eva Beyer. Also remember my husband, Oliver; we must **hold them up** in prayer.

I read that to be really free, you must not be afraid, and to not be afraid, you must not be afraid of death . . . and only Christians need not fear death — so — to be free is to be a Christian — right!

WINTHROP MN Delores Messerli Marcelle Dapper

"So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me."

We enjoyed a most blessed weekend Feb. 26 and 27, when Elder Bros. Leo Moser, Gene Marti and Paul Butikofer assisted one another in undertaking the Lord's will and work. Saturday evening, we observed the interview of Bro. Harold Messner, hearing his vows to support the Lord's will and work. Tim Schmidt (Bro. Elmer) gave

his testimony of peace in the Lord, promising to stay true till life's end.

Many members and friends gathered together on Sunday and witnessed the baptism of Tim, who is now our beloved brother in faith. Bro. Harold was ordained Elder. May we pray together for an acceptable transition of elder duties. "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof" (taking care of them spiritually).

Other visiting ministers on this blessed day included Bros. Noah Miller and Ken Lawson, of Minneapolis; Bro. Earl Banwart of West Bend, and Bro. Gene Metzger of Lester.

All things work together for the good of them who love the Lord.

As signs of spring appear on earth, we Christian people think of Easter — the time God gave His only begotten Son on the cross, for the remission of our sins.

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

He bows His head and cries
Tis finished, all is done.
O God receive my soul.
Life's victory is won.

WOLCOTT IN Laurel Widmer

As our Creator, God reserves the right both to give life and to take it again. The angel of death has visited our congregation and called two souls to pass from life into eternity.

Sis. Mary Kupferschmid Hofstetter passed silently away into eternal rest March 9, at the home of her son, Andrew, where her daughter, Sis. Ruth Hofstetter also resided and cared for her since Nov. 1967. She had attained the age of 96 years, 7 months. She was born July 19, 1880 at Gridley, Illinois, and united in marriage to Leonard Hofstetter at Cissna Park in 1905. He preceded her in death in 1953. She was also preceded in death by a daughter. The last of her family, she was a member for over 70 years. She was our oldest member. Also surviving are William, Jesse, and Elsie of Peoria, Anna Thomas of Washington Ill., and Bro. Theodore of Wolcott.

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Services were held Sat. afternoon, March 12, at the Wolcott church.

Bro. Roy Keller, 69, passed away unexpectedly in his home on March 10. He is survived by his wife, Lucille; two daughters, Kay Cooper of Lafayette and Lu Ann Simkus of Detroit; a son, Jack of Marion, IN; one sister and three brothers. Bro. Roy has been a trustee and was on the building committee for our retirement home at Francesville. He was a representative for the Hail Aid from our congregation. Though only a member for a few years, we are thankful that he was able to find peace with God and then give so much of himself and his time to our congregation. Bro. Roy will be greatly missed. Funeral services were held on March 12 at the Wolcott church.

Though God has seen fit to take lives, He's given again in the form of five young converts. They are Gerry and Marcia Waibel, Pam Kyburz, Linda Furrer, and John Schwab. It is our prayer that many more will give their lives to God, as He gave His Son's life for ours.

Bro. Larry and Sis. Lynell Blume are the parents of a son, Brent David, born March 19. He has a big brother, Brian to welcome him home.

Words

Keep a watch on your words dear brethren,
For words are wonderful things,
They are sweet like the bee's fresh honey,

And like bees, have terrible stings.
They can bless like the warm glad sunshine,
And brighten a lonely life.
They can cut in the strife of anger,
Like a cruel two-edged knife.
Keep them back if they're cold and cruel,
Under bar and lock and seal,
May peace guard your lips forever,
From the time of your early growth.
May the words that you daily utter
Be only the words of truth.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

SEND BOTH OLD AND NEW ADDRESSES.

The Way To The Open Gate

Henry Souder Jr.

Who is the way? Our Lord. His words are spirit and truth, our highway. They are our success. He is the pattern that brings beautiful, sweet living. The mileposts number down to the beautiful open gate. There is His welcome.

He had a way of attracting people. They were drawn to Him. They kept with Him by the hour. What was it? What is that sweetness, that savor of the unseen that draws and stays, eternally? What was His method?

Compassion! Pure, boundless love in service. That's where greatness is. That's how greatness stays. Real care for the other. Light always shines. Work can be empty. Love in the heart fills effort with effect. There are poor, human hearts hungry for love.

Why were His words so effective? Because they were with authority. Our effort need be fitted to count the cost. When we measure with His dimensions, in His word, then there comes power. We need to work at the right place. We need to enlarge the heart. Then the waters can flow freely.

His compassion was great in patience and waiting. No stop-gap measures, nor very seldom method of force in His way. He sends forth the word. He knew the power of the Spirit. He was willing to wait for fruition. Then there were willing hearts, glad to listen, happy to follow. He saw His word coming, real life, His dream coming true.

He knew the scribes and Pharisees needed some words that would shake the bitter pride . . . and some would listen . . . Mostly, His words were free from criticism. He does not believe in nagging. There were stern, deep words. The strictness that stated explicitly, **this is an admonition, this a warning** were not there . . . but power was there. His words bore fruit. They were impressive . . . they were kind and gentle . . . and very descriptive. Cut off the arm that offends — the sin that stumbles . . . Do unto others . . . My sheep hear my voice . . . love one another . . . greater love hath no man than this . . . Ye are my friends, if . . .

His beautiful patience is a fruit

that is triumphant in heavenly beauty. Love is waiting, charity forbearing. The magnetic kindness of Christ brought willingness. Strict censure could never do. He let His word in all cases melt the heart and move the spirit. Force drives the quarrel, backs to the wall, and beckons resistance. Love wins, and both go on and on rejoicing.

Where love fails, it seems law sometimes rushes in. But it is a second best. Live His compassion! The tears and tempests of the deep. Let us call, This is the way. When His word holds His arm of liberty high, incoming souls see the full light.

Stern words, cutting-off words were necessary at the sad occasion. Some souls were heedless. Some would feel the brunt of the burn. If we throughout the Scripture hold every verse of His freedom high, then we rest. We will be joyful, happy on that great day. His is our conquering way, our climax, when we come to the beautiful, open gate. He is the Way.