

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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THE REAL YOU

Bro. Robert Pohl

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." (Rom. 8:14). "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." (Rom. 8:16). "The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly." (Prov. 20:27). The writer of the Book of Proverbs said that the spirit of man is the candle (lamp) of the Lord. That means that God will enlighten us and will guide us through our spirits. We often judge by our own physical senses, and we often look at things from the mental standpoint. But God said that the spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, meaning that He will guide you through your spirit. Man is a spirit being. He does have a soul, and he lives in a physical body. But he is a spirit being because he is made in the likeness of God. Jesus said that God is a spirit. When the body is dead and in the grave, the spirit, the real man, lives on.

There is an outward man and an inward man. The outward man is not the real you. The outward man is only the house you live in. The inward man is the real you. Peter calls the spirit man, "the hidden man of the heart." (1 Pet. 3:4). When the Bible speaks of the heart, it is speaking of the spirit, the inward man, or the hidden man. This is the real man. When Paul says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. . . ." (II Cor. 5:17), he is talking about the in-

ward man. You didn't get a new body when you were born again, but the real you, your spirit, became a new man in Christ.

In I Thessalonians 5:23, Paul said, "I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." Paul begins with the inward man and comes to the outward man in the order of their importance. We usually say body, soul and spirit, because we are more body conscious than spirit conscious. We need to reverse the order and become more spirit conscious, because the more spirit conscious we become, the more real the leading of the Lord will be to us. We need to think of ourselves as spirit beings, possessing souls, and living in bodies. We often refer to the spirit and soul as the same thing, but they are not, "For the word of God is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit. . . ." (Heb. 4:12). Now we begin to see that the spirit of man is that dimension of man that contacts God; the soul is that dimension which includes our mind, intellect, emotions, and will; while the body is the physical dimension, or house, in which we live.

The spirit of man is the part of man that is born again and receives eternal life, that becomes a new creature in Christ Jesus. It is not the soul that is born again. James said, "Receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to

save your souls." (James 1:21). A man's spirit—the innermost man, the real man—receives eternal life and is born again. But his intellect and emotions, which compose the soul, still have to be dealt with. They are not reborn, but renewed. Paul speaks about the renewing of the mind in Romans 12:2, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind . . ." The soul can be restored. Psalm 23 says the Lord "restoreth my soul". Our soul can be renewed or restored by the word of God.

When Paul said, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new," (II Cor. 5:17), he is saying that the inward man, not the outward man, has become a new man. You have the same body you had before, but this man on the inside has become a new man in Christ. This man on the inside, which is the spirit of the man through whom God will deal with us, has become a new man. The old things that were in this old man are gone now. Spiritual death was in there. The nature of the devil was in there. But now the love of God is there. Now the nature of God is in there. This is the man that is to be the dominant one. We are to listen to him, because it is through this man, through our born again spirit, that God will lead and guide us.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.
INCLUDE OLD AND NEW ZIPS

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

This month we say farewell to Bro. Greg and Sis. Lela Leman, who have been, for the past six months, serving as substitute houseparents. We wish them God's blessings of joy and happiness as they return to assemble with the brethren in Bay City, Michigan.

We are thankful to God for the sunshine and the showers of blessings we have had this past month. We were able to get into the field to work up our garden and get a good portion of our vegetables planted before the spring rains came. I hope the enthusiasm we generated in the children at planting time will still be there when there are weeds to pull. The girls designed and planted a flower bed around the garden and seem to be quite enthused about having fresh flowers with which to decorate the tables.

We now have nine residents in our home. Our newest resident is a 16-year-old girl named Claudia. She is really a blessing to our home. Today after showing her how to use our stone mill, she took the flour and made four loaves of delicious whole wheat bread. (Thanks to that sister in Wichita for that terrific recipe.)

We are currently in need of increasing our staff by a set of houseparents. Anyone who has a desire to serve the Lord in this manner should contact either their elder, a Children's Home representative, or the administrator of the Home at Box 151, Leo, IN 46765.

HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Who is able to describe the lovely month of May? Shall we do it by comparing it with the extreme cold of the winter months or the extreme heat of summer? Shall we grope for adequate adjectives to mimic the poets? Shall we use an artist's brush? Or shall we take a child for a walk and see God's gift of loveliness through his eyes and heart?

Mother's Day always renews our awareness of the responsibility we have at the Home. While the combined efforts of all of us in lovingly caring for our family do not equal that of a true mother, we do try. Perhaps by borrowing the words of an anonymous poet, we can express ourselves:

"I do not know how long I'll live,
But while I live, Lord, let me
give
Some comfort to someone in need
By smile or nod, kind word or
deed.
And let me do what ever I can
To ease things for my fellow
man.
I want naught but to do my part
To "lift" a tired or weary heart.
To change folks frowns to smiles
again,
Then I will not have lived in vain.
And I'll not care how long I'll live
If I can give—and give—and
give."

To help to "know each other better," we introduce Bernice Heininger, formerly from the Goodfield area, where she had lived all of her life before coming to our Home. Her father is Samuel Heiniger of Deer Creek. Bertha Moser Heiniger, Bernice's mother, passed away some time ago. Two sisters, Opal Bachman of Washington, Illinois, and Esther Cawley of Rochelle, Illinois, comprise the family.

Bernie is an affectionate, enjoyable, home-loving personality. She enjoys the Home's activities and loves her favorite spot, the rocking chair. Birthday time for her is Nov. 11.

Lovely green grass has replaced the not-so-clean snowbanks around the Home. Baby leaves are cautiously making their appearance, assuring us of perennial life in the winter-dormant trees.

If you have never visited this facility, please feel welcome to do so.

ALABAMA, Athens . . . Hazel Vibbert: We had many blessings in April. The Peoria Choir was here the week-end of Apr. 15. Bro. and Sis. Wilmar Troike from Illinois were with us on the 9th. Mike and Connie Moore have a baby girl, born Apr. 9. Her name is Amber Nicole. This is their first child and also Bro. Leroy and Sis. Doris Moore's first grandchild. Sis. Louise Hall has been in the hospital. Mary Perry is still in the Huntsville Hospital. She had surgery again on the 24th. It is almost two months that she has been there, and she would really love to be able to go home to her husband and sons, Billy, Jeff, and Greg. Even after so much pain and suffering, and being so near death, she says she has a lot to

be thankful for. It is a blessing to go and visit with her. She has so much faith. If anyone would like to send her a card, send it to Mary Perry, Room 212, Huntsville Hospital, Huntsville, Alabama.

Today was the day for the Athens Church to go to the nursing home. They always seem glad to see anyone. We have three repenting. They are Bobby and Reba Haggermaker and Dewey Perry.

The old church where we worshipped for so long is no longer there. It makes our hearts sad not to see it anymore, for we can remember some happy times there. But we are so thankful that we have a nice building to worship in.

ALABAMA, Landersville . . . Lynn Klopfenstein: The Peoria Choir visited the four Alabama churches over the week-end of Apr. 15. This was wonderful fellowship, and the singing was a blessing and uplifting. There were about 120 visitors over the weekend. This trip was number twelve for the choir. We always anticipate this annual time of fellowship with the brethren. The ministry of music should never be minimized, for the Word speaks expressly of singing and making a melody from our heart in praise to God on High. The weekend is a tightly-scheduled event. The choir boards two chartered busses after work on Friday and rides all night, arriving in Alabama early Saturday morning. (Many don't sleep at all!) This year a visit was made at Silas Daniel's home, and there was pickin' and singin' under the large tree. Then a visit was made at the home of

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Miss Toni Mae Myers, an invalid of over 70 years, where the choir sang in the front yard. The folks appreciated it very much. Then visits were made at the Landersville, Hillsboro, Huntsville, and Athens churches. The Choir left Athens about 5:00 p.m. Sunday and rode all night again, arriving home in time to go to work Monday morning. God is so good.

"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my father which is in heaven." (Mt. 10:33). Praise the Lord for the following who confessed before men during testimony services and were added to the membership: Tania Dutton, Mack and Judy LonAllen, Rhonda Klopfenstein, Wendell and Joyce Curry, and Linda Culver. We welcome these dear ones as brothers and sisters in Christ in our church.

The school year is ended and the summer vacation is on. A ministry of our local fellowship has been the work of Christian education. Last fall the Lawrence County Christian School was started with K5 through fifth grade. It has been a wonderful year as we could notice the change in attitude of the students. The Lord has blessed abundantly in this most necessary work with the youth. We are anticipating perhaps twice as many students next fall and are very much in need of academic teachers. We urge teachers among our brethren to pray about teaching in a Christian school. Contact us as well as your elder, and wait on the Lord. He may have a wonderful, enlightening experience in store for you.

Hospitalized included Mr. Albert Borden, father of Sis. Mavis Naylor, Bro. Bobby Borden, Jr., Mrs. Pauline Moore, Mr. Vernon Harville, Gail Harville, and Sis. Bessie Drake.

Our good friend Olen Pace died from gunshot wounds during a fracas. He is survived by his wife, Ruby. They lived in Chicago for a few years and attended services on Sunnyside Street. Some of the old-timers will remember them. Olen and Ruby were in our services the Sunday prior to his death. Olen often talked of his faith and trust in Christ.

On Apr. 22, a chicken stew was held by our school. Many attended, and over seventy gallons of stew were sold.

Services were held on Friday

night, May 5, at the home of Sis. Virginia Arnold in Phil Campbell, AL.

ARIZONA, Phoenix . . . Julie Hoerr: The week-end of Apr. 22 and 23 was one of the most beautiful times, ever, in our churches, for a husband and wife gave their testimonies and were baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Humbly thanking God for being His chosen children were Al and Joyce Yackley. As Bro. Clarence Yackley and Al's sisters, Sis. Eileen and Sis. Ramona looked on, you just knew our late Sis. Vera was rejoicing in heaven. Greetings, Bro. Al and Sis. Joy. Deacon Bro. Noah Herman assisted Elder Bro. Schupbach.

Also happy, since giving up the world of sin, is our new convert, Alan Schmidgall. He is the son of Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Mary Jo.

Apr. 14 was the evening Bro. Jim Ramseyer of Bay City brought us many good teachings.

Many from our congregation will journey to Bradford Apr. 30 for the wedding of Bro. Bill Sanders and Sis. Sue Ringger. May God bless them with a happy Christian life together.

Bro. Clarence and Sis. Gerry Beyer are thankful for a safe journey to the Holy Land and for getting a first-hand look at places the Lord and disciples lived and witnessed. I, too, am grateful to have seen much of God's beautiful creation in Hawaii.

Hospital patients have been Bro. Ernest DeMille and Sis. Lois Beres. Outpatient for a broken ankle was Sis. Jo Martin.

Our church supper, Sunday, Apr. 23, was even better than usual as the brothers did the dishes and clean-up jobs. Thank you brothers for a job nicely done.

Our high school graduates are Sis. Deanne Beery and Sis. Liz Martin.

ARIZONA, Tucson . . . Caroline Kaufman:

GOD'S IDEAL MOTHER

The mother who owns Christ as Lord

And Saviour in her life;

The mother who has peace with God,

Who has no inner strife;

The mother who knows how to trust

The Father for all things;
The mother who is right and just,
As punishment she brings.

The mother who knows how to pray

For every daily need;
The mother who can point the way,
When God would have her lead;
The mother who knows how to guide

A precious child to God;
The mother who walks by His side,
Who walks the way He trod.

The above stanzas are from a poem by Cora M. Pinkham. Space doesn't permit writing the complete poem, but I would like to use these few verses to thank our Tucson mothers. They may be few in number, but they are pillars in our church.

CALIFORNIA, Altadena . . .

Linda Cooper: Mar. 5 was the happy day we welcomed Carol MacDonald into our fellowship as a sister in faith. Such joyful baptism days are a foretaste of heaven.

Sis. Elizabeth Feldman had hip surgery Apr. 24. We hope the Lord grants her full recovery and use of her repaired hip.

Sis. Margeurite Mott broke an ankle but is able to get around on crutches. Sis. Mabelle Graf fell in her apartment and fractured a hip. She is receiving nursing care but doesn't require any surgery, for which we are thankful.

Poem submitted by Sis. Naomi Schwarz (author unknown):

I am placed where God shines through,

For God and I are one, not two.
I need not fear, nor fret, nor plan;
God needs me where and as I am,
And if I'll be relaxed and free,
He'll carry out His plan for me.

CALIFORNIA, Maywood . . .

Helen Julien: Two more of our members have moved away, Dale and Ruth Dapper. Dale was the last of the Dappers at the Maywood Church, which his father, John, organized. We miss them, but Dale's office transferred to Ohio. They are living in Sidney. We enjoyed Ruth's mother, Lena Ludwig, who recently moved to California to live with her daughter but also left with them.

It doesn't seem real when you

stop and think back. For approximately forty years, the Dappers and their children attended service every week, and, in just the last six years, most of them have moved far away. It contradicts the old saying that "once you live in California with its beautiful weather, you won't want to live anywhere else." As the Bible teaches us, we aren't to fetish anything but the Word of God, and so each one went where the Lord directed them. Ernie went from, what you might say, one extreme to another when he and Marcelle decided to move their family to Minnesota, where they have such bitter winters. Julie moved to Illinois, and John and Julia were given the opportunity to move into the A.C. home there. Christine and Leonard felt it necessary to attend the Altadena Church for the benefit of their children, since there were no others their age at Maywood. Since then, their oldest son, John, has entered the fold, so this proved to be a blessing.

But God is still watching over this little church. There have been times when only three or four attended, but each Sunday there seems to be one or two more gathering.

I am especially pleased to see my brother, Ed Ruehle, and his wife, Esther, making the effort to drive at least every other Sunday, (and often every week) even though they live 180 miles away. It takes them about three hours each way. I am reminded of a sermon John Dapper preached about ten years ago when he mentioned how people think nothing of driving fifty miles for recreation, but when it comes to driving that far to church it is either too far or they can't find time. So we welcome Ed and Esther, and I'm sure the Lord will bless them for their efforts and the the first for the true Word of God.

Dan Milinkovich has found the need for repentance. His health is not good, and when he is able, members of his very large family accompany him on the Sabbath, so you see our little church is not forgotten.

Although there are only four regular members and approximately ten friends worshipping each week, I believe there is a close bond keeping us more "glued" together than in most large congregations. During our fellowship hour everyone pitches in to help one another.

Sis. Eva Fuhrer continues to keep the church clean, even while feeling under the weather with a bad cold; but she really appreciates the help her sister-in-law, Louise Erhart, offers (and also Olga Larsen) at lunch time. We have about five little neighborhood children that have been visiting quite regularly for about a year to have Sis. Faye Percy read to them in Sunday school, which she seems to look forward to. Because of the good reports her children brought home, their mother decided to see for herself and has been attending for several months. The Milinkovich girls, Irene, Marion and Olga, are usually here every week, and their sisters, Helen and Leona, and her husband come often. Henry Ringger helps Eva with little maintenance jobs, and Bros. Ben Ammann and Al Larsen offer their support by praying when we have visiting ministers. And of course Elizabeth Sanford, although she cannot hear the hymns or listen to the sermons, continues to keep from falling into lethargy by keeping good attendance. She is always so cheerful during our fellowship hour. She has a sweet smile and firm handshake for everybody.

It would be a thoughtful gesture to remember our two oldest members, Mary and Pete Schick, who have been unable to assemble with us. Our thoughts are with them, and I'm sure they would welcome cards and letters. Their address is 14141 Clarkdale, Apt. 606, Norwalk, CA 90650.

Two of our ministers have become grandparents recently. John Klotzle's daughter, Heidi, and her husband, Tom Luginbuhl of Connecticut, presented John and Lois with their first granddaughter. Glenn and Kaye Hackenjosh's daughter, Judy, and Don Kramer of Oregon had a little girl, also. This seems to be the year for girls, because I, too, had the wonderful privilege of being able to go to Michigan to help welcome my beautiful granddaughter into the world. My daughter, Penny, and Ron Erisman are the blessed parents.

During my visit to Michigan, we were snowed in; but I enjoyed seeing the beautiful winter wonderland. It was quite a contrast to the extreme amount of rain we have had in California, with all the damage it caused. Many people lost their homes due to landslides and

mud. This is the most rain we have had this century. Between the rains, the smog is washed away and the visibility is clear for miles. As we are nestled in a valley, the mountain tops are white against a deep blue sky, with a few fleecy clouds floating above them. The hills are bright green instead of the dull brown that is more usual this time of year.

In closing, I would like to say that though the Maywood Church is like a tiny mustard seed in this large metropolitan area, the four members' spirits are strong, and the ministers' sermons are as a beacon for friends to help keep the doors open! There is a blanket of love among us large enough to cover a sycamore tree.

CONNECTICUTT. Rockville . . .

Carlton J. Lanz: On a recent date, brethren on the World Relief Committee met here to discuss and relate to the Rockville church the hardship and depressing problems they encountered on their tours and visits in many of the areas. It was an interesting several-hour-long report we listened to. Bro. Arthur Gudeman, in his travels to some cyclone affected areas, related a sight, unusual, or, better said, weird or freakish, when he saw chickens running about completely defeathered. He saw many more sights, like straws driven into hard surfaces. There were several ministering brethren in the group who brought us many good inspirational messages. Precious are the moments, indeed, when we can sit in the assembly where the pure truth comes from the pulpits. We can read where many consultations have been held and devices framed to stop the progress of the Gospel as if it was a dangerous infection; but all such attempts are vain and have failed.

Since our last report, there were several births in this community: Apr. 6, John Lewis, born to Sis. Luwella and Bro. Mark Hoffman; Apr. 7, David William, born to Sis. Amy and Bro. Billy Cone; Apr. 9, Carolyn Marie, born to Sis. Jan and Bro. Ken Boynton; Apr. 15, a daughter, Kelly Ann, born to Bro. Dennis and Sis. Terry Kupferschmidt; Apr. 23, a boy, born to Sis. Cindy and Bro. Terry Virkler. Grandparents, respectively, are: Bro. Leon and Sis. Martha Schneider and Bro. Edwin and S. S. Elsa

Hoffman; Bro. Leonard and Sis. Irma Luginbuhl and Mr. and Mrs. W. Cone; Sis. Carol and Warren Gottier and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Boynton; Bro. Werner and Sis. Clara Kupferschmid and Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Florence Kloter; Bro. Richard and Sis. Frieda Lanz and Bro. Bernard and Sis. Carolyn Virkler.

Having reached her 80th birthday, Sis. Elizabeth Erismann found reason to rejoice for the cards and good wishes she received. Many thanks to all, she said. She found pleasure in the presence of her son and his wife, Bro. Ervin and Sis. Della.

The 50th wedding anniversary of our Elder Bro. John Bahler and his wife, Sis. Julia, was pleasantly observed at their home in Tolland. They have requested that a note of thanks be extended to all for the many cards, good wishes, and other remembrances that enhanced the occasion.

NOTE: Many of our S.L. readers are pleased with the present issues. They see improvements in several areas: good arrangements, more interesting and wider coverage.

FLORIDA, Ft. Lauderdale . . .

Caroline Akel: Often students are confronted by teachers and professors who scoff at the idea of the special creation of man. Sometimes it seems amazing that men who are so very learned can be so very blind to spiritual truth. Often it appears so obvious to us that the simple belief in a God who is mighty enough to create fully-developed man is far more reasonable than the fantasy-theories of evolution which these men offer as a substitute.

If one was to show these same men a computer and tell them that it happened by chance and accident (that it started out as a tiny scrap of metal and developed on its own into this complex machine) they would laugh and call that man foolish. Something that complex and well-developed obviously came about as a result of intelligent planning and building. Yet, consider the human mind. It is far more complex and highly developed than any computer man has made, and these men tell you that it happened by accident without intelligence or planning behind it. The same can be said for a camera (which obviously does not come about by mere accident) and the human eye. Ev-

ery part of our body is a wonder in itself. How foolish man has become to deny the very God who planned and created him.

Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. (II Timothy 3:7).

The winter season is over. Many of our northern visitors and winter residents have gone home. We wish them God's blessings as they leave us to return to their home churches. We have been thankful to have Bros. Roy Luginbuhl and Al Schneider from Rockville, CT, in our midst.

THE POWER OF PRAYER

What does it take to save a soul?
To make a sinner clean and whole?
How does God measure the prayers
we pray?

Is it the intention or what we say?

Do we mumble words only He can hear?

Do we fervently plead and shed a tear?

Can the sweet smelling incense reach the throne

In time to save one of our own?

It may take fifty half-hearted prayers

To equal one sincere—

And if the whole congregation prayed

God may choose one you hold dear.

I'll pray for yours—you pray for mine,

We'll trust the Lord of light divine.

And maybe the stony heart will crack

Repent—be saved—and never turn back.

Louise Ella Akel
(Caroline's mother)

FLORIDA, Sarasota . . . Kathryn Schroeder:

I Corinthians 11:24-26:
And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: This is my body, which is broken for you: This do in remembrance of me.

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.

For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

Elder Bro. Ben Maibach served our congregation Holy Commun-

ion. Everyone of us was eagerly awaiting this blessed sacrament which was commanded by our Father in heaven.

We are very happy to see that our dear friend, Elmer Jacobs, is out of the hospital and again in our assembly. He was quite ill, but now the Lord has blessed him with health and strength. We rejoice with him.

As many of our dear brethren are returning to the North, we want to thank them for their blessed fellowship and hope to meet them again this fall. A special thanks to our ministering brethren: Bro. Phil Sauder (Cissna Park) and Bro. Joe Schrock (Congerville). Though their visits were only for a few months, many of their inspiring words from our Father in heaven will remain with us.

We are happy to welcome two couples to our congregation: Jim and Rowena Furrer, who were originally from Wolcott, and Jim and Fredona Shiffer, who were originally from Rittman.

ILLINOIS, Bloomington-Normal . . . Holly Stahl - Jean O'Shea:

" . . . and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

"Wherefore God hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

"That at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow . . ."

How edifying and blessed it has been this Easter season to again dwell on the death and resurrection of our Lord. We need to think over and over of all he did for us and how greatly he suffered as He thought of each one of us and bore our sins. We can't help but be amazed at the impact His life and death had, and still has, on humanity!

This was the theme that was brought to us during our sunrise service on Easter morning. I hope that each person present felt a greater appreciation for our wonderful God, as our friends, brothers, and sisters shared their thoughts and songs. It is instances like this that bring our church family closer together.

We're also rejoicing over the birth of a son, Stephen Timothy, to Steve and Bev Virgil on Mar. 16. We pray that this little life will be lived as a glory to God.

On Apr. 9, Bro. Earl Kilgus of the Remington, Indiana, congregation was with us. We enjoyed his presence and the beautiful Gospel message he brought to us. The same evening we held services at Woodhill Towers for the elderly.

Our Elder Bro. Dan Koch spent Sunday afternoon with us on the 16th and later announced the communion services to be held May 3. We were reminded to think only of how we truly stand in the Lord's sight and not to judge or consider another brother or sister's standing. It is only when we face our Father in a completely submissive and humble manner that we can hear his tender voice and respond to what He is telling us. We truly look forward to once again partaking of this holy Lord's Supper, renewing the importance of His death and resurrection and the promise of His return in our hearts.

We heard an inspiring message on Apr. 23 as Bro. Harold Schmidgall from Gridley shared the morning with us. Our monthly hymn sing was held the same evening, and a special group from Gridley shared their singing talents with us.

"Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: sing forth the honor of His name: make His praise glorious!" Psa. 66:1-2

Our Bro. Adam Maurer suffered a broken elbow after a fall at work and had to be hospitalized a short time. We are happy to have him back with us and pray for his returned strength and recovery.

The weather has been so beautiful lately it can truly put a new joy in our hearts again. If only we can fully appreciate God's delicate hand work in each season and praise Him for the refreshing way He displays the beauty of nature each spring. "Every morning, lean your elbows awhile on the windowsill of heaven and gaze upon the Lord. Then turn, strong, to meet your day." —Abby Press

On Sunday, Apr. 30, we enjoyed hearing Bro. LeRoy Huber of the Eureka congregation and sharing the day with him and his wife. One particular thought stayed with me. From his experiences Bro. LeRoy has found that (being able to observe both very wealthy homes and very poor homes) the rich are not any happier than the poor, in most cases. How often do we look around and think that those with material wealth are better off than

we? Only if we have the wealth of God's salvation can we be truly happy and feel the true joy that God alone can give. It was good to be reminded of this too-easily-forgotten fact.

"Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

"But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

"For where your treasure is there will your heart be also." Matt. 6:19.

ILLINOIS, Bradford . . . Jane Leman: Apr. 16 was the day Sis. Teresa Stoller became the bride of Bro. Bradley Gudeman (Elgin, Ill.). The parents are ministering Bro. Nate and Sis. Martha Stoller and ministering Bro. Bill and Sis. Evie Gudeman. Many guests were present to witness this blessed occasion; among them: Elder Bro. Dave Kieser (Princeville), Perry Zimmerman (Forrest), Nate Steffen (Elgin) and ministering Bros. Joe Stoller (Princeville) and Robert Walder (Congerville).

We were grateful for Elder Bro. Joe Braker's (Morton) willingness to assist our Elder Bro. Dave in serving us Holy Communion one quiet Wednesday evening. Also we give thanks to Bro. Bob Pflederer (Morton) who ministered to us recently on Sunday.

With regret we report Bro. David Klumpp is a hospital patient due to anhydrous burns in his mouth. Sis. Margaret (John) Tanner spent some time at Mayos for tests and minor surgery.

A hearty welcome to Si, Jr., and Sis. Lavonne Wagenbach and their five sons. They are now living in Prophetstown where he is employed. We are happy to have them attending church with us in Bradford.

Bro. Marvin and Sis. Dianne Knobloch are now the parents of three sons and three daughters since little baby Crystal Dianne joined their family circle. Grandparents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knobloch and Bro. Eli and Sis. Lena Grimm (West Bend).

Apr. 30 was the date set for another wedding when Sis. Sue Ringger (Ministering Bro. Jim and Sis. Lyola) and Bro. Bill Sanders

(Phoenix) were married by Elder Bro. Dave Kieser. Bro. Earl and Sis. Emma Sanders are Bill's parents. Among the other visitors were Bros. Max Reimschisel (Wichita), Gary Maibach (Rittman), and Simon Wagenbach (Tremont).

ILLINOIS, Champaign - Urbana . . . Charlen Banwart: Bro. Steve Fischer recently moved from Champaign to Roanoke where he has found employment. We wish him God's blessings in his new job and home and hope he will come back to visit us often.

The following ministers have been with us recently on Sunday or Wednesday evening: Elder Bro. Don Sauder, Bros. Art Baurer, Bob Pohl, Bob Walder, Bob Beebe, Russell Wuthrich, Carl Wyss, Walt Herrmann, and Chuck Hemmer. We appreciate their visits and pray that God will be their rewarder.

At our annual business meeting, Bro. Larry Leman was elected trustee and Bro. Wayne Banwart was elected Sunday School Superintendent. We were reminded that we need to put forth our best effort so that Godly order can be maintained in our churches.

We enjoyed the visit of the Ladies Singing Group from Roanoke (and their families) and received a blessing from their song service.

The college students have planned the annual spring picnic for May 3 at Lake of the Woods.

ILLINOIS, Chicago . . . Kathy Schlatter: Instead of worrying, let's:

Try prayer.

Try rejoicing.

Try trust.

Try work.

Try counting our blessings one by one.

We enjoyed Bro. Henry Beer's visit with us on Apr. 29 and 30. We learned new songs, heard some poems, and found new and old books to browse through and/or buy. Bro. Henry also ministered to us on Sunday. We appreciate his (and his wife's) visit, as well as that of our many other visitors.

Bro. Matt and Dorothy Strahm are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Jeannine McNeill, to Stephen Wolf from Fort Wayne, Indiana. Both are presently students at Valparaiso University. Steve will soon have his degree in mechanical engineer-

ing and will be working for a division of Carrier Corporation in Indianapolis. Their wedding date is set for Aug. 5. Jeannine will continue working toward her nursing degree through DePauw University. We wish them the richest blessings of the Lord.

We of the Apostolic Christian Church have such a precious fellowship. One of the most amazing and overwhelming parts is to be able to visit other churches and feel at home so quickly because of our bond of faith. So often we miss that special closeness formed through an overnight visit because 1) we're too independent, or 2) we don't want to "put someone out." The Lord Jesus shared food and lodging with many followers, as did Paul, later.

We just spent such a blessed week-end in Leo, Indiana. My husband, Jim, was invited to a Children's Home meeting. I was privileged to meet Bro. Ed Souder and talk with him. Bro. Doug and Sis. Sue Kellenberger "put themselves out" and invited us to stay with them overnight at their Home. How can I explain the love, the understanding, the appreciation we feel for Bro. Doug, Sis. Sue, and their children—all special, with different needs, with responsibilities, all together in this Christian Home. We got a glimpse of the Lord's special work in this Children's Home. And now we are coming to have a clearer idea where we can be of service. May His understanding touch us all.

KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER

We have many special couples in Chicago, some older, some younger, a few in-between. But this one couple has had "specialer" things happen to them. I think they truly have gloried in adversity, and Bro. Earl and Sis. Lucille Feller, though now white-haired, have been blessed for their past hardships.

Bro. Earl grew up in Cissna Park, Illinois; Sis. Lucille's home church was Union City, New Jersey. Both repented in their young, single years. As in all of our lives, "all things work together for good for those that love the Lord." Both of Sis. Lucille's parents had passed away, and she was staying at the home of the Ballasy family in the small Union City congregation. Bro. Earl, a friend of his, and his two sisters went on a trip to the East.

As part of their trip they toured New York City where Sis. Lucille was working. Through a relative, they met her, and Sis. Lucille showed them around. Following this chance acquaintanceship, the Lord later led them together and they were married on Oct. 19, 1941.

They established their home in Cissna Park, where Bro. Earl first operated a feed grinding business, and later operated a milk hauling business. Their three children were born as follows: Judy, on Oct. 27, 1942; Gary, July 5, 1946; and Dayne, May 2, 1956. Sis. Judy is married to Bro. Dale Eisenmann, our elder in Chicago. They have three children, Brad, Todd, and Luann. Gary became ill at the age of six months and suffered brain damage. Dayne passed away when he was 2 years old from leukemia. These difficult experiences with their children were heavy trials but have also brought them blessings over the years. Bro. Earl and Sis. Lu were actively involved from the onset of the development of our Home for the Handicapped. They are grateful beyond words that this has become a reality and now provides a loving Christian home for their son Gary. Bro. Earl and Sis. Lu are faithful visitors and contributors at the Handicapped Home, giving of themselves for all.

In 1969 Bro. Earl and Sis. Lu moved to the Chicago area. Bro. Earl is now in charge of the shipping department of a plastics factory, where Sis. Lu has also worked part-time. Their living in the area has been a great help to Bro. Dale and Sis. Judy in many ways, including the opportunity for Bradley and Todd to have a Grandpa to sit with in church in the absence of their dad. Bro. Earl and Sis. Lu are very appreciative of the fact that they can be near to see their grandsons and granddaughter Luann growing up.

And Bro. Earl was a church trustee in Chicago from 1971-1976, and after that became an usher. Sis. Lucille has served for the past four years on the church dinner committee. They are sunshine in our church, reflecting the light of our Lord's Spirit, as they walk in His path.

I am going to a city
Where the streets with gold are
laid.

Where the tree of life is blooming,
And the roses never fade.

In this world we have our
troubles. . . .
I am going to a city

portions of "Where the Roses
Never Fade" No. 764 Gospel
Hymns—Earl's favorite hymn.

ILLINOIS, Cissna Park . . . Marilyn Knapp - Judy Bauer: We were privileged this month to have Bro. Bob Beebe as a visiting minister. All of us certainly enjoyed a blessed day.

Our dear friends, Kim Sauder and her parents, Curtis and Elaine, have found peace with their God and are waiting to give their testimonies and be baptized.

On Apr. 29 three precious souls gave their testimonies of their new-found faith that was in their hearts. We thank Bro. Virgil Metzger for his presence. Many friends and relatives were present on Sunday for the baptism of Kathy Ehman, daughter of Bro. Richard and Virginia Ehman, Artie Walder, son of Sis. Lucille Walder, and Melinda Knapp, daughter of Bro. Lynn and Sis. Sylvia Knapp. We welcome them into the fold.

Our hospital patients were Bro. Lucian Kuntz and Bro. Wayne Laubscher. Both are home recuperating. Edith Ziegenhorn is a surgical patient at the Carle Hospital. Ben Merkle, who has been in the nursing home, is also able to be home again.

Bro. Gerald and Sis. Jean Rudin have been blessed with a daughter. Gail Lynn is their first child and was born Apr. 21. Grandparents are Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emily Rudin.

ILLINOIS, Congerville . . . Judy Wettstein - Gay Knapp:

God bless the precious little soul
Entrusted to your care:
God grant the baby many joys
For all of you to share:
God fill your home
With love and faith
And in the future, too,
May He bestow His blessings
On your little one and you.

Several homes have welcomed a precious little soul into their family circle. Bro. Jake and Sis. Glenna Rinkenberger have received their

first child, Isaac Benjamin, born Apr. 11. Bro. Charles and Sis. Martha Rinkenberger and David and Lois Marquardt, Wanatah, Ind., are grandparents.

Bro. Mike and Sis. Mary Schieber were blessed with a little girl, Laura Sue, born Apr. 16. Bro. Harold and Sis. Alma Schieber and Bro. Lee and Sis. Velda Overmyer of Francesville, Ind., are grandparents.

Jim and Valerie Steffen were blessed with their second child on Apr. 23, Bradley James. Bro. Duane and Sis. Lois Steffen and Bro. All and Sis. Ellen Koehl of Morton are the grandparents.

Don and Carol Wales were blessed with a little girl, Holly Rachelle, born Mar. 23. Mrs. Dorothy Wales, Palm Harbor, Florida, and Mrs. Evelyn Watt, Roseville, Illinois, are the grandparents.

Our visiting ministers were Bro. Steve Rinkenberger from Cissna Park and our Elder Bro. Josh Broquard from Fairbury.

Those hospitalized this month were James Knapp (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Linda) and Clarence Schlipf.

ILLINOIS, Elgin . . . Mary Moser: The engagement of Sis. Jolene Steffen (Sis. Eleanor) and Bro. John Rocke (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Opal), of Morton, was made known on Apr. 9. We wish them God's grace and blessings as they plan their life together.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow . . . A baby boy was born to Ed and Gayle Schambach on Apr. 12. They have named their first child Jeremy Aaron. The grandparents are Bro. Ed and Sis. Jenny Schambach and Ollie Lamp.

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who willingly lend of themselves. This past month Bro. Merle Bucher from LaCrosse and Bro. Walt Steffen from Milford visited us.

Sis. Katie Kachelmuss, Mary Gross, Sis. Bertha Weichert and Sis. Wava Steffen have been hospitalized this past month.

Bro. Jerry Kellenberger would like to thank all the brothers, sisters, and friends who sent him cards, letters, and gifts on his 50th birthday in April. He wishes that God will bless all of you.

ILLINOIS, Eureka . . . Melba Mangold: We truly have much to be thankful for this month. On Apr.

2 three new sisters and a brother were welcomed into the fold. They were Denise and Brenda Zimmerman (Bro. Leland and Sis. Lorene), Cheryl Saathoff (Bro. George and Sis. Thelma) and Craig Martin (Bro. Nelson and Sis. Mary Ellen). Bro. Josh Brogard assisted Bro. Leroy Huber and Bro. Walter Anliker in this work. Again on Apr. 16 we were privileged to witness the baptism of two who had turned to the Lord in repentance. They were Lori Lemman (Bro. Roy and Sis. Wanda) and Diane Rocke (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Ida Mae). Bro. Leroy and Bro. Walter shared in this work. We wish these new sisters and brother much Grace in the Lord as they walk a new life.

We also appreciate the visit of Bro. Leroy Hartman of Peoria and Bro. Robert Grimm of Goodfield and thank them for their ministry to us.

We welcome Bro. Paul and Sis. Sheri (Anliker) Kelson. They have moved to Eureka from Fairbury. We are glad to have them worship with us and hope they will feel "at home" here.

"For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." We had a most blessed Saturday evening on Apr. 22 when Bro. Loren Stoller of Latty and Bro. Dan Koch of Tremont were here to assist Bro. Leroy in sharing Holy Communion. Bro. Loren and Bro. Dan were with us on Sunday, too, giving us many worthwhile teachings from the Word of God. If we could just remember them all!

"You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and even once say 'I';
You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and even once say 'my';
You cannot pray the Lord's Prayer and not include your brother;
For others are included in each and every plea:
From the very beginning it never once says 'me'."

Hospital patients have been Bro. Robert Wettstein, Sis. Anna (Sam) Hartter, Sis. Emma (Paul) Rocke and Sis. Carrie Huber from the "Home". Sis. Jana Knapp has had surgery but is doing fine again.

Bro. John and Sis. Beverly Hartter are the happy parents of their first child, Lisa Jo, who was born on Apr. 23. Grandparents are Bro.

Dan and Sis. Dorothy Hartter of Eureka, and Bro. Melvin and Sis. Edith Stock of Cissna Park.

We have several new residents at the "Home". They are Sis. Edna Klein and Bro. Warren Bauman of Peoria, and Sis. Esther Woertz of Goodfield. We hope they will be content there.

ILLINOIS, Fairbury . . . Joyce Huber: We rejoice with Bro. Paul and Sis. Sherri Ashby as their daughter, Kim, has turned to the Lord in repentance.

Bro. Bud and Sis. Sharon Kelson's son, Michael, was married to Theresa Cange, and we wish for them the Lord's blessings. They will be at home in Morton where Michael is employed as a bricklayer.

Miss Julie Furrer and Mark Hall were united in marriage and we know that the Lord Jesus will give them much happiness together. Julie is the daughter of Sis. Louise Furrer, and granddaughter of Bro. and Sis. Sam Steffen, and Mark is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Don Hall and grandson of Mrs. Herman Huber. They will be living in a farm home near here.

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

The Lord still lets us behold miracles as we rejoice with three families who have welcomed new babies into their family circles. Stanley (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Rosetta) and LuAnn Stoller have been blessed with their first child, Jadrien Allen. There is also joy in the home of Bro. Bill and Sis. Mary Masters with a baby girl. Leslie Elaine joins Ronnie, Ricky, Cory, Aaron, Nathan, Jeremy and one sister, Lisa. Ed and Sis. Mary Ann Plattner are her grandparents. Your Silver Lining correspondent, Sis. Beverly Eisenmann (along with her husband, Bro. John, and the children, Sis. Carol, David, Danny, Eric, and Darla) has a new joy in her heart and home since her new baby, Kevin Jay, was born on Apr. 27. Bro. Emil and Sis. Louise Anliker and Sis. Lydia Eisenmann are Kevin's grandparents.

Another miracle that we rejoice in is that Kieth Ifft (Bro. Harvey and Sis. Velma Jean) has heard and answered the Lord's call and is repenting.

Gene and Sis. Velma Schadenhauffen will be gaining a new son-in-law on July 15 when their daugh-

ter, Karen, and Rick Bauman plan to be united in marriage.

Bro. Dave Weigand (Champaign) was with us recently, and through God's Word we were reminded of our duties as God's children.

Sisters Kathy Leman (Bro. Jerry), Josephine Schlatter (Bro. Dan), Carrie Wiegand, and Bros. Terry Adams and Ed Bach each spent some time in the hospital.

Bro. Havery Leman has been handicapped due to the complications from Parkinson's Disease which he has been afflicted with for many years. He and Sis. Leona and their family wish to express their deep appreciation and thanks to those who remembered them with beautiful inspiring cards, words of encouragement, and gifts this blessed Easter season.

Among the great and glorious gifts sent to us from our Heavenly Father is the gift of understanding that is found in kind and loving friends.

ILLINOIS, Goodfield . . . Elna Grimm - Verna Hartter: This month we celebrate Mother's Day . . . "Who can find a virtuous woman, for her price is above rubies. The heart of her husband does safely trust in her." (Pr. 31: 10, 11).

Mothers' hearts are fragile things,
So easily they're crushed;
So soon they feel the painful darts
Against their children thrust.

The joys their children feel are
theirs,
The pains and heartaches too;
No wonder they are sometimes
glad,
And sometimes very blue.

Their all-time prayer is, "Father,
please,
Don't let my children fail . . .
Please let the beauty of your love
Within their hearts prevail.

"Please call them to your loving
side
Before it is too late,
And grant them all the peace and
joy
Your love can radiate.

"Please help them bear the trials
and
Temptations that must be;
Oh, chastise when they go astray,
And bring them back to Thee.

"If I can have one prayer, dear
Lord,

Please make my children Thine,
That they will spend eternity
Within Thy realms divine."

Yes, mothers' hearts are fragile
things,

So easily they're crushed;
But easily delighted, too,
When children simply trust.

Elna Grimm

A couple of our dear mothers have been disabled. Sis. Esther (late Bro. Frank) Woertz suffered a mild stroke. She resides at the Eureka Home and is improving nicely. Sis. Lorene (Bro. Edmund) Kloter was hospitalized with a blood clot in her leg. And Thad Heinold, toddler son of Bro. and Sis. Dan and Carol, was recently hospitalized with an eye infection. We extend our prayers of love to all of these.

It was nice to have ministering Bros. Kenneth Dietz and Roy Ehnle visit us and expound the word of God. Thank you, brothers.

ILLINOIS, Gridley . . . Perry and Carol Klopfenstein: "If my people . . . shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin . . ." (II Chr. 7:14)

This verse expresses what many of us have experienced to be true. When we actually did begin to humble ourselves and pray and seek our Saviour's face, we found His forgiveness and were also able to find the grace to obey Him. We are a most fortunate people to have been drawn into the sphere of God through repentance and conversion, and today have the privilege of walking in the light of His countenance. It is wonderful to daily commune with Him and to attend church gatherings and fellowship activities.

Our congregation has been enriched lately due to the beautiful music at our monthly sings and from the choirs of young people during the recent ACYF singings held in Gridley.

Bro. Keith Zimmerman and Sis. Charlene Funk were recently proved and baptized and taken into the church. Their testimony of faith was an inspiration to the church. This common experience we all en-

counter tends to draw us closer together.

All of these blessings become magnified when we consider the alternatives that the world offers. How wonderful it is that in today's moral climate we can seek God, and can assemble ourselves around His word as often as possible.

Our church and community were saddened at the passing of Bro. Willis "Butch" Gramm, age 44. After waging a long and courageous battle against a serious disease, he succumbed on Apr. 5. Our dear brother will be missed, and his ready smile and general friendliness will be long remembered. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to his parents, Bro. Henry and Sis. Ruth Gramm; his wife, Sis. Anna Louise; his sons, Bro. Curtis, Bro. Roger, and Craig; his daughters, Gail and Mindy; his brother, Bro. Jack; and his sister, Jane Cloat of Peoria.

Funeral services were also held for our friend, John (Jack) Hofer, 75, who passed away Apr. 24. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Helen, his son, Herbert and his daughter, Elaine Bunch.

We were glad for the many visitors attending the wedding of our Sis. Nancy Zimmerman to Bro. David Wulf of Morris, Minn. The three-fold chord established in the marriage of believers is always a delight to observe.

Little bundles of love were welcomed into three families. Orville and Carolyn Moore are the parents of a son, Derek Allan Dean, born Apr. 2. Derek has a sister, April, and two brothers, Brian and Corey. His grandparents are Bro. Walter and Sis. Esther Knapp of Gridley, and Mr. and Mrs. George Moore of Hudson.

Jennifer Lynn is the new daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Valerie Funk. She was born Apr. 6 and has a brother, Ben. Jennifer's grandparents are Bro. Wilbert and Sis. Violet Funk of Morton, and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Brockwell of Flanagan.

Bro. Roger and Sis. Elaine Witzig have a new daughter, Taunia Lenee, who was born Apr. 20. Her brothers are Shannon and Brandon. Taunia's grandparents are Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marjorie Witzig, and Bro. Loren and Sis. Mildred Schlipf.

Recently in the hospital were Sisters Lorene Stoller, Louise Rich,

and Minnie Stortz; Bro. Kenneth Meiss, and Tim Marti, son of Bro. Allen and Sis. Delores.

Our visiting ministers during the month were Elder Bro. Don Sauder, Roanoke; Bro. Everett Hari, Bloomington; Bro. Edmund Kloter, Goodfield; Bro. Harold Gramm, Morris; Bro. Steve Gutwein, Francisville; and Bro. Robert Walder of Congerville. The power of God was made manifest through the spoken word, and we thank these humble and devout men of God for their labors in His behalf.

Sis. Minnie Stortz wishes to thank everyone who so kindly remembered her with cards, flowers, gifts, visits, and prayers while she was in the hospital. She especially thanks the ministers who visited and prayed with her, and the sister who gave her money.

ILLINOIS, Illinois State University . . . Ann Stoller: Another semester is almost over at I.S.U., and I'm sure by now that we are looking forward to summer vacation. Our last Bible study for this semester was held on Thursday, May 4. On that night, Bro. Curt Gramm from Gridley also showed slides of his trip to Japan, which were very interesting. Bible study will resume again on May 18 and will continue through the summer. We would like to encourage everyone to come and worship and fellowship with us as often as possible.

We recently elected new officers for Bible study. They are as follows: Bro. Keith Knapp, president; Bro. Chris Gramm, vice-president; Sis. Deanna Marti, secretary; and Sis. Doris Bechtold, treasurer.

We were also very privileged to hear the inspired Word of God, spoken by Bros. Fred Knapp of Congerville, Ed Hohulin of Goodfield, Walt Anliker of Eureka, Ed Ringger of Gridley, and Joe Schrock of Congerville.

ILLINOIS, Morton . . . Lorna Schrock - Judy Springer: Impressive communion services were held two weeks after Easter with Bros. Dan Koch, Tremont, and Ed Hohulin, Goodfield, assisting our elder, Bro. Joe Braker. We were reminded of the great price that was paid to purchase our redemption.

Saturday evening, May 8, the Sunday School Bible Class and the eighth grade class held a spaghetti supper at our Fellowship Hall.

Part of the proceeds will go to charitable purposes. The remainder will be spent on a recreational outing for the students.

At our last monthly Hymn Sing of the season, we were privileged to have three groups sing for us: the Evangel Quartet, the Morton Mixed Chorus, and the Joyful Noise, a group of Morton young members.

Congratulations are in order to four young couples, recently engaged. Elaine Ackerman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ackerman, is engaged to David Barth, son of Bro. John and Sis. Ursel Barth of Oakville. Elaine and David, who both live in Iowa City, are planning an Aug. 12 wedding. Kari Jensen and Paul Rapp, both of Morton, are planning a July 8 wedding. Their parents are Walter and Joyce Lenz of North Liberty, Iowa, and Bro. Howard and Sis. Delores Rapp. July 9 is the date chosen for the marriage of Sis. Jolene Steffen of Elgin, Ill., and Bro. Jon Rocke. Parents of this couple are Sis. Eleanor (and the late Bro. Elmer) Steffen of Elgin, and Bro. Wayne and Sis. Opal Rocke. Sis. Susie Hoerr of Peoria and Bro. Paul Plattner are also engaged. Their parents are Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Eldora Hoerr of Peoria, and Bro. Jake and Sis. Bernice Plattner.

Two new babies have brought happiness into their homes. Jim and Valerie Steffen are proud parents of a second son, Bradley James, born Apr. 16. Welcoming him home is Jeffrey. Bro. Al and Sis. Ellen Koehl, and Bro. Duane and Sis. Lois Steffen of Congerville are the grandparents.

Lori Beth, born Apr. 17, is the new daughter of Leroy and Sis. Karen Greiner. At home to welcome her are Mike and Jenny. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ross, and Elmer and Linda Greiner of Hancock, Minn.

A blessed weekend was enjoyed when three persons, all of retirement age, gave their testimonies and were baptized. They are Bro. Chris and Sis. Kathryn Strunk Rassi, & Bro. Bill Aupperle. We warmly welcome them into our precious fellowship. Bro. Dave Keiser, Princeville, was here to help in this important work.

Funeral services for Edward Waldbeser, 80, were held at a local mortuary on Apr. 17. Surviving are his wife, Clara Schoenbein Waldbeser and a son, Marvin, of Foun-

tain Hills, Ariz.

Mrs. Alvin (Verna) Aberle, 63, died Apr. 15. Private services conducted by our ministers were held in a local funeral home. Surviving are her parents, Henry and Anna Eberle Schabinger, her husband, and one daughter, Mrs. Richard (Beverly) Berger.

On Apr. 14, funeral services were held for Mrs. Albert (Anna) Rapp, 84, of Springfield, in a local mortuary. Her husband survives. Burial was in our church cemetery.

Sis. Kathryn Knapp, 90, died Apr. 28 at Restmor Nursing Home, where she'd resided since Nov. Services were held in church on May 1. Three sisters are among the survivors: Sis. Mary Knapp and Sis. Carrie Geiger, both of Morton, and Sis. Rosa Weigand of Eureka.

Our sympathy is extended to all the bereaved of these loved ones.

Hospitalized this past month were Sis. Kathryn Jacob, and Bros. Anton Rother, Willis Belsley, and Howard Rapp.

Midweek services were held at our Fellowship Hall the last Wed. in April so the final work could be completed on our newly installed air conditioning system. With anticipation of hot summer weather, we're thankful it will be ready.

ILLINOIS, Peoria . . . Mary Sue Rieker - Diane Hohulin:

Some people think the springtime
A seasonable event,
With birds, and bees, and flowers,
Which nature's hand has sent.
To me spring is the season
When heaven does bestow
On earth its tenderest blessings,
And causes things to grow.

Bro. Henry Beer

Truly, now, as the warmer weather is approaching, we notice the many signs of spring. On a beautiful, clear morning we can observe the trees blossoming, tulips springing forth from the ground, the grass getting greener, and birds flying north and building nests. What a beautiful creation God has made for us to enjoy.

Over many miles, the Lord brought the Peoria congregation several ministers to preach the gospel: Bro. Bob Pohl of Burlington, Bro. Roy Wieland of Bay City, Bro. Bob Meyer of Bluffton, and Bro. Lynn Klopfenstein of Landersville.

On Apr. 23, Bro. Wilbur and Sis. Eldora Hoerr announced the engagement of their daughter, Sis. Susan, to Bro. Paul Plattner of Morton.

Hospital patients this month were Sis. Ruth Hartman, Sis. Edna Klein, Anna Hoerr, Bro. Henry Leman, and Kevin Clatt. We wish them God's richest blessings in restoring their good health to them.

The Peoria congregation was saddened with the deaths of our two dear friends. We wish to express our sympathy to Sis. Emelia Dallinger upon the death of her son, Milton Dallinger. Also we express our sympathy to Sis. Emma Woerner upon the death of her sister, Bertha Siebenthal.

Sis. Ida Schmidtgal wishes to thank everyone who remembered her with flowers, gifts, cards, and prayers offered in her behalf during her illness.

ILLINOIS, Princeville . . . Ruth Ricketts: "He who brings sunshine into the life of another has sunshine in his own."

We enjoyed a most blessed day Apr. 9 when Bro. Al Langhofer of Wichita, Kansas, was our guest minister. He gave us many precious things to ponder over and we appreciate his teachings. Many friends and relatives gathered later in the afternoon at the Fellowship Hall to share in the reception held in honor of Bro. Bruce and Sis. Mary Stoller who were married on Easter Sunday. Bro. Joe and Sis. Emily Stoller are the parents of Bruce, and Bro. Al and Sis. Judy Langhofer are Mary's parents. Many enjoyed the singing that followed and we could all feel a blessing. We heartily welcome Sis. Mary and trust she will feel the same love in our midst that she had to leave in Wichita.

Bro. Charles Hemmer of Peoria kindly consented to assist Bro. Art Baurer Apr. 16 due to the absence of our other ministers. Eccl. 3 was read and meditated upon, as was the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. There is a time and season for all things. In the parable, time ran out for both. Lazarus was comforted on Abraham's bosom and the rich man, in torment after living in luxury, called for help. Now is the time to repent and turn to the Lord for help, for our time, too, will run out. Then, where will we spend

eternity—in heaven or in torment? We are always glad when Bro. Charles comes back home and appreciate his serving us.

Since the World Relief meeting was held here, we are happy to have new interest shown in our sewing group. We trust that all will receive a blessing in sharing with those less fortunate, and that all will feel that giving one night each month to work together was beneficial.

Much interest has been shown in the newly organized choir. We anticipate many blessed hours together with young and old as we sing songs of praise to our Lord.

Many new friendships were made when the Tremont Bible class spent the day with our Bible class students. We were thankful for the teachers and parents who accompanied the class and trust all received a blessing.

We were thankful to see Sis. Emma Asal in church again recently. It was the first time she was able to be present since August when she submitted to a cornea transplant. Sis. Nellie Woertz is able to worship with us occasionally, too, for which we are thankful. We were also happy to have Bro. Wm. Stahl with us the last few Sundays, following heart surgery.

Bro. Phillip Musselmann is slowly regaining strength in his home after being hospitalized for nine weeks.

On Apr. 14 a little daughter, Esther Joy, was born to Bro. Steven and Sis. Mary Lynn Streitmatter. Little Naomi welcomed her new sister as did the grandparents: Bro. Burton and Sis. Martha Streitmatter, and Bro. Leslie and Sis. Eunice Unsicker of Peoria.

A little daughter was also born to Bro. Jim and Sis. Vicki Elsasser. She was born Apr. 17 and has been named Kara Renee. A sister, Shannon, welcomed her. Grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Lillian Elsasser, and Bro. Robert and Sis. Leila Meyer of Bluffton, Indiana.

In a short time we will be observing a day especially set aside to honor our mothers. We who still have our mothers are especially blessed and have much to be thankful for. Mother—the heart of the home. She is the one who has time to soothe hurts and listen to the problems of her young, and offers advice as the years roll on. She is the one you can always depend

upon for help of any kind and is never too busy to listen. We are thankful that a day is set aside to honor our mothers, yet we know we should appreciate and honor them every day. May God bless each and every one of them.

Bro. Dick Gerst has recovered from major surgery so well that he is able to return to work. He and his wife, Cleo, are not only grateful to God, who extended His healing hand over Dick during his surgery, but also to those who were kind to him and prayed for him when he could scarcely pray. He is very grateful for our precious fellowship and asks God to reward those who were so thoughtful.

ILLINOIS, Roanoke . . . Edith Sauder - Mae K. Hodel: We spent a blessed evening when we heard the testimonies of our dear friends, Gary Leman (Bro. Jim and Sis. Myra), John Wiegand (Bro. Morris and Sis. Lena), and Mary Farney (Bro. Ira and Sis. Doris). Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) assisted Bro. Don Sauder in this important work. Baptismal services were held on Sunday. We welcome them into the brotherhood.

"Gathering buds for the Master's Bouquet," was sung at the graveside services of the infant son of Bro. Charles and Sis. Rita Hodel. Little Rodney Alan was six weeks old. He is survived by his brother Kevin, grandparents Carl and Betty Hodel, and Bro. Ray and Sis. Emily Eisenmann of Cissna Park.

The engagement of Bruce Sauder (Bro. Curtis and Sis. Edna) and Rita Springer (Mr and Mrs. Roy Springer) was made known. They are planning a summer wedding.

Hospitalized this month were Sis. Minnie Leman and Sis. Mattie Leman.

Ministering to us this month were Bro. Uriel Gehring (Burlington), Bro. Everett Hari (Bloomington-Normal), and Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria).

Our three dear friends, Cheryl Kempf (Bro. Ervin and Sis. Alice), Doris Hodel (Carl and Betty), and Julie Hodel (Ed and Helen) gave their testimonies of God's love in their hearts. They sought peace and found it. Many witnessed their baptism and welcomed them into the family of God. Bro. Roy Sauder and

Bro. Vernon Leman were used by the Spirit for our edification. Bro. Roy also assisted Bro. Don in the duties of the baptisms. May God richly bless our new sisters.

We were happy to have Bro. Eugene Bertchi give us words of wisdom after the Wednesday evening sermon. It was an answer to many prayers to have him speak to us again after such a long time. May God continue to strengthen him and bless him.

Our last family sing of the season was Apr. 30. Our ladies group and the Zion's Harp Chorale, a mixed group from four area churches, sang several selections for us. Thank you.

ILLINOIS, Tremont . . . Lydia Rassi - Mary Jane Leuthold: Bro. Jim Ramseyer, Bay City, spent a Sunday with us. Bro. Vernon Wettstein, Congerville, was here during a mid-week service. How nice it is to assemble together with visitors of like faith and to meet and greet in our precious Savior's name.

Mike, Sue, Krent, Ginny, and Benji Aberle welcomed Joshua Michael into their home. He arrived Apr. 16. Bro. Walt and Sis. Vera Aberle, Tremont, and Bro. Richard and Sis. Helen Zimmerman, Roanoke, are the grandparents.

Sis. Royaldeen (Bob) Hodel had major surgery this past month. She is recovering slowly and we wish that an abundant measure of strength will be given to her. At this writing she is with her daughter in Clinton, Ill. They wish to thank all who remembered her with visits, prayers, gifts, & kind deeds. Aaron Gschwind had a kidney stone removed. He is able to assemble with us again.

Emma Getz passed away Apr. 23. She had assembled with us many of her 83 years. Three brothers and two sisters survive: Ernest, Peter, and Ben; Mrs. Lucy Bollinger and Mrs. Ben (Anna) Carius. We extend our sympathy to the family and hope and pray that Emma found a measure of peace with her God before her earthly departure.

Again we will remember our mothers, those gone on before us and those still in our midst. A story caught my eye and I wish to share it with our many brethren and friends. Taken from **Our Daily Bread**, by H.G.B.

STEERING BY MOTHER'S LIGHT

The story is told of a father and his little girl who were out in a boat and were caught in a violent storm. Their home was near the shore, so the mother put a light high up in an attic window, praying desparately that its gleam might guide her loved ones to safety. Her faith was rewarded. As night came on, the daughter, with her keen eyes, caught the faint glimmer of golden rays touching the edge of the waves. Slowly, but steadily, the father brought the boat safely to shore. Greatly relieved, the mother asked how they had found their way. "We steered by your light," said the little girl. As we remember our Christian mothers at this time, are we steered by the light that they have and are portraying in their daily walk of life? Have we followed and adhered to her daily prayers for the welfare of our soul and body? Are you following that light burning for you? Will you find peace in your heart; that Mother's light and yours can burn brightly together, whether on earth or some day in heaven above?

THOUGHT: Many a child has been led out of the darkness of sin by the light of a mother's walk of life.

Sis. Margaret Frank wants to thank everyone who remembered her with food, flowers, and cards. She wants to give a special thanks to those who sang for her.

ILLINOIS, Washington . . . Linda Ziegenhorn - Valerie Kipfer: "Faithful unto death remain, Faithful unto death remain! Toil and care, O may they never From the cross of Christ thee sever! Gladly suffer grief and pain, Faithful unto death remain!"

Sometimes when singing, we forget to think of the words of the song. Many of them are a sermon in themselves.

On Apr. 2 we were able to partake of Holy Communion. Elder Bros. Ed Hohulin and Roy Sauder assisted.

The Prairie Choristers uplifted many hearts with their inspirational song at our monthly hymn sing on Apr. 16. There were many visitors that evening and a multitude of blessings were felt.

"To lead the flock in ways of truth,
To feed them day by day,

The Lord raises up true ministers
To lead them in His way.
Salvation's message be proclaimed
In accents true and clear;
May souls by faith and penitence
Still find salvation here."

Henry Beer

We are thankful for the visiting ministers who have brought us wonderful words of life. They are Bros. Ed Hohulin, Roy Sauder, Jim Hoerr, Bill Schlatter, Walter Herrmann, Dave Kieser, Harold Schmidgall, Ben Fehr, Dan Koch, Gerald Sutter and Chuck Sauder.

Our congregation held an Appreciation Dinner at the Morton Fellowship Hall on Apr. 29. It was our way of showing our thankfulness to so many who put so much time and effort in the construction of our church.

From Psalm 84: "How amiable are Thy tabernacles, O Lord of Hosts! Blessed are they that dwell in thy house; they will be still praising thee."

INDIANA, Bluffton . . . Connie Troxel - Teresa Fiechter: We had many visitors on the weekend of Apr. 14 and 15. Ed Reinhard (Bro. James and Sis. Ruth), Jerry Reinhard (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Doris), Mary Jo Reinhard (Sis. Sarah), Ray Steffen (son of Sis. Marie), Jane and Ted Habegger (Bro. Ben and Sis. Arlene), Cheryl Gerber (Bro. Don and Sis. Mary), Debra and Lary Reinhard (Sis Sarah Reinhard and Bro. Don and Sis. Mary Gerber), Joleen Kipfer (Bro. Carl and Sis. Nova), and Jeff Leman (Wally and Sis. Marily) were added to the fold. Bros. Alfred Bahler, Ed Hohulin, John Steiner, Walter Rehklau, Simon Wagenbach, Ben Manz, and Vernon Wettstein were with us for this blessed occasion.

Gary Fiechter (Herman and Sis. Phyllis), Jan Yergler (Bro. Dick and Sis. Lillian), Jeff Yergler (Bro. Truman and Sis. Marcella), Todd Reimschisel (Bro. Dick and Sis. Elaine), Steven Byerly (husband of Sis. Susan), Kevin Fiechter (Bro. Dale and Sis. Doris), Beth Steffen (Bro. Harry and Sis. Betty), Fonda Geisel (Bro. Everett and Sis. Alice), Brad Baumgartner (Bro. Galen and Sis. Joyce), and Kelly Aschliman (Bro. Bob and Sis. Ida) were taken into the family on the weekend of Apr. 28. Bros. Edwin Ringger and Joe Brak-

er helped with this important work.

Our hospital patients were Eric Tonner (son of Bro. Eric and Sis. Rhonda), Sis. Olga Frauhiger, and Bro. Joseph Steffen.

We give our sympathy to Bro. Phil and Sis. Gloria Kaehr in the death of Gloria's mother, Mrs. Gerald Timmons.

We want to thank Bros. Art Ringger and Tom Leman for sharing the Word with us.

Bro. Fred and Sis. Rhonda Rupel were blessed with their first child, Jonathon Ray. Bro. Ron and Sis. Linda Kipfer welcome into their family Kevin Ronald. Bro. Ramon and Sis. Lorena Staffen have a new baby boy, Corey Ray.

INDIANA, Bremen . . . Leona Lehman: At this writing our regular reporter, Sis. Norma Lehman, is enjoying the beauty of the cherry blossoms and the springtime in Tokyo, Japan. May God keep her safe during her visit there and on her return trip home in June.

Teach me more of Thy blessed ways . . . We enjoyed having ministering Bros. Edwin Bahler and Earl Kilgus from Remington with us the weekend of Apr. 30.

Sis. Marge Mangold has again been to Mayo's for treatment and is able to be back with us for church services. May God grant her strength and courage to withstand all she is going through, "For I will restore health unto thee . . . saith the Lord." (Jeremiah 30:17).

We extend our sympathy to the family of Bro. George Laidig who passed away in Toledo, Ohio. Many from our congregation have felt that void.

In the Christian's home in glory,
There remains a land of rest;
There my Saviour's gone before me,
To fulfill my soul's request.

Moving? Let us know both old and new addresses and zips.

INDIANA, Francesville . . . Linda Gutwein - Sharon Neihouser: Visiting us this month was Bro. Alfred Bahler, Wolcott, on a Wed. evening. We were richly reminded of the story of the sower. Also Bros. Henry Beer, Milford, and Leroy Hartman and Jim Hoerr of Peo-

ria, brought us the Living Word.

Bro. Chris and Sis. Sharon Huber were blessed with a daughter, Angela Dawn. Chris and Shannon welcomed their sister home. Bro. Eugene and Sis. Mildred Huber are the grandparents.

The Gospel Choir spent a Sunday in Gridley and wish to thank them for their many efforts in making it a blessed day.

Our annual business meeting was held and the following offices were filled: trustee, Bro. Wayne Putt; ushers, Bros. Tom Gudeman and Dennis Leman; Sunday School teachers, Bros. Brian Huber and Larry Leman; missionary committee, Bro. Keith Getz.

INDIANA, Indianapolis . . . Pam Frank - Lynn Klopfenstein: Elder Bro. Theo Beer, who served the Indianapolis church many years, shared communion and was remembered for his love and service towards us. A blessed day was felt by all, and our thanks are extended to Bro. Alfred Bahler for sharing his labor of love. This verse expresses the thoughts of the congregation:

"Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labored in the word and doctrine." I Timothy 5:17

Our prayers are with our new convert, Martha Habegger, who is in school here. We are sorry to be losing two wonderful couples: Bro. Tom and Sis. Tammy Speicher, and Bob and Sis. Diane Horn.

INDIANA, LaCrosse . . . Grace Heinold - Lois Bucher: We always enjoy having visiting ministers with us, and we appreciate their efforts. Bro. Andrew Virkler, Bay City, and Bro. Carroll Gerber, Bluffton, gave us many spiritual teachings and thoughts.

"O come, let us sing unto the Lord." Ps. 95:1. We were thankful to have the Mortonaires with us on Apr. 23. They sang several hymns during a program presented in the afternoon.

Bob and Carol Bucher have a little girl, Amber Lynn, born Mar. 30. She has two sisters, Shawna and Christan, to welcome her home. Bro. Merle and Sis. Leona are the grandparents.

First time parents are Tom and Norma Mark, who have a little girl named Michelle Lynn, born Apr. 18. The grandparents are Bro.

Phil and Sis. Mary Troxel.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Sis. Emma Pfeifer and Sis. Esther Bucher, whose brother, Daniel Heiniger, passed away Apr. 28.

Our hospital patient is Bro. Lynn Feller, who has undergone surgery.

Mrs. Louise Alt wishes to express sincere thanks to all who prayed for her and sent cards, flowers, and gifts while she was in the hospital.

INDIANA, Leo . . . Mrs. Phil Schlatter - Mrs. Al Frautschi:

My gift was delivered at seven,
Just as I woke where I lay;
A gift was marked—FROM
HEAVEN—
My gift was this beautiful day.

One wonderful shining good
morning
Entrusted by God to my care—
It came bearing only this warning—
FRAGILE—HANDLE WITH
PRAYER.

(Author Unknown)

Bro. Harry Sutter and wife, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, were here Apr. 23. We appreciated their visit and his ministry. After quoting, ". . . whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." (Gal. 6:7), he posed the question, "Isn't that fair enough?"

Our beloved Sis. Rose Conrad completed her earthly journey of 93 years on Apr. 22. She is survived by her sister, Adelle, and several nieces and nephews. We are again reminded that we are in the land of the dying going to the land of the living.

We only see a little of the ocean,
A few miles distance from the
rocky shore;
But, oh, out there beyond the eyes'
horizon,
There's more—there's more!

We only see a little of God's love,
A few rich treasures from His
mighty store;
But, oh, out there beyond the life's
horizon,
There's more—there's more!
Author Unknown

Robert and Janice Pfister, with their two children, Nancy and John, have returned safely from a wonderful trip to Egypt, Israel, Jordan, and Switzerland.

We welcome Lester Stoller back from India; we'll miss Lynn Stoller as he leaves for another session toward his college degree.

Congratulations go to A.C. Children's Home Administrator Terry Farney on receiving a well-earned degree from Purdue University!

Diana Garman, daughter of Lewis and Ruth Garman, is a high school graduate this spring. Our good wishes, Diana!

INDIANA, Milford . . . Paula Haab: Bro. Elmer Haab became grandpa for the 43rd time when Andrew Don was born to Bro. Don and Sis. Martha Haab on Apr. 7.

Bro. Ed Alt of Cissna Park brought us the Word on Apr. 23. We surely benefited when the spirit so lead him to remind and warn us that we are living in a Sodom and Gomorrah. We also enjoyed the many visitors we had that day from various congregations.

A little five old visited my Sunday School class once because she was staying with her great aunt. A few weeks later she was there again. This time it was because she asked her aunt to bring her. When they arrived at the church, she said, "Thank you, Aunt Martha, for bringing me to Sunday School." Oh to be child-like! I wonder how many of us go because it is habit and not true desire.

INDIANA, Remington . . . Amelia Schini - Mildred Clauss:

On God for all events depend;
You cannot want when God's your friend.

Weigh well your part and do your best;

Leave to your Maker all the rest.
(—Catton)

Jacque Siebenthal (Wayne and Carolyn) and Jerry Bahler (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marilyn) are our high school graduates this year. Jeffery Beckley (Elmer and Nancy) is graduating from Ball State University and has accepted a position in Lafayette, Ind. We congratulate these fine young people for their accomplishments. Now we invite them to enroll in the greatest school of all—the "School of God."

Proverb 9:10 says, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding."

INDIANA, Valparaiso . . . Marie Heinold: On Apr. 9 we had the privilege of welcoming a young couple into the brotherhood. Elder Bros. Nate Steffen and Edward Frank were here to baptize and hear the testimonies of Byron and Sue Frieden.

Bros. Lenny Meyer and Edward Alt also favored us with a visit this past month. We thank all who came to worship with us.

April—a time of planting, sunshine—flowers blooming—giving hope and courage anew.

Perfect love is born in Jesus;
Naught of self can victory gain.
'Til we find it all in Jesus,
All our efforts prove but vain.

Perfect love will never falter,
Perfect love will never fear,
And when the days are dark and stormy,
Perfect love will always cheer.

Perfect love will never slander,
Friend or foe where e'er they go;
But will raise a fallen brother,
And will take his seat below.
Author Unknown

INDIANA, Wolcott . . . Laurel Midmer:

May we in perfect love be found
When we Thy table, Lord,
surround;
Keep soul and body purified;
Thy blessings Lord be multiplied
Upon this feast.

Zion's Harp

Bros. LeRoy Huber and Wendell Gudeman joined us, along with ministering Bro. Marvin Schmidgall, for Communion on Apr. 9. Though we think of this as a time of gaining new strength and renewed life, it was also a time of sadness and death for our congregation.

Sis. Margaret Reel, age 75, slept quietly away in her home on Apr. 8 after having suffered ill health for two years. The funeral was Apr. 10 at the Wolcott church. Surviving Sis. Margaret are her husband, Bro. Dan, one daughter, three sons, eleven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, two sisters, and one brother.

We will all miss her and the many kindnesses she showed others through the years.

Best wishes to Jim Furrer (Bro. Glenn and Sis. Eileen) and his bride, Rowena Sheldon, who is from our Remington congregation. They were married Apr. 15 and will reside in Sarasota, Florida. Best wishes to Larry Farney and his new wife, Denise Lyons (W. Lafayette), who were married Apr. 22. The couple plans to live in Wolcott.

IOWA, Burlington . . . Judy Gehring - Mayme Gerst: Sis. Elaine Eisenmann has been a patient in the University Hospital. She plans to be home in a few days.

On Apr. 12, a nice quiet Wednesday evening, our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz was with us. He meditated on I Tim. 2, and brought out many wonderful teachings. He reminded us that we should live each day of our lives as we will someday wish we had lived. Also, when we greet one another, we should say "Greetings, brother or sister," not just, "Greetings." He feels that the relationship of brothers and sisters in Christ is too precious to be dropped from the greeting.

Bro. Lanz said that it would be well if we, God's children, wouldn't use flattering words. A typical example is, "You certainly had a wonderful sermon." Satan can sometimes make an inroad by telling the brother who brought forth the Word of Life to dwell on that compliment a little, perhaps causing him to get a little bit puffed up, although everything we do is by the grace of God. Only God should have the glory and the praise.

There were some special words for parents. Our children lie close to our hearts and every parent wants salvation for them. He said that there seems to be a lack of discipline in the home today. Parents should be consistent. When we say, "No," we should mean no; if, "Yes," then mean yes.

A last few comments concerned what we should do with our Bibles at home. In closing, he admonished us to be on guard and alert so that we may all reach the heavenly home.

On Sunday morning, Bro. Jerry Kuntz from Oakville ministered to us.

IOWA, Elgin . . . Eleanor Buttkofer: Springtime is very evident in these parts. The big snow and cold of the winter are now a mem-

ory. The longer days and warm sun have made quick and wonderful changes. The snow in the mountains and heavy rains in various parts of our country have been a blessing from God for the places where the soil was beset with draught the past couple of years.

Speaking of spring, some of the greenery we see is in our herb garden where the chives and spearmint plants are already a few inches above the ground. To our bewilderment and delight, our pansies are already in bloom. The farmers are beginning to seed their small grain again and prepare the ground for their corn crops.

I'm sorry to report that Sis. Celia Butikofer is ill and is in the hospital. She is in St. Luke's Hospital in LaCrosse, Wis. May she feel the nearness of our Lord at all times.

Sis. Alta Thoman, who, for a period of time, was too ill to attend church, is once again able to attend. We are very delighted and thankful to see her pleasant face in our midst.

Once a year we vote for trustees, Sunday School teachers, ushers, song leaders, etc. This took place quite recently. The trustees are Bros. Chas. Schneider, John Schupbach, and Jim Butikofer. The Sunday School teachers are Bros. William Butikofer and Lonnie Butikofer, and Sisters Gloria Frieden and Karla Moore. The ushers are Bros. Floyd Frieden and Tim Butikofer. The song leaders are Bros. John Schupbach, William Butikofer, and Albert Butikofer.

We are delighted to see Sis. Aunt Ella Gehring attend our church services again. Since the rugged winter weather was not conducive for her to get out, she was forced to forgo coming to the meetings for quite a long time.

The coming Mother's Day will be this reporter's first one on which I'm unable to thank mother personally for her love. She passed away a year ago on the 18th of March. We miss her and cherish many treasured memories of her being in our midst.

Mrs. Nellie Wilson, a sister of Sis. Alta and Clarence Thoman, has recently been a patient in the West Union Hospital, but has now been released. Arthritis causes her much trouble, and we hope that she will be able to experience some relief. May God keep her in His

great love. She is such a dear person; we love her very much.

"The human heart yearns for the beautiful, and the beautiful things that God makes are His gift to all alike."

Harriet Stowe

May we help God grow beautiful things, and, above all, beautiful lives by repenting and attempting to live Christ-like lives.

Many of our songbirds have arrived from their winter quarters; however, the swallows and orioles, as yet, have not appeared. The robins are building a nest close by. I heard the strains of the song sparrow's melodious song, the call of the ring-necked pheasant, and the lovely trill of the brown thrasher's song only yesterday as I lent an ear to the outdoors. There are three woodpeckers who still come to the suet basket for a "fill." They are the red-headed, the hairy, and the downy.

Greetings to all, from our congregation.

IOWA, Garden Grove . . . Verle Funk: On Apr. 2, we held open house in our new church building. We were happy to have a good number of friends and neighbors visit us on that day. God directed Bro. Clarence Dietrich, of Silverton, Oregon, into our midst. We are grateful for the many good teachings and power-packed message which he brought us.

Apr. 16 was our dedication day. Our house and hearts were filled to overflowing. We are grateful to everyone who came to share in our joy as we dedicated this building as a house of the Lord. Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman of Francesville, and our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz, Oakville, were guest ministers for the day. In addition, there were: Bro. Clifford Grimm, West Bend; Bro. Carl Feucht, Lester; and Bros. Albert Wuthrich and Cleo Rinkenberger, Pulaski. We thank you, brothers, for rightly dividing the truth with us. It was a truly blessed day. We appreciate the efforts of everyone who helped in every way to make this day a reality.

We will miss Bro. David Peasley and his wife Margene, but wish them blessings and happiness as they fill a new place in the Lester congregation.

IOWA, Iowa City . . . Connie Gerst - Twila Whipple: As we re-

cognize Christ's resurrection, we see that it parallels the coming of spring with its new life. The budding trees, the blooming flowers, the green grass, and the refreshing sounds of birds are truly miracles that the Lord has created.

The Lord provided us with ministering Bros. Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL), Dennis Warner (Lester, IA), Ed Lanz (Oakville, IA), Eugene Bertschi (Roanoke), Bruce Leman (Roanoke), and Harvey Heiniger (Burlington), to speak His Living Word. Their labors of love have been greatly appreciated. May they be richly blessed for their efforts.

IOWA, Lester . . . Alice Metzger:

In His infinite wisdom, God has created the changing seasons and this season, especially the month of May, we can observe His works in so many ways. It is fitting that Mother's Day should be included, for God knew how much the children of the world needed a mother's love. We who had Christian mothers are blessed.

Elder Bro. Harold Messner, Winthrop, was with us to assist Elder Bro. Leo Moser in serving Holy Communion. We were led to the cross in remembrance of Jesus, who died and shed His blood for all of us.

With the cold weather behind us, we have again resumed our mid-week services. They are held on the first and third Thursday of each month.

Our hospital patients were Bro. Ade Moser, Sis. Elaine Kellenberger, Sis. Lydia Mogler, and Anna Knobloch. All underwent surgery and all are home except Ade who remains at the VA hospital, Sioux Falls.

An Apr. 15, Larry and Marti Leuthold became parents of a baby boy, Colin John. He has two brothers; the paternal grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Betty Jean Leuthold.

We welcome Bro. Dave and Sis. Margene Peasley, who have moved here from Garden Grove.

Sis. Carolyn Knobloch is a recent secretarial graduate of Nettleton Business College. We have eighteen high school graduates to whom we offer congratulations. They are Kim Doorneweerd (Dick and Leah), Lola Knobloch Deragisch (Bro. Alfred and Sis. Lucy), Beth Feucht (Bro. August and Sis. Martha),

Delores Feucht (Bro. Ray and Sis. Marge), Curt Kellenberger (Bro. Henry and Sis. Elaine), Levi Knobloch (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Irene), Lois Knobloch (Bro. Si and Sis. Edith), Merle Knobloch (Bro. Albert and Sis. Salome), Myron Knobloch (Bro. Ezra and Sis. Marie), Sue Knobloch (Bro. August and Sis. Florence), Allen Leuthold (Bro. Alvin and Sis. Estelle), Myra Moser (Bro. Leo and Sis. Leona), Jeff Myrlie (Patty and Roger), Jane Metzger (Bro. Jake and Sis. Donna), Glen Roeman (Eddie and Herman and Sis. Evelyn), Stan Wulf (Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona), and Nick Wysong (Bro. Jack and Sis. Janet). We pray that they will take with them the teachings they learned in Sunday School and church as well as the academics of high school.

IOWA, Oakville . . . Phyllis Siegle: And now abideth faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love . . . For God so LOVED the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (I Cor. 13:13, Jn. 3:16)

We are indeed thankful for the three who have testified of the love of God in their lives and were baptized on Sunday, April 23. Our new brothers in the Lord are Mark Kiefer, son of Bro. Bob and Sis. Delores; Kenny Lanz, son of Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan; and Charles Gerst, son of Bro. Paul and Sis. Elva.

It is really a blessed privilege to partake of Holy Communion. On the same Sunday that our baptismal service was held for the three souls, we were served this blessed Sacrament. "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come." Assisting our elder was Elder Bro. Leo Moser, Lester.

We wish to sincerely thank Bros. Ed Alt, Albert and Russel Wuthrich, and Elder Bro. Leo Moser for being willing to be used among us in bringing such timely messages from His Holy Spirit. We can say, "Our cup runneth over!" We enjoyed their fellowship and that of their families.

Birth: A baby boy, Koertland Carl, was born to Peter and Sis. Luanne Beyer. The grandparents are Sis. Nina Beyer, Naumburg, and Sis. Hilda Gerst.

With another Memorial Day being observed, we think of our loved ones in the Lord who have pierced the veil of death. Our thoughts concur with those of the psalmist who wrote, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

We wish to congratulate our graduating seniors. May they be granted faith and courage to put purpose in their days and always be aware that knowledge comes from learning, and wisdom comes from our Heavenly Father.

Engaged are Sherry Getz and Larry Wegman, and Junelle Long and Dan Wyss. Larry is the son of Bro. Sam and Sis. Rosemary, and Sherry is the daughter of Robert and Mary Catherine from Peoria, Ill. Dan is the son of David and Sis. Kathy, and Junelle is the daughter of Leland and Alice Long, Mediapolis. We certainly wish them much happiness and God's blessings in their future together.

A Father's Day thought: A father's hands are gentle; A father's hands are strong; guiding, helping, teaching, showing right from wrong— The protection of a father's hands, and the love that's in their touch, give the feeling of security, a child needs so much. Although they may be rough from toil, a child still understands how much of life's true beauty comes from a "father's hand."

IOWA, West Bend . . . Mrs. Louise Anliker - Beck Banwart: We were happy to have the Winthrop Bible Class fellowship with us on April 8 and 9. Along with them we were privileged to have ministering Bro. Leroy Messner (from Winthrop). He spoke clearly when he said, "We must change ourselves to fit the Bible, and not change the Bible to fit us. After all, God owns the heavens, and if we're going to some day live there, we're going to have to live according to His Word."

Our congregation asks the Lord to bless our graduates as they leave Mom and Dad and enter fields of employment and higher learning. May their hearts be thankful as they pause to remember their years of Sunday School, their teachers, and God's teachings. High School graduates are: Kim Madsen, Danish exchange student; Kevin Anliker (Bro.

Ray); Joan Bruellman (Bro. Donald); Shiela Fehr (Eldon); Jane Banwart (Bro. Victor); Ron Fehr (Roger); Chuck Wirtz (Bro. Verner); Brad and Blake Banwart (James); Roy Metzger (Bro. Silas); and LeAnn Banwart (Benjy). We pray that the seeds which were sown in their hearts will never leave, but will flourish, grow, and bring forth fruits.

Our hospital patient, Sis. Lucille Schmidt is home again at the time of this writing.

We feel a special place in our hearts for all mothers. Some have gone to their rest, others are among us. This poem by Helen Steiner Rice is so true. **A MOTHERS LOVE:** A Mother's love is something that no one can explain, It is made of deep devotion and of sacrifice and pain, It is endless and unselfish and enduring come what may, For nothing can destroy it or take that love away . . . It is patient and forgiving when all others are forsaking, And it never fails or falters even though the heart is breaking . . . It believes beyond believing when the world around condemns, And it glows with all the beauty of the rarest, brightest gems . . . It is far beyond defining, it defies all explanation, And it still remains a secret like the mysteries of creation . . . A many spended miracle man cannot understand And another wondrous evidence of God's tender guiding hand.

JAPAN, Shioda . . . Jane Weiss:

One day, a few weeks back, a kindergarten child's mother walked into my classroom with a question for me: "Miss Weiss, Rie-Chan caught a cold." "Yes I know." "Well, she's asking me if God made her catch that cold." . . . a puzzled blank look from Miss Weiss . . . "Rie-Chan believes that God does everything," says the mother, "so He must have made her sick, too," she reasons. "I don't know how to answer her," she continues, "Would you please answer her?"

I was shocked, but over-joyed, to hear such a story from that mother. We answered her by telling her about Satan and how powerful he is, too, and encouraging her to pray to God for healing, which he has the power to do. To think that that little girl could obtain such a belief in God in just a few short months is so strengthening.

The way this child learns about God is an easy and natural way, like most of us learn, by hearing Bible Stories daily, saying prayers, and frequent mention of His name and His son, Jesus. The verse from scripture, Proverbs 22:6, really applies: "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it."

But for this little girl's mother its a bit of a different story. Have you ever thought about what it would be like to try to learn to walk at age thirty—without the strength in your legs to do so, without a desire to try, or, if you do have a desire, not knowing where to begin? I'm afraid it's a bit of a task. That's about what its like for those who are not as privileged as we are, being raised in a Christian country and having a belief in God inbred into us. It is a task when it comes to them learning the Word of God and becoming Christians. It is that way for the average Japanese person if they have had no exposure to Christianity, as most haven't. Their mind is strong, and their heart is hard to the words of Scripture. "Those are good stories for children," they might be heard saying.

We covet the prayers from you, our beloved brothers and sisters in America. Please pray for us that work here, but, even more than that, for the going out of His Word here and for those that may hear it.

A thank-you goes out to the dear brothers and sisters that spent time with us during the month of March. Those are: Bro. Curt Gramm and Bro. Ben Gramm from Gridley, Illinois, Sis. Ruth Beutel and Sis. Glenna Pflederer from Tremont, Illinois, and Sisters Arlene and Arlys Martin from Princeville, Illinois.

The following article was contributed by Bro. Willis Ehnle: This young couple who attend our church were having a problem with several ladies from the militant Buddhist sect called Sokagakai. These neighbor ladies visited the young couple's invalid mother and asked her if she didn't want to be cured, to which she responded in the affirmative. Then they asked the wife of the young couple, the daughter-in-law, and she, too, responded that she did want her mother cured, being careful not to offend the mother by giving the

impression that she didn't want her cured. Then the ladies from Sokagakai turned to the mother and said, "See, your daughter approves and we guarantee that you will be cured."

The daughter-in-law was in a quandry because idol worship is involved, with which she would have to help the mother, and which she, under no circumstances, was willing to do. The husband of the couple took a course which settled it and which is a good example for us to remember. He asked his mother if she really wanted to join Sokagakai, and she replied that she did, that she wanted to be cured. He told her she could join if that was her desire, but she could not stay in his home and be cared for by them, if she did. Mother would have to go to some other member of the family, none of which it could be assured, would give such loving care. The son's stand was that if all you had to do was join Sokagakai to be cured of any physical illness, we could dispense with all doctors and medical care, a proposition he was not willing to accept. "Try the spirits to see if they be of God."

Sally Beutel

While on vacation we visited a shrine. When people came to the shrine to worship they gave some money; then they clapped their hands to arouse their god's attention; and then they bowed their heads to pray. As I witnessed this, I thought how fortunate and blessed a people we are that our true God in Heaven always has an open ear to our prayers. May we always thank our Heavenly Father for the many blessings He gives us.

We are enjoying the many beauties of spring. The blooming fruit trees and beautiful flowers are evidence of God's supreme power. His creation is truly beautiful.

We thank you for all your prayers for us. We truly need the prayers of those we love.

The following letter to the Editor of the Japan Times English language newspaper in Tokyo was written by Bro. Willis Ehnle for publication in their Readers in Council column.

To the Editor: Takamasa Arai, in his letter to the Editor published on April 21 wonders why Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" This is because Jesus was really forsaken

by His Heavenly Father, the Almighty God. To be forsaken by God and to be separated from Him, is part of the punishment for sin which Jesus Christ bore in our place, who, being the Son of God, was the only person qualified to make that atonement for us.

Mr. Arai states that something like, "My mission has been fulfilled," would have been more appropriate which may be true except for the fact that it does not indicate so clearly what His mission was as do the words, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

As for the letters which convey the impression that Jesus did not actually die on the cross and that His heart was still beating when His body was removed from the cross, the fact remains that the Scriptures teach that He died on the cross, that He "gave up the ghost." It is only normal that those who don't believe it find other explanations. The invitation still goes out that those who repent, believe, and obey will find forgiveness and eternal life through Jesus Christ.

JAPAN, Tokyo . . . Yoshio Yazaki: "For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land; the fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell . . ." Sol. 1:11-13.

Long terrible cold winter has passed and finally our lovely spring came upon our land of Japan. We can surely realize that the Lord created such a beautiful earth. We surely have to thank Him that He gave us such great blessings.

We are very happy to tell you that we had real blessed proving baptismal service on April 2, Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Shizuko Utsuki (Bro. Saburo Utsuki's wife) and Mrs. Haruyo Onoda were baptized. We really had been waiting for this kind of blessed day since a quite a long time. They will be real fine sisters of our faith. We believe and thank God that He always accepted our prayer even in small matters, if we pray to Him real earnestly.

We would like to ask you to pray for us especially since we are such small congregation here in Tokyo

church, and also the country church.

Our friend Karen Krieger returned from Kyushu Island recently where she went one month in Japanese home. It is nice to have her back in our circle again.

KANSAS, Bern . . . Esther and Stella Moser: Blessings multiplied during the month of April. On April 9, Elder Bro. Gene Marti ministered to us, and then helped Elder Bro. Lester Hartter serve communion. We were reminded that it is not only a command, ". . . this do in remembrance of me," but it is also a privilege. As a dear, older sister expressed herself, "Wasn't that some afternoon?"

Other guest ministers were Bro. Leo Moser, Lester, and Bro. Sam Huber Sabetha, on April 16. On April 23, Bro. Ben Fehr, Roanoke, and Bros. Huber and Carl Hartman, Sabetha, ministered to us. All were appreciated with thankfulness. It is no small matter to stand up and proclaim the true Word of God.

Jody Elizabeth arrived April 22 to join Shari, Staci, Mandi, and Gail in the home of Bro. Stephen and Sis. Lois Hartter. Bro. Lester and Sis. Ella are Jody's grandparents.

The first week end in April was a memorable one for Bro. Emil and Sis. Grace Strahm, as all of Sis. Grace's 14 brothers and sisters were able to be with them for a belated 40th Wedding Anniversary observance. Emil Strahm and Grace Blunier from Eureka, Ill., were married in December 1937. It was a wonderful week end to be able to worship and fellowship together.

KANSAS, Fort Scott . . . Jan Kraft: The Fort Scott Choir traveled with the Wichita Choir to Taylor to share a blessed week end of singing praises to God, fellowshiping, and hearing God's Word. As ministering Bro. George Lambert (Wichita) expressed, it is wonderful that we can offer the young friends something in which they really want to participate. And what a great way to learn about God and Salvation when they can sing it over and over and remember it!

How inspiring when God's children can come together in fellow-

ship and feel Gods love flow even though they've never met before. We were happy to have the young members from Taylor, Lamar, Tremont, Palaski, Oakville, and all the Kansas churches here the weekend of April 15 and 16. We also thank Elder Bro. Joe Braker (Morton) and his wife and son for sharing the week end with us. We were truly inspired by God's word that day. As Bro. Joe Braker said, "Ministers need our prayers so very much. THE POWER OF THE PULPIT IS IN DIRECT PROPORTION TO THE PERSISTENCE OF THE PRAYERS IN THE PEWS." The pulpit depends on our prayers. Let us always pray for our laboring brothers.

KANSAS, Gridley . . . Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr:

"Tell Mother I'll be there! Tho' I was often wayward, she was always kind and good; so patient, gentle, loving, when my ways were rough and rude; my childhood griefs and trials she would gladly with me share—Oh, Saviour, tell my Mother I'll be there!"

C. Fillmore

Surgical patients this month were Bros. Doug Kraft and Loren Strahm. Medical patients were Bro. Jake Beyer, Sis. Edna Somerhalder and Mildred Rogers.

Bro. Doug Kraft, Bro. Loren Strahm, and Bro. Jake Beyer wish to extend a special note of thanks to all those who remembered them with cards, prayers, gifts, and visits during their extended stays in the hospital. All thoughtfulness was deeply appreciated.

We are especially grateful to the Kiowa Sunday School group for hosting the Kansas Sunday School fellowship week end. Indeed, a blessing will be bestowed for your labors.

We would also like to thank ministering Bro. Gene Metzger, Lester, for sharing God's word with us.

Lost and Found: A nice brown coat with a dark brown collar was found at the Lloyd Kraft residence during the week end of Feb. 11 and 12. The owner can contact Lloyd Kraft, Gridley, Kansas, 66852. Telephone, 316-836-3670.

KANSAS, Kansas State University . . . Cynthia Meyer:

If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Matt. 16:24-26

May we never forget these words of Christ spoken to His disciples. Bros. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley, Kansas), Sam Anliker (Lamont), and Roy Wernli (Lamont) ministered to us this month. We certainly thank all of them for being with us. They reminded us to always strive for the ultimate goal—heaven.

KANSAS, Kiowa . . . Janice Frieden: Recently, a friend and I stood on a slight hill overlooking some railroad tracks. A swift moving train thundered by as we watched, and we noticed that, at the point where we happened to be standing, the train switched from one track to the other, never lessening its speed, though changing tracks. As I later reflected on that train that switched tracks, I realized that every soul experiences just such a switch. We are traveling through this world full-tilt, when suddenly we come to that point where we have a switch in the track of our life. We have the choice of either staying on the track we're on, thereby heading for certain destruction, or switching tracks and traveling full-tilt for the Lord to eternal life.

Praise the Lord! We were privileged to hear the testimonies of three precious souls this past month, who, through a true repentance and conversion, have now been baptized and are traveling on a new track for their Lord. Bro. Jeff Bahr, son of Bro. Rudy and Sis. Eileen Bahr, Gridley, was "taken up" on the week end of April 8. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker was in our midst for the occasion, and his words of love from the Scripture added an extra portion of blessing to an already full cup. Then on April 28 and 29, Bro. Phil and Sis. Sandra Hamilton (Sandra is the daughter of Bro. Arnold and Sis. Nelda Otto, Burlington) were "taken up," and Elder Bro. Richard

Schupbach, Pheonix, brought us more precious words from the Scripture to overflow the cup of blessings we'd already received. As Bro. Jeff returns to his home in Gridley and Bro. Phil and Sis. Sandra to their home in Stillwater, we pray that God will go with them to love and guide them in every decision and path they choose in life.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the family of Marie Diel at the passing of her daughter, Stella (Diel) Jones, this month. We hope that God's precious Word can be a comfort during this time of sadness.

Our hospital patients during April included Bro. Sam Schupback and Floyd Schupback. Bro. Sam underwent tests, and Floyd suffered from a bleeding ulcer. We are thankful that they are both up and around again and are able to be in our midst.

On April 22 and 23, our Bible classes sponsored a Youth Fellowship Get-together for the area Kansas and Lamar, Missouri, Bible classes. Approximately 110 sponsors and youth shared the week end with us, and Ministering Bro. John Lehman, Bern, was our speaker. We were truly uplifted by the sound words of warning and truth he taught from the Word, and fervently pray that our precious youth may come to know not only one another through these gatherings, but more importantly, our Blessed Lord and Saviour who makes it all possible.

KANSAS, Lamont . . . Susan Emch: We welcomed many visitors on April 16, including Bro. Max Reimschisel, Wichita, who ministered the Word to us.

Our Sunday School students enjoyed a week end of fellowship in Kiowa. May their many efforts be blessed.

Congratulations go to our high school graduates, Rick Anliker (Bro. Glen and Sis. Lorean) and Mary Wernli (Bro. Roy and Sis. Betty). We wish you God's guidance as you go on to whatever life holds for you.

KANSAS, Sabetha . . . Mrs. Joe Steiner: We were privileged to be able to follow the Lord's commandment and partake of the Lord's Supper which was served by Bros. Gene Marti and Lester Hartter.

Other visiting ministers this

month were Bro. Leo Moser, Lester, and Bro. Ben Fehr, Roanoke.

The engagement of Julianne Wenger to Frank Krogmann was announced by her parents, Bro. Harvey and Sis. Arleta Wenger. A June 24 wedding is planned.

Brent Meyer and Lisa Edelman were united in marriage by Bro. Gene Marti at the home of her parents, Clemens and Marjorie Edelman. We wish them the Lord's blessing as they begin their home together in Sabetha. Brent is the son of Bro. Velmer and Sis. Vila Meyer.

KANSAS, Wichita . . . Barbara Wernli: On the week end of March 26, Sister Mary Langhofer (Bro. Al and Sis. Judy) and Brother Bruce Stoller, Princeville, (Bro. Joe and Sis. Emily) were united in holy matrimony. Bro. Al Langhofer assisted Bro. Joe Stoller in the services. We pray that God will be an ever-present third party in their life together. Visiting ministers with us to witness the occasion were Bro. Nathan Stoller, Bradford, Bro. Loren Strahm, Gridley, and Bro. Roy Wernli, Lamont.

KENTUCKY, Lexington . . . Cathy Knobloch:

Alas! and did my Saviour bleed,
And did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?

I. Watts

For many years that song has been sung with great enthusiasm. Yet, the last line has always troubled me. Are we really nothing more than worms? Can we compare ourselves to slimy little creatures that live in the dirt?

Yes, there are times when I am a mere worm. That little worm can pop up in the most unsuspecting places. Just when I am ready to sit back and relax after working so hard to clean the rooms of my heart, I'll see another little worm back in a dark corner of my heart which needs to be dragged out and destroyed. Is there no end to it?

Praise God, there is an answer! "For whatever is born of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." I John 5:4. So run that you may receive a victory crown, an uncorruptable crown, a crown of glory.

Yes, perhaps I am a worm, but

I am a worm with a very special crown!

We have been pleased to have several visiting ministers through the past weeks. Our faithful elder, Bro. Wendall Gudeman, spent time with us, as well as Bro. Aberle (Indianapolis) and Bro. Ken Hoerr (Peoria).

Easter weekend was a busy time for our congregation. Through Good Friday services, sunrise services, and a special Easter program we were reminded many times about the infinite love Christ had, and continues to have, for each and every one of us.

We are pleased to announce the engagement of Sis. Brenda Grant, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Grant of Versailles, Kentucky, to Bro. Doug Suttor, son of Bro. Al and Sis. Verla Suttor of Bremen, Indiana. What God hath put together let no man put asunder.

MICHIGAN, Bay City . . . Carolyn Schamback - Patsy Knochel:

Spring is awakening the Earth; and what a joy it is to see that the Lord has awakened five new souls in our midst. It renews and refreshes everyone!

Sis. Loretta Moser is spending some time at the Cleveland Clinic for tests; we pray that the Lord will bless her, that she may find a measure of healing. Bro. Henry Wieland is home again after hospitalization, and Sis. Anna Magyas is recovering from surgery. May God bless each and every one of His children who suffer; let's not forget to pray for them daily.

Our Lord has called another one of His children home; Bro. Joe Wackerle, 81, died Apr. 29, after a short illness. Our prayers go out to his wife, Sis. Clara, and all his children and grandchildren. He had four sons, Bro. Wallace, Clinton, Lorraine and Clare, and two daughters, Tydene Mammel and Kay Pashak. What a comfort it is to the family and friends to have the hope that a loved one is eternally at rest.

MICHIGAN, Detroit . . . Martha Gleichman: It seems that in the city's hurried pace one forgets to look around him. It may take a child to say, "Look at the robin! See the flowers (dandelions)!" All of a sudden one realizes spring is here. As we see life beginning in the spring, we may remember all those promises we made to our-

selves for the new year. What have we accomplished this winter? It seems there is so much that we wish to do. The Lord is now providing us with new vigor to go forward. May we do as He wills.

Sis. Elaine Burgos is in the hospital. We pray that the Lord will always be at her side to give her comfort in the time of need. Sis. Mary Weigele is home following surgery. We pray for her continued recovery.

We are thankful for all of the willing workers who are helping landscape our new church. May the Lord greatly bless their efforts.

MINNESOTA, Minneapolis . . .

Josephine Esterling: I Peter 5:1, 2: "The elders which are among you I exhort . . ."

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof . . ."

Bro. Leo Moser (Lester) and Bro. Paul Fehr (Morris) came to serve us Holy Communion on Sunday, Apr. 30.

Sis. Sophie was able to be with us for communion. It is good to have her with us when she is able to be here.

Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl Messner and family moved to Hancock, Minn., in April, leaving a big void in our congregation. Sid was a Sunday School Superintendent and also a trustee. We miss them greatly and wish them God's blessings in their new home.

MINNESOTA, Morris . . . Pam Sutter - Lili Koehl: Sis. Kathy Dogotch (Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma) and Bro. Scott Strahm (Bro. Loren and Sis. Liseten) of Gridley, Kansas, were united in marriage on Apr. 2. We wish them the Lord's blessings as they walk the path of life together. They will be making their home in Emporia, Kansas.

Bro. Davis Wulf (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Violet) and Sis. Nancy Zimmerman (Bro. Ray and Sis. Helen) of Gridley, Illinois, took their wedding vows on Apr. 9. We warmly welcome Sis. Nancy into our congregation. May Christ be the unseen guest in their home.

We're looking forward to hearing the testimonies of our dear friends Gary Schmidgall (Bro. Gene and Dorothy) and Dennis and Judy Wulf (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Violet and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Durkee of Hancock).

A baby girl, Shadow Lee, was born to Paul, Jr., and Pam Fehr, on Apr. 17. This is their first child. The grandparents are Bro. Paul and Sis. Anna Fehr and Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Gilyard of Rapid City, S.D.

We welcome Bro. Sid and Sis. Cheryl Messner and their three children, Ryan, Quinn, and Joan into our congregation, as they are making their home in Hancock. We know they will be missed in Minneapolis.

We will certainly miss Bro. Keith and Sis. Lois Schmidgall and their two sons, Jeremy and Timothy, as they will be making their home in Hector and will be attending the Winthrop congregation.

We will be discontinuing our Wednesday evening church services over the summer months and will resume our Sunday evening song service on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.

We thank our visiting minister, Bro. Loren Strahm of Gridley, Kansas.

MINNESOTA, Winthrop . . . De- lores Messerli - Marcelle Dapper:

After they the pascal lamb had eaten,
He took bread, and breaking it,
gave thanks;
Shared it with His own belov'd
disciples,
Who in love and trust had joined
His ranks,
"Take and eat, my body I do offer,
As unto the death for you I suffer;
This a memory of my death and
pain,
Like-wise your redemption shall
remain."

Communion Hymn
Zion's Harp

Elder Bro. Paul Butikofer of Elgin, Ia., came to share with our Elder Bro. Harold in serving us the bread of life. Bro. Earl Banwart (West Bend) fed us with the Word of God. Retired Elder Bro. Paul Banwart (West Bend) added an extra blessing to this day, worshipping with us and offering a prayerful petition in our behalf, reminiscing about past days and years when he often came to serve our small congregation. Bro. Paul has a special kinship with many of his cousins attending the Winthrop church. His being here brought back memories of his father, Bro.

Joe Banwart (now gone to his heavenly rest), coming to visit and sharing the Word of God with us when I was a young child. I Cor. 11:27-35 was read and we were told to take a little journey out to Calvary. Unless we do, we have no life in us. Is our heart prepared for the blessing? Is our house clean and in order? Do not look upon another. This is time for self-judgment. In closing, we sang Hymn 89—The Seven Words of Jesus on the Cross. May God bless you, one and all.

We give sincere thanks to the teachers and youth of West Bend for their kind hospitality and thoughtful planning of a most blessed week end together with us (Jr. and Sr. Bible Classes).

Bro. and Sis. Jim Messner wish to convey their thanks and appreciation to the many relatives and friends who honored them on their Silver Wedding Anniversary.

Bro. Walter Messner is assembling with us again following his surgery.

Del Jacobson, daughter of Sis. Dorothy and John, was united in marriage to Lonnie Rickheim. They will reside in Winthrop.

MISSOURI, Lamar . . . Sandra Marti - Janice Braker: These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. I John 5:13.

What would He think of me
If when I saw Him, I should say,
"I was too busy every day
To read what Thou didst write to
me;

I really hadn't time for Thee!"
What would He say?

(author unknown)

My, how pretty and green the fields and gardens are beginning to look! And we know how we must labor to keep those thorns from springing up. During this busy season, let's also remember to labor for the Master.

Elder Bro. Sam Anliker was with us on the 16th of April. May God bless our dear elders for their willingness to serve us.

On Apr. 23, Bro. Charles and Sis. Alice Marti opened their home for a singing, for which we thank them. We pray that we will more fully appreciate this fellowship we

so freely enjoy, for we don't know how long this freedom will be granted.

Sis. Emma Lanz has now returned to her home after another hospitalization. Although I'm sure she has received many cards from friends and loved ones—and most certainly appreciates them all—maybe we could take time to send her a cheery note since she has been unable to assemble with us. We pray that God will be with her.

MISSOURI, Taylor . . . Lena M. Haerr: Trust in the Lord and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Psalm 37:3.

Bro. Gerald Sutter became very sick and needed to go to the emergency room at the hospital twice from grain dust mold. Bro. Rodney and Curtis Heimer also had to go to emergency for the same thing.

N. J. Webel had emergency surgery. We are so thankful that she is getting along. Ericka, the new baby, was cared for by her daddy during nights, and friends had her during the day. Eugene, 5-year-old son of Bro. and Sis. Ron and Chris Joos, was in the hospital several days for surgery. Clarence Kolt-hoff was very sick in the hospital for two weeks. He is home with some improvement. There was much sickness, but all are well again.

We certainly enjoyed the week end of Apr. 8 and 9, when two bus-loads of people came from Wichita and Ft. Scott, Kan. The singing was beautiful, the fellowship wonderful, and the Word of God given by Bros. George Lambert, Max Ramchisel, Wichita and Wayne Miller, Ft. Scott was so loving and sincere. This was a blessed week end. We thank them all.

Sue Shiffer's name was omitted last month. She is also a new convert from Elgin and goes to school at Carthage. We are so glad for Steve and Pam Kiefanber, who have been coming to church and now are repenting. God is so merciful, and we wish and pray many more will follow and become children of God.

The farmers still are waiting for dry ground to put in their crops. But we do want to:

Build a little fence of Trust around today;
Fill the space with loving works, and therein stay;

Look not through the sheltering bars, upon tomorrow;
God will help thee bear what comes, of joy or sorrow.

Mary Frances Butts

KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER

Sis. Elizabeth Sutter, one of our pillars in the church, was born in Elgin, IA, a daughter of Bro. Ed and Sis. Anna Burke Grimm, on Dec. 4, 1903. She grew up with the family, and on June 5, 1923, was married to Eli Sutter, Elgin, IA. In 1926 the Ed Grimm, Wm. Butikofer, and Eli Sutter families moved to Taylor, Mo., where Bro. Ed was the first minister at Taylor. Before this, the families met in their homes.

The Eli Sutters lived on a farm. A month after they moved, a two-year-old son, Edward, and little Joel Butikofer died of pneumonia. The other children are Bros. James, Gerald, and Richard; Sisters Naomi Weimer and Joyce (Bob) Pohl, Burlington, IA. Another child grew up in their home, Robert Frieden. He and his family live in California. All live in the Taylor area except Joyce and Robert.

Eli and Elizabeth repented at the same time in 1930, when fourteen souls gave their testimony and were baptized by Bros. Winzeler and Schubert on May 25, 1930.

Bro. Eli passed away Nov. 21, 1968. Since then, Sis. Elizabeth lives in the farm home where they lived since 1951. She's alone, and, yet, her family, 27 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren, give her much pleasure. She feels that without God's help it would have been a much harder life. She says her daily prayer is for salvation for her children and grandchildren. Elizabeth had a busy life, always helping where needed. She taught Sunday School for about twenty-five years and always enjoyed that. She also wrote for The Silver Lining for about twenty-five years.

NEW JERSEY, Union City - Philadelphia, PA . . . Ed Aeschleman: Sis. Marie Walsh was able to attend church Apr. 24 in Union City for the first time since her surgery about four weeks ago. Sis. Marie is always very faithful in attending church, even though she has more than an hour's journey. She has to travel three types of public transportation from her home north of New York City to

the church in New Jersey. We are thankful to God that He has again heard and answered our prayers.

On Apr. 24 we were very pleased to have two Japanese friends visit and worship with us in Union City. They were Misses Tomoko and Nobuko Utsuki, both daughters of Bro. and Sis. Utsuki, who live in Japan. Miss Tomoko has been employed in New York City for several years, and her sister, Nobuko, is visiting her from Japan. We hope to see them again.

A little information about the churches in Union City, New Jersey, and Philadelphia, Pa., might be of interest to some. The Union City church building has been standing since 1892, built by brethren who passed on many years ago. It is located in the midst of what is now an old and somewhat deteriorated residential/business district. Bro. John Diggelman has labored in the ministry for some 25 years, mostly alone. He is now in his mid-80's and continues to labor mostly alone, except for the support of his small congregation and the help he receives from God who has gifted him with remarkable strength, spirit, and talent. Probably no one can remember the last Sunday Bro. John was absent from church. This congregation, once one of the largest in the country, has dwindled to 13 active local members (mostly in their sunset years), 6 small children, and a handful of friends. The Philadelphia church, by contrast, is so young it can barely be called a church. Services are held in a rented Grange Hall every Sunday (except the fourth Sunday of each month) with the writer serving in the ministry. The congregation consists of three member-families who have a total of 10 children, ages 2 to 23. There are also five friend-families in the area with whom we frequently enjoy fellowship. All eight families are permanently established and form the nucleus of a growing church, God willing. Visitors, from whom we take courage, are welcome. We keep daring to believe that God will provide additional families and will one day provide a permanent place of worship so we can build our fellowship and service to God. Our prayers go forth daily, and yours are sincerely petitioned so that God will see fit to stimulate and strengthen both churches.

NEW YORK, Croghan . . . Alice Virkler:

A Mother's love is something
 that no one can explain,
 It is made of deep devotion
 and of sacrifice and pain,
 It is endless and unselfish
 and enduring come what may
 For nothing can destroy it
 or take that love away . . .
 It is patient and forgiving
 when all others are forsaking,
 And it never fails or falters
 even though the heart is
 breaking . . .
 It believes beyond believing
 when the world around con-
 demns,
 And it glows with all the beauty
 of the rarest, brightest gems . . .
 It is far beyond defining,
 it defies all explanation,
 And it still remains a secret
 like the mysteries of creation . . .
 A many splendored miracle
 man cannot understand
 And another wondrous evidence
 of God's tender guiding hand.

Helen Steiner Rice

ED. NOTE: This poem was also with the West Bend, IA, news. We counseled together and felt that it should be left in both places.

Little Nichole Lee was born on Apr. 13 to Fred and Linda Lawton. She was welcomed home by her brother, Freddie, and sister, Lynnette. Her grandparents are Larry and Sis. Louise Purvines and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lawton of Lowville. She also has a great-grandmother, Sis. Huldah Farney.

Sis. Cora Farney was a medical patient for a few days.

Mid-week services have begun for the summer months. We begin at 7:30 p.m. and alternate weeks with the Naumburg Church. Visitors are welcome to assemble with us.

NEW YORK, Naumburg . . . Corinne Virkler:

I do not ask for any crown
 But that which all may win;
 Nor try to conquer any world
 Except the one within.
 Be Thou my guide until I find
 Led by a tender hand,
 The happy Kingdom in myself
 And dare to take command.

On Apr. 25 the death angel again entered our congregation and has

Louisa May Alcott

taken our Sis. Edith Herzig, 52. She had been ill for several years. She was the daughter of the late Bro. Urban and Sis. Leah Herzig and lived in Naumburg all her life. She is survived by one brother, Wayland, Eureka, California, two sisters, Sisters Florence and Natalie, both of Naumburg, three nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins. A sister, Sis. LaVeda, died in 1971. The funeral was held Friday, Apr. 28, in the Naumburg Church with Bros. Robert Beyer and Leland Hirscheff officiating.

Sis. Clara Merz is again confined to her home after a fall in her home.

Sis. Viola Karcher has been in the Watertown Hospital a few days for tests.

OHIO Akron . . . Gail Spangler:

"Peace! Peace! Wonderful peace, coming down from the Father above. Sweep over my spirit forever, I pray, in fathomless billows of love." (Wonderful Peace, Gospel Hymns). We rejoice with Richard and Ella Messner who have found peace with God and man and are now looking forward to giving their testimonies and being baptized. It is our prayer that many more might find this "pearl of great price" before the door of grace is closed.

Bro. Noah (Ned) Baumgartner had eye surgery and is now recovering at home. We are thankful that the Lord has touched him with His healing hand and hope he will soon be able to assemble with us again.

Bro. Duane and Sis. Marge Collins have been blessed with a bundle from heaven. Caryn Michelle is welcomed home by Duane, Mark, Chris, Cindy, and Carole.

Bro. Ray Sinn (Latty) visited us on Apr. 23. We surely felt blessed by his visit and thank him for making the effort to spend the day with us.

OHIO, Junction . . . Gwen Manz:

Jerry and Pauline Carnahan are the happy parents of a girl, Liza Kay, born Apr. 15. Jason and Nathan are her brothers and Bro. Adam and Sis. Kate Manz are maternal grandparents.

We thank Elder Bro. Loren Stoller, Latty, for his recent visit and for ministering to us.

Bro. Oliver and Sis. Elizabeth Spangler are back in their own

home following Sis. Elizabeth's stay in the Green Springs Rehabilitation facility. It is a joy to have them assemble with us again, as well as Bro. Henry Manz, Sis. Kate Manz, and Sis. Mary Suttor, who were unable to attend church regularly during the winter months.

OHIO, Latty . . . Karen Klopfenstein - Susie Sinn: We are thankful to have Sis. Lori Stoller and Sis. Joyce Klopfenstein back in church with us again after being in the hospital.

May the Lord richly bless Bro. Ron Steiner, Rittman, for his efforts in bringing us the Word in its truth and sincerity on Apr. 30.

KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER

Albert Stoller, a handicapped person, was born in Switzerland, May 18, 1886. He is the oldest child of Christian and Elizabeth (Reichen) Stoller and is a brother to Sis. Emma Klopfenstein, Sis. Ida Rocke (Cissna Park), Bro. Jacob (deceased), Sis. Nettie Stoller, and Bro. Emil.

He was either born deaf or lost his hearing in a fall when he was a baby. When he was two years old his family came to the U.S. and settled in Cissna Park. In his teens he was sent to a school for the deaf in Detroit where he was taught reading, writing, and talking with hand signs. He spent about two years in Detroit; also, he stayed a short time at a similar school in Jacksonville, Ill. His formal schooling was stopped, partly because he was shy and became homesick, and, also, because his parents spoke and wrote in the German language, and he was taught in English. His younger brothers and sisters tried to learn from him how to spell with hand signs but didn't have much success. So Albert and his family communicated using hands, head, and body motions to indicate shapes, movements, and time (for example, lifting up a calendar page is 1 month). Today, Albert can read only a few words but enjoys looking at pictures in farm magazines.

In 1911, his family moved to Ohio. Here he attended church regularly, first at Junction, and then at Latty. He enjoys going to church, meeting people, and trying to converse with them in sign language. Some of his most despondent times come when he sees

others happily talking to each other.

In his younger days he was a hard worker doing farm chores; feeding and slopping the pigs, forking manure, and doing field work, such as hoeing weeds, shocking bundles of wheat and oats, pitching bundles, and husking corn by hand. He first worked for his parents, and, later, for his two brothers on their farms.

He was taught about God, and that those who believe and live good lives will go to heaven, and those who are bad will burn in hell. He has been a good light to his nieces and nephews, admonishing them when they, as children, were naughty, and later, when they were grown up, telling them to turn to God in repentance (sign language—bowed head, folded hands, and tears flowing).

In his retirement years he lives with his sister, Nettie, in Paulding. Except for his handicap, he enjoyed fairly good health nearly all his life, though now he is starting to suffer the infirmities of old age. Indeed, our loving, Heavenly Father has blessed and provided for Albert in spite of the cross he has had to bear.

By Bro. Melvin Stoller

OHIO, Mansfield . . . Lucille Groh: TAKE, EAT: THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH IS BROKEN FOR YOU: THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME . . . I Cor. 12.

What a blessed privilege the Lord offers us when we can partake of Holy Communion. Bros. Rudolph Graf and Joseph Ramsier were here on Apr. 23 and spoke God's Holy Word to us and then served us with Holy Communion. How wonderful to be reminded again of the suffering that our dear Saviour went through for us unworthy ones. Oh, that many would come and taste and see, because it is so wonderful.

The Lord has showered us with so many blessings this past month, and especially with the visits from so many dear ones. The Bluffton choir presented a beautiful message in song for us the week end of Apr. 8 and 9. Bro. Carrol Gerber (Bluffton) and Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron) spoke and shared God's precious Word with us on that wonderful Sunday.

Other visiting ministers who favored us with visits this past month and proclaimed the wonderful

goodnews were Bro. Don Sauder (Roanoke), Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman) and Bro. Ed Aeschliman (Union City). We wish to thank all for their love and invite them to come again soon.

Loving prayers are made for all of our dear ones and their families who have been stricken with illness or accident. Sis. Sue Sauder (Bro. Kenneth) fell and broke her ankle, Sis. Anna Hoffman had eye surgery, Bro. Richard Banks had open heart surgery, and Sis. Lena Beer, stomach surgery. Also, our young friend, Jerry Roberts, suffered a broken leg while at school.

Happiness is the best word to describe the arrival of a new son to Michael and Diane Matuck. Little Abraham Martin is the great-grandson of Sis. Catherine Morrison.

Our dear brother, Robert Beer, has given me the following writing which was found among the papers left by his aunt Johanna Gottas and wishes to share it with our readers:

THE MAN JESUS CHRIST

Do you know him who is called the Christ? Christ is the divine being whom the Father sent into this world to lift fallen man from his estate.

Christ is the Son of God, the Son of man, the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the anointed Saviour, the Prince of Peace, the Redeemer the second Adam, and the Word, veiled in flesh. Do you know Him as your personal Saviour, or is His precious name only of nominal importance to you? The theme of the Bible you possess centers upon Jesus Christ. Your earthly and spiritual life is dependent upon Him. By reading and in childlike trust and faith look to Him in prayer, and then you shall learn to know Him and His wondrous love. What man nor earthly wisdom can not impart to you will be revealed to you by the Father, Himself. For we are not born by the will of man nor by the will of the flesh; but by the revelation of Christ the Lord. Strive to learn to know Him now if you wish to share with Him in His rapture and glory.

OHIO, Rittman . . . Mary Jane Winkler - Margaret Winkler: As I look out my window, I can see the sun shining in all its warmth, although the air is still cool. The

trees are budding and soon will be bringing forth their fruit. The farmers are busy getting ready to plant seeds that will also bring forth their fruit. Our lives are a lot like this. The seed is sown into our hearts through the years by our loving parents, Sunday School teachers, and ministers. As we come to the age of accountability we realize that we must do something about our sinful lives. The good seed that was sown longs to bring forth fruit in our lives. When we repent, our old sinful nature dies, just as the seed must do. Then, also, just as the seed, our lives become new, and we can grow, prosper and bring forth fruit to the honor and glory of our Lord. May all of us strive for this end.

Our hospital patients this month were Jack Maibach (Clara), David Blough (Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lorene), John Calame, Jr., (John and Sis. Margaret), Aaron Gasser (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Lois), Dale Maibach (Dixie), Sis. Irma Ingold (Bro. Carl), and Sis. Roberta Stoller (Bro. Andy). We hope that the Lord will heal and strengthen each one.

Again the Lord has given peace to a dear soul. Brenda Zollinger (Bro. Rudy) experienced peace and awaits baptism.

Communion was held on a Saturday evening. Elder Bros. Dale Eisenmann (Chicago) and Rudy Graf (Akron) were here to help with this important occasion. We received a blessing in remembering the Lord's suffering. Just as the Lord broke bread and drank the cup with His disciples, so we must also do as He commanded. We should always remember Christ's suffering and rejoice that He overcame the world so that we might be free.

Our hearts go out to Bill and Marge (Winkler) Rhoads in the death of his father, Melvin Rhoads.

Our blessings and prayers go with Berdean and Fredona Shiffer as they move to Florida. They are moving because of Berdean's health, hoping the sun and warmth will help. We hope that they both experience love and peace in their new home.

Many friends and relatives were gathered in the Knupp Church for the marriage of two dear souls, Ivy Landis and Daryl Bauman. Elder Bro. Joe Ramsier took their vows, each promising to be faith-

ful to the other 'til death. Parents of the happy couple are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Elizabeth Landis and Bro. Herb and Sis. Bernice Bauman.

On Apr. 13, Jennifer Mae was born to Joyce (Maibach) and Jim Thompson. Jan and Jason welcomed home their new little sister. The grandparents are Bro. Art and Sis. Janet Maibach.

Elizabeth Widmer's sister, Lena Wright, from Atascadero, California, wishes to thank all who remembered her on her 100th birthday. She hopes that God will richly bless all for their kind deeds and thoughtfulness.

OHIO, Toledo . . . Josephine Rehklau:

"So now, redeemed one, sleep and rest!

Homeward we turn to do our best,
That we in joy and trembling be
Made ready for eternity."

These words from a song in the "Zion's Harp" are brought to mind with the passing of our dear Bro. George Laidig from this time into eternity. Surviving are his wife, Frances; son, David; daughters, Mrs. Connie Sancraint and Mrs. Sharon Harris; sisters, Mrs. Edna Marohn, Mrs. Clara Klopfenstein, Mrs. Minnie Zeltwanger, Mrs. Caroline German, Mrs. Mae Schumacher, Mrs. Aldean Feldman, and Mrs. Rose McGuire; and brothers, John, Silas and Arthur.

Elder Bros. Ben Maibach, Loren Stoller, and Roy Sauder were with us for the memorial service.

Sis. Emma Schick was hospitalized for a broken arm, and we are happy to say she is now recuperating at her home.

Lives are made of chapters. After

one is written, it cannot be revised, but we can write a new chapter each day.

OREGON, Silverton . . . Mildred Dietrich: We are most thankful to Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger for sharing God's precious Word and for the time and effort put forth to be with us on Sunday, Apr. 9. What a precious privilege when we can gather around God's word, and may we strive to obey these warnings of our dear elder brethren.

The Silverton congregation joined Portland for afternoon services after which a pot-luck supper was served.

With summer again approaching, we wish to renew our invitation to all who are vacationing in the Northwest to come and worship with us.

TEXAS, Zapata . . . Mary Plattner: All of our winter residents have now returned to their homes, and we are looking forward to their return.

Bro. Carl Feucht from Lester, Iowa, was our visiting minister. We have a minister scheduled every two weeks to come to Zapata. We certainly thank Carl and those who come the many miles to proclaim God's word.

Anyone coming our way is most welcome to come and worship with us. The church phone number is 512-765-5791. Also, you may call Lloyd Nohl, 512-682-0219, McAllen, TX, and Leland Plattner, 512-765-4961, Zapata. The church is located south of Zapata on highway 83.

WEST VIRGINIA, New Martinsville . . . Minnie Weltz - Della Witschey: A terrible tragedy hit the Ohio Valley on Apr. 27 when 51 men plunged to their death as the

scaffolding on a tower that was being built peeled off, sending the men in a 168-foot drop to the ground, killing all of them instantly. Identification of many of them was difficult because the bodies were so badly mangled and crushed. Bro. Frank Barth's youngest son was just four feet from where the scaffold let go, and he, with many of those who were not hurt, helped with the bodies. After helping set up a private morgue in a school building where relatives could go to identify their loved ones, he went home almost hysterical and was put to bed for several hours. A granddaughter of Bro. Frank lost her fiancée in the tragedy. Funeral services were held at various times and places from Apr. 29 through May 1. We live about 35 miles north of the location of the tragedy.

The weather was quite cold here on May 1, with frost, freezing, and snow in some areas the past few days.

The annual all-day meeting at the country church will be held on Sunday, June 25, and will be in the same order as previous years. All members and friends of the church are invited to come and spend the day.

Mrs. Raymond Barth underwent surgery in the Cleveland Clinic Hospital in Cleveland, O., on Apr. 13 and is doing very nicely. She will probably come home in a week or two.

Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Williams of Akron, O., visited here with the Barth families on Apr. 21 through 23.

Frank Barth of Parkersburg, accompanied by friends from Canada visited here on Apr. 30 with the Barth families.

SILVER THREADS

FLY MY SOUL, FLY

Fly my soul, fly,
For God has set you free
To release in your flight
His creativity.

For we are but reflections
Of His greater light,
And by staying in His spirit
Our souls shall gain flight.

For often "everyday"

And places keep us down—
So caught up in this life
And close to the ground.

But if we humbly pray,
Asking Christ for His way,
We'll see this life for what it is—
A passage of a day.

In this don't despair,
Look forward to your crown.
Let His love work in you
And lift you from the ground.

Fly my soul, fly—
Hallelujah soul, fly,
For the Lord has set you free . . .
Bro. Marvin F. Wieland
Chicago

MOTHER IS A WORD CALLED LOVE

Mother is a word called love
And all the world is mindful that
The love that's given and shown
to others

Is different from The Love of
Mothers . . .
For Mothers play the leading roles
In giving birth to little souls,
For though "small souls" are
heaven-sent
And we realize they're only lent
It takes a Mother's loving hands
And her gentle heart that under-
stands
To mold and shape this little life
And shelter it through storm and
strife . . .
No other love than Mother love
Could do the things required of
The one to whom God gives the
keeping
Of His wee lambs, awake or sleep-
ing,—
So Mothers are a "special race"
God sent to earth to take His
place,
And Mother is a lovely name
That even Saints are proud to
claim.

Helen Steiner Rice

A MOTHER

She could not give her children
gold,
so she gave them faith to have
and hold.
She could not give them royal
birth,
a name renowned throughout
the earth.
She gave them love and a listen-
ing ear,
and told them God was always
near.
She could not give them worldly
things,
but what she gave was fit for
Kings,
For with her faith and love and
the path she trod,
she made each child aware of
God.

Unknown Author

SHINE

Jesus bids us shine,
With a clear, pure, light,
Like a little candle
Burning in the night;
In this world of darkness
We must shine,
You in your small corner,
And I in mine.
taken from *Treasures of Silver*

SAFELY HOME

I am home in heaven, dear ones;
Oh, so happy and so bright!

There is perfect joy and beauty
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief is over,
Every restless tossing passed,
I am now at peace forever,
Safely home in heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly
Trode the valley of the shade?
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me
In that way so hard to tread,
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so
sorely,
For I love you dearly still.
Try to look beyond earth's sha-
dows,
Pray to trust our Father's will.

There is work still waiting for you,
So you must not idly stand,
Do it now while life remaineth—
You shall rest in Jesus' land.
When that work is all completed,
He will gently call you Home;
Oh! the rapture of that meeting;
Oh, the joy to see you come.

Unknown Author

LIVE BY FAITH and NOT BY FEELINGS

(from Iowa City)

When everything is pleasant and
bright
And the things we do turn out
just right,
We feel without question that
GOD is real,
For, when we are happy, how good
we feel . . .
But when the tides turn and gone
is the song
And misfortune comes and our
plans go wrong,
Doubt creeps in and we start to
wonder
And our thoughts about GOD are
torn asunder—
For we feel deserted in time of
deep stress,
Without GOD'S PRESENCE to
assure and bless . . .
And it is then when our senses
are reeling

We realize clearly it's FAITH
and not FEELING—
For it takes GREAT FAITH to
patiently wait,

Believing "GOD comes NOT TOO
SOON or TOO LATE."

Helen Steiner Rice

POEM

Let me remember silent things
Remembered from my childhood
Springs;
Snow melting now on sun-splashed
peaks,
Mute trees that try with buds to
speak,
And Springtime sun that gently
goes
As silent as it first arose.
Let me remember silent things
Like winter's snowy fireside scenes,
And snow, fresh-fallen, soft and
deep
That charmed us till we fell asleep,
And silent trees all caked with
snow
Like saints at prayer with heads
bowed low.

If I recall these silent things
It matters not what my life brings.
In woe I'm sure I'll stand steadfast
And win my cherished goal at last,
To be an isle of peace and poise,
Amidst life's sea of strife and noise.

Author Unknown

From Illinois State University . . .

Little prayers for little things
Fly heavenward on little wings.
And there is not one thought or
word
That goes unanswered or unheard,
For no prayer is too great or small
To ask of God who hears them all—
So do not ask to understand,
Just put your problems in His hand.
Helen Steiner Rice

Life is more meaningful, more
worth the living,
When you have a mother who's
thoughtful and giving,
A mother who teaches her children
to find
Life's greatest treasures, the true,
worthwhile kind,
Who demonstrates love by
examples she's set,
By deeds she has done and the
trials she has met.
Who patterns her life to a Power
divine
And I'm thankful that just such a
mother is mine.

Author Unknown

MY SONG SHALL BE OF JESUS

My song shall be of Jesus,
His mercy crowns my days,

He fills my cup with blessings,
And tunes my heart to praise;
My song shall be of Jesus,
The precious Lamb of God,
Who gave Himself my ransom,
And bought me with his blood.

My song shall be of Jesus,
When, sitting at his feet,
I call to mind his goodness,
In meditation sweet;
My song shall be of Jesus,
Whatever ill betide;
I'll sing the grace that saves me,
And keep me at His side.

My song shall be of Jesus,
While pressing on my way
To reach the blissful region
Of pure and perfect day.
And when my soul shall enter
The gate of Eden fair,
A song of praise to Jesus
I'll sing forever there.

Mrs. Van Alstyne

DELIVERANCE WILL COME

I saw a wayworn trav'ler
In tatter'd garments clad
And struggling up the mountain,
It seem'd that he was sad;
His back was laden heavy,
His strength was almost gone,
Yet he shouted as he journeyed,
Deliverance will come.

The summer sun was shining,
The sweat was on his brow,
His garments worn and dusty,
His step seem'd very slow:
But he kept pressing onward,
For he was wending home;
Still shouting as he journeyed,,
Deliverance will come.

The songsters in the arbor,
That stood beside the way,
Attracted his attention,
Inviting his delay:
His watchword being "Onward!"
He stopped his ears and ran,
Still shouting as he journeyed,
Deliverance will come.

I saw him in the evning,
The sun was bending low,
He'd overtopped the mountain,
And reached the vale below:
He saw the golden city,—
His everlasting home,—
And shouted loud, Hosanna,
Deliverance will come!

While gazing on that city,
Just o'er the narrow flood,

A band of holy angels
Came from the throne of God:
They bore him on their pinions
Safe o'er the dashing foam;
And joined him in his triumph,—
Deliverance had come!

I heard the song of triumph
They sang upon that shore,
Saying, Jesus has redeemed us
To suffer nevermore:
Then, casting his eyes backward
On the race when he had run,
He shouted loud, Hosanna,
Deliverance has come!

J. B. M.

The Good Conscience

Continued from page 28

conscience, delivered from all sense of guilt and fear of judgment and condemnation. (Heb. 9:14) "Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died (for all our sins), yea, rather, that is risen again (for our justification, being declared righteous), who is even at the right hand of God (having entered into heaven itself by his own blood, as our great High Priest to atone for our sins), who also maketh intercession for us as our Advocate." (Rom. 8:34).

Peace within the heart and with God, and in a sense, even with men, is not possible without a good conscience; a good conscience is not possible without an unwavering assurance of sins forgiven and covered up, no more to be remembered. Forgiveness is not possible apart from the blood of Christ, shed for the remission of sins. The cleansing power of the blood of Christ, to wash our sins away and make them "whiter than snow," cannot be appropriated or made available, except by the full assurance of faith in the Word of God, the testimony of the Father concerning His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. By that faith God will purify the heart. And to such a heart, God bears witness, "giving them the Holy Ghost" (Acts 15:8-9), not the spirit of bondage again to fear, but the Spirit of Sonship, bearing witness with our spirit, that we are the Sons of God. (Rom. 8).

Christ "having made peace through the blood of His cross by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself . . . and you . . . hath He reconciled . . . to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in His sight: If ye continue in

the faith. . . ." (Col. 1:20:23).

But why, you ask, is the forgiveness of sins, the purging of the conscience, the sprinkling of the heart from an evil conscience, and the making of peace, all bound up in the shedding of blood, even the precious blood of Christ? Why, you ask, is there no remission without the shedding of blood? (Heb. 9:22)

If a man repents and in deep contrition confesses his sins, as the sons of Jacob did, and is even grieved and angry with himself, and does the best he can, is that not sufficient for full forgiveness? O, yes, with men, who are failing themselves, but not with a holy, just, and righteous God. Joseph had truly, from his heart, forgiven his brethren, when he kissed them and wept upon them. But they were still grieved and angry with themselves (Gen. 45) because of their guilty conscience. Temporarily, they may have felt better, but their violated conscience was not reconciled and not purged of the dead works, the trespass and sin committed many years ago. And upon Jacob's death, with their consciences still witnessing against them, they were filled anew with fear because of the evil which they had done. They apparently pleaded more earnestly and more humbly for forgiveness than ever before.

Joseph could forgive them and did forgive them, but it is evident that he could not purge and remove from their stricken consciences their sense of guilt, or erase their fear and give them peace, though he wept together with them. They still felt guilty though they all had seen that the evil they thought against Joseph had been turned into good and unto the salvation of many lives. Yet what they had done was of hate, and evil; it defiled and made their consciences evil, and nothing that they could do for themselves or for one another could ever again produce clean and good consciences. Only the blood of Christ, shed at the cross, could do that. The "wages of sin," wages which we had earned, were paid by our great substitute, our Joseph, in order that God, the righteous Judge, may be just, and "lawfully" forgive the "trespass of thy brethren, and their sin." It is an exercise a mercy rejoicing against judgment

upon legal grounds. For grace is the lawful exercise of mercy on the part of God. For this Joseph could not be "in the place of God," nor have anyone fall down before his face.

Why the blood? "For the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off." (Lev. 17:14). "Thou shalt not eat it; thou shalt pour it upon the earth as water." (Deut. 12:23-27). When the blood is poured out, life is poured out. Justice demands the life of the sinner. Under the law, and foreshadowing the death and the blood of the Cross of Christ, and looking forward to it, an innocent animal sacrifice for sin could be substituted and offered for the remission of sins. But only the Cross of Christ, God's

own sacrifice for sin, could make valid and redeem the interim forgiveness of some sins under the law.

In reverence to the blood of Christ, and its exalted place in God's plan of redemption, the Gentile Christian will, in loving remembrance, rather than of legal constraint, observe 'till this day the Apostolic counsel: to "abstain . . . from blood, and from things strangled." (Acts 15:29) (Lev. 17:15).

Joseph, truly, was wholly reconciled to his brethren and had heartily forgiven them all, but his brethren, being ignorant of grace, were reluctant to believe it, and suffered much because of it. Even now, it is needful, that by faith in the Word, we so reckon it to be

faithful and true: "that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them." But reconciliation, to be effective and bring peace and joy, must not remain one-sided—it takes two, to be at enmity, and two to make peace. Having, then, the ministry and the Word of reconciliation committed to us, God beseeches, and we pray you in Christ's stead: "Be ye reconciled to God."

"Purge me with hyssop (a little shrub to sprinkle blood with), and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. Create within me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right Spirit within me." (Ps. 51).

ON FAITH

The following words of exhortation were expressed by Bro. Don Sauder after a sermon by Bro. Bruce Leman on Judges 19 and Mark 4.

As we think about faith, I can't help but think that there are many things that destroy faith. We sometimes don't think of it in that light, but I believe that disobedience is one thing that certainly destroys faith. There is the condition of pride that always wants to overtake the heart and mind of man, and that destroys faith. There are so many ways that faith can be weakened as the heart and mind of man turn more to the weak and the beggarly elements of the world. Turning our hearts, really, away from the way we found God and into other channels also destroys faith.

The Lord leads us from faith to faith. When we find grace unto repentance, and repentance unto life, the Lord has given us faith. As we are obedient to His Word and His teachings, obey the wisdom of God and bring our heart as an offering unto the Lord, open our hearts as an offering unto the Lord, open our heart and expose it to the Light of God's eternal Word, and then repent and make a confession of sin (we make right where we've wronged and the heart is humbled) faith grows and

increases. If we ever get away from this condition, we find that faith diminishes.

We have to live a life, you might say, that is always willing to turn again in repentance. When we find that our life just doesn't measure up to the Word and the teachings of God, that we've perhaps taken on things here or there that have not benefited us and may even be a detriment to us and our fellow man, then we have to get rid of these things. We have to keep the heart in a state of humility and in a state of tenderness—a state where the Lord our God can work with that heart so that it doesn't become hard and cold or lukewarm.

There are many things that increase faith, and we pray that the Lord our God will increase our faith as we walk and live from day to day. As he wishes to do this for us, sometimes He gives us a cross to bear; and then sometimes instead of realizing that the cross we have been given to bear will answer our prayer and will increase our faith, we resist the cross. We seem to want to fight against it. Perhaps the Lord has given us a measure of sorrow, a measure of pain, a measure of heartache, or whatever it might be. It seems like the mind of man, when he thinks of these things, has a tendency to resist this type of cross. We can recognize that as we surrender our life to God and are given a cross to

bear or some fort to hold, if we willingly, and even cheerfully, bear the cross and hold the fort and strive that the name of God be glorified, faith will grow and will increase.

There are many ways in our life to increase faith, particularly by being obedient to the Word and obedient to the ways of our fellowship, the ways that make for peace, love, and harmony in the Brotherhood. In the Brotherhood we, ourselves, may have certain liberties before our God that He recognizes and would not hold against us. Yet, out of a love for Him and a love for the fellowship of the Brotherhood (if we surrender our liberty into the hand of God and pray that we may be peacemakers and make our effort and our direction in life to increase the love and the unity among the Brotherhood) we will find that without even asking for it, our faith will be increased. We will grow in the ways of the Lord.

Those who do these things find that the way of the cross and the way of salvation, the Way of the Lord our God, is not a difficult way at all. It's pleasant, and it's joyful. There's a deep inner satisfaction that none can give but the Lord our God. He will give it in a rich and abundant measure if we will only live that life that is not at all difficult. We must just surrender our will to the will of God.

THE GOOD CONSCIENCE

Bro. Philip Gutwein, Jr. (Reprinted from the March, 1949, issue of The Silver Lining)

"And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; . . . And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence.

"And Joseph said unto his brethren, Come near to me, I pray you. I am Joseph your brother, whom ye sold into Egypt.

"Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before you to preserve life . . .

"And to save your lives by a great deliverance.

"Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him." (Gen. 45)

"And when Joseph's brethren saw that their father was dead, they said, Joseph will peradventure hate us, and will certainly requite us (repay) all the evil which we did unto him.

"And they sent a messenger unto Joseph, saying, Thy father did command before he died, saying,

"So shall ye say unto Joseph, Forgive, I (father Jacob) pray thee now the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin; for they did unto thee evil; and now, we (his brethren) pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father. And Joseph wept when they spake unto him.

"And his brethren also . . . fell down before his face; and they said, Behold, we be thy servants.

"And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God?

" . . . ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good . . . to save much people alive.

"Now therefore fear ye not . . . And he comforted them, and spake kindly unto them." (Gen. 50)

We quote here a considerable portion of Scripture, that, in the light of this great, illuminating, eternal floodlight of God, we may

again trace the helpless and hopeless struggle of the "natural" sons of Jacob. It was a struggle to erase from their conscience the stain of their transgression and sin, and a struggle to escape its condemnation and to shake off its guilt. They were trying to find peace with the assurance of forgiveness, and security with deliverance from fear.

But in vain, it seems, they strove during the long years of their lives, doing by their own efforts all that they could to unburden their souls and find enduring rest. And Joseph, the Saviour in type, by words and deeds of kindness, and even by tears of love and compassion sought in vain to dispel their fear and give them comfort and assurance of full forgiveness. For, when Jacob their father had died, their guilty consciences revived and witnessed against them with renewed vigor, brushing aside all the assurance of Joseph, and filling their hearts with fear. "Joseph," they said, "will peradventure hate us and will certainly requite us all the evil which we did unto him."

They hated Joseph at one time, and they expected that he would hate them at some time; they did evil to Joseph, and they certainly expected to be repaid and receive the evil which they had done. For the "work of the law written in their heart" had shown them that "whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." To think that man can sow evil and reap good, they, knew, is contrary to nature and a mockery to the God of nature. Wherever this law operates, be that in the physical nature around us, or in the human nature within us, it is inviolate; and like the law of Moses, which is the essence of the unwritten law within, it is the "Law of sin and death," the "Ministration of condemnation." (II Cor. 3:9). It provides

for no mercy and for no forgiveness of sins. (Heb. 10:28).

With the guilt and condemnation of their sin upon their conscience, they continued to be insecure as to the forgiveness of Joseph, and sought it ever anew. They sent a messenger to Joseph with the interceding petition of the words of their departed father: "Forgive, I pray thee now, the trespass of thy brethren, and their sin." Then they asked by a direct appeal: "and now, we pray thee, forgive the trespass of the servants of the God of thy father." Again they sought his favour and forgiveness as they "fell down before his face," making themselves his servants, as though he was "in the place of God." Joseph, the man of faith and faithfulness, gave his brethren renewed assurances of forgiveness, dispelling their fear, and speaking kindly to them in tears. Did they fully believe his words this time and trust his forgiving with full assurance of faith in him; trust his steadfast love and kindness toward them?

And even if they did, did that, then, remove the guilt from their conscience and the fear from their heart and give them peace before God? No! For "None of them can by any means redeem his brother, nor give to God a ransom for him. (For the redemption of their soul is precious . . .) (Ps. 49:7-8). And it took the precious blood of Christ, that we may have redemption and "The forgiveness of sins according to the riches of his grace. . ." (Eph. 1:7). It took the blood of Christ to sprinkle our hearts from an evil conscience (Heb. 10:22) and make it a good conscience "void of offence toward God and toward men." It takes the blood of Christ to "purge our conscience from dead works," to make it a good

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