

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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Shepherd of the Flock Has Gone To Rest

Bro. Noah Schrock, teacher, adviser, counselor to many, has gone to rest. Noah was fourscore and three years when he died. His funeral was at the church on Iowa 99 south of Oakville, where he had been an ordained elder for 35 years.

The funeral was followed by a brief graveside service at the cemetery, on the bluff that overlooks the Mississippi river bottomland, where Schrock farmed and fought floods.

The people who came were relatives and friends . . . faces and hands reflected lives of work in the sun and soil—ordinary people loved by Schrock, who considered himself an ordinary man.

Theme of the remarks and prayers was this: Bro. Schrock was a man of God, an example for family and community, a man who touched countless lives, whose giving was immeasurable . . . one speaker quoted Schrock, "Nothing impresses me so much as Jesus Christ and Him crucified."

"The word of God was more than precious to our beloved brother," a word that he "believed without reservation" and accepted, lived, and loved. He loved life and believed in "labor and toil," gave himself for others and placed Christ at the center of his being.

Schrock was born near Eureka, and moved to Huron township in 1915, before marrying Hattie Lanz. He farmed for years, helped establish Huron school, and became a church member in 1910. In flood control work, Schrock had extensive influence. For 19 years he was president of the Upper Mississippi Flood Control Assn., an organization of 17 levee and drainage districts from Guttenberg, Iowa, to Hamburg, Ill.

Schrock annually made trips to Washington to testify before Con-

gress on requests for flood control appropriations that would help protect productive bottomland. His work wasn't confined to meeting rooms; he was on the levees in floods, and in 1946 lost 125 head of cattle and 90 hogs when his farm flooded. Schrock was also on the board of drainage District No. 7 in northern Des Moines county for 44 years. One of his favorite sayings, according to a friend, was this: "It's much easier to build a levee with a sand pump than to fill a sand bag."

At the funeral, not once were these offices or accomplishments mentioned by name. The honors of man were unimportant; it was the life dedicated to God that mattered. Though it might cost him prestige or recognition, Brother Noah always "stood firm" in his Christian convictions. He served as Jesus served, a speaker said, and "He loved his people, but not for his own gain."

Bro. Noah has gone to his rest and peace, as promised by his Saviour Christ.

Bro. David Mangold, Roanoke

At the funeral services

Elder Joe A. Getz: See how quickly this earthly life is over. The golden moments and the stream of life are rushing past us. The angel of death visits us, and we do not know until he is gone . . . Not only his own beloved congregation, but many of our churches will live long on the pleasant memories of his service and labor of love.

Bro. John Bahler; . . . I believe, beloved, that Bro. Dave was a man that had a great unwavering faith in God, and it was not only confined to God, but he also had faith in his fellowman, in his brethren, and by giving kind advice, which I know you will agree, he often from the pulpit gave kind advice

and urged to obedience, withheld threatenings, but that we should be obedient to the word of God, to the simplicity that is outlined in the Holy Scripture, and thus we would remain a holy people, and that we would be able to work out our salvation. We believe, beloved, this was his innermost desire in his service to his God, that he would be able to give an account of his stewardship when that day would come.

. . . he was aware of the dimness, the gloominess of the future, and . . . even saw that there would be a very dangerous time for those that would serve God. We believe that Bro. Mangold was well aware of this, & his advice always was to remain humble. If we stay in the fear of the Lord, be worthy of the blessing of God and His grace . . . we would be able to face the future, that we would not have to shudder, nor that we would possibly tremble, but that with a new zeal and a new effort, and a new grace and faith, we could face the future.

God is able if we hold fast to His wonderful word and remember that He is going to be our Shepherd; He is going to watch over us; He is going to supply our needs. God has never failed in this.

. . . I believe that not only here among your congregation, but elsewhere, there were many that would come and find their way to Bro. Dave to unburden their hearts . . . I believe, that almost without exception, as we are gathered today, yet sometime or other, Bro. Dave was of comfort to us. He had words of comfort in our sorrows; souls that were burdened, brought into the judgment of God could find words of encouragement by him, and by the Spirit of God he was able to do this. These are memories that we cherish, and so may God bless us, that we have been permitted to live

in this time, that we have been permitted to become acquainted, and to work and to walk with, and to be with, even our dear brother . . .

Elder Samuel Aeschliman: . . . I met a young man the other day; he learned to know Bro. Mangold in the Army, and he was only a friend, and his wife was not even of our people. He spoke of the joy in learning to know Bro. Mangold . . .

We trust that some day we may be able to be with him . . . in one of the Psalms we read of David, it tells us at the end of the Psalm that the prayers of David, the son of Jesse, are ended . . . yes, the prayers of Bro. Mangold are ended . . .

May the eternal God bless you dear ones richly and abundantly, and may it be your lot and mine, and of every one present, that we might reach that blessed end.

Bro. Joe A. Getz

Bro. Sam Aeschliman's voice

was heard of another triumph, now repeated: "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:"

Sam told that The race is run; the eternal crown is won. Bro. Roy Sauder spoke of the legacy left, to be kept in the inner chamber of the heart. The mantle that fell would be taken up.

Joe's life breathed deep in the quiet psalm of the Shepherd. His loving touch was felt in every congregation. To the assembly of elders, he blended spiritual poise, quiet order, and gentle mercy. He remembered the fences would guard the pure, white flock. He led, but remembered the gait of leadership must be gentle.

In his church, his persevering guidance, humility and trust shone. The lambs and sheep must graze and grow. The rod was indeed needful, but mercy shone abundantly.

Past the bier, in funeral home

and church, filed a multitude. There would be the palm of the workman, the secretary who served. The friend of the truth.

What was Bro. Joe's last prayer? What asking in his life would yet find answer? Were they for friend? Once pure as the morning dew, as he or she toddled at mother's knee? Were they for the church, whom Bro. Joe looked over that last Sunday?

What glorious answers will yet unfold to Bro. Joe's faith?

Where cross the softened steps of life,

There would the labor breathe,
This shepherd quiet (tho' round
is strife).

Then soul undying leave!

To graze the sheep of shepherd psalm,

This was His guidance good;
And the rod was love, with com-
fort balm.

The soul triumphant stood!

HOLD OUR TREASURES

Let's Hold Our Treasures! The following, though a story, is often so tragically true. What riches we have.

Mr. HIERONYMUS SMITH called the meeting to order. He looked into the corner where the pastor sat. . . cleared his throat. This meeting was called on account of the special request of some members who have something special to bring up . . . I will give the floor to Barnabas Harmon

The old pastor is shown in thought:

He was even more tired than usual this evening . . . The strong coffee mother had given before he left the house seemed to have no effect . . . He closed his eyes for a moment . . . 30 years now . . . The day when he had come . . . The crowds . . . The good wishes . . . The little wooden church over on Elm Street . . . The church next door . . . Something of him lay buried there . . . He had watched every stone go into it . . . The dreams of his youth—some of them had come true . . . He had not failed his Lord . . . Not real old, but tired . . . Better listen to Barnabas . . .

We all know, Mr. Chairman, that things haven't been going so well here . . . Maybe nothing serious, but only last week the Bowling League busted up again on account of some members do not like the way the pastor always comes around and asks them to come to church . . . Only a couple weeks ago, one of the young men in the church, a fine, up-and-coming young fellow, Mr. Chairman, says to me that the young people are beginning to go over to St. Elijah's . . . It seems they have big dances over there, and their preacher, a young fellow from College, is right in there with them . . . And so a couple of us got together, Mr. Chairman—

If he could only keep his eyes open now . . . He peered over at Barnabas . . . Assistant Manager of the Feltman Shoe Company now . . . Perhaps he had better talk to Barney one of these days . . . Something worldly and smug about him . . . After all, Barney was one of his boys . . . His eyes closed again . . . What had mother said before he left the house? . . . O yes, If you get sleepy, pinch your wrists . . . He smiled . . . That was mother, always worrying . . .

And so, Mr. Chairman, a couple of us got together at my house

and sorta talked things over . . . We all know what our pastor has done for our church . . . But, Mr. Chairman, time marches on, and our pastor, it seems to us, is getting along in years . . . we got some important people here—

Important people . . . There were some, but Barney wouldn't know that most of them lived down by the railroad tracks . . . Saints, some of them, like Mrs. Morton with her drunken husband and six children, and her eyes bright with unshed tears . . . He liked to sit in the broken rocker and listen to Grandpa Jepson . . . He was blind, but he saw more things than anybody else . . . Wasn't it true, he had asked mother, that if he went out in the afternoon to visit the members on the street where Barnabas had built his new house, he always ran into bridge or cocktail parties, and everybody was embarrassed? . . . Yes, it was easier to go see Grandpa Jepson—

And so, Mr. Chairman, we think the Church Board ought to see the Pension Board and ask them to

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put our pastor on the retired list . . . We have always paid our percentage, and they ought to be glad to help us out . . . What we need is a young fellow with lotsa pep and salesmanship, who can give a sermon with punch and arrange affairs with zip in them to draw the people in this here community . . .

So that was it . . . It had come now, and somehow it did not hurt as much as he thought it would . . . After all, he was getting old . . . Over 68 . . . Perhaps Mother and he could live on the edge of town in one of the little bungalows the Government was renting so cheap . . . Then he could still go down to see Grandpa Jepson and Mrs. Morton . . . But Mother . . . How would he ever be able to explain it to her? . . . Mother was so practical . . . She would tell him right away that all they had was the furniture and that \$1,000 insurance policy . . . They looked a little uneasy now waiting for him to say something . . . he would get up and tell them and go home to Mother . . . But that strange mist over his eyes . . . Almost as if they were covered with angel wings . . . That roaring in his ears . . . New sounds, not of earth . . .

He slumped forward in his chair . . . They caught him before he fell . . . There was a smile on his lips . . . Mother would have the insurance now, and perhaps God would let him sit near the door and wait for Grandpa Jepson . . .

From Froehlich: Christ . . . teaches the great art and the divine secret of turning everything to gold, of hallowing the whole life to the service of God.

Maywood, California . . . Helen Julian

In Memory of a Dear One
Each day recalls sad memories
Of my dear one gone to rest,
And the one that thinks of him
today
Is the one who loves him best . . .

As I sit beside the grave this month of May, when millions of people all over our country are remembering their loved ones, I read the inscription on the headstone from his favorite Psalm, **The Lord is My Shepherd**, and wonder how

many have been blessed as I have been, to be given the honor to have a saint lent to my home for such a short time.

I remember when he was just 4 months old, and I took him over to visit my wonderful Christian mother the last time I saw her, as she lay on her deathbed. So young and innocent at the time, I did not know what was in store for me in the years to come. I was so overjoyed with my new baby boy, as I cuddled and cooed to make him laugh for his Gramma. All of a sudden Mum said, "Don't worship him, or the Lord may take him away." Many times her last words to me have rung in my ears.

He was such a perfect baby in shape and form, and I exercised him daily, so he would have a good strong body for an athlete some day to please his father . . . But God had other plans far better than mine. As he was growing, he was such a loving child, with golden blonde hair and soft brown eyes, with a sparkling smile. Never was he to have a temper tantrum or disobey his parents. He was very easy to train, but had difficulty in learning how to get up when he would fall.

One day as I recall, I wanted to learn more about the Bible, so I started from the beginning and was reading about Abraham offering Isaac as a burnt offering for God. I looked over at my child and wondered if I could do such a thing if it had been me . . . "For God I guess I would", as I laid the Bible aside. As I said a prayer, I told God I would sacrifice my son for Him if He helped me to raise a good boy and to provide for him . . . little to know God made me keep that promise in a few short years. It was not long before I'd forgotten that prayer.

When he was five years old, I realized it was about time to teach him of God & Jesus . . . So with his younger sister and brother I would sit on his bed at bedtime and read children's Bible stories. It wouldn't be long before sis and brother would soon be asleep, but his eyes remained lit up and wide open with amazement and what seemed like thirst to know what God could do with such power. His favorite story was the strength of Samson. He would have me read it over and over and ask what God could do. At this time, he had al-

ready experienced the cruelties of the children in the neighborhood, mocking and making fun of him because he fell so easily and could not get up. They would form in a ring and trip him, then laugh as he struggled to get up. He would finally stand up with quite a bit of effort, and not say a word, but come in the house and tell me he wished some day God would make him strong like Samson too.

Another year went by when he fell and broke his leg. It was then that, after taking him to several doctors, only to be told he must have had a case of polio as a baby, I took him to a neighbor's family doctor, who asked if I knew what was wrong with my son. **Muscular Dystrophy**, he said. I never heard of the disease, as it was little known at the time. After investigating, I was told he would not live beyond 13 and the most 15, at which time he would choke to death. The following years were filled with aggravation, like four hours waiting time in the hospitals to be checked for 5 or 10 minutes by doctors who knew so little for treatment. The anguish, pain, tears and humiliation this young boy experienced are indescribable. As he grew, his character was such as I have never known before, and mentioned it many times to my friends . . . Never disobedient to his parents or school teachers. Several mentioned he was like a saint in class at the parent-teachers' conferences. They said he was "Different."

One day as we were riding home from church, he was only nine years old, he looked up to the sky and said, "Look . . . there is the hand of God pointing his finger at me . . . I'd better repent!" I looked up, and it was a huge cloud in the shape of a hand pointing, that I would not have noticed had he not seen it.

The years went by, but I was "Too busy" to take my children to church and felt guilty, knowing the time was getting near and even going beyond his 15th year. His body was rapidly deforming as it deteriorated, but his faith was growing stronger and stronger. He was in a wheel chair from nine years old. Rather than be bedridden, he had braces to help him sit up, and by the time he was 16, he was using a brace to hold

his arm up to feed himself. Through all this he always felt it was God's will, and so inspiring to those that knew him in school, and kept smiling . . . as was mentioned at his funeral, "He was quiet, but had a way of creeping into your heart."

Feeling I was delaying much too long as he reached his 19th birthday, I prayed and asked God to help me take him to church and give him a chance to know Him better. He did not want to use his wheel chair as a crutch to get into heaven. God answered my prayers, because in two months He gave him the grace to find his salvation. I begged God to let him live to be baptized, and He did, and again four months later to spare him for Holy Communion. On this day, Satan was trying very hard to stop him. We were afraid we would be too late, because we had to make numerous stops on the way to church, more than usual, for me to brace his head up on his arm as he gasped for every breath, for all his physical strength was gone, but his spiritual strength was as strong as Samson's. As we approached the street of the church, he said, "It sounds like Calvary, yes, I'm going to Calvary."

I would wake up at night sweating, knowing the day was coming soon and I wasn't ready to let him go. A week after he and his sister (whom he was always so devoted to) took part in their first Holy Communion together, I realized his life was complete, when he would have me sing his favorite Hymn, "As Pants the Hart", and that he was ready to go Home. I finally gave in and pleaded for God to take him out of his misery while he was so pure. He once told me when he was a little boy, that he dreamed Jesus came and took him by the hand and walked along the sidewalk by our kitchen. We didn't have a sidewalk at that time, but by now there was one. Five days after I prayed, Jesus did take his hand and walk with him along the walk.

As I looked at him for the last time I thought . . . "This is my son, in whom I am well pleased," and I KNOW . . . He will dwell in the House of the Lord forever . . . Amen.

In loving memory of Terry Dee Julien, June 1948-1968, sadly miss-

ed by Mother.

Illinois State University . . . Barb Hoffman . . . Thus another semester has ended at Illinois State. Looking back, it seems as if the year has just slipped through our fingers; however, I know that we each traveled over many miles—through joyful but also difficult regions in our lives. We each in His own way experienced God's love and guidance and wouldn't have exchanged one moment for anything else. Now summer has come, with its warmth and enthusiasm, and we welcome its glowing appearance as a **much needed** break from the endless projects, papers, and tests!

Illinois State Summer Bible Study will begin May 19 and continue until next Fall. Everyone is welcome! Our new officers for next year are: Al Hany (Pres.), Keith Knapp (Vice-Pres.), Ann Klopfenstein (Secretary), and Marge Aeschleman (Treasurer).

Ministering Bros. Earl Kilgus (Remington), Bruce Leman (Reno), and Duane Kilgus (Fairbury) shared the word of God with us.

Toledo, Ohio . . . Josephine Rehkla . . .

There is no time to brood or waste, where there is work to do, and so we ask for this alone, that we may ever keep our mind and fingers ready for the task. Thus shall we conquer loneliness and be greater than the grief that tries to master us.

Sis. Irene Zeigler is in the hospital, recovering from surgery.

James and Debbie Newman have a daughter, Catherine Lois. Her grandparents are Sis. Lois and Warren Newman.

Karen Labadie graduated from Dental College. She is the daughter of Sis. Lois and Warren Newman.

Remington In. . . Amelia Schini - Mildred Clauss . . . On April 24, Bro. Kenneth Weerts of Cissna Park and Bro. Todd Feller of La Crosse were our visiting ministers.

The engagement of Bro. Eric Knochel (son of Bro. Al and Sis. Evelyn) to Sis. Penny Sutter of Taylor (daughter of Bro. James and Sis. Lois) was announced on May 8. Our hearts rejoice with

them and with their families.

The following students are graduating from high school: Bob Beckley (son of Elmer and Nancy), Scott Schneider (son of Sis. Anna), Sis. Beth Bahler (daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Lois), Sis. Melody Knochel (daughter of Bro. Al and Sis. Evelyn).

Our college graduates include: Neal Nussbaum (son of Marvin and Essie), Cynthia Clauss (daughter of Paul and Wilma), Sis. Alberta Schini (daughter of Bro. Albert and Sis. Amelia).

Thought: I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life, as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed.

LaCrosse In . . . Carolyn Levy - Grace Heinold . . . LOVE OF ALL GIFTS IS THE GREATEST . . .

A number from our congregation attended the wedding of Donna Heinold (Bro. Harold and Sis. Margaret) and Stephen Hall, in Indianapolis on April 23.

Many relatives and friends were present to witness the impressive ceremony performed by Elder Bro. Edw. Frank, for Sis. Jaelyn Nuest and Bro. Dan Schmidgall, Morris. Parents are Bro. Jack and Sis. Vera and Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila. We were blessed to have Ministering Bros. Harold Gramm, Morris, and Noah Miller, Minneapolis, with us also that day.

Sis. Julie Jacobs (Mr. and Mrs. Norman Jacobs) and Bro. Tim Bucher (Sis. Esther and the late Bro. Art) were united in Holy Matrimony, in the presence of God and many witnesses, on May 8. Elder Bro. Ed. Hohulin, Goodfield, performed this sacred undertaking. Also with us that day were Ministering Bros. Art Ringger, Indianapolis, and Elmer Bucher, Francesville.

Norma Troxel (Bro. Phil and Sis. Mary) and Tom Mark (Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Mark) were united in marriage on May 21.

The engagement of Sis. Jill Nuest (Bro. Jack and Sis. Vera) to Bro. Jim Hitz (Bro. Len and Sis. Audrey) was announced. A July wedding is planned.

Our high school graduates are Diane Ailes, Dean Bucher, Sis. Sherri Bucher, Sis. Denise Feller, Sis. Lu Ann Feller, Sis. Debbie

Frank, Dale Meiss, Kathy Paarlberg, and Mary Ann Troxel. College graduates are Sis. Gwen Bucher, Sis. Mary Lynn Feller and Mary Ann Paarlberg.

Sis. Leona Heinold is in Wesley Memorial Hospital.

Home for the Handicapped . . .
 "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: . . ."

Time is money—we have no right to waste it.

Time is power—we have no right to dissipate it.

Time is influence—we have no right to throw it away.

Time is life—we must value it greatly.

Time is God's—He gives it to us for a purpose.

Time is a sacred trust—we must answer for every moment.

Time is wisdom—we have no right to be ignorant.

Time is preparation for eternity—we must redeem it.

Kathryn (Kitty) Hess, who came to live at our Home on Jan. 8, 1975, is the daughter of H. Frederick Hess Jr. and Marjorie A. Wuethrich Hess of Westfield, New Jersey. One brother, Frederick III, who is employed by Caterpillar Tractor Co. of Peoria, and two sisters, Chris and Carol, college students, comprise Kitty's family. Though her parents live some distance away, they visit as often as they can, making Kitty very happy when they come. Kitty is one of our Peoria PARC students. At our Home, she loves books and often shows us what she sees. Birthday time for Kitty is December 8.

Real progress is being made on our new building. Workmen of various skills are with us daily. Completion of the enlarged dining room is anticipated within the next few weeks.

Summertime is a pleasant time for our residents, for it is when they can participate in the many wholesome, outdoor activities and outings.

Gridley, Fairbury, Eureka, Normal, Forrest, Roanoke and Congerville are on our schedule for Friday evening services during April and May. The residents also enjoy the fellowship time afterwards.

Time is a precious gift. Each day presents to us a new oppor-

tunity to do all things to the honor of our Heavenly Father.

Sarasota, Florida . . . Kathryn Schroeder:

The Lord works in wonderful and mysterious ways, but certainly faith becomes a living substance that we can feel, like the wind and the rain, and how often we need to draw upon this fountain of life that flows from the well-spring from on high through Jesus Christ, Our Redeemer.

Elder Bro. Ben Maibach

Faith is clearly perceived in our church in Sarasota. It is mirrored in the faces of our brethren. This is a happy congregation, for love has found an abiding dwelling here. All are helpful, all are joyful in the good that befalls others. Each new convert becomes a living testimony of God's presence and His ever watchful care. This was manifest May 8, in the testimony and baptism of our beloved Don Sellers, and was the cause of great rejoicing.

Later a supper was served, which gave evidence of culinary skill among our sisters.

We were blessed on Mother's Day, May 8, with the presence of Bro. Harry Sutter from Ft. Lauderdale. He preached a deeply moving sermon. In paying a beautiful tribute to his mother, he encompassed all Christian, God-fearing mothers who had, through their devotion and sacrifices, set our footsteps on the narrow road that lead to the strait gate.

We know that true living is sharing, but our hearts were saddened when Elder Bro. Ben and Sis. Lorene Maibach returned to Detroit May 10, but our hearts were lifted with thoughts of their joyous welcome. We wish Bro. Ben godspeed on his journey to the Orient this summer, and ask God's rich blessing on his mission for the work of the church in Japan.

Roanoke Ill. . . . Edith Sauder - Mae K. Hodel: We congratulate our graduates of high school, college and nurse's school.

Sis. Charlene Kuperschmidt and Bro. Dan Monk exchanged their wedding vows.

Bro. Bill and Sis. Patsy Kaeb are the happy parents of Kory

Richard, their first child. Bro. Richard & Sis. Helen Zimmerman and the Bro. Dave Kaeb from Fairbury are the grandparents. Bro. Ed Feller, Bro. Joe and Sis. Anna Zimmerman and Sis. Esther Kaeb are the great-grandparents.

A special ladies group from Roanoke and the kindergarten through second grade sang several numbers at the monthly hymnsing.

Sis. Anna (Happy) Hodel passed away at the Roanoke Apostolic Home. She is survived by two daughters: Sis. Mary (Rudy) Hoffman and Sis. Helen (Bill) Leman; one son, Bro. Stanley; two sisters, Sis. Mattie Leman and Sis. Esther Klaus; and one brother, Nick Herbst. Bro. Happy and Sis. Anna were fortunate enough to celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary this spring.

Bro. Samuel Belsey, 81 years old, passed away. He was so happy to be a brother in Christ, as he was baptized in the fall. He is survived by four sisters, Sis. Ella, with whom he lived, Sisters Rose Minger, Anna Heiligenstein, and Minnie Leman.

Sis. Angela Rassi is in the hospital. Sis. Kathryn (Ray) Hodel and Sis. Rose Sauder are home again, after being hospitalized.

(Bros.) Raymond Roth (Kiowa), Bill Kuperschmidt (Bloomington-Normal), and Marvin Schmidgal (Eureka) served us in the ministry.

We are happy that three of our dear friends have found peace with God and wish to give their testimonies this week-end. Herbert Hodel (Bro. Ben and Sis. Ruth Ann) and Rob and Gina Luginbuhl (Bro. Robert and Sis. Jean) have seen the light in someone else. So let's trim our lamps and keep them burning brightly. Who knows when the beams may fall on those we love so dearly . . .

"Truly our hearts were deeply warmed. We are grateful to our friends and relatives for love, prayers, flowers, calls, and cards we received at Mayo's. There is nothing like a word from home when you are ill and away from home." Bro. John Bittner and family.

Peoria Illinois . . . Barb Geyer - Jo Ann Rieker;

One of the best ways to renew our vows to the Lord is to witness

proving and baptism of dear friends. We were privileged to hear the testimonies of three dear friends, Saturday April 30. Jamie Hoerr (Bro. Ken and Sis. Darlene), Sally Herman (Bro. Howard and Sis. Nancy), and Patty Eisenmann (Bro. Harry and Sis. Loretta) were baptized Sunday May 1. Bro. Noah Herman of Tucson was with us. May God bless these three dear sisters and keep them in His love.

The Eighth Annual Benefit Supper was held by the Peoria Choir May 7. The singing was beautiful, and everyone enjoyed the fellowship. The proceeds will be used for the Peoria Church addition building fund, and the fellowship hall maintenance fund.

Bro. Greg Herman (Bro. Howard and Sis. Nancy) and Sis. Beth Meister (Bro. Paul and Sis. Rhoda) were united in marriage Sunday, May 15. Bro. Noah Herman (Greg's grandfather) performed the ceremony.

On Saturday, April 23, we enjoyed the Detroit choir at our monthly hymnsing. Sunday, Bro. Hartzell Kaisner ministered to us. We extend our thanks to the Detroit congregation.

"Our dear father and brother, A. R. Sinn (Bro. Gus to some) passed away April 23 at Ft. Scott, at the age of 69 years. Bro. Ron and Sis. Judy Sinn and Sis. Tina Schwind wish to thank everyone, who was so thoughtful, for their prayers, gifts, cards, and support during this time of sadness . . . The Peoria congregation wishes to extend sympathy to Bro. Ron, Sis. Judy and Sis. Tena in their loss.

"I would like to thank each one who remembered me with prayers, gifts, and cards while in the hospital and since I returned home." Sis. Lena Eberle . . . Sis. Sophie Hoerr wishes to thank all who remembered her with cards, prayers, gifts, and flowers during her hospital stay.

Hospitalized were Karen Burgess, Eldora Young, Karen Hulverson, Bernard Race, and Sisters Marie Weess, Sarah Howse, Carrie Stiegele, and Mary Hohulin.

The Peoria congregation wishes to extend sympathy to Bro. Walt and Sis. Ruth Knepp in the loss of their brother-in-law, Bro. Elmer Sauder of Tremont.

Two dear sisters from our congregation have offered their tal-

ents to be used in Huntville, Alabama this summer. We wish Sis. Barb Thomas and Sis. Kathy Hoerr God's blessings as they share in His wonderful work.

July is Silver Lining collection for Peoria.

Latty Ohio . . . Karen Klopfenstein - Diane Stoller . . . May God ever grant healing and strength to those who were in the hospital. They are Sisters Ollie Laukhuf, Ruby Stoller (Bro. Justus), Esther Stoller (Bro. Loren), Louise Rager (Bro. Carl), Martha Stoller (Bro. John), and Joyce Wenninger (Bro. Larry).

God bless you especially on Graduation Day;

May He always be with you along life's way,

And may all your hopes, the things you have planned,

Be blessed by the touch of God's loving hand.

Our three high school graduates are Byron Dunham (Bro. Charles and Sis. Laura), Sis. Shirley Sinn (Bro. Carl and Sis. Tootie), and Sis. Julie Stoller (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Ede).

Oakville, Iowa . . . Phyllis Siegle:

Memorial Day Thought

On this day of remembrance,
Dear Lord, we pray for peace
From all war's threats and horrors;

In mercy send release.

The welfare and the blessings
Of our land come from Thee;
Thou, Thou alone canst grant us
True peace and liberty.

Our friends, Terry and Carol (Rocke) Miller are parents of a daughter, Rochelle Leigh En. This is their first child, and she was born May 14. Grandparents are Bro. Orttie and Sis. Verna Rocke. Since God has brought this sunshine into their home, we wish them courage and faith as they bring her up in this world of sin.

A welcome little boy, Randall Glen, was born May 10 to friends Ronald and Cora (Rechkemmer) Ater. Randall has a sister, Ronna, age 7, who was so very pleased to have a brother, and is finding such

joy in helping to care for him. We are happy for Ronnie and Cora. Grandparents are Bro. Alvin and late Sis. Mabel Rechkemmer.

Our congratulations and very best wishes go to our friends, Stephen Stoller and Paula Mack, who were married May 14. Stephen's parents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Ione Stoller.

Bro. Charles Sauder, Tremont, and Bro. John Lehman, Bern, were our visiting ministers.

Bradford, Illinois . . . Jane Le-man: We are thankful for a new convert— Danny Guingrich (Bro. Ed and Sis. Doris).

Several from our congregation have submitted to surgery: Sisters Eunice Klumpp, Lottie Stisser and Carol Heinz.

We were blessed with visiting ministers: Bro. Everett Hari, Elder Bros. Edwin Ringger (Gridley) and Dave Kieser (Princeville).

Shioda, Japan . . . Willis R. Ehnele: The decision has been made. The newspaper delivery people in Japan have a policy of not accepting for delivery with newspapers any booklet, such as the Scripture booklet we desired to insert into the newspapers for delivery into 8,000 homes in our area. This is the word of God in Japanese. Booklets are too bulky, and any advertisements or inserts of any kind must be single sheets only. However, there is nothing preventing us from having Scripture portions of selected verses printed especially for us, consisting of only one sheet, with a beautiful scene in color, with a map of how to get to our church and an invitation to attend, to be printed and inserted into the newspaper every 6 months, with a continuation of New Testament Scriptures, until the story of the Lord Jesus Christ and the plan of forgiveness, peace and eternal salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ is complete. The decision has been made to take this route, to get out the invitation to come and worship the true and living God. That is one way of sharing God's word with others, as well as inviting them to church at the same time. "And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel **them** to come in, that my house may be filled."

Plans are set for Sis. Sally Gramm from Gridley, Illinois, and Sis. Libby Meyer of Sabetha to return to the States on June 11. Sincere appreciation in the name of the Lord is expressed to their congregations and families for the service rendered during the past two years. Replacements are Sisters Jane Weiss of Bay City and Sally Beutel of Tremont, whom we welcome with all our heart, as we walk this highway together. "And an highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called The way of holiness . . ."

When our monthly hymnsing was held at the apartment of Sis. Reiko Furuya, her red canary joined in the singing with vim and vigor. "All thy works shall praise thee, O LORD; and thy saints shall bless thee."

If you are not yet converted, you should repent and believe the Gospel.

Leo Indiana . . . the editor: Time is a unit. It has termination. There are wonderful things wrought in time. Enduring in unending eternity . . . Souls find life. Philip Bollier and Lester Stoller have peace with God. Philip is the son of John and Velma, and Lester's parents are Ernie and Dean.

Ben Stavenik, one of our ministering brothers from Mansfield, visited us. Ben wisely uses time with words of wisdom.

Out at the Children's Home was Karen. She should be soon taking her place in these lovely families. Mary Brown told of the work she had with the chickens . . . and Patches came . . . Patches is a puppy.

Some things don't seem as forward steps . . . then often we find in them sweet fragrances from yonder shore; with various hurtings and problems, sorrows and tribulations, we learn His thoughts. His love finds full expression in eternity.

What is time? It is passing, and it comes in the past tense too. Bro. Herman Norr had beautiful memories. In time, he learned to know and love his sweet Sherry and Wesley. They were carried by the angels Home. Herman went to the hospital. **Each Step I Take** reminds his wife Sis. Helen of his steps. Herman looked forward to seeing his children, Wesley and Sharon. He saw something beauti-

ful. Time, taken in heavenly steps, opens into ageless, enduring eternity.

Silverton Oregon . . . Kathy Dietrich: On April 24 and 27, we held our last Sunday and Wednesday evening services, respectively, in our old church house. Ministering Bro. Robert Miller from Portland was with us on the 24th and shared in our last services. We truly feel the Lord has blessed our small congregation in the past in the many times we felt His nearness, and sincerely pray that we shall continue to feel that same nearness in the future, indeed manifest in our first services held in our new building on May 1.

We have now set the date for our Open House services on July 17, with the following Sunday, July 24, for Dedication. We trust there will be many who can arrange their vacation-time to be able to worship with us on these dates, and would appreciate hearing from them in advance, so as to make proper arrangements. Please contact either Bro. Clarence Dietrich—503-873-2582, or Bro. Ed Knecht—503-632-3570. Sunday services begin at 10:30 A.M. PST and 12:45 p.m. PST and Wednesday evening services at 7:30 p.m. PST.

We feel humbled and deeply grateful for all the gifts we have received from the many brethren throughout the land.

Rockville, Connecticut . . . Carlton Lanz: This is just at the time of two seasons parting. Spring is bowing out, having followed the pattern of that which the Creator hand in His plan. Each one has its time, moving in & out so swiftly, yet brings much beauty and many delights, in accordance with what our all-wise God and Creator planned.

Moving on so fast, with the changes as we see them, we soon forget, how only a short time past, we struggled through cold, bleak and bare terrain, heaps of snow and ice piled high. Now, so soon God has changed this and has spread a giant green carpet over fields, lawns and even trees and shrubbery, great and small. He has crowned with coverings of the one and only magnificent green. What color other than green could be more suitable or fitting to de-

note everything lives. Let us see reasons to thank God, our great Creator, for the great gift He has given to man, the gift of life, to see and marvel at the mysteries of His Creation.

Much was said, on Mother's Day of love. Love is so very important. The true Christian lives it. It stands out in their lives. First Corinthians 13 records an entire chapter on this, and ends with three things, but the greatest of all is charity.

Our oldest Brother in the ministry, Bro. Ernest Luginbuhl, came to America as a child, a boy of 8 years, with an uncle who farmed here. His father thought he should go, with the family to come on later, and this is what he did, leaving family and home in Switzerland. In his sermon on Mother's Day, he spoke of the time of his farewell parting with his mother. Visibly touched, he began, "I will never forget her crying as we bid one another farewell. Her heart was broken, and I felt it. Nothing can compare with a mother's love." These few words touched many throughout the audience.

Ernest has never returned to his birthplace, and grew on to manhood here. Little did he know that the eye of God followed him through the years. He was not aware of what God had for him, as time went on, meeting with difficulties as would be normal to growing into manhood. Yet in all this, the Lord was with him, in spite of the painful loneliness coming across, until he would meet his mother and family again. He repented and turned to the Lord. As time passed, the German language slowly backed away, and the English took over. Bro. Ernest, notwithstanding, with only a limited grade school education, the eye of the Lord signalled for him to serve in the ministry. He trusted in God. God was with him, he said. His wife, Sis. Huldah, has faithfully stood by him and has been a staunch support. Their four children are married, and all have turned to the Lord.

For 47 years he has served his Lord. His day by day life walk has won for him the support of the entire church, and to use a metaphor, the oil in his lamp does not appear to be dwindling, nor does he hide it under a bush-

el. Salvation is uppermost in his mind.

The church, with a large attendance, observed the Lord's Supper, in remembrance of His cruel suffering. Bro. Rudolph Graf, elder at Akron, was present to assist our elder, Bro. John Bahler.

Tim Cone, infant born to Bro. Billy and Amy (Luginbuhl) came. Grandparents are Bro. Leonard and Irma Luginbuhl.

Mr. Carlson & Bro. Arthur Lanz underwent surgery for hernia. Both have been discharged. Carlson is the father of Bro. Wally Carlson, Ellington, Connecticut.

(Written on my hospital bed.)

Tokyo, Japan . . . Yoshio Yamazaki - Marie Inoue: It is so wonderful that the Lord gave us comfortable rest rooms for us here in Tokyo church, and we enjoy them very much. Several of us brothers tore down the old ones on a recent holiday. However, one problem happened. One of men who built our rest rooms told me that the evil spirit came into his heart and he became very sick, also his brother's son . . . reason why was because he buried a part of our old well when he built our rest rooms. He was very frightened when his friend told him that. I told him that it doesn't mean that. If you are really converted from your original sin before our living God, you can be sure your fear is gone out from you . . . But he couldn't understand what I said, nor would he try to understand, because of the fear of the punishment of the god of well.

It's really the truth of what the Bible says about in Acts, chapter 17. "Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands; Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appoint-

ed, and the bounds of their habitation; . . ."

I surely very much sympathized with him and told him that I will pray for him until he'll be true repentance.

I know there are a great number of people who don't know the real true living God here in this world, and we would feel more responsibility toward them with prayers. We need your prayer, as we pray for you day by day.

Valparaiso Indiana . . . Marie Heinold: The remodeling of our church building turned out to be a major project with many decisions. However, the cooperation of many willing workers made it a real pleasure. We are thankful that work progressed so well, and we only missed having services two Sundays. An attached apartment was made into much needed Sunday School rooms, and our kitchen and foyer were enlarged.

We also were given the opportunity to purchase the house and adjoining lot. So we will now have a private drive and parking area, making it much safer for children. Any near or going through Valparaiso are heartily invited to come worship with us.

This month's visiting ministers were Bros. Ben Fehr and Lloyd Stoller. We appreciate their coming so much. Bro. Ben spoke of the passage John, "Ye must be born again." In this day and time, The world does not like the words, you **must** . . . But God's word says, Ye must be born again. We are so happy for Byron Frieden, who confessed he is repenting and wanting to be born again. We ask God to give grace to us all to better serve, fear and love Him who is Almighty.

Rittman, Ohio . . . Marlene Dotterer: "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." Two dear souls have turned their backs on the world and sought the Lord in repentance. Friend Randy Miller has been working in our community for a couple of years, and began to worship with us. Wendell Dotterer, the other convert, is the son of Bro. John and Sis. Betty Dotterer. We wish sufficient grace *to overcome all things.

"Marriage is honourable in all . . ."

Bro. Fred Domka of Mansfield and Sis. Connie Hartzler of our congregation were united in Holy Matrimony on May 1. We will certainly miss Sis. Connie as they make their home in Mansfield. Parents of the couple are Bro. Steve and Sis. Ruth Domka and Bro. Dale and Sis. Joyce Hartzler . . . On May 15, we witnessed the wedding vows of Bro. Dale Bauman and Sis. Nancy Hartzler, both of our congregation. Their parents are Richard and Gladys Bauman and Bro. Ernest and Sis. Pauline Hartzler . . . The engagement of Bro. Jerry Bauman and Sis. Martha Dysinger was made known to the congregation. Jerry is the son of Sis. Marie Bauman.

" . . . if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ . . ." We have been blessed with visiting ministers. Those bringing the word to us were Bros. Robert Beer (Mansfield), Paul Gasser (Akron), Kenneth Indermuhle (Sardis), Eugene Pamer (Akron), Kenneth Sauder (Mansfield), and Simon Wagenbach (Tremont).

The Lord has blest several families with new additions. Mike and Vicki (Young) Hupp are parents of their first child, Tonya Jean . . . Milan Richard is the first son of Bro. Mark and Sis. Sue (Ramsier) Steiner. A sister welcomes him . . . Bro. Dan and Sis. Diane (Dotterer) Gasser welcome their third child. Kara Joy has a brother and a sister.

Two of our dear sisters suffered falls resulting in fractured hips. They are Sisters Elizabeth Dotterer and Elizabeth Ramsier. Also hospitalized was Sis. Jennie Bauman for tests. Sis. Adda Grossenbacher, a resident at the nursing home, has been quite ill.

Lester, Iowa . . . Joyce Knoblock - Alice Metzger: We had a most blessed week-end when Bro. Loren Stoller, Latty, was here to assist Bro. Leo in the solemn act of serving Holy Communion. Each one is brought closer to each other, truly a rewarding experience.

We have two new babies to first-time parents. On April 18 a girl, Amanda Joy, was born to LeRoy

and Shelly VanWyhe. Grandparents are Bro. Jack and Sis. Janet Wysong and Mr. and Mrs. Wayne VanWyhe . . . A girl was born on May 17 to Bro. Tom and Sis. Deb Metzger. Little Sara Ann's grandparents are Bro. Freddie and Sis. Esty Metzger and Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Kramer.

Our surgical patients were Sis. Lolly Mogler and Sis. Kathy Metzger. Other hospital patients were Aaron Metzger, son of Bro. Gary and Sis. Beth; Marilyn Knobloch, daughter of Bro. Si and Sis. Edie; and Ben Feucht. Blake Wysong, son of Bro. Jack and Sis. Janet, was in Rochester for a check-up.

We have started Singing at the Rock Rapids Rest Homes the second and fourth Sundays at 3:30.

West Bend, Iowa . . . Mrs. Raymond Anliker - Becky Banwart: This time of the year finds us paying tribute and extending our heartfelt prayers for our high school graduates. They are: Allen Grimm, son of Arle and Marilyn; Karla Banwart, daughter of Bro. Victor and Sis. Marilyn; Kevin Banwart, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Phylis; Wanda Metzger, daughter of Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice; Tim Mogler, son of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Lillie; Jerry Traub, son of Fred Jr. and Joann; Mike Schmidt, son of Bro. Ivan and Sis. Evelyn; and Fred Wirtz, son of Bro. Fred and Sis. Hulda. May God bless and guide all our youth to His righteous pathways are the many prayers uttered, in their behalf, by the fathers and mothers, as they adventure into new walks of life and careers.

Little Wendell Metzger, son of Bro. Leland and Sis. Kathy, remains in the hospital with a broken leg. Bro. Levi Banwart is in Iowa City for observation and treatment for his kidney ailment. Emy (Paul) Banwart Jr. and Eric Mogler are again attending services with us.

A note: the Johnston church, where our college students and working people have monthly services, will discontinue until the fall semester resumes. We want to thank all who took part in making it possible for this special day, as our youth really appreciate these services and the fellowship hour that follows, along with sharing a bountiful meal together.

"Our sincere thanks to our

brethren and friends across the land for the many prayers, cards, letters and memorials sent after the passing of our beloved wife, mother, and grandmother. Words cannot express how much it means to know that others care." Silas Banwart and family.

Friendship

When misfortunes happen, and sometimes they do,
That's when true friends come and take care of you.

When the future looks grim and you're sad and you're blue,
Then comes a knock on the door, and sunshine comes through.
For people do care, though they don't always show it.

It's through times like these that they let you know it!

Phoenix, Arizona . . . Julie Hoerr: Two more dear souls have found that NOW is the accepted time for them to turn their lives to the **real thing** that life is all about—Salvation and life eternal with our dear Saviour. Charlene and Shirley Roth, daughters of Bro. Earl and Sis. Loreen, are two very happy new converts.

Our friend, Dave Hodges has found that **Wonderful Peace coming down from the Father above** and is now looking forward to baptism.

Our congregation extends sympathy to the Hodel, Banwart, Bradford and Dotterer families on the passing of Sis. Annie Hodel, a frequent winter visitor to Phoenix.

Many enjoyed our monthly singing at the church and also a picnic at Squaw Peak Park on May 15. We will have a monthly singing at the church the last Sunday night of every month. Everyone is welcome.

Friend Rob Beery (Bro. Dick and Sis. Marie) was hospitalized for knee surgery, and is grateful to be up and about again. Friend Rachael Roth (Bro. Harry) has been confined to their home with a back problem. Bro. Roy Farney is recuperating from a bout of viral pneumonia.

Tho Sis. Vera Yackley is bedfast and blind, there are times she asks Bro. Clarence how all the church folks and friends are, and really delights in the cards she receives. Their address is: 1726 E. Mt. View Rd., Phoenix AZ

85020, if you'd like to cheer our dear sister.

Congratulations to our high school graduates. They are Nathan Knochel (Bro. and Sis. Herb) and Alan Schmidgall (Bro. and Sis. Kenny). Finishing 8th Grade are Jay Schmidgall (Bro. and Sis. Kenny) and Suzie Zollinger (Bro. and Sis. Ed). May you let the Lord guide your futures.

"**Thank you** for the prayers, cards and gifts during my hospital stay and while convalescing at home. Your many kindnesses are truly appreciated." Bro. Earl Sanders.

Bro. Alphi (Dick) and Sis. Gladys Fisher, Lord willing, will be married 50 years on July 6. This copy of the Silver Lining will be a chance to let you, who would like, to send a card (9801 No First St, Phoenix 85020).

Bro. Harry and Rachael Roth's new address is 17630 N. 25th Ave., Phoenix AZ 85023.

God Has For You

A **Light** for every shadow;
A **Plan** for each tomorrow.
A **Key** for every problem, and
A **Balm** for every sorrow.

Mansfield, Ohio . . . Lucille Groh: BUT PRAYER WAS MADE TO GOD WITHOUT CEASING. The prison opened, the apostle set free, the people baffled, the wicked king eaten of worms, and the word of God, the great victor. Do we know the power of our supernatural weapon? Our prayers are God's opportunities.

Recently, God spoke through a beloved believer, and a beautiful experience was shared. A dear Christian mother often stopped during her busy day, when she heard of a loved one in the community who needed help, and would quickly prepare some food or clothing and send it to them. Maybe just a card when she couldn't go see her sick neighbor. No one really ever knew of the many times she got down on her knees and prayed when she heard of some trouble her friend or neighbor had, but pray she did. One day, this dear mother became seriously ill and was rushed to the hospital. Unknown to her, the small community wherein she lived soon became aware of her illness, and soon many of the peo-

ple whom she had so often befriended gathered quietly together to pray for her recovery. Her light had shown in the past; now her friends wanted to help her. At the same time prayer was being made for her, her two sons went to the hospital to see their mother for the supposedly last time. The nurse met them at the hospital room door and said, "I'm sorry, you can't go in to see your mother; she is too sick". Deeply concerned, they too began to pray outside her room. After some time had elapsed, from within the room their mother began to call out her sons' names. The nurse came to the door and said, "Your mother is calling for you." When they approached the bed, she said, "You were outside the door praying for me weren't you?" They said, "Mother, how did you know?" She said, "I could feel your presence and your prayers". The doctors and nurses said, "Something very unusual has happened!" "Why the change?" It was all because of her love for others, their prayers, and above all, GOD'S ANSWER TO PRAYER AND HIS HEALING POWER.

Don't stop praying, but have more trust;
Don't stop praying, For pray we must.
Faith will banish a mount of care.
Don't stop praying; God answers prayer.

Loving prayers are for our dear sister, Elizabeth Dotterer, who suffered a fall and a broken hip. She has served the Lord so faithfully for many years.

May 1 was the wedding day of our Bro. Fred Domka and Sis. Connie Hartzler (Rittman). We certainly welcome Sis. Connie into our fellowship and hope she will soon feel at home among us.

Friends, Randy and Cindy (Oesch) Walp have moved to their new home at 420 N. Spring St., Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Our love and prayers go with them.

Jerry and Sis. Claudia Gadd are the happy parents of a bundle of sunshine. They have named their new son Jeremy. Mildred Sauder Dolce is the maternal grandmother.

The Vesper Choir spent a blessed Sunday, April 24 at Bluffton.

Also, on May 15, they presented their annual spring program here.

REMEMBER, GOD ANSWERS PRAYER, YES, NO, OR WAIT AWHILE.

Bern, Kansas . . . Esther and Stella Moser: Congratulations to our high school graduates. Dolene Esslinger (Bro. Vernon - Sis. Lillian), Trudy Meyer (Bro. Louis - Sis. Mavis, Suzann Strahm (Clayton - Merriam). May God bless you as you start upon this new part of your life.

Sea of Life

As o'er the sea of life you sail,
Start each day with a smile.
Hoist high your gleaming sails of hope,
Let faith guide every mile.
Waves of despair may rise so high
You'll think your ship is lost—
But don't give up the plans you've made
No matter how you're tossed.
Stand firm against the stormy winds,
And when the storm is o'er,
You'll find you've crossed the raging sea
To find a peaceful shore.

Quite a number found it worthwhile to go to Newton for a work day on World Relief. Clothing was sorted and canned meat checked and packed for shipment. Truly a rewarding day!

Our Guest Minister was Bro. Roger Aberle, Sabetha. It was Roger's first visit since he was chosen a minister.

Some of our little folks are having problems. Rebecca Strahm (Bro. Wilfred - Sis. Verona) has an arm in a cast due to a fractured bone. Hospital patients: Baby Ross Rokey (medical) Bro. Allen - Sis. Glenda . . . Carla Sue Meyer (tonsillectomy), Bro. Robert - Sis. Janet.

Bro. Louis Baumgartner has been dismissed and will come to the Apostolic Christian Home to recuperate from a light stroke.

Sis. Frieda Strahm (Bro. Aaron) was able to return to her home, after a stay at the Apostolic Christian Home.

July is Silver Lining collection month.
Suggested price is now \$3.00
(Bern)

Taylor Missouri . . . Lena M. Haerr: Rest in the Lord; wait patiently for Him. In Hebrew its, Be silent to God . . . Keep still and He will mould thee to the right shape.

Blessing steps In when self steps Out.

We were privileged to have Bro. Henry Beer April 23. Bro. Henry showed the books he has and explained them, also brought the word of God on Sunday.

Several parents and the Bible Sunday School class visited with the Peoria Sunday School class on May 1.

Sis. Penny Sutter (daughter of Bro. James and Sis. Lois) and Bro. Erick Knochel (son of Bro. Alphas) of Lafayette, Indiana, announced their engagement on May 8.

The graduates are: Bro. John Knapp (Mike and LuAnn) from the University of Illinois . . . Don Grimm (Roy and Donna), Richard E. Sutter (Gerald and Mary), Jimmie Sutter (James and Lois), and Steve Riney (Gene and Irene) from high school.

Clarence Kolthoff was in Blessing Hospital five days. We were glad he could return home, feeling better.

Bro. Ed Hohulin, Goodfield, visited the week-end of May 15. Bro. Ed and Bro. Roy Grimm served Communion to us. How very impressive and humbling this is. We never can thank our dear Lord enough for our salvation. It is good for us to go to the cross and meditate, and humbly accept, thank and praise Him.

Mother's Day is past—Father's Day will soon be here. Often I think of my parents—trying to strive to do the will of God as they did. May God grant us His grace and mercy.

Elgin, Iowa . . . Eleanor Buttkofer:

Spring

A lark led off with silvery notes,
And from a dozen feathered throats
The other choristers joined in—
There was a cardinal and a thrush,
An oriole, and from a bush
A tiny song-filled wren.

God's feathered creations serenaded me,
From every bush and leafy tree.

Bro. John Steiner, Oakville was our guest minister, and needless to say it was a real blessing to have him explain the scripture to us. He read in the 14th chapter of Luke as part of the afternoon service.

Sis. Anna Schupbach is ill and in the Maple Crest Manor, located in Fayette, Iowa. We miss her presence in our church assemblies . . . Bro. Gottlieb Pulfer, who submitted to surgery at St. Mary's Hospital at Rochester, is now at the Postville Hospital, and is doing quite well.

Sis. Marie Schneider, who had vein surgery at the Methodist Hospital at Rochester, is due to leave today. She has been getting along real well, for which we are thankful . . . Sis. Elizabeth Moore, too, is getting along real well in regard to her jaw trouble, which happened in the car accident we wrote about in our last column.

Sis. Marie Butikofer entertained quite a few folks who came to congratulate her on her 87th birthday. She enjoys visiting with her relatives and friends, and appreciates very much being well enough to do hand work, especially mending clothes for her kinsfolk. She has 34 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren. She has a ready smile for everyone. She and her sister, Lena can converse very well in the Swiss language. Sis. Marie was 13 years old when she was baptized, so she has known and loved our dear Lord for quite a number of years. It was of interest to learn that Sis. Marie was baptized in the Turkey River of our area. The ladies meet at her house when they come together in their World Relief sewing project.

The spring cleaning of our church was accomplished. It was done very thoroughly, and those who took part are to be commended.

We are extending **Best Wishes** to Mr. and Mrs. Roger Halverson, who were recently married. The bride, Sharlene Schneider is the daughter of the LaVerne Schneiders, and the groom is the son of the Roy Halversons. They will live in West Union, Iowa.

We are again at the threshold of graduation time. Among the

high school graduates are: Kathy Pulfer, daughter of the Paul Pulfers; she plans to take a course at Kirkwood Community College this fall. The course she is going to pursue is found in the Medical Assistant Program . . . James Schnieder, son of the Jacob Schnieders is planning to enter the Navy in August . . . Julie Moore, daughter of the Jerry Brehmes (wife of Eugene Moore, married in June of 1976).

The Common Tasks

The common tasks are beautiful if we

Have eyes to see their shining ministry.

The plowman with his share deep in the loam,

The carpenter whose skilled hands build a home,

The gardener working with reluctant sod,

Faithful to his partnership with God—

These are the artisans of life, and oh,

A woman with her eyes and cheeks aglow,

Watching a kettle, tending a scarlet flame,

Guarding a little child—there is no name

For these great ministries, and eyes are dull

That do not see that they are beautiful,

That do not see within the common tasks

The simple answer to the thing God asks.

Childrens' Home . . . Douglas Kellenberger - David Bertsch . . .

The latter days reign of Satan's kingdom upon this earth will be marked with rebellion, variance, and strife, not only within the societies of men in general, but also within the church and the family, for Satan knows that a **house divided against itself shall fall**, and therefore this—the method he will use in order to destroy the good things of God before his time is up. In one instance, specifically, the Lord startles us with the statement, that even "the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death."

The effects of broken homes today in the lives of the involved children make them very suscep-

tible to this prophesied hateful and rebellious attitude toward parents; we are trying to offset this problem of inadequate and ungodly family living for a few children, by providing them the love, restraining discipline, and positive inspiration to do good, which they are so in need of to find security and a stable heart.

The children now have a rabbit hutch with little babies and a nicely built chick house with some 180 chicks, giving them opportunity to care for livestock.

October 1 will be the first annual Childrens' Home Sale, when donated new quilts, comforters, afghans, pillow cases, craft items, and miscellaneous items will be auctioned for the benefit of the Children's Home.

A letter will be soon sent to each church concerning the urgent need for the third set of houseparents, a brother and sister to have the responsibility in one home, so Bro. Terry can devote more time to the overall administrative duties and also serve as alternate house parents for time-off, vacations, illness and emergencies of the other two houseparents.

As a brother and sister would feel through faith a longing to work with and help these children, they should speak with their local elder and, with his approval and support, forward an application letter, complete resume, and request for interview to: Apostolic Christian Childrens Home Inc., Box 151, Leo In. 46765—Attention Terry Farney.

There is also a need during the summer months for volunteer help, to work with the children in project and vocational training and tutoring.

Tremont Illinois . . . Lydia Rassi - Mary Jane Leuthold . . . Our guest ministers were (Bros.) Vernon Leman, Bruce Leman, Phil Sauder, and Noah Herman. We were richly blessed with the precious words of life.

Our sympathy is with the family of Mary Miller, 80, who was called to her eternal rest. She leaves sons Gary, Ray, and Ben, daughters Alice Patton and Lydia Meister.

As we think of our many young people who are graduated from the various schools of learning, we wish them success in their

lives. Surely this success will come if they follow the words of life. Seek first the things of God and all else shall be added. Our grade school graduates are: Beth Frank, Judy Koch, Gail Glueck, Ruth Sinn, Elizabeth Gschwind, Curt Bolliger, Andy Aberle, Mark Kaiser, Doug Frank, David Dill, Brad Schweigert, Paul Sauder and Virgil Kaeb. High School graduates are: Paula Koch, Scott Sinn, Phil Koch, Dean Beutel, Clark Schweigert, Tom Endress, Jerome Rinkenberger, Cindy Ritchie, Sandy Ritchie, Jean Lang, Jane Lang, Ida Glueck, Sis. Linda Dill, Elden Pulfer, Sis. Ann Zuercher, Judy Bolliger, Sandy Bolliger, Dennis Staker, Mary Jane Miller.

In these days of so many broken and sin-filled homes, we certainly can thank God for every dear Christian father and grandfather.

After an illness of many months, our dear Bro. Elmer Sauder, 69, was called to his eternal rest, calmly and peacefully on the 18th day of May. We will miss him. We sympathize with his wife, Sis. Lena; son Jerry; and daughters, Sis. Ila (Marvin) Pfister, Sis. Marjorie (Harold) Zeltwanger; two sisters, Louise (Ralph) Kuerth, Gridley, and Alice Mae (Ted) Gans, Plainfield . . . The family of Bro. Elmer Sauder wish to thank the loved ones for their expressions of love, prayers and kindness during Bro. Elmer's illness and death.

The will of God will never lead us where the grace of God cannot keep us . . . Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.

Junction, Ohio . . . Gwen Manz: Bro. Homer Reineck, Toledo, and Elder Bro. Loren Stoller, Latty, shared the gospel word with us in recent weeks. We are thankful for their willingness to serve the brotherhood.

We give our sincere sympathy to Maburn and Sis. Julia Hale in the death of their grandson. May our Lord be with them and their family in their sorrow.

Morris Minnesota . . . Corrine Schmidgall - Lois Schmidgall: We thank Bro. Ken Lawson of Minneapolis for giving of himself and sharing the word of God with us. Those hospitalized were: Bro. Harvey Joos (surgery), Bro.

Chuck Koehl (medical), Doug Feuchtenberger (Bro. Gerald and Sis. Karen) for therapy, and Bro. Ken Koehl (medical).

May 1 was chosen as the wedding day of Sis. Jackie Nuest (Bro. Jack and Sis. Vera), La Crosse, to Bro. Dan Schmidgall (Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila). We welcome Sis. Jackie to our congregation in Morris . . . Sue Heins of Morris and Wayne Heil (Robert and Lucy) were united in marriage on May 7.

A daughter, Mandy Lynn, was born to Merlyn and Judy (Zeltwanger) Metzger on May 13. Grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty Zeltwanger, and Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice Metzger of West Bend . . . On May 20, a daughter, Connie Ann was born to Bro. Arnold and Sis. Sharon Koehl. Annette and Brenda will welcome her home. Grandparents are Virgil and Mildred Sauder and Bro. Ephraim and Sis. Eunice Koehl.

Those graduating from high school in our Morris congregation are: Jeanette Moser (Bro. Bill and Sis. Joyce), James Koehl (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Gladys), Kayla Schmidgall (Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila), LeAnn Brown (Bro. Vernard and Sis. Barb), Sis. Vera Luthi (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marilyn), Karen Schmidgall (Sis. Mabel), Robert Schmidgall (Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine), Harvey Moser (Bro. Chris and Sis. Marion), Lynette Greiner (Emil and Arlene), Kathy Joos (Bro. Gottlieb and Sis. Edith), Judy (Zeltwanger) Metzger (Bro. Bill and Sis. Betty), Merle Spohr (Wilbur and Ruth), Bev Sauder (Virgil and Mildred), LuJean Nohl (Bro. Noah and Sis. Shirley).

"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee." The government of our land has set days in which we honour our fathers and mothers. Let us thank God for our God-fearing parents not only on this day, but every day of our life, for the wonderful light they have been to us.

A Prayer for Mother and Dad

God Bless you both with deep content

That cometh from above;
God grant you health and happiness,

Surround you with His love,
And may the sweet assurance of His

Constant love and care
Be yours today and everyday.

Akron Ohio . . . Gail Spangler:

"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." On May 8, we were privileged to partake of holy communion. Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier willingly assisted our Elder Bro. Rudy Graf in this blessed sacrament. Also on that Sunday, we welcomed as sisters in faith Esther and Helen Bolcratz. It was truly a blessed day.

Our friend, Harold Fritz (Sis. Esther) had surgery. We are thankful that he is well on his way to a full recovery.

We were pleasantly surprised by a visit from Ministering Bros. Wally Ramsier and Ben Stavenik from Mansfield.

Milford, Indiana . . . Coleen Beer - Linda Beer: Before they call I will answer, and while they are yet speaking I will hear.

We have lately been reminded of prayer and the importance of it in a Christian's life. The communication between man and God is a privilege that brings strength and peace to the heart. In allowing us to approach Him in prayer, God shows His great love for us, and in prayer we manifest our devotion to Him.

Some may say to us, "Why do you need to pray to your God if He already knows all your needs?" God commands us to pray in His word—Ask and it shall be given you; Watch and pray; Pray always; Continue in prayer; Pray without ceasing. God wants us communicating with Him always, so that we can remain submissive to His will and keep our minds **pure**, filled with His Spirit. If we are always in touch with God, our lives will radiate love and compassion to others, and our **fruits** will bring glory and praise to Him. Our thoughts of a past friend or neighbor can be turned into a prayer for them.

Ann Kaiser (Bro. Dick and Sis. Clara) and Wes Bell were joined in marriage at our Fellowship Hall May 14.

High School graduates are Keith

Beer (Bro. Frank and Sis. Lois), Theresa Hively, wife of Lynn; David Martin (Gerald and Garlene), Max Sumpter (Jim and Irene); Jeff Hoerr (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marguerite); Ron Wuthrich (Pete and Marilyn); Tim Steffen (Bro. Walt and Sis. Dorothy); Sam Baumgartner (Steve and Linda).

Bro. Nelson and Sis. Shelby Beer are parents of Rachel Lynn. Randy 10, Renee 7, and Rita 3 are anxious to help care for her. Grandparents are Bro. Howard and Sis. Eleanor Beer and Bro. Walter and Sis. Valeria Culp of Francesville.

We have many dear ones who are ill or have been shut-in, some in nursing homes for some time. Sis. Laura Wuthrich, Sis. Anne Steiglitz, Sis. Louise Rapp, Bro. Bert Krauter, and Bro. Charles Weisser have been unable to attend church for some time.

Today, May 22, we laid to rest Sis. Elizabeth Buser, age 83. She was born in Switzerland, raised in the Cissna area, and married at Rockville, before coming to Milford. She was converted at the age of 17, and was a dedicated sister in the Lord. We will miss her help in the kitchen, where she was found every noon hour. She will be missed by Sis. Marie Reutter, Bro. Fred Schori, (Milford), Sis. Freida Haney (Rockville), and Emma Clauss of Fort Wayne, brother and sisters; and step-children, Sis. Elsie Champman, Henry Buser, and Ernest Buser of around the Rockville area, and Louise Mack of Colorado.

"Thank you for the cards, letters, visits and prayers while I was hospitalized and shut-in at home." Bro. Louis Rassi

THE SECRET OF THE FRUIT IS IN THE ROOT.

Congerville, Illinois . . . Sharon McClure - Judy Wettstein:

If the Christ who died had stopped at the cross
His work had been incomplete,
If the Christ who was buried had stayed in the tomb
He had only known defeat;
But the way of the cross never stops at the cross,
And the way of the tomb leads on
To victorious grace in the heavenly place
Where the risen Lord has gone.

On April 24, Bros. Kenneth Knapp of Taylor and Duane Kilgus of Fairbury ministered unto us, as we were gathered around God's holy word.

God has brought sunshine into the home of Bro. Larry and Sis. Shirley Ifft. On May 12, Jodi-Diane arrived. She has one brother and two sisters who welcome. Grandparents are Bro. Noah and Sis. Emma Gerber of West Bend and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Emma Ifft of Fairbury.

We welcome Bro. Charles and Sis. Martha Rinkenberger of La Crosse to our congregation.

Bill Dietrich Sr. is a surgical patient at Mayo's.

Many rejoiced with our congregation, when three dear souls were added to the fold the week-end of May 14 and 15. Saturday night, Bro. Dan Koch of Tremont helped our Elder Bro. Josh Broquard in this important work. They were Ann Roth—daughter of Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline, and Kenneth and Betty Miller. All three said they realized the world had nothing to offer, and have found a peace that passes understanding.

"I want to thank those who remembered me with prayers, cards, gifts and visits while in the hospital and since returning home." Bro. Orville Zimmerman . . .

"Thanks to all who visited me, offered prayers, extended good wishes and sent cards and gifts while in the hospital and recovering at home. It all helped a lot." Sis. Mary Sides

Eureka, Illinois . . . Cathryn Wettstein - Salome Schumacher:

"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you."

As the storm clouds shroud our way,

In the Father's will,
Jesus keeps us, by His grace,
Unafraid and still.

April 23, Saturday evening, Madolyn Rothgeb and Mabel and Carlton Wittmer were given their opportunity to express themselves about their conversion. The next day, they were baptized and are now babes in Christ through faith in His atoning blood. Bro. Dan Koch assisted.

Bro. Louis Niegarth was a sur-

gical patient in the Methodist Hospital about three weeks. God called him out of this life and out of his suffering and pain on May 16, in the Hospital. He was 72 years old. Surviving are a sister, Mrs. Emma Pisel of Bloomington, and several nieces and nephews. Bro. Vernon Leman had his funeral services, Thursday morning, May 19. Burial was in Olio Cemetery, Eureka. Bro. Louis will be missed greatly by all who cared for him at the "Home", where he lived for nearly ten years. He was converted and baptized only two months ago, and we all are so glad he could go through this conversion, with God's help and grace, and now he will have a better "Home" in heaven.

Sis. Elizabeth Funk, at the "Home", fell and broke her hip, and is a patient in Proctor Hospital.

Sis. Esther Siegle from Cissna Park is now a resident of the "Home".

Forrest, Illinois . . . Kathryn Steidinger - Beverly Eisenmann:

We are thankful God has provided fathers for families, who are a guardian and guide, and someone we can count on to always be at our side.

Why God Made Fathers
God knew that children all would need
Someone secure and strong
To shelter and protect them
And to teach them right from wrong . . .
Someone to comfort childhood tears
Throughout their growing years . . .

That's why God made fathers.
God knew all children needed
Someone to be their guide . . .
To count on and look up to
And in whom they could confide . . .
He knew as they grew up
They'd need the reassurance of
Someone with faith and trust in them . . .
Who would always give them love . . .
That's why God made fathers.

Bro. Charles Tyler passed away rather suddenly at the age of 86. He and Sis. Rose have been living at Fairview Haven. Although he will be missed, we are thankful he

could leave this earth without long suffering. Bros. Josh Broquard & Joe Kaisner conducted the funeral services . . . "We wish to thank our loved ones who showed many acts of love and kindness at the death of our husband and father." Rose Tyler and Emil and Louise Anliker.

We enjoyed the visit of Elder Bro. Ed Frank. Our minister, Bro. Earl and Sis. Esther Gerber and family have moved from Fairbury to a home in Forrest.

The engagement was announced, on Mother's Day, of Sis. Sherri Anliker (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Judy) to Bro. Paul Kelson (Bro. Bud and Sis. Sharon) of Fairbury. They plan a July 3rd wedding.

We look forward to soon hearing the testimonies of our three friends: Doug Aberle, his wife Connie, and his sister, Dawn (Bro. Bill and Sis. Jean). We will be happy to welcome them into the Family of God. Our friend, Doug has a serious vision problem, but may it be a comfort to him to know that the blind, with their hand in God's, can see more clearly than those who have no faith.

We've had illness and surgery among our loved ones. Sis. Leona Steffen was hospitalized for foot surgery; Cal Zimmerman (Bro. Les and Sis. Edith) was injured in an accident; Kirby Knapp (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Laura) had an appendectomy, and Bro. Sam Maier had minor surgery. Others who spent some time in the hospital are Sis. Dorothy Rieger, Sis. Leona Wallace, Sis. Hulda Honegger, Rebecca Rieger (granddaughter of Bro. Rich and Sis. Marian), and our aged Sis. Olga Schmidt had tests, but has returned to the nursing home.

Elder Bro. Josh Broquard was with us when the duties of ministering God's word was placed on Bro. Wayne Anliker. His parents are Bro. Emil and Sis. Louise, and Sis. Judy is the daughter of Ben and Sis. Irene Traub. Their children are Sis. Sherri, Bro. Rodney, Bob (announced for proving), Sandra, and Steven. Bro. Wayne has served faithfully in teaching God's word to the children in Sunday School, and now we feel confident that the Lord will be at his side as he speaks the word to the congregation.

Jim and Linda Traub are happy for another baby boy, Michael

John. Their other child is Edward James; Sis. Mildred Traub is their grandmother.

Mark Aberle (Bro. Bill and Sis. Jean) and Laverne Martin were married recently and will be establishing a home in Forrest.

July is Silver Lining collection for Forrest: To be paid to Ron and Carol Koehl.

Athens Alabama . . . Hazel Vibbert: Our hearts rejoiced as we heard the testimony of John Balin and Vivian Haggmaker, on May 22, and then witnessed as they were baptized. May God give them much grace. Bro. John Wagler assisted Bro. Moore.

We have three graduating (from the Athens church): Vickie Vibbert, Mike Moore, Mike Kelley.

The engagement of Bro. John Balin and Sis. Cathy Kelly has been made known.

Bro. Bob Tucker passed away on April 30. Services were held at Athens, and then his body was taken to Portales, New Mexico, where he was laid to rest. Our sympathy goes to Sis. Mary and all the family.

Little Mark King is in the hospital with a virus. He is the son of Dot and Perry King.

Chicago, Illinois . . . Kathy Schlatter: Medical researchers have done wonders with the miracle of transplanting organs from one person to another . . . But those discoveries are only valid for the individual when a person's body does not, for one reason or another, reject its transplant. The Lord will do more than that. His offer of a new heart and mind is free and open; it is ours for the yielding to Him . . . But the individual still chooses to accept or reject.

Several in our congregation are completing professional degrees. Bro. Steve Elsasser is completing his degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine. He and Sis. Lana, their daughters Dawn and Crystal, will be spending a year in Detroit, before he sets up practice in Metamora, Illinois . . . Bro. Joe Zimmerman is completing his degree in dentistry and will be leaving us, and Bro. Dave Wegman will be getting his degree in pharmacy. May the Lord bless and keep

them in their work, as they do it heartily as unto Him.

Marvin Wieland has been announced for baptism in Bay City, his home church. Since he will be baptized there, we want now to express our joy in his changed life, and we look forward to welcoming him as our brother. He is attending the National College of Chiropractic in our area.

We should have mentioned before: Our best wishes for mending quickly to Elsie Zimmerman, our dear friend, has been hampered by a broken arm. We also extend our heartfelt sympathies to Sis. Lois and Bro. Herb Gray and Sis. Lois' mother in the loss of their father and husband, Joe Heiniger of Mediapolis, Iowa.

Are we afraid to be "tied down" for the Lord? He was nailed down on the cross for us!

What I Have Learned More About from having a daughter (now age 2)

How much of a **blessing** it is to be able to have children of your own;

How much of a **responsibility** it is to have children;

Why the Lord gave each family a husband and wife to be mother and father (each parent **needs** the support of the other);

How much our obedience must please God;

How much our disobedience must displease God;

How deep was the agony of Abraham when he went to sacrifice his son;

How much greater was the anguish of our God when He **did** sacrifice His son for us;

How and why my parents prayed and yearned unceasingly for my brother's and my conversion (and why Mom worried and stayed up late, waiting for us);

How my parents really **meant** it when they'd say, "It's for your own good" and "Sometime you'll understand";

Why we must become as a little child in our relationship to God;

How much my parents must have gone through, raising us;

How glorious is the Lord and greatly to be praised.

Morton, Illinois . . . Judy Springer - Lorna Schrock: Frank Bauman, son of Bro. Eldon and Sis. Doris, and Lorri Bartlemay, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bartlemay, were united in marriage on April 9.

On Sunday, April 24, Kirk Schoenbein, son of Lydia Schoenbein, was baptized into the fold. We welcome him as a brother in our precious faith.

The engagement of Bro. Jeff Kaufman (Clifford and Lola) to Sis. Rhonda Kaiser (Bro. Warren and Sis. Matilda) was announced on Sunday, April 24.

The Morton Bible Class was host to the Apostolic Christian Youth Fellowship singing on Sunday evening, April 24.

Bro. Allen and Sis. Bev Hodel are the parents of their first child, a daughter, born April 30. She was named Nicole Kristine. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Ray Hodel, Roanoke, and Bro. Carp Kipfer, Berne, Ind., and great-grandfather, Bro. John Mangold, Roanoke.

On May 1, Holy Communion was held at the Restmor Nursing Home for the brothers and sisters who reside there.

Congratulations to Michael and Mary Staley, who became the parents of their first child, a son, born May 5. He was named Ryan Michael. His grandparents are Bro. Francis and Sis. Verna Rother, Morton, and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Staley, Peoria. Great-grandparents are Sis. Katherine Belsley and Bro. Anton Rother, Morton, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Harter, Memphis.

Those who have been confined to the hospital include Bro. Sam Dietrich, Sisters Ella Wittmer, Alvina Zimmerman, Wilma Stieglitz, Alice Zimmerman, Margaret Seidel and Keith Baum (son of Melvin and Linda).

On Saturday, May 14, our second annual Mother and Daughter Banquet was held at our Fellowship Hall. Then on Sunday evening, May 15, we enjoyed a singing program at the Fellowship Hall. Approximately nine different groups from our congregation sang some selections, which included our youngest Sunday School children to some of our elder brethren, who sang several hymns in German. It was a very blessed evening.

We wish to thank Bro. Harold Schmidgall, Gridley, who brought

forth some inspiring messages to us on Sunday, May 22.

Bay City, Michigan . . . Carolyn Schambach:

God Be With you 'til we meet again!

'Neath His wings protecting hide you,

Daily manna still divide you;

God Be with you 'til we meet again.

On May 21, our congregation met for a potluck supper for our dear sister, Jane Weiss, who will be leaving for Japan June 1. Jane expects to be gone two years; though we will miss her happy face, we know this is God's work, and He will keep her **neath His wings**.

We have quite a list of the sick: Sisters Lydia Wieland, Ida Wieland, Connie Pashak, Lorraine Wackerle and Alice Wieland and Elder Bro. Joe Waibel have all been hospitalized.

We have two newly-engaged couples: Bro. Greg Leman and Sis. Lela Ringger from Bluffton (Greg has been living here on a work-study program); and Bro. Blaine Wieland and Sis. Kathy LaLonde. Parents of the four are: Wally and Sis. Marilyn Leman and Bro. Sib and Sis. Vi Ringger of Bluffton and Bro. Roy and Sis. Margaret Wieland and Mr. and Mrs. George Hasso of Bay City.

Winthrop, Minnesota . . . Delores Messner - Marcelle Dapper: Through spiritual eyes, we were taken back to Calvary's cross, where our Saviour shed His blood, and His body was broken so that some day, when He will gather His elect, we may sit in the kingdom of Heaven to sup with Him, as the disciples did so long ago. **WHAT A WONDERFUL DAY THAT WILL BE!!!** Sharing Holy Communion with us were Elder Bros. Paul Fehr and Harold Messner.

We are thankful to the Lord that our convert, Gary Messner has found peace with God and man. His wife is Sis. Sharon, and parents are Bro. Ray and Sis. Bernadine.

Our annual Sunday School meeting was held. New Sunday School teachers are Bros. Kenneth and Roland Messner and Sis. LeAnn

Messner, with Sis. Lois Messner as substitute teacher.

Sis. Janet Mogler has been accepted in a school of nurses' training in Iowa, where she will be attending the Elgin, Iowa, church. Her loving ways and example as a sister in faith will be greatly missed in our fellowship and Sunday School . . . Had a farewell singing where many tears were shed. What a precious faith we have in concern and love for one another.

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge . . ." Our high school graduates are Sis. Lori Clapp (granddaughter of Sis. Celine Schmidt), Joe Messner (Marlyn), and Kevin Messner (Jerry).

After a lengthy illness, Sis. Jeanine is at home with her family. Sis. Melva (Roland) has recovered from gall bladder surgery. Patty (Messner) Jerabek had an appendectomy.

Pat and Barbara (Messner) Mattis announce the birth of their daughter, Heidi Jean. Chad and Tanja welcome her home.

Croghan, New York . . . Alice Virkler: We have three high school graduates. They are Joyce Martin, daughter of Bro. Bernard and Sis. Elvera; John U. Farney, son of Urban and Evelyn; and John Virkler, son of Sis. Charlotte.

LuAnn Virkler, daughter of Bro. Howard and Pernal, and David Watson, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Watson of California were united in marriage on May 21. LuAnn's grandmother is Sis. Sarah Virkler. Our congratulations and best wishes also go with LuAnn and David as they begin their life together. LuAnn is stationed at Camp Pendelton, California with the U.S. Marines, and David is also stationed at the same base with the U.S. Army.

Two young families have welcomed baby boys into their homes. Jeremy Alan was born on March 17 in El Paso, Texas. His parents are Richard and Ruth Demorest, both stationed with the U.S. Army, and his grandparents are Cliff and Sis. Jane Demorest. He also has a great-grandmother, Sis. Corrine Virkler . . . Cathy and Cliff Lehman have welcomed little Ryan James, born April 25. His grandparents are Norman and Alice Lehman, and Bro. Clyde and

Sis. Lois Virkler. His great-grandmother, Sis. Barbara Bachman, is the oldest member of our New York congregations. Sis. Barbara will be 100 years old in December. She enjoys each of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, can remember each of them, and enjoys attending many of the school functions they are in. She assembles with the Naumburg congregation and enjoys the fellowship and love, even though she does not hear well and cannot hear much of the sermons and conversations. She is a wonderful example for each of us to follow.

Sis. Barbara Virkler has returned to work, after having been hospitalized for a week, and recuperating at home two weeks. She works as a nurse at Community General Hospital in Syracuse. Little Tracie Jo Farney, infant daughter of Duane and Karen, has returned home, after being hospitalized almost two weeks with pneumonia.

Francesville, Indiana . . . Helen Huber - Sharon Neihouser: Many high school students from Indiana met for a week-end of fellowship for Christian Endeavor. Their Sunday School teachers accompanied them, and a short program was given after church. May God bless the efforts of those who planned this week-end.

Hospitalized were Bro. Sidney Leman, Sis. Perseda Aeschliman, and Emmett Ward.

On Sunday, May 1, Bro. Dave Bertsch (Leo) and Bro. Rod Huber (Valpo) spent the day with us. Then in the evening, Bro. Dave assisted in serving Holy Communion. "After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."

On Sunday evening, May 15, a program was held for the graduates. Each one was presented the Book that will teach them to live and prepare them to die, a Bible. Our graduates this year are Sis. Becky Bucher, daughter of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Peg; Bro. Van Bucher, son of Bro. Wally and Sis. Rosella; Phil Albrecht, son of Lewis and Sis. Carol; Dale Pelsy, son of Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Luella; Kathy Anliker, daughter of Bro. Charles and Sis. Margaret; Vin-

cent Boehning, son of Dick and Phyliss; Todd Erb, son of Don and Millie, Todd Gudeman, son of Bro. Jim and Sis. Lois; Audrey and Kurt Gutwein, son and daughter of Harvey and Marilyn; Kumiko Nakamura, foreign exchange student living with Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Haring; Takao Arimizu, foreign exchange student living with Bro. Perry and Sis. Sally Neihouser; and Kike Vaara, foreign exchange student living with Bro. Elmer and Sis. Peg Bucher.

We have another dear friend who is seeking his soul's salvation.

Mrs. Barbara Wuethrich has returned home from Rochester, Minnesota, following major surgery at the Methodist Hospital in that city. She wishes to thank for all the cards, visits, and prayers in her behalf.

July is Silver Lining collection for Francesville.

Wolcott Indiana . . . Laurel Widmer - Arles Kropf: A baby girl, Keli Rae, was born May 4 to Gerry and Marsha Waibel. Grandparents are Bro. Leon and Sis. Reva Waibel of Wolcott and Bro. Roy and Sis. Arlene Wyss of Goodfield. Great-grandparents are Bro. Raymond and Sis. Lydia Kuntz of Gridley, Illinois; Bro. Ed and Sis. Julie Wyss of Deer Creek, Illinois; and Bro. Geo. Waibel of Remington.

Bro. Wendell Gudeman was with us on May 15, assisting Bro. Alfred in serving Communion.

Our graduates are Bro. Brian Furrer, Bro. Duane Schieler, Sis. Suzanne Lehman, Mark Schwab, and Dennis and Diane Stoller. We wish them the Lord's blessing as they go on now into various occupations and further education.

Sis. Ruth Hofstetter has moved to Fairbury, where she has found employment. We wish her many blessings also.

Bro. Ed Kyburz has been dismissed from the hospital, after suffering a heart attack, and is doing well. Duane Kyburz, son of Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy, was hospitalized for a tonsillectomy. Your reporter, Sis. Laurel Widmer is hospitalized for a severe ear infection.

Fairbury Illinois . . . Joyce Huber: My parents, Bro. Edward and Sis. Lydia Huber, will be observing

their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. On June 4 they will have been married 60 years.

Bro. Chris and Sis. Kay Steffen are the parents of a new baby boy, Clinton Alph, named for his grandfather. Other children are Bryan and Jennifer Jane. Grandparents are Bro. Alph and Fannie Steffen and Bro. and Sis. Wayne Honegger. Great-grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Paul Honegger and Sam and Sis. Ruth Walter . . . Bro. Warren and Sis. Shirley Fehr have a new little boy, named Luke Jason. Other children are Angela, Darren, Kimberly, and Todd Alan. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Clarence Koehl.

We are sorry that Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Helen Zimmerman are moving from our city and congregation, as they will be locating in Bloomington and attending services there. A farewell singing was held at the Fellowship Hall as a tribute for them, with many from Forrest and here attending.

We were happy to have visiting ministers, (Bros.) Ed Bahler, Earl Kilgus and Steve Rinkenberger.

Sis. Anna Hertlein and Bro. Alph Steffen have been hospitalized.

Sis. Doris Rasmus and her daughter, Beth, and also Sis. Emma Schmidgall wished to thank everyone that remembered them with prayers and acts of kindness during their illness.

Debbie Traub, daughter of John and Sis. Bonnie, graduated from Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing and will be affiliated with Carle Hospital, Champaign.

Cissna Park, Illinois . . . 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.

On Saturday evening, we heard the testimonies of two dear souls who have repented and found peace with God. They were Betty Bauer, daughter of Bro. George and Sis. Isabell, and Ron Walder, son of Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy. The following day, we witnessed their baptism. We welcome them

into the household of faith.

"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it . . ." On the same Sunday following the baptism, we were privileged to partake of Holy Communion. It was a privilege to be able to participate in this blessed event. We want to thank Bro. Dale Eisenmann from Chicago for helping with this important work. Other visiting ministers were Bros. David Wiegand, Virgil Metzger from Urbana and Bro. Everett Hari from Bloomington-Normal.

On April 23, Ron Knapp, son of Bro. Earl and Sis. Mary, and Darlene Rudin, daughter of Alvin and Dorothy, were united in Holy Matrimony. Bro. Dale Eisenmann officiated.

Bro. Sam Hari was a surgical hospital patient; also, his wife, Sis. Martha was a hospital medical patient, but both have returned home. Rich Knapp is a surgical patient at Maywood, Illinois. Bros. Jake Funk and George Gude- man are medical hospital patients.

We will miss Sis. Lydia Eisenman in our congregation, as she will be making her home in Fairbury.

Our visiting ministers today were Bros. Roy Grimm from Taylor, Todd Feller from LaCrosse, and Frederich Knapp from Congerville.

Bremen, Indiana . . . Marian Germann:

Learning to lean,
Learning to lean,
I'm learning to lean on Jesus,
Finding more power than I ever dreamed.
I'm learning to lean on Jesus.

Learning to lean on Jesus was our theme when the Peoria choir shared their testimony in song with us May 21 and 22. We really felt the nearness of God and His love, through the fellowship with our dear sisters and brothers in faith. We praise God for his servant, Bro. Ken Hoerr for ministering unto us.

We were thankful for Bro. Walt Steffen of Milford for his love and teachings.

We have several graduates from high school and college. They are Bro. Steve Johnson from high school, Sis. Gayle Zeltwanger (Indiana University, Bloomington),

Bro. Terry Zimmer (I.U. Fort Wayne), Bro. Mark Bailin (Evansville), Bro. Randy Suttor (Taylor). We are glad to have these and the following back home for the summer from college: Mark Zeltwanger, Bro. Louis Gerber, Bro. Joel Zimmer, Ted Conrad. May God bless our graduates as they embark on new adventures.

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever." These are comforting words to remember, as we heard of the death of Bro. Elmer Sauder of Tremont. Our prayers and sympathy go to the family, and especially to Sis. Marge (Harold) Zeltwanger on the passing of her father.

May our prayer be that we all **learn to lean on Jesus** and to put our total trust and reliance upon Him.

Lamar, Missouri . . . Becky Hohulin - Janice Braker:

There shall be showers of blessing;
This is the promise of love.
There shall be seasons refreshing,
Sent from the Saviour above.

There shall be showers of blessing,
Precious reviving again,
Over the hills and the valleys,
Sound of abundance of rain.

As we look out over the fields of grain, we can see that the time of harvest is drawing near. One of our ministers said recently, it takes quite a mixture of rain and sunshine until we finally reap the harvest, and we are thankful that God has blessed us with both. He also compared this to our spiritual lives. It seems that there must be a little sorrow mixed with gladness, to prepare us for that great harvest.

We would like to thank those visiting ministers who shared God's word with us. These included (Bros.) Rudolph Graf from Akron, John Bahler from Rockville, and Arthur Bahler from Fairbury. We would like to welcome them back and also anyone else who might be traveling through during this vacationing season.

We are thankful that Sis. Caroline (Oscar) Banwart has been

released from the hospital, following her heart attack. However, we are sorry that Bro. Raymond Braker had to return to the hospital, due to complications following his accident. We sincerely hope that both of them will be able to assemble with us again in the near future.

Washington, Illinois . . . Carole Kellenberger: We could feel the Holy Spirit's blessed presence, as we partook of Holy Communion the first time as a congregation. Elder Bros. Roy Sauder and Ed Hohulin served us, as we reflected on Christ's death at Calvary.

Other brothers worshipping with us the past month were: Joe Braker, Vernon Leman, Elmer Witzig, Harold Schmidtgall, Henry Grimm, Ron Heiniger, Everett Hari, Russ Rapp, and Marvin Schmidgall.

Our dear Friend, Ron Slagel was hospitalized, but we were thankful to see him in our midst again Sunday.

With heartfelt thanks, two more dear souls were added to the body of Christ. Bro. Joe Braker assisted Bro. Roy Sauder in the provings of Steve Schick (Bro. John and Sis. Dolly) and his cousin, Lilly Schick (Henry and Elizabeth). Bro. Chuck Hemmer ministered to us on Sunday and assisted Bro. Roy with the baptisms.

Kansas State University . . . Brenda Tucker: You can't change the past, but you can ruin the present . . . By worrying about the future.

How true it is, yet a natural habit of man is worrying. This shows up in college life, as well as life outside of college. Our lives should be lived one day at a time, with faith that the Lord will always guide and direct us. He will, if we only let Him. Indeed, with God as our guide, our lives will follow a pattern that will work out to the best it can be for us. The only time a person should truly worry . . . is if God is not leading his life, and then worrying won't help . . . **REPENTING WILL!!**

Graduating this spring were: Bro. Phil Bahr, Sabetha, who majored in Accounting; Sis. Paula Bahr, Gridley, who graduated in Foods and Nutrition in Business . . . Jon Ott, Kiowa graduated from graduate school.

Special thanks to Bros. Loren Strahm and Lloyd Kraft, Gridley; Roger Aberle and Sam Huber, Sabetha; Roy Wernli, Lamont; and John Lehman, Bern, for sharing God's word with us.

Kiowa, Kansas . . . Janice Frieden: "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

We have come to know the truth of these words this past month, since a bolt of lightning struck our beautiful church and caused a fire which left a great deal of smoke and water damage in its wake. The school has kindly loaned us their building to hold services in, while we are repairing our church, but when we walked in that first Lord's Day after the fire, we were as a flock of sheep scattered by a lurking danger. Then, our ministering brethren opened the Scriptures and God was **there** in our midst. Through His Word, we were blessed with the comfort and hope we needed so badly. We truly miss the Sunday worship in our own church, but we are so thankful to know that God will always be with us when we gather in His Name, and will never forsake us in times of trouble. The following poem expresses it better than I could:

God hath not promised skies always blue,

Flower-strewn pathways all our lives through.

God hath not promised sun without rain,

Joy without sorrow, Peace without pain.

But God hath promised strength for the day,

Rest for the labor, Light for the way,

Grace for the trials, Help from above,

Unfailing sympathy, Undying love.

Our hospital patients included: Sis. Alice Tanner; and Sis. Esther Terry, who underwent eye surgery. Alice is again in our midst, for which we are thankful, and it is our prayer that Esther will be with us again soon.

Although we've cancelled Wednesday evening services for the busy season, we still gathered for two blessed evenings of fellow-

ship: The first was when Bro. Richard and Sis. Florence opened their home for our monthly singing of praises to our Lord; and the second was when we gathered at the Kiowa Park for our Sunday School picnic, to mark the beginning of summer vacation. Praise the Lord for granting us the freedom to gather unmolested in His Name.

God sent a precious little bundle of love to the home of Floyd and Vanda Domnick. Holly Sue is her name, and she was welcomed home by a brother, Brandon, who thinks she's pretty special too.

As we look out over the fields that are slowly ripening for the harvest, may we remember what our Lord said when He spoke of the fields already ripe to harvest, but the laborers being few . . . And then may we become a laborer in His vineyard, so that our light may shine and glorify His Name to those without the fold.

New Martinsville, West Virginia . . . Minnie Weltz - Della Witschey . . . Summer weather has been enjoyed here for several days, with an occasional thunderstorm and some rain; crops are beginning to show growth.

Clarence Berger is confined to his home by illness.

Guests during the month, of Miss Della Witschey, were: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Myers of Washington, Pa., Mr. and Mrs. Robert Indermuhle, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Witschey of Sardis, Mrs. Harry Mullett and daughter Ruth, Mrs. Clarence Anthony, Minnie Weltz, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Durig, Elizabeth and Margaret Witschey and many others from New Martinsville.

John Potts, who recently moved here from Oklahoma, has been a surgical in the local hospital and will soon be returning home.

Sunday guests of Minnie Weltz and Mary Ann on Sunday, May 1, were Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams of Akron, Frank Barth of Parkersburg, Mrs. Raymond Barth, Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade, Mr. and Mrs. Elza Ritz, Mr. and Mrs. William Murdock, all of New Martinsville.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Wade spent April 26 and 27 at the Clinic in Cleveland, where Mr. Wade underwent tests, but nothing serious was found, and he seems to be in fairly good health.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Witschey of Parkersburg were guests of the Witschey families here.

Wichita, Kansas . . . Glennis Allenbach: God sure has been busy, hasn't He!

I noticed in our daily paper . . . It was of a lady (presumably a mother) and two children, viewing the great outdoors of Spring. One of the children had its head raised and was saying with wonder, "God sure has been busy, hasn't He!" I appreciated that, and thought how great it would be if all children grew up seeing God's hand in nature. These are some of the very first seeds we can plant toward the realization that God is our source.

In our world today, we have many worries and fears, and I believe we have to work at not dwelling upon them. I strongly believe that if you don't believe anything good can happen to you—it can't! God can't give you something you don't believe in. I know personally, I need to work on my Christian attitude all the time. I recently found a verse in the Bible that I was not aware of. Look up Job 3:25. This gave me much food for thought. I feel there's a lesson in that verse, and I'm working on it!

We were happy to have some of the Ft. Scott congregation visit us, to practice with our choir, in anticipation of a future trip together.

We were sorry to hear of the damage to the Kiowa church, but we know that all things work for good to those who love the Lord, and so we are confident good will come of this.

In closing, I would add something I read that touched my heart. It said not to let yourself become upset when you find other Christians you're around don't believe exactly as you do; **just be happy with the Jesus you see in them!**

Princeville, Illinois . . . Ruth Ricketts: **Though smiles mean much in sunshine, they count even more when skies are gray.**

We were happy to have visitors from various congregations on a recent Sunday, among them being ministers of God's precious word, (Bros.) Sam Schlatter of Junction and Jim Ringger of Brad-

ford. We heard much about grace; **God's riches at Christ's Expense.** It is very hard for any of us to fully grasp the full blessings we receive through grace. Why do we deserve so great a treasure? We were told how it is when gold is being purified; under extreme heat to rid it of all the impurities, and how turbulent this molten metal becomes. When all the impurities have been removed, it becomes calm and pure . . . So it is with our spiritual life; when we are battling with Satan we are turbulent; but when the Lord gives us peace we become calm.

On April 28, a little son, Benjamin, was born to Bro. Richard and Sis. Jeanette Graham. He was welcomed home by four brothers and three sisters, grandparents Bro. Ezra and Sis. Lucille Rumbold and Bro. Nick and Sis. Gladys Knobloch.

Guest ministers on Mother's Day were Bros. Leroy Huber of Eureka and Bob Walder of Congerville. On Mother's Day, Bro. Gail Stoller, son of Bro. Joe & Sis. Emily, and Sis. Sonia Streitmatter, daughter of Bro. Burton and Sis. Martha, made their engagement known to the congregation. A July wedding is being planned.

During the summer months, we are glad when those from the Bradford congregation assemble with us for Wednesday evening services. Bro. Kennie Dietz was with us one evening, and we so enjoyed hearing about the Good Shepherd and His sheep. He spoke of the nature of sheep, how they are not aggressive, but meek and timid, and can not be driven, but will be led . . .

This is graduation time, when thousands of young people are reaching some goals and reaching forward to others. It is a very important time in their lives, and we are especially concerned for those in the colleges. There are so many things taking place in the world, and time is moving so rapidly.

It seems it is coming so rapidly that each one is a number rather than a name. We are assigned a number for entrance to work in factories; bank account numbers, credit card, and many other identifications. It is predicted that before long, one credit card will be issued, to be used worldwide to serve as both charge and check book. Visa is the new name. Some

students have had their computer number tattooed on their foreheads, and others their Social Security numbers tattooed on their bodies. More and more the number 666 is appearing, and I was startled to read the following facts: Government-operated vehicles in Jerusalem use the number 666 on their license plates . . . Israeli computer units built in the U.S. are stamped with the number 666. This certifies that they have been inspected and approved . . . The first ship to pass through the Suez Canal, with Anwar Sadat aboard, bore the number 666 . . . Nearly 300 parts installed in bullet presses for Israel carry the number 666 . . . The IBM equipment used in scores of supermarkets to read the codes on boxes, carry the number 3X 666 or triple 666.

Our high school graduates were honored with a dinner with their teachers and parents, and presented a Bible, a gift from the church. Those of our congregation are: Randy Rumbold, son of Raymond and Joann; Nita Baer, daughter of Otto and Eleanor; Clark T. Baurer, son of Bro. Arthur and Sis. Joy; Brent E. Stoller, son of Bro. Joe and Sis. Emily; Dennis L. Herrmann, son of Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jean; Lavonne Kay Stoller, daughter of Bro. Vernon and Sis. Bernice; Jean Ann Leuthold, daughter of Bro. John and Sis. Shirley; and Debbie Baer, daughter of Bro. Herman and Sis. Mary.

July is Silver Lining collection for Princeville. I will collect during the month of July for those who do not pay in January. Your reporter.

Iowa City, Iowa . . . Lynn Banwart, Twila Whipple: Our group enjoyed the Christian fellowship of many brothers and sisters from Forrest and Fairbury in March. Visiting ministers were Bros. Kenneth Knapp—Taylor and Uriel Gehring, Burlington.

We are pleased to announce the engagement of our beloved Sis. Joan Mogler to Bro. Gerald Rudin, Cissna Park. This community will miss Joan, as she was such a part of all our lives, but I'm sure in her new home she'll be welcomed with much love.

We wish to thank the many visitors we had at our April services. Thanks to Bros. Noah Herrmann—Princeville and Ed Lanz,

Oakville for bringing the inspired word of God to us. The ministers and visitors that came to Iowa City don't realize how much we appreciate the support.

Girard, Ohio . . . Kathryn Emch: "This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." Bro. Rudy Graf pointed out that this is a commandment of our Lord. He also pointed out that a stubborn, unforgiving person is not properly prepared for this sacrament. How many of us must deal with a stubborn spirit. James writes, "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves . . . to God."

A group from the Rittman congregation joined us for Communion. We appreciated visits from the Mansfield congregation, as Bro. Robert Beer ministered to us; and Bro. Eugene Pamer preached the living word for us as a group from Akron joined us for worship.

Bluffton, Indiana . . . Marti Yergler - Becky Gilliom . . . "She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy . . . Strength and honour are her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come. She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all."

An inspiring message was brought to us on Mother's Day by Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington). Single brothers and sisters honored our mothers by serving lunch.

Warm wishes go to Sis. Lela Ringger (Bro. Sib and Sis. Vi) and Bro. Greg Leman (Wallace and Sis. Marilyn) in their engagement.

We enjoyed the message brought to us from Bro. Theo. Beer (Milford).

Bro. Carl Kipfer has taken a leave of absence from the ministering due to an eye condition.

Hospital patients for the month were Sisters Elizabeth (Leroy) Steffen, Emma Kipfer, Evelyn (Robert) Gerber, Mary (John) Moser, Marilyn (Wallace) Leman, Becky (Sam) Ringger, Lucille Bor-

ror, Jeff (Bro. Kent and Sis. Jan) Ringger, Sheila (Kent) Sprungger, and Bro. Obed Steffen, Melvin Bertsch, Dean Tonner (Bro. Gary and Sis. Diane).

A son was born to Bro. Dwight and Sis. Pat Moser. His name is Kurt Ryan. Grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Doris Fiechter and Sis. Aldene Moser.

We lay the body in his tomb until the Lord's voice bids him come. We sow the seed to rise anew, and glorified his God to view. Bro. Loren Frauhiger was taken from this life. He was buried May 15. Surviving are his wife Lois, son Keith, and daughter—Sherry Gerber; two brothers, Bros. Herb and Tom, three sisters—Sis. Rosie (LaVern) Ringger, Margorie (Bill) Ringger and Sis. Mildred (Ralph) Gerber; and his mother, Sis. Olga.

Burlington, Iowa . . . Mayme Gerst: BE STILL, AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD.

Among the many blessed occasions, we were happy to have Bros. Walter Anliker—Eureka and Henry Beer, Milford bring us the wonderful messages of God's HOLY WORD. How blessed to be with loved ones from near and far, of like faith and mind.

The arrival of little Randall Glen brought much joy into the home of Ronald and Cora Ater. Seven-year-old Ronna happily welcomes him. Cora is the daughter of Bro. Alvin and the late Mabel Reckhemmer.

COME FOR THE FEAST IS SPREAD. Elder Bro. Paul Buttkofer, with our elder, Bro. Ed Lanz served us the LORD'S SUPPER. It is strengthening and a renewing of one's self to take this HOLY cup.

To break THY bread we now have gathered,
In covenant to drink THY wine;
As brethren we unite together,
That unto death we might be
THINE.

Sis. Judy Gehring was transferred from Burlington Hospital to Iowa City for more tests. Sitting and waiting here in the hospital, one sees so many very sick people, and we wish so much for their health to return, but we know it must be GOD'S WILL, as we don't know what is best. At

times like these, our EARTHLY things mean very little, and we turn to God, who is always there, ready to help us if we but ask . . . Sis. Judy wishes to thank all who remembered her and her family with cards, sunshine box, food brought in, and especially their prayers while she is hospitalized.

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida . . . Caroline Akel: "But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!"

Southern Florida experienced a temporary blackout. It was soon quite apparent that we would be without light for a few hours. What was less obvious was that this darkness also meant a loss of the power which we take for granted every day. During this time, people constantly forgot that the invisible power was missing. They would try to use many of the electric appliances which they use everyday, only to find them useless in their hands.

Do we likewise take for granted God's spiritual power? We must have access to the Lord as our light, if we are to experience the power of His Spirit in our lives. How sorry we feel for those who have never accepted the Lord and are experiencing a "spiritual blackout". We should pray for them, that they might receive the light and power that comes from the source above.

"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me."

The size of our gathering always decreases in the spring, after we bid farewell to our winter residents . . . But, we are strengthened to know that the Lord has promised to be in our midst if only two or three would be gathered in His name. We are thankful for all who do come our way and share a Sunday with us. Our visiting ministers this month were Bro. Al Schneider—Rockville and Bro. Phil Wingeier, Sarasota.

Many prayers have been offered for our friend, Mary Ann Zarcovaki. After experiencing great pain for several days, Mary Ann

underwent surgery for a ruptured appendix. She has recently been readmitted to the hospital, due to an infection which has set in, causing her much physical suffering.

Elgin, Illinois . . . Mary Moser: "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

A baby boy was born to Bro. Eugene and Sis. Sue Braun. They have named their first child Phillip Eugene. Grandparents are Sis. Cecelia Braun of Elgin and Bro. Arthur and Sis. Mary Jane Hirschey of New York.

Our elder, Bro. Herman Kellenberger spent a short time in the hospital for eye surgery. Other hospital patients are Sis. Emma Moser, Vicki Schmidgall, Bro. Dave Kellenberger, and Ken Kellenberger.

Sis. Madeline Tobler and Linda Steffen have graduated from Nurse's Training. May God richly bless them in their work of love.

July is Silver Lining collection for Elgin IL.

Minneapolis, Minnesota . . . Josephine Esterling: "Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies." These were the words used to describe our dear friend, Ellen Nelson, who was laid to rest on Saturday, May 14. Mrs. Nelson was 91 years old and very active until her last year. She was the mother of Beatrice and Richard Miller and a very dear friend to all from this congregation.

We spent a very blessed week end on May 14-15, as we heard the testimony of our dear friend, Lewis Peasley. He was baptized the following day. After the baptism, Holy Communion was served. Bros. Paul Fehr of Morris, Eugene Marti of Lamar, and Will Funk of Garden Grove were with us for the occasion. Bro. Lewis and his wife, Kathy, moved back to Garden Grove, where he is now employed. We will miss them from our congregation.

Joining us for the summer months, we welcome back Martha Blessman from Tucson. She is living with a daughter from Chetek, Wisconsin.

Guy Allen Duane was born May 14 to Sis. Loretta and Al Leman. Rod and Valerie, Guy Allen's old-

er brother and sister, were on hand to welcome him home.

Ft. Scott, Kansas . . . Aleta Banwart: Our hearts were inspired with the praises sung and verses spoken by the Sunday School children during the Easter program, April 6 . . . Such a reminder of the suffering the Saviour endured for our many sins and how he arose from the dead, A Glorious Resurrection.

Holy Communion was served the following Friday by Elder Bros. Raymond Banwart and Samuel Anliker (Lamont).

An afternoon and evening of fellowship was spent at the park. All enjoyed a covered-dish supper and the singing that followed.

Our visiting ministering brothers for Easter were John Lehman—Bern and Sam Huber, Sabetha.

As I look at my beautiful daughter just a few hours old, I marvel at the miracle of God's perfectness (the tiny fingers and toes complete with fingernails and toenails, the delicate ears and much more). It takes hours, days and even weeks to study all the little details and realize just what a miracle the birth of a child really is. Alesha Dawn was born April 13 to Bro. Don and myself. Justin, 2 years, was very happy to welcome his baby sister home. Grandparents are: Bro. Raymond and Sis. Kathryn Banwart; Bro. Huber and Sis. Helen Farney, Kiowa. Great-grandparents are Sis. Lydia Farney, Kiowa; Bro. Jeff and Sis. Frieda Frieden, Wichita; Bro. Eli and Sis. Emma Somerhalder, Eureka. Thank You, God for our beautiful baby daughter.

A dear brother has been taken from us to be with the Lord. Bro. August Robert Sinn was born Feb. 4, 1908, the son of George and Christina Sinn, Ft. Scott. He was born again through true conversion and baptism May 1925, and was active in the Lord's service until death. As a young man, he was robust and very active physically until 1958, when he was somewhat slowed by a stroke. He was called home April 23. A massive stroke served as the beckoning hand of God. He leaves his wife, Sis. Ruth Pfister Sinn, with whom he was united in marriage Feb. 24, 1935. Surviving besides his wife are 5 sons: Bro. Ronald, Peoria; Leon, Ft. Scott; Gerald,

Larkspur, Colo; Bro. Larry, Lexington, Ky.; and Bro. Tom, Huntsville, Alabama. Bro. Gus and Sis. Ruth also raised several foster children who were dear to his heart. Also surviving are three brothers and three sisters, Bro. Fred, Bro. Charles and Mike, and Sis. Ida, all of Ft. Scott; Sis. Tina Schwindt—Peoria, and Sis. Louise Graf, Elgin, Illinois. He was preceded in death by two children, August Robert and David Keith. He will be missed and long remembered, not only by his beloved wife and family, but also by the community and this church, of which he was a member and attended and served faithfully for 52 years. Bros. Joe Aberle, Sam Huber and Raymond Banwart had the service . . . The family of Bro. Gus wish to express their appreciation for the many acts of kindness shown them.

Sis. Elsie (Fred) Sinn has been hospitalized.

Detroit, Michigan . . . Bonnie Popp:

Bless Thou my quiet times
When heart and mind are still,
And let my meditations be
According to Thy will.

John and Esther Orcsik have assembled with us for some time from nearby Windsor. Sunday, May 22, we welcomed them to join with us in full fellowship.

At those times where we share with one another, it is always uplifting to see the perfecting of God's will. May our prayer be to daily be more perfect in His will.

A service was held at the new church property, as we were about to break ground. The work goes on, to build a new place of worship to God's honor and glory, and we covet all your prayers.

We are happy for Bro. Jim Hitz (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Audrey) and Sis. Jill Nuest from LaCrosse, as their engagement was announced.

Altadena, California . . . Linda Cooper: May 16 was the birthday of Bro. Dale and Sis. Laurie Hackenjos' firstborn, little Daniel Jacob. Grandparents are Bro. Glen and Sis. Kay Hackenjos and Earl and Sis. Lois MacDonald. May God direct the new parents to raise baby Daniel to love the Lord.

Sis. Melva Alexander has been suffering back pain and cannot be at church with us. Her husband, Gene, is slowly recovering from a stroke.

I have a book in which there is a favorite verse that reminds me to keep guard over my tongue, "a little member" that "can no man tame" (James).

There is so much bad

In the best of us
And so much good in

The worst of us,
That it doesn't behoove

Any of us
To talk about the rest

Of us.

Who is a wise man and endowed with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a **good conversation** his works with meekness of wisdom.

Lamont, Kansas . . . Susan Emch: It was truly a joy to witness the testimony of faith and trust brought to us by our dear friend, Lloyd Luthi, and after baptism to welcome him as our new brother in faith.

Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart, Ft. Scott, shared many valuable teachings with us on Mother's Day.

Our graduate from high school is Jeri Luthi, daughter of Bro. Lloyd and Joann. Sis. Barbara Wernli, daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty, has completed her college training and is now employed in Wichita. We wish both of them God's blessings.

Communion services were held, with Elder Bro. Lester Hartter here to assist our Elder Bro. Sam Anliker. It is a very impressive service when we are reminded of His goodness to us, a time when we can be drawn closer to our Saviour.

Jill Isch, daughter of Bro. Ron and Sis. Jane, was a hospital patient. We rejoice that Sis. Hulda Jacobs has been restored a measure of health and able to assemble with us again.

"I wish to thank everyone for their kind expressions of love and cards." Sis. Hulda Jacobs.

Bloomington-Normal, Illinois . . . Jean O'Shea - Paula Knapp: We had such a blessed week-end on April 23 and 24. The Bay City

choir sang praises unto the Lord on the evening of May 1. We held services at Wood Hill Towers. The elderly people appreciate our concern for them.

The evening of May 4, Elder Bros. Dan Koch and Ed Ringger (Gridley) served us Holy Communion. It was such a sacred and blessed evening, when we could think back to Calvary.

On Mother's Day, May 8, we heard how precious our mothers are to us. It reminded me of the words in a hymn: **Tell mother I'll be there, in answer to her prayer . . . Our blessed Saviour to her bear . . .** How truly wonderful it is for a mother to have a converted child. Wouldn't a mother rejoice to have a child come unto repentance, after living in a world of sin?

Mother's Day was very special for Bro. Steve Stahl (Bloomington) and Sis. Holly Gramm (Gridley), as they announced their engagement. Bro. Steve's parents are Pete Stahl (Florida) and Ann Schultz (Pontiac), and Sis. Holly's are Bro. Art and Sis. Ruth Gramm (Gridley).

A bundle of joy arrived at the home of Bro. Tom and Sis. Jean O'Shea on May 11. Caesy Leigh is the first grandchild of Bro. Jim and Sis. Myra Leman (Roanoke) and John O'Shea (Chicago).

Visiting ministers: Bros. Jim Ramseyer (Bay City), Roy Weiland (Bay City), Clarence Kachelmuss (Forrest), Elder Bro. Dan Koch (Tremont).

Naumburg, New York . . . Betty Virkler: We are glad to hear that Theodore Herzig is back home from the hospital. We are also very thankful that Martha and Becky Hirschey are back with us, after their accident in Florida.

Our annual church supper was held Wed. May 18 at Croghan church.

A reception was held for Bro. Terry and Cindy Virkler by Terry's parents, Bro. and Sis. Carolyn, May 14.

I am also happy to announce the birth of our first grandchild, born May 16, to James and Linda Beyer. His grandparents are Bro. Everett and Sis. Betty Virkler and Sis. Nina Beyer.

Sabetha, Kansas . . . Mrs. Joe Steiner: Again we were privileged

to partake of Holy Communion. Bro. Lester Hartter was here to assist Bro. Gene Marti in this most solemn duty. "This do in remembrance of me."

Bro. Ben Stavenik, Mansfield ministered unto us recently at a midweek service.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Lena Wenger and Bro. Joe Menold.

July is Silver Lining collection for Sabetha.

Gridley, Illinois . . . Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein:

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it;
Seal it for Thy courts above."

As many of us are about to embark upon some new venture or course in our lives, may we never wander away from God and His goodness, but may we depend on Him to establish our goings. May we keep in mind the words of the psalmist: "Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass."

Congratulations to the new graduates. Rhonda Funk, daughter of Bro. Ray and Sis. Bertha, was graduated from Methodist Hospital School of Nursing in Peoria and will be working at the Methodist Hospital. Mrs. Sonia Vercler was graduated from Mennonite Hospital School of Nursing in Bloomington; she is the daughter of Bro. Clyde and Sis. Wilma Kuntz. Our high school graduates are: Bruce Funk, Charlene Funk, Chris Gramm, Jeffery Gramm, Jodie Roberts, Ann Schlipf, J.C. Schlipf, Stephen Schlipf, Curtis Stoller, Mike Zimmerman, Paul Klopfenstein, John Zehr, Greg Umland and Sis. Keri Ringger.

The flames of love have united the hearts of our newly-married couples: Bro. Ken Yordy of Gridley married Sis. Lynn Wuethrich of Roanoke; and Sis. Janelle Rinkemberger of Gridley married Bro. Kent Kloter of Goodfield.

Paul Allen Gramm is the new arrival in the home of Bro. Mike and Sis. Rosemary. He was born April 26, and has a sister, Christa, and a brother, Joel. Paul's grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Jane Gramm of Gridley and Sis. Christiane Erkert of Peoria.

Great-grandparents are Sis. Louise Gramm and Mrs. Mayme Ellenberger of Gridley; Mrs. W. C. Erkert of Peoria and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Diebolds of Colmar, France.

Our believing friends, Bob and Kay Hock, are the happy parents of a new baby girl, Sarah Elizabeth. She was born May 18, and has a brother, Jeffery. Sarah's grandparents are George and Sis. Pauline Witzig of Gridley and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hock Sr. of Minonk. Sis. Nettie Witzig of Peoria and Mrs. Bertie Nun of Minonk are great-grandparents.

The marriage engagement of Sis. Holly Gramm of Gridley to Bro. Steve Stahl of Bloomington was announced.

We appreciated the visits of Ministering Bros. Lynn Klopfenstein of Landersville, Edwin Bahler of Remington, Clarence Kachelmuss of Forrest, and Bob Grimm of Goodfield.

Our new Gridley Fellowship Hall is nearly finished, and was used for a wedding reception on Sun., May 15. Many brothers and sisters are to be commended for their many hours of unselfish service in the planning, construction and decorating of the new building. May God bless their efforts, and may all things be done to His glory and praise.

Gridley, Kansas . . . Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr: HONOR THY FATHER! Is it not a responsibility, a challenge of utmost importance for a father of today to be really a "father" to his children? The father who knows God the Father will be the most complete father and the most **honored father**. Can you risk being less?

A daughter, Renee Lynn, was born April 25 to Sis. Janice and Dale Isch. Renee has two brothers and one sister to welcome her home—Tammy, Darren and Brian. Grandparents are Sis. Wilma and Junior Young; Sis. Mary and Bro. Floyd Isch. Great-grandmothers are Sis. Lydia Young and Sis. Emma Wernli.

Sis. Esther (Sam) Kraft has been missing from our assembly for some time, due to hospitalization.

Elder Bros. Sam Anliker and Raymond Banwart assembled with us to partake of and serve us Holy Communion . . . such a humbling feeling one experiences in remem-

bering the death and suffering our Lord went through for ones such as ourselves.

Honored graduates this year are: Jon Bahr—from 8th grade; Sis. Paula Bahr—Kansas State (both are children of Bro. Rudy and Sis. Eileen Bahr); Sis. Tina Strahm (Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten), Vicky Beyer (Bro. Ivan and Sis. Ada), Roberta Rodgers (Mildred and Robert Rodgers), all from Senior High School.

Children are extremely precious in the sight of God and must be continually taught to know His word and will. Bible School classes are to be held here the week of June 6.

Lexington, Kentucky . . . Cathy Knobloch: Ben and June Huber were blessed with the birth of an energetic little son. Joel Benjamin was born on April 30. His paternal grandparents are Lester and Glendoris Huber. Ralph and Mary Willoughby are maternal grandparents. For his first outing, Joel attended church with his parents. "Train up a child in the way he should go: . . . and he will not depart from it." Praise God for parents who follow these teachings!

One Wednesday evening a small farewell party was held for Caroline Saxton and her son, Joshua. Caroline is going to Germany for the next four years, where her husband, Mike, is stationed. Caroline was recently converted. She asks our prayers, so that she may remain faithful to Christ as she moves to her new home. Caroline is the daughter of S.T. Smallwood.

Cathy Knobloch graduated this semester from the University of Kentucky with a degree in social work. She has received employment nearby and plans to remain in the Lexington area.

The following allegory portrays how we often run through life. Tommy was a small boy who loved to run foot races. Also, he always wanted to be the winner. So, to appease him, friends would let him get a head start. Tommy would take off running as fast as he could. Then he would start to worry. "Is anyone catching up with me? What if someone passes me and I loose?" Tommy would begin glancing over his shoulder and checking his position in the race. Tommy became so concerned about comparing his progress with

his friends that he always ended up losing the race!

How closely this story parallels our spiritual races. Have you compared yourself with others lately? May we remind ourselves **not to look at one another**, but to keep our eyes focused on the finish with Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? **So run, that ye may obtain.**

Garden Grove, Iowa . . . Verle Funk: Some of our congregation spent a very pleasant Lord's Day at Minneapolis May 15, when we were privileged to hear the testimony and witness baptism of Louis Peasley, who has now become our brother-in-faith. Louis and his wife, Kathy have moved back to this area. With joy we welcome them to our little congregation. We pray God's peace and joy may abound, as we work together toward our heavenly goal.

We're happy to see our friend, Clarence Peasley, out and about a little more, following a lengthy illness, even though his activity is still very limited.

We have been blessed with nice showers this spring, and the field crops are looking good. It is that time of year when we put in long hours of earthly toil for that which is tangible. How much of that precious commodity (time) are we working for the Lord?

It's always inspiring to have a visiting minister. We appreciate the visit and welcome teachings brought to us by Bro. Albert Wuthrich of Pulaski.

Champaign - Urbana, Illinois . . . Diane Leman: Our students have returned home for the summer, as the spring semester ended on May 15. Some will return for summer school in June. Congratulations to our graduates, Bros. Art Anliker and Jon Knapp, Sis. Debbie Blunier, and Kevin Rocke.

April 27 was the date of our annual business meeting. Sis. Shelia McCoy and Sis. Denise Scheitlin are new Sunday School teachers. Bro. Keith Hansen is our new trustee, and Bro. Greg Peters is our usher.

Our elder, Bro. Ed Hohulin and Bro. Bob Grimm served us Holy Communion on May 11.

Cheryl and Denny Mangers are

the parents of a new son, Scott Christopher, born May 12. He joins Doug and Melissa at home.

Ron Walder is our new brother-in-faith. His parents are Bro. Dale and Sis. Dorothy Walder of Cissna Park.

The week of June 13-17 is our annual Vacation Bible School.

Indianapolis, Indiana . . . Pam Frank - Lynn Klopfenstein - Marsha Gutwein:

What grace is given me
Thy beauteous face to see!
Near Thee to dwell always,
Like sweet celestial wine
Drinks in this soul of mine
Thy loveliness, O Christ.

This past month we had Communion, with visiting elders, (Bros.) Alfred Bahler from Wolcott and Ed Ringger from Gridley. Other visiting ministers were blessed with were (Bros.) Wally Ramsier from Mansfield, Elmer Witzig from Gridley, Jack Bollier from Leo, and Carl Westphall from Francesville.

One of our friends, Donna Heindold, was joined in Holy Matrimony with Steven Hall.

Goodfield, Illinois . . . Elna Grimm - Verna Hartter:

It matters not how the battle goes,
The day how long;
Faint not! Fight on!
Tomorrow comes the song.

I have heard it said it is extremely doubtful if a soul can really know the love of God in its richness and in its comforting, satisfying completeness until the skies are black and lowering; and so, no wonder we have so many loved ones who must suffer pain, distress and anguish . . . For surely, our Master knows what is best for His own.

Those who have been hospitalized or laid up in the past few weeks have been Sisters Esther Tanner, Corrine Roth, Carol (Harold) Hohulin, Clem Joos, and Arlene Hinrichsen; and Bros. Edmund Kloter and Lawrence Hohulin.

We thank Bro. Joe Zimmerman, Morton, and Bro. Leroy Hartman, Peoria, who took the time and effort to visit and minister to our congregation.

Joe Tanner, and his wife, Sis.

DALE WIEGAND
206 EAST BULLOCK
EUREKA ILL 61530

Janet of Goodfield are the happy parents of a baby boy. Jesse Lee was born on May 5, and has a sister to welcome him home. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Ben and Leona Tanner, Goodfield, and Bro. and Sis. Rich and Helen Zimmerman, Roanoke. Great-grandparents are Sis. Elizabeth Honegger—Forrest, Bro. and Sis. Joe and Annie Zimmerman—Roanoke, and Bro. Ed Feller, Cissna Park.

A baby girl, Kimberley Ann,

was born to Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hoffman, Deer Creek, on May 5. They have also a little four-year-old girl named Amy. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hoffman—Deer Creek, and Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Wilhelm, Pekin . . . Mrs. Ralph DeBolt, Deer Creek, is the great-grandmother.

Bro. and Sis. Kenneth and Phyllis Rokey, R.R. Congerville, had a little girl, Christine Rose, on May 22. Grandparents are Bro. and

Sis. John and Ruth Rokey, Goodfield, and Bro. and Sis. Adolf and Esther Tanner, R.R. Deer Creek. Great-grandmother is Sis. Rosa Wiegand (Eureka Home).

An army reunion for men with ETS date after Jan. 1, 1970 will be held in Milford July 30 and 31. Those interested, contact Stan Wutrich, R. R. 1, Milford In 46542.

ETERNAL LIFE

Henry Souder Jr.

What is the deepest happiness? The greatest joy? The most profound treasure? To know the Father and the Son.

What is knowing? Why did Jesus say that this was eternal life? What is eternal life? Life has deep perception . . . vivid, clear reception of the spiritual. Life is what lives and loves, the divine character in God. It not only appreciates His joy. It lives and feels it, is filled with it. Life returns in a joyful countenance, upward and outward forever and ever. Breathing His love, life vibrates with the deep character of the Holy one. Peace is not a passing fancy, not a workable put-together, not outworn earthly traits. It is the deepening beauty of peace given of God. The same He had from unknown ages ago, without end. It is particularly, solely, individually His, His own kind, His own way . . . a wonderful part of life.

Eternal? we can see part . . . as in a mirror. No end, everlasting, on and on. There is no stopping point, no finish, no death, no getting old or gray. We leave that which has a termination. There is no place anywhere of ending in the ages out there. Eternal life? It lives; it is the heart beats of God, all His fullness, flowing, enlivening, making us aware. It is when God dwells in us. We are one. We

have eternal life, His own, now. True there are those who depart. God can and does give up a Judas. The one who holds, eternal life is His!

Remember when you got acquainted with someone? You perceived there was somebody? You recorded some kind of impression. Then the association grew richer, more understandable, deep. A loving dad or mother we get to know. A little one cuddles right into our heart . . . perceiving, receiving, deepening our awareness and tender ties. They become part of us. When a dear one who is in our heart goes home, there is part of our treasure.

God knows how it is. He made us this way, in His own image. His own heart loves; we are very dear to Him. (Think of the price He paid!) Mom, dad, baby, loving son or daughter, dear friend . . . it's His way of doing. That's How He is, and more . . . fellowship with Him and brother and sister is the life of eternity.

Love is clear, perfect, beautiful, unclouded in Him. Things somebody does so often clouds the beautiful sunshine. Look beyond. Look into the face of God fully. There is real perfect Life. Truly unsearchable riches.

His word is eternal wealth re-

vealed in time. It tells the way of God . . . His feelings. That's just how He is. Knowing Him. The quiet moments, morning, evening or both, can reveal with His help the living God and His Son. Prayer-time is living, takes us not only to the royal throne room of heaven, but gives us living audience in the presence of the everlasting Father. Our words, and He is listening!

On the quieter ways of life, He lives and talks with His own. Like the times of gentle speaking on a hill in Galilee . . . or with roaring, raging waters. He wants us to know Him better . . . and that no storm ever swallowed the ship where the Master is. This is each of His own, having the peculiar problems and testings that are so familiar. He lives, and we become brave.

It is in the pressing times, the temptations, floods, and troubles that we learn to know better His sweetness and love. The stars shine at night. The moon's fair light shines with the forest's shadow. The land is fruitful in rain. It's good . . . Better than anything is to know the Eternal One.

He searches for His sheep on dark mountains. If you want to know Him, He is listening. He hears the faintest cry. Let Him carry you to His fold.