

The Silver Lining

A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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O THAT SUCH WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN!

Elder Bro. Noah Hartzler

(Reprinted from the February 1947, issue of the Silver Lining)

A request has been made that we, all together, as followers of our blessed Saviour, should not only think of the great work of salvation, we should attempt to write about it; and not only should we think of the very great seriousness of our lives, but speak of it. Our spoken words may soon be forgotten.

Are we not all glad that the Lord our God had His faithful servants to not only tell of how the earth, sun, moon and stars were created, but that God inspired such men as Moses, Joshua, Samuel, and Daniel to write? Yes, many righteous men, servants of God and of our Lord Jesus, such as the four evangelists, wrote of the wonderful works of God and foretold of much which is to this time being fulfilled. At what age did some of these faithful servants of God begin their labor for the Lord? Read Jeremiah 1:6-12, also 1 Samuel 3. And One, the greatest of them all, at the age of twelve years, said to His mother, "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?"

I hope all of our dear young people, boys and girls, who are so very fortunate to have parents who themselves firmly believe on our Lord Jesus, and go on in life on the way which is an honor to our crucified Redeemer, will also take to heart the beautiful teachings of our Saviour. You have often heard that Jesus was thirty years of age when He was baptized, and we as children were taught to do as Jesus did. No one should think, "If the Saviour waited until He

was thirty years of age, that goes to show that I may live as a sinner and at the age of thirty years will repent and be converted to the Lord." The Saviour was never a sinner and this no one of us could ever say of ourselves, for we all committed sin, some more, and some less. But all must be born again, if they live to the time in which they leave innocence. From there on they are held accountable; that is if they do not do as Peter told the people when they asked him what they should do. Peter told them, "Repent ye therefore and be converted, that your sin may be blotted out."

Oh, the glorious way in which a sinner can be brought to have peace with God and our loving Saviour! If a sinner sees where he or she has done wrong, and is really sorry for the wrong he has done, this sorrow of heart moves God to forgive the sinner. This is so the grace of Jesus Christ works in the hearts of sinners, reminding them of the unprepared condition in which they are standing. They know they are not prepared to die. They know that if they would suddenly be deprived of their lives, they would have no hope of enjoying the sight about which the Lord Jesus says, "I will have you to be with me, to see the glory which my Father has given unto me."

My dear young friends, and older ones, also, if you have such thought, or have great uneasiness in your heart, you likely also have another thought, as spirit, working at the same time.

The enemy, Satan, is the power of darkness and death and has had the overhand to a certain extent in your hearts, even though all are not great sinners. But the evil enemy would have you be ashamed to confess that you wish to be cleansed from sin through true repentance, be set at peace with our worthy Redeemer, and follow the saying of Christ to John the Baptist, "Thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness." Oh, how glad we will all be if we, here in this life, in a simple childlike manner, follow our Saviour. Then when the time comes that we must all appear before the Judgment Seat of Christ, we may appear on the right hand side of the Just Judge to whom is given all judgment. He, in such a loving manner, says today yet, "Come unto me in prayer, and I will in no wise cast you out." A blessed invitation to all who have the grace to think of these serious matters: "He that believeth on Me hath everlasting life." But believing means obeying.

My dear friends, young and old, I can say you can faithfully depend upon this promise, "But seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things will be added unto you." He also says, "Heaven and earth will pass away; but my Word will not pass away!"

For over 4 years we were very prayerfully concerned. Day and night we begged the Lord in behalf of our dear young men, brethren and friends who left their parents and families, and, by our government, were taken to many parts of

the earth. And now at the beginning of the New Year so many are back home! Some silent reader may think they were not in the greatest dangers; but many really were. So we who were at home, interceding for them, and they who were interceded for alike shall never forget the great favor of Him who says, "He who prayeth in secret shall be rewarded openly!" Perhaps many who were in great danger often prayed to the Lord, making a vow or promise that if the Lord would deliver them they would live for Him the remaining days of their lives. Oh, that such will not be forgotten!

THE GREAT OPEN AIR MEETING

(Reprinted from the October, 1947, issue of the Silver Lining)

There is soon to be a great open-air meeting, far greater than any which has ever taken place. It will have many striking features, and will be entirely different from anything ever witnessed in this world. Let us look at some of these wonderful features.

The Place of Meeting—This is not on earth nor in heaven but "in the air." (I Thess. 4:17)

Who Will Be Present?—Every redeemed, blood-bought soul of every clime and race, including those who sleep in their graves as well as those alive on the earth at the time—not one will be missing. All differences will then be gone and done with forever.

Who Will Be Absent?—Every unsaved, unredeemed person. The legalist, the formalist, the man who depended on "dead works" instead of on Christ; as well as the unbeliever, the scoffer, the profligate—these, and all who are without Christ will be absent.

The Center of Attraction—Amidst the many wonderful circumstances of the meeting, one will far transcend all the others, namely this—it will be a meeting specially appointed "to meet the Lord." Around the glorious person of the Saviour, crowned with His many crowns, will circle myriads of His redeemed ones. What joy to the Redeemed to be surrounded with the great throng of those who are the fruit of the "travail of his soul" when He "poured out His soul unto death!" And as they, too, gaze upon that face once so marred more than any man's but then radiant

with glory, what joy will fill every heart, and how perfect will be their place of acceptance with God!

Time of Meeting—Another very singular feature about this great reunion is this, not even one among the congregation knows when it is to take place. It may be in the morning, the afternoon, the evening, or during the silent hours of the night. It may be this year, this week, or today. Everyone is understood to be constantly in the "waiting" and "watching" attitude, just as if it were listening for the assembling call. No bells will be rung to gather the assembly—they will be summoned by the "shout, with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God, the last trump." So effective and powerful will be the voice of Him who calls, that "in the twinkling of an eye" every member will be found in his place at the great meeting in the air.

After-Meeting—But ah! there is a solemn sadness about the after meeting. Listen to the words of the assembly outside the closed door. "Lord, Lord, open to us." The Christless professors take into their lips the word "Lord" but was He their Lord? Perhaps they were church members, sat on the bench of a meeting room: but all the time they had never been "born again." And what does the Lord say in answer to their call? "Verily I say unto you, I know you not." There was no link of faith between the soul and Christ, and now they are shut out for ever!

Time Passes—And how quickly time passes! Listen to the clock as it hangs upon your wall; how quickly it ticks out the seconds! Every tick tells of the rapid flight of time and the near approach of eternity. And "the coming of the Lord draweth nigh." But, thank God, the Master of the house has not yet risen up and "shut the door." Christ is the only Saviour, and the all-sufficient Saviour. His precious blood, shed upon the Cross cleanses from all sin. The redemption price has been paid, the work has been done. Its cleansing power and efficacy is all yours the moment you really believe on Him as your personal Saviour.

Reader, are you ready if Christ were to come tonight? If not, now is the time for decision—not next month, not next week, but NOW.

WHERE WOULD YOU BE IF THE LORD CAME TONIGHT?

FIND OUT WHERE YOU STAND TODAY.

Selected

Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. If Moses, the meekest man, sinned for lack of meekness; if David, one of the purest men, sinned for lack of purity; if Peter, the boldest of the apostles, sinned for lack of boldness; and if Abraham, the father of the faithful, sinned for lack of faithfulness, is it not wise to let God stand guard even at our strongest point of character?

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME

When all the troubles of the latter days build up in the hearts of men and circumstances of life become more complex and perplexing, the Lord gives us the positive encouragement to "lift up your heads for your redemption draweth nigh." He could say that because all of our salvation is in His hands, and, during the toughest of situations and most impossible circumstances, He can perform perfectly and without hindrance because "All power is given to Him in heaven and on earth."

We have found it so again at the children's home. We were greatly in need of help (up to a few weeks ago), but the Lord did it again. He provided two brothers from Illinois to help us: Tim Sauder and Bruce Knapp. They have been a wonderful lift to our family and to the houseparents. We appreciate their talent, Christian spirit, and positive attitude. As Titus' spirit was refreshed by the spirit of the

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Corinthian brethren, we can identify with that and say we have been refreshed by the presence of these brothers. We thank God for His continual providing. May we always believe in Him and please Him in everything we do.

Summer is in full swing. Each morning all of us have chores and work details. One of the brothers takes a few children to the garden, the other takes care of lawn mowing. Other jobs are taking care of rabbits and chickens and cleaning out the pens. One day a week one of the girls does laundry for all the rest, and, likewise, one of the boys does the laundry for his wing. Saturday is general cleaning, when everyone pitches in to do their own rooms and bathroom. After lunch, 3 days a week, we have a ceramics period during which we are already making things for the quilt sale which is scheduled for Sept. 16. From 2:30 to 5:30 is free time for bicycling, swimming, etc. We have a full schedule that keeps four adults constantly busy, and we are still looking for volunteer help and a couple as permanent houseparents.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED

In John, chapter nine, Jesus was asked, "Who did sin, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus' answer, "Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him," is indeed comforting; and it gives direction to us today. Having the privilege to care for God's "special" people gives many opportunities to exercise the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Also in John (7:24) is written, "Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgement." A poet said it thus:

Pray don't find fault with the man
who limps,
Or stumbles along the road,
Unless you have worn the shoes he
wears
Or struggled beneath his load.
There may be tacks in his shoes
that hurt,
Though hidden from view,
Or the burden he bears, placed on
your back,
Might cause you to stumble, too.
Don't sneer at the man who's down
today,

Unless you have felt the blow
That caused his fall, or felt the
shame
That only the fallen know.
You may be strong, but still the
blows
That were his, if dealt on you,
In the selfsame way, at the self-
same time,
Might cause you to stagger, too.
Don't be too harsh with the man
who sins
Or pelt him with words or stones,
Unless you are sure, yea, doubly
sure,
That you have no sin of your own.
For you know perhaps, if the
tempter's voice
Should whisper as soft to you
As it did to him when he went
astray,
'Twould cause you to falter, too.

To say that the flowering trees near the entrance are ablaze with color may be a trite description, but is there anything commonplace when it can be wrought only by our Creator?

So that you may "know him better," our resident, Kennan Knapp, is the son of Glenn and Laura Knochel Knapp of Fairbury, Illinois. He has one sister, Kanda Stefan, Fairbury, Illinois, and one brother, Kirby, Gridley, Illinois. Being at present the newest member of our family means that we are still in the process of learning how to know and enjoy Kennan, but already he belongs and is very much a part of us. Birthday time is Apr. 19.

After two years of building, the vision of having our new addition has now become a reality. Some of our present residents have been moved into the new part, and today we have the pleasure of admitting a new resident, Carol Fahrni, from the Alto, Michigan, area.

ALABAMA, ATHENS

Hazel Vibbert

Job 1:20-22

Then Job arose, and rent his mantle; and shaved his head and fell down upon the ground and worshipped, and said naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither. The Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

The month of May got started off with winter-like weather, cool and rainy. Now it is real hot. On

May 3 I went to the Huntsville Hospital to sit with my sister-in-law. She has cancer in her head. As the time was nearing for me to return home, I found that I no longer had a home to return to. A fire completely destroyed everything we had, even the old car which was up close to the porch. It surely hurts to see everything gone. We can still be thankful. We have found another house and are now living in town. We all really miss the country. My new address is 712 W. Washington St., Athens, Ala. 35611.

We have had visitors from the north, Bro. and Sis. David Bertsch, Jane and Pat Stoller, Helen Knecht, and Melba Mangold from Eureka, Ill. On May 7 Reba Haggermaker was baptised. Her husband Bobby and father-in-law Ed are repenting, also, Dewey Perry. We are so happy for them. Dewey will be going back to the hospital soon. Mary Perry is at her mother's home. She is so happy to be with her family again.

With the help of the Lord, we can get through some trying experiences.

ARIZONA, PHOENIX

Julie Hoerr

Alan Schmidgall (Bro. Kenneth and Sis. Mary Jo) has felt the need to draw near to Him and now enjoys a new closeness to his family and friends. Steve Freed (Bro. Allan and Sis. Edith) has the peace that passeth all understanding and is awaiting baptism.

On May 19, we had the joy of celebrating Richard and Dorothy Kraft's 25th wedding anniversary reception in the Congregational Room at church. A lovely reception was held May 21 in our Congregational Room to welcome Bro. Bill and Sis. Sue Sanders, following their wedding Apr. 30 in Bradford. May the Lord be with each of these couples and shower His blessings upon them.

We enjoyed Bro. Merle Laukauf's sermon May 16 while he was visiting from Latty.

Our deepest sympathy to Bro. Clarence Yackley on the passing of his brother, Bro. Roy Yackley (Wichita).

Hospital patients were Bro. Alvin Laukauf (for studies) and Esther Harmon (for re-evaluation of a problem).

On May 28 many enjoyed a pot-

luck supper and evening singing at the church.

THOUGHT: There is a Power to lift us up which is stronger than all the things that hold us down.

CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA Linda Cooper

Sis. Elizabeth Feldman is recuperating at home after successful hip surgery, and she wishes to thank all who remembered her during the time of her hospitalization.

We are enjoying the visitors who choose to come and assemble with us at church. We look forward to seeing more friends and brethren during vacation time this summer season. Always is fellowship sweet when we have His Spirit in common, as well as His love.

BE YE ALL OF ONE MIND,
HAVING COMPASSION ONE OF
ANOTHER, LOVE AS BRETH-
REN, BE PITIFUL, BE COUR-
TEOUS. 1 Peter 3:8

CALIFORNIA, MAYWOOD Helen Julien

Because we are such a small group here at Maywood, it is difficult for me to get enough news to print each month, so I would like to take this opportunity to write some words of inspiration I've read recently and share them with you.

April showers bring May flowers, we are told, and into every life a little rain must fall.

All of nature teaches us the amazing and extraordinary order of things. There is so much to gain by observing her wonders.

We are inclined, however, to be guided by our five senses, our ability to see, feel, hear, touch and smell. We miss much of that which could profit us. We miss it because we fail to exercise that sixth sense.

There is a symphony of the spheres to which our ears may be opened to that which is spoken. There are things marvelous to behold when we are ready to cut the umbilical cord of that which we can clutch, as we would apron strings of the terrestrial.

To bear only the image of the earthly is to remain dependent on our ability to accomplish within natural limits. It is to settle for less than is available to us in being the most that we can become. It is to leave dormant gifts and talents that need to be unearthed for our own fulfillment and the enrichment of others.

To be willing to move into the realm of the sixth sense is to lay hold of the key that will unclasp and set you free from your own captivities that have bound you.

It is to this end that the rain of difficulties, discouragements, disappointments and trials have fallen into your life. To resist them and fight against them is to lose valuable preparation; to accept them with grace and quietness of heart with openness to learn is to grow.

By use, our sixth sense is exercised to discern.

Why do we fear to exercise this sixth sense? Perhaps it is because it is one step beyond the natural into the supernatural.

We have the mistaken idea that reality is only what we are able to experience within the realm of the five senses. I believe that reality is what already exists, and what we experience with our five senses is only a symbol of what is real. The sixth sense is the confidence of the unseen.

In other words, everything exists in the Spirit first, because everything begins in God. By Him all things are held together.

The sixth sense is spiritual perception, or illumination, that enables us to cope with the unseen forces that fight against us. To deal only with that which is seen by our physical eyes is often only to win temporary battles and yet lose the war.

The sixth sense, like the other senses, is a gift of God. We hinder its development by requiring that all enlightenment come through the mind. Our keenest perception should be that which comes into our spirit and is interpreted by the mind. It is often very difficult to get our minds quiet enough to listen, so that we might see and know. In quietness there is restoration.

There is nothing quite like the confidence experienced in the accuracy of your knowledge. This is authority, misunderstood by many and offensive to some.

When someone tells me that he is looking at a beautiful flower, and he is, in fact, describing that flower to me, its beauty, its aroma and its esthetic value to him, I have no need to question. He speaks of what he sees, and with authority. I need not see the flower to believe him.

When one has spiritual perception, however, and sees, he is often questioned and frequently accused.

I mentioned earlier that the sixth sense is a gift. You have seen it operative. It comes to those willing to step out in behalf of someone else because something beyond the realm of logic must be undertaken to meet their unique need.

It is a gift that sometimes comes with motherhood. When no one else seems to know what to do in a critical emotional upheaval or illness of a child the mother often moves in with courage and with assurance of her ability. The child rests in her, and, as though she has a touch of magic, the child is brought through to calmness or health. She has wisdom.

This has often been seen in a significant battle. For some reason unknown to those standing by, the general makes a decision; suddenly the strategy changes. He leads with courage and confidence at the risk of being misunderstood. He saw what the others did not see. The inner voice was strong; he followed it and led to victory. He dared not be wrong, because he held the lives of his men in his power; so much was at stake. He was a selfless man; his men followed because they believed in him.

In the previous remarks, I stated that into every life a little rain must fall. Without the rain, there would be no blossoming. Every truly beautiful face is etched with some trace of pain. No true joy is known without some sorrow. It is a part of expression. Our lives cannot blossom without trial and difficulty. Without trials we are self sufficient, and self sufficiency is never beautiful.

To find real solutions to our problems (our rain), we are required to exercise an extra step, the step towards God. As we find that He meets us there, we know that it is safe to trust the footing. We walk on, laying hold for others the vast storehouses of resources, and find it to be inexhaustible.

Our senses would atrophy without being exercised, and what a tragic loss it would be. All of nature teaches that everything is relative. Everything that happens to us is for a reason. To man, it is given to know the reason for things that pertain to him so that he might have stability during his testing and come through to higher ground.

To accept all difficulties as stepping stones instead of stumbling blocks is to step up and gain higher

plateaus.

To accept the unseen forces as realistically as the seen forces is wisdom. To see those forces is perception, and to cope with them is to have victory over circumstances.

To curse the rain is to deny ourselves its beauty, only to experience stalemate and deadness.

CONNECTICUTT, ROCKFORD

Carlton J. Lanz

Fifty years of a most compatible life together will be observed on May 30, 1978, by Bro. Harold Lanz and his wife, Sis. Anna. They have one daughter, Faith Palozej, and three grandsons. In their fifty years together they took nearly every opportunity to entertain Christian guests at their table and befriended them with overnight conveniences. We extend our best wishes for a most blessed 50th Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Our Communion Services were held recently after the baptism of a dear young friend. He gave his testimony before the body of believers. Coming here from Croghan, N.Y., Norbert Farney is at present in Rockville. Bro. Ed Aeschleman assisted our Elder Bro. John Bahler in the impressive rite which is in remembrance of Christ's agony and crucifixion.

May 16, 1978: born, Karen Elizabeth, to Sis. Mary Lou and Bro. Daniel Coric (their first child). Grandparents are Sis. Mildred and Bro. Melvin Gerber and Sis. Janet (Hoffman) Goric.

LEST WE FORGET

Carlton J. Lanz

OUR NATION REMEMBERS ITS HEROS—those who gave their lives as a sacrifice in service to their country. Our government set apart a day to honor its war dead. This applies to us all, and rightly so, for we are a part of this great nation that we love and in which we both live and are privileged to worship freely. Memorial Day (or Decoration Day) is observed in the northern states on May 30, while Apr. 20, May 1, and June 3 is held in observance in various southern states. Our national flag, emblem of liberty and freedom, is lowered to half staff on this day in full respect and honor to the memory of those who fought for our precious freedom. If we count our blessings, let's recount them—there may be some we have missed.

Let us praise and thank Almighty God for the preservation of these almost unlimited privileges which our great nation offers without restrictions.

FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE

Caroline Akel

THEREFORE BEING JUSTIFIED BY FAITH, WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

Romans 5:1

Our hearts were filled with joy at the announcement that our three dear friends, Kim Troxel, Dave Mueller, and Tom Cholak have received peace with God after stepping forward through faith and repentance. They now await baptism. Lord willing, the provings and baptisms will take place the weekend of June 10-11. Our prayers are with them.

We were thankful to have ministering Bro. Doug Szabo and his family (Sarasota, FL) in our midst over the three-day Memorial Weekend. During this time our congregation was pleased to welcome a number who came to visit with us from the Sarasota church. We sincerely enjoyed the good fellowship which is truly a gift from God.

We welcome our friend, Sid Troxel (Ken and Joyce), who has returned to Florida after attending a university in the north. We are glad to have him among us again.

FLORIDA, SARASOTA

Kathryn Schroeder

"Some glorious morn—but when?
Oh, who shall say?

The steepest montain will become
a plain,

And the parched land be satisfied
with rain.

The gates of brass all broken; iron
bars,

Transfigured, form a ladder to the
stars.

Rough places plain, and crooked
ways all straight,

For him who with a patient heart
can wait.

These things shall be on God's
appointed day:

It may not be tomorrow—yet it
may."

Author Unknown

We are so richly reminded each and every day, as time goes by, how close we are to eternity and how

blessed and happy heaven will be. Each sermon reminds us of our salvation and how we are to be as the wise virgins and must be ready for that time.

Sis. Kay Eisenmann is back with us and would like to thank the Burlington and Oakville congregations for all their love and kindness shown to her during the death of her brother, Joseph J. Mallory.

Also, we will miss Sis. Lydia Voina as she is going north (for a short season) to be with her family.

Our church in Sarasota would like to thank Bro. Dave Bertsch for all his labors of love while visiting us. It is truly wonderful to see God's Spirit work in such willing servants.

Since this is the end of May, our Elder Bro. Ben Maibach and his family are returning to the north. We say farewell and wish them God's help in bringing them swiftly and safely back to Florida.

ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-

NORMAL

Holly Stahl

Ed. Note: We apologize for the fact that this column did not appear in the last two issues. Apparently, they were lost in the mail.

Winter didn't want to withdraw her icy clutch from Central Illinois this year, but now, at last—spring is here! I'd been watching for it for weeks and then finally the growth cycle began. The first new, fresh-green blades of grass, the pussywillows flaunting their soft gray coats, the first robin, and the first sign of buds on the maple tree in our back yard all add to the utter excitement of spring. As I watched it come, my heart was thrilled with the miracle of growth, and, in my spirit as well as in the earth, there was a reawakening to God and His will. I knew that along with all of nature, I was set on our Father's perfect timetable of growth. ". . . For the earth brings forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear."

A student once asked the president of his school whether he could take a shorter course than the one prescribed. "Oh yes," replied the president, "but then it depends upon what you want to be." When God wants to make an oak, he takes a hundred years, but when he wants to make a squash, He takes six

months.

Growth is not a uniform thing in the tree or in the Christian. In some single months there is more growth than in all the year besides. During the rest of the year, however, there is solidification, without which the green timber would be useless. The period of rapid growth, when woody fiber is actually deposited between the bark and the trunk takes only four to six weeks in May, June, and July.

In the same manner God teaches us, chastises us, helps us, and cultivates our lives over many, many seasons. We can't expect to be the loving, mature Christian that we want to be in a matter of weeks. That is a process that God effects in us, not only in the measure of time passing, but in experiences, trials, and even heartaches.

When we see all that God is doing to "perform the work that He has begun in us" we must never forget what the main element of growth is in our Christian lives. Time that we spend with God, both quality and quantity, is like water for the tree and earth for its roots to sink deeply into. Praying and communing with God, reading His word, and truly meditating upon it is food and drink for the growing Christian.

"That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God."

ILLINOIS, BRADFORD

Jane Leman

We thank Bros. Cleo Rinckenberger (Pulaski) and Don Manz (Junction) for ministering to us on Mother's Day.

Bro. Gary Ehnle spent a few days in the hospital for tests. Bro. Dave Klumpp wishes to express his thanks to all who remembered him.

A sixth little son is welcomed by Si, Jr. and Sis. Lavonne Wagenbach. Bro. and Sis. Witzig (Gridley) and Bro. and Sis. Simon Wagenbach (Tremont) are the grandparents.

ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN- URBANA

Charlen Banwart

"Then come into our midst today, impart Thyself to us, we pray. This cup and loaf are proof and sign Of this, Thy covenant divine In Jesus blood." We sang the Com-

munion Hymn (Zion's Harp No. 200) when our Elder Bros. Ed Hohulin and Roy Sauder were with us for our communion service in May. Other ministers who have visited us recently include Bros. Steve Rinckenberger and Kenny Woertz from Cissna and Bro. Walter Rehklau from Toledo.

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them." (Ecclesiastes 12:1) We are thankful many of our 1978 graduates have followed this advice and have assembled with us while living here. Bro. Ben Hoerr and his wife, Sis. Tina, will be moving to Peoria, as he was among our May graduates from the University of Illinois. Sis. Pat Souder received an R.N. degree from Parkland College and will be employed at Mercy Hospital in Urbana.

We are planning a reunion of those who have worshipped with us in the past. It will be held Sunday, Aug. 6, 1978. Following church services at 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m., a meal will be served at the Urbana Civic Center, 108 E. Water Street, at 2:30 p.m. People interested in attending should reply to Larry and Nada Leman, 3 Joyce Lane, Champaign, Illinois, by July 15.

Sis. Dorothy Fischer had eye surgery. We are happy to have her among us again and pray that her recovery will be successful.

Vacation Bible School will be held the evenings of June 12-16. We plan to assemble the next three Wednesday evenings, Lord willing, to hear the tapes of the Brotherhood Conference. This summer, Wednesday evening services will be held at our church (702 East Mumford) on June 28 and July 12 and 26 at 7:30 p.m.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

Kathy Schlatter

"Examine yourselves, whether you are in the faith, prove yourselves." II Corinthians 13:5. A. W. Tozer's "Seven Rules for Self Discovery" can help us check on ourselves:

We may be known by the following:

- What we want most.
- What we think about most.
- How we use our money.
- What we do with our leisure time.

The company we enjoy.

Whom and what we admire.

What we laugh at.

For all of us, converted, convicted, or supposedly content with the world, the answers we give to these questions will tell us whether or not we are living a Christ-like, Christ-centered life.

Blessings continue to abound. Elder Bro. Wendell Gudeman, Francesville, IN, and Bro. Earl Zeltmanger, Bremen, IN, ministered to us from the glorious Word, May 14. Bro. Vernon Leman, Eureka, IL, and Bro. Harold Emch, Girard, Ohio, were our messengers of the Word, May 28. Sat. evening Bro. Vernon explained World Relief distribution and needs very graphically, showing excellent slides and answering questions. A few others spoke of individual and Chicago church efforts. Truly we are "closer to the Rockefellers than to the poor of this world." How well are we living up to the responsibility the Lord has put in our hands?

Bro. Harold mentioned a striking word derivation in his sermon: "lucky" derives from Lucifer. Therefore a Christian does not have good-luck; he is blessed. And 'twould be better to pray that others' efforts be blessed than to wish them good "luck." I was reminded of something I read, related to Matthew 6:23: "If, therefore, the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!" The tiny firefly contains two rare chemicals, lucifrase and luciferin. These chemicals bring nearly five times the price of gold. But the light they produce, when compared to the brilliance of the sun, is so dim it could well be called darkness. Not only that, but the light of the firefly is cold, without any of the life-giving, growth-inducing properties of the sun. So it is that to live for earthly gain is to be filled with "Lucifer's light"—which is really darkness. Instead, let's be filled with the Son!

We rejoice with Bro. Sam Slagel and his beloved wife Bella on their 35th wedding anniversary. May the Lord continue to bless their union. "Ring the bells of heaven, There is joy today!" (Gospel Hymns) The Lord has heard our prayers and has given Morris Stedman grace to repent. His wife is Sis. Verna. Truly we praise His name!

Many of our group, plus a few

brothers from Tremont and a few sisters from Roanoke, travelled to Girard, Ohio, by bus the weekend of May 20 and 21. The youngest was three, the oldest a great-grandmother. The trip was one of the brightest diamonds in everyone's crown of memories. All enjoyed it more than they had even anticipated. Fellowship and songs of praise filled the air with not even the sound of one crying child! Bro. Harold and Sis. Katherine Emch and the Girard brothers and sisters welcomed us with open arms and hearts and cared for our needs bountifully, in such a well-organized manner, that it belied the number of their small crew. The Lord granted overflowing cups of blessings to all concerned. Our hearts plead, pray, and ache for our beloved Girard brethren. Can not some from various congregations find work in nearby Youngstown and swell the Girard ranks with youth and growth? The Lord will surely bless His work as He blessed our short visit.

Though Sis. Jeanne Plattner and Bro. Jim Schlatter have recently needed medical care, we thank God for His care.

We have recently heard that some call religion a crutch. After seeing my husband, Bro. Jim, who twisted his knee, walk with and without crutches, I can certainly see what a blessing they are. Now his knee can be healed because the crutches lift the burden from it. So are we not truly grateful that we have Christ, the risen Lord, to lean on for our crutch?

A pearl of wisdom from a dear sister: She mentioned how, in thinking of leaving their homeland, they were eager to claim the freedom of America as a new and better country. And they were right. Yet, not so long thereafter, they discovered and claimed, through the Lord's risen sacrifice, a new country, an eternal home awaiting. More than they could have dreamed of, they found not one country but two! Do we appreciate both enough? We have work to do!

ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

Marilyn Knapp - Judy Bauer

Sis. Barbara Hoffmann, daughter of Bro. Harry and Sis. Helen, and Bro. Mark Gerber, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Helen, were united in holy matrimony May 21. Bro. Roy Sauder performed the wedding

service. We will miss Sis. Barb as they will make their home in Bluffton. We wish them God's richest blessings.

Bro. Bill Feller and Sis. Emma Geyer were hospital patients. Bro. Willard Rudin had surgery on his knee. We are glad to say they are now home from the hospital.

Bro. Albert Hari passed away May 20 at the Apostolic Christian Home in Peoria. Surviving are his wife, Sis. Carrie; two sons, Bro. Alvin and Bro. Marvin; four daughters, Mrs. Art (Cora) Leman and Mrs. Ben (Sis. Verna) Baurer of Peoria, Mrs. Fred (Wilma) Stock of Cissna, and Mrs. Delores Reincke of Hopkins, Minn.; two brothers, Bro. Sam and Bro. Elmer; 16 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren. Our sympathy goes out to his family.

We were thankful to have Bros. Ron Heineger (Bloomington), Art Gudeman (La Crosse), and James Rinkenberger and Bob Meyer (Bluffton) minister to us. We appreciate their willingness to be used to share God's Word with us.

Plans are well under way for Vacation Bible School. We pray that God will be with us and teach children through the brothers and sisters who share their time. Our theme is "Thy Word Will I Hide IN My Heart." It is so important for us to "hide" (keep) God's Word in our hearts. This is how He speaks to us.

We congratulate all our graduates from high school and college. We wish them God's blessings and guidance.

Bro. Sid and Sis. Sandy Kaufman were blessed by the arrival of their daughter, Lynette Michelle, born May 12. Valerie, Vickie, Veronica, and Anthony welcomed their new sister.

ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Judy Wettstein - Gay Knapp

This has been a very wet spring for us. Rivers have gone over their banks, and some farmers are having quite a time getting their crops in. We trust that the Lord will provide! "It may not be my way, it may not be thy way, and yet in His own way, the Lord will provide." Gospel Hymns.

He certainly did provide many blessings when five dear souls were added to the fold of Jesus on Apr. 29 and 30: Kay Roth (Bro. Keith and Sis. Pauline), Gail Williamson

(Bro. Bob and Sis. Doris), Kelly Hasty (Bro. Dick and Sis. Katie), Bob Williamson (husband of Sis. Doris), and Steve Knapp (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Nancy). Elder Bro. Perry Zimmerman of Forrest assisted our Elder Bro. Josh Broquard in this good work. It brought us back to the time of our own testimonies of faith. How refreshing to hear that the dear Lord still answers those who come to Him with a broken and contrite heart.

The following evening we were privileged to hear the results of the conference. Elder Bros. Dan Koch (Tremont), Perry Zimmerman, and Josh Broquard discussed the different issues and exhorted us to follow the true word of God. May we strive to uphold the faith by doing our part.

Congratulations to our high school graduates. They are Jim Hartman, Allen Roth, Kim Craig, Kris Schieber, Debbie Ott, and Linda Miller. Jane Studebaker graduated from St. Francis School of Nursing with an R.N. degree. Peg Selvey received her bachelor's degree from ISU. We wish God's guidance for all of you as you go on to whatever life holds for you. May we, as believers, remember that "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

Bro. Ken Hoerr from Peoria ministered to us this month. We received many good teachings; may we heed each one.

"God is our refuge and our strength, a very present help indeed!"

He in time of trouble sends, His grace to meet our every need."

Hymns of Zion

Bro. Chris Miller has been laid up for several weeks with back problems. He has been missed by all.

We, as children, think how patient and loving our fathers are, even through correction, when we do wrong. May those who are fathers on earth always look to the supreme example, our Heavenly Father, for guidance and direction. How blessed is that child whose father fears and believes in the Lord.

ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Mary Moser

He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much. Luke 16:10. Ministering Bro. Edwin Ringger of Gridley and Bro.

Bruce Leman from Roanoke visited our congregation. May God bless them for their faithfulness in the ministry.

On Apr. 27, a boy, Kristopher James, was born to Bro. Herman and Sis. Sharon Braun. He has eight brothers and sisters to welcome him home. Sis. Cecelia Braun is the grandmother.

Sis. Rose Goll had a stroke and is now hospitalized. Sis. Sue Braun was in the hospital for tests.

Sis. Katie Kachelmuss would like to thank each one who remembered her during her illness with cards, gifts and prayers. She is now at home with a broken hip and arm.

There are nine high school graduates this June. They are: Glenn Leman (Bro. Leroy and Sis. Florence), Dwayne Schock (Bro. Frank and Sis. Lois), Melinda Kellenberger (Elvis and Gail), Mary Steffen (Bro. Nathan and Sis. Marilyn), Kerri Kellenberger (Bro. Ernest and Sis. Carol), Larry Steffen (Bro. Earl and Sis. Kathryn), Bro. Gary Steffen (Bro. John and Sis. Wava), Mark Wewetzer (Bro. Bill and Sis. Marge), and Doug Leman (Bro. Tom and Sis. Marlene).

We are thankful that God is yet calling souls to repentance. Dave and Jean Martin have turned to the Lord and are seeking their souls' salvation.

ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Cathryn Wettstein

Bro. Willis Wiegand, from Goodfield, was our only visiting minister during the past month. He brought out many good teachings and reminders for each of the hearers.

Vacation Bible School plans are being made, and teachers are being assigned to various classes for a two week session which will begin as soon as the grade schools are dismissed for the summer.

A son, the first child of Bro. and Sis. Paul and Sherri Kelson, was born on May 19. His name is Nathaniel Scott. These folks moved here recently from Fairbury. Bro. and Sis. Ed and Donna Kupferschmid also have a new son, born on May 21. His name is Kevin Roy. Amy, Jason, Kent and Julie are glad to have a new baby brother.

Sis. Edna Klein, 65, who was a resident in our "Home," passed away in a Peoria Hospital. She was the mother of Sis. Millie Prather and Sis. Sonja Banwart of Eureka.

Bro. Walter Anliker's father, Levi Anliker, passed away on May 27. Levi had also been a resident of the "Home." May God comfort the dear families of those who are bereft.

The engagement of Sis. Kris Rocke and Bro. Paul Schmidgall has been announced. Her parents are Bro. and Sis. Richard and Marge, and his parents are Bro. and Sis. Marvin and Dorothy. They are both from our congregation.

HIS RECORD BOOK

If all the things that were ever said

Were within a book,
And all our thoughts were on display

So all could take a look,
I guess there's not a living soul
Who wouldn't hang his head,
And feel ashamed before the Lord
And wish that he were dead.

There is a record book, I'm told,
With every deed and word.
It even keeps the record of
Our thoughts that can't be heard;
The good, the bad, and every sin,
For nothing has been missed.
It really makes me feel ashamed,
To think what's on MY list.

But now I stand in Him complete
Redeemed from sin and strife;
And with His blood He wrote my name,
Down in the "Book of Life".

Author Unknown

ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Joyce Huber

Ed and Shirley Zimmerman's daughter, Kari, became the bride of Jeff Kamrath. We wish for them the very best.

Sam Koehl and Deryleen Garner were united in marriage and we also wish for them the very best.

Sis. Lydia Bachtold has reached her 4-score years and is observing her 80th birthday on May 26.

We are sorry that Sis. Thelma Slagel and Bro. Herman Kilgus were hospitalized. Sis. Thelma is home again, but Bro. Herman is at Carle Clinic, Urbana.

ILLINOIS, FORREST

Kathryn Steidinger - Beverly Eisenmann

Many brethren gathered with us for the proving and baptism of Connie Steffen (Ray and Sis. Doris) and Dawn and Diane Koehl (Bro.

Leroy and Sis. Janita). Among other visitors, we enjoyed having Elder Bros. Roy Sauder and Josh Broquard and ministering Bros. Leroy Hartman and Bill Kupferschmid with us.

There were many family gatherings on Mother's Day and our congregation enjoyed having Bro. Merle Kaisner come "home" and preach the Word to us.

An aged friend, Elva Loomis, passed away. She and her husband, A. P. Loomis, assembled with us for many years until his death in 1969. Later, failing health confined her to Fairview Haven where she resided for several years. A son, Lee, and daughter, Loraine Cox, and several grandchildren survive. Bro. Josh Broquard assisted our home ministers with the funeral services.

Bro. Sam Maier, who was in the hospital a few days for surgery, is now at home again. Bro. Earl Gerber and Kevin Ricketts (infant son of Bro. Nick and Sis. Jean) have been undergoing tests. Andy Metz is also a patient. Tommy Young (Bro. Terry and Sis. Peggy) was hospitalized for pneumonia which has stricken several children in our area lately. We wish God's blessings of health and strength for each one.

Bro. Rich and Sis. Marian Rieger welcome a new grandson, Jeremy Thomas. Parents Tom and Barb Rieger and twin sisters Tonya and Teresa all are very happy. The first child for Kim and Douglas Benway is Tyson Douglas. First time grandparents are Dale and Harriett Farney. Paul and Sis. Marie Schrof are his great-grandparents.

July is Silver Lining collection for Forrest. Dues are \$3.00. Please give any address or subscription changes including old and new zip to Ron and Carol Koehl.

ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Verna Hartter - Elna Grimm

"I was glad when they said unto me, 'Let us go into the House of the Lord.'" Ps. 122:1.

What a wonderful privilege to be able to go to the true church and have the freedom of worshipping our God. We pray that we will not be slothful in this duty and be robbed of His great peace.

Bro. Ezra Feller, Cissna Park, was our visitor on Mother's Day, and we are reminded of the prom-

ise, "GREAT PEACE HAVE THEY WHICH LOVE THY LAW." Psalm 119.

Bro. and Sis. Wayne and Rose Wiegand are the blessed parents of a new son, Rudi Jo, born May 6. Grandparents are Bro. and Sis. Joe and Ida Mae Klaus, Morton, and Bro. and Sis. Willis and Betty Wiegand.

Jill Hohulin (Bro. and Sis. Jim and Joy) is wearing a cast, having broken a finger on her right hand.

We are very happy to see Bro. William Joos assemble with us today. He recently submitted to surgery.

Our best wishes to Sis. Susan Maurer, Bloomington, and Mark Hinrichsen whose engagement was announced today. Their parents are Bro. and Sis. Roy and Ann Maurer, Forrest, and Bro. and Sis. Hans and Arlene Hinrichsen. May they continue to praise the Lord who has brought them together.

ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY

Carol Klopfenstein

"By humility and the fear of the Lord are riches, and honour and life." Proverbs 22:4. The world would never believe that the key to success is to be humble. The unconverted man cannot understand this Christ-like characteristic that makes us eligible for the grace of God. But the Lord has promised us that if we seek Him first, these other things will be added unto us. And we know that when we seek Him we must come with a broken and contrite spirit saying, as the publican did, "God be merciful to me a sinner." When we are clothed with the humility that Jesus had, we find joy in turning the other cheek and loving our enemies. With compassion we begin to pray for them that despitefully use us. Our heart is free from bitterness, and the peace of God which passes understanding pervades our being.

In this modern age of self-centered, high-minded men, there are those who would like to partake of the joys and promises afforded to the believer, but are unwilling to first humble themselves in repentance. It is similar to the man who was at the wedding feast but was cast out because he did not have on the wedding garment; he was not "clothed with humility." The riches of heaven, the honor that comes from God alone, and full, abundant and everlasting life are reserved

for those who are willing to humble themselves and fear God.

The peace of God has filled the heart of our dear friend, Roger Stoller. He is enjoying the special joys which God gives to those who have sought Him in true repentance and faith. Roger is looking forward to giving his testimony and being baptized in the near future.

We are happy for the newly married couples who have established the three-fold cord that will endure the test of time. When Christ is the head of our home and the wife is submissive unto her husband as unto the Lord, the husband loving his wife as Christ loved the church, we experience one of the greatest joys we can have here on earth. As the years go by, our relationship as husband and wife is enhanced as our love increases and we feel our lives are truly interwoven and united. What a contrast this is to the ways of the world. Our Sis. Carol Stoller was united in marriage to Bro. Wayne Klopfenstein of Princeville. Our Sis. Cathy Klopfenstein was united in marriage to Bro. Tim Hohulin of Roanoke.

We were blessed by the visits of several visiting ministers: Elder Bro. Roy Grimm of Taylor, Mo.; Elder Bro. Dave Kieser of Princeville; Elder Bro. Don Sauder of Roanoke; ministering Bros. Virgil Metzger of Champaign; Ken Schneider of Remington, Ind.; Ben Hartzler of Rittman, Ohio; Larry Wenninger of Latty, Ohio; Bob Pflederer of Morton; and Steve Rinkenberger of Cissna Park.

ILLINOIS, ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Deanna Marti

We have both sad and happy thoughts as school has ended and summer is here. We are sad to see the graduates leave, but we are thankful for all the blessed times we were able to share with them. Those graduating this year are Bro. Russ Plattner (Roanoke), Sis. Marge Aschleman (Roanoke), and Sis. Barb Hoffman Gerber (Cissna Park). Our graduating nurses are Sis. Vicki Steffen (Gridley) and Sis. Bonita Stock (Cissna Park).

We are enjoying meeting for Thursday evening Bible studies during the summer months as we did during the school year. Everyone is always welcome.

Bro. Bill Kupferschmidt of Bloomington, and Bro. Chuck Hem-

mer of Peoria came and shared God's word with us. We so appreciate the efforts these ministers put forth.

ILLINOIS, MORTON

Judy Springer - Lorna Schrock

A daughter was born on May 1 to Bro. Bill and Sis. Kay Gudeman. She was named Lindsey Jean and has a sister, Shelby, and a brother, Toby, to welcome her home. Grandparents are Emanuel and Ida Gudeman, Cissna Park, and Sis. Nettie Birkey, Morton.

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Carl (Sophia) Heubach, 81, on May 2. She is survived by her husband and a daughter, Miss Marilyn Heubach. The family wishes to extend a thank you to the ministers, Bro. Leroy Hartman, Peoria, and Bro. Henry Grimm, Morton, for conducting the services.

Bro. Mark and Sis. Carla Peters are the parents of their first child, a girl, born May 6. She was named Shannon Marie. Grandparents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Irene Kaiser and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Peters, all of Morton.

Engagements to report this month: Bro. Ted Hirstein to Sis. Joyce Belsley, whose parents are Harold and Sis. Louise Hirstein and Bro. Bob and Sis. Mabel Belsley; Bro. Roger Belsley to Sis. Martha Bahr, whose parents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Mabel Belsley, Morton, and Bro. Willard and Sis. Eloise Bahr of Sabetha, Kansas; Janet Getz to David Zimmerman, whose parents are Bro. John and Sis. Anna May Getz, Morton, and Howard Zimmerman, Washington, IL, and Fran Zimmerman of LaJolla, CA. We extend our congratulations to these couples.

We have the following marriages to report: Dennis Kaiser to Cheryl Sommers, whose parents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Irene Kaiser, Morton, and Eugene Sommers, Peoria Heights; David Farney to Sharon Armbrust, whose parents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Irene Farney, Morton, and Carl Armbrust of Manito; William Mochel to Barb Nettell, both of Morton. We extend best wishes to these three couples.

On May 21 we were privileged to witness the baptism of three souls. They were Brad Braker, son of our Elder Bro. Joe and Sis. Shirley; Larry Stevig, son of Bro. Keith and Sis. Alice; and Mark Getz, son of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Lois. We

welcome these three young brothers into the fold. We wish to thank Bro. Roy Grimm, Taylor, who was with us for this blessed weekend.

On Saturday, May 20, we held our annual Mother and Daughter Banquet at our Fellowship Hall. The following Sunday evening we had a "Morton Sing" at the Hall. The various singing groups from our congregation took part, followed by some group singing. It truly was a blessed evening of song and fellowship.

Funeral services were held on May 15 for our Sis. Kathryn (Getz) Jacob who was 80. She is survived by two sons, Ray and Ken, and a daughter, Sis. Jean (Harlan) Kaiser, all of Morton, seven brothers and one sister. We extend our sympathy to all of her family.

We extend our sympathy to Sis. Lois (Melvin) Aberle in the passing of her father, Bro. Warner Bauman. He died on May 20 at the age of 77.

We thank Bro. Philip Wingeier of Sarasota, Fla., who was with us on Sunday, May 28, and brought us inspiring messages from God's Word.

Hospital patients the past month include Bro. Karl Glueck, Sis. Esther Gingrich, Bro. Dave Rassi, and John Hirstein. We are happy to report that some have returned home and have been able to worship with us again.

Three brothers were chosen to teach our young people in the Sunday School: Jan Neukomm, Fred Kaiser, and Randy Schick.

Bro. Karl Glueck wishes to express his thanks for the many prayers, visits, and cards extended to him during his stay in the hospital. . . . May God bless each one of you.

ILLINOIS, PEORIA

Mary Sue Rieker - Diane Hohulin

The Peoria choir held their annual Benefit Dinner on May 13 at our Fellowship Hall. There were many churches represented from far and near. It was very touching to hear the choir sing praises to the Lord. The Peoria Choir hopes that all who were in attendance received a blessing.

Through love and faith the Lord has brought two more couples together. The engagement of Sis. Jody Waibel, daughter of Bill and Sis. Joyce, and Bro. Jack Hoerr, son of Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy, was

announced. They are planning a July 16 wedding. The engagement of Sis. Ruth Hoerr, daughter of Bro. Carl and Sis. Evelyn, and Bro. Tom Schmidgall of Morris was also made known. Their wedding is planned for July 23.

Among the hospital patients this month were Sis. Connie Triplett, Bro. Oscar Hoerr, Bro. Jake Simon, Bro. P. J. Hoerr, Bro. Jack Koehl, and Bro. Emil Roecker. All of our prayers are with each one of them so that they may return to good health.

God has called three more of His children to be with Him in Heaven above: Bro. Silas Sauder, Bro. Warner Bauman, and Sis. Edna Klein. We extend our deepest sympathy to their families.

ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE

Ruth Ricketts

Soon we will be observing Father's Day, a day set aside to honor fathers. How much we owe them, for they do so much for us. They provide our daily needs, give guidance, encouragement and love. All who are fortunate to have fathers have much for which to be thankful. How thankful, too, are we for our Heavenly Father who has provided so much for us. We have the beautiful universe to enjoy with all that is in it; and most important of all, He sent His only beloved Son as a ransom for our sins. What a fortunate people we are.

Since we have been observing daylight saving time, a number of the Bradford congregation has been gathering with us for Wednesday evening services. Recently Bro. Kennie Dietz ministered to us, for which we were thankful. He kindly admonished and advised: Don't hold a grudge for we will be the one to suffer most; be loving and forgiving and pray for our enemies; don't give anyone cause for offense.

On Mother's Day morning, the Lord called a dear soul out of this life. Sis. Lillian Streitmatter had not been well for some time and several times expressed her desire to be called from life to death. This was granted her without suffering. She was raised in the Princeville area and found her salvation here. Recently she had been living in Peoria. Funeral services were held at Princeville, Tuesday, May 16, with Bro. Walter Herrmann and other local ministers officiating. She was laid to rest in the Streit-

matter Cemetery near the site of the first church. Her parents, Bro. Alfred and Sis. Rose Miller Streitmatter are both resting in the cemetery. Surviving are a sister, Ruth Holmes, and a brother, Alden Streitmatter.

Several have been ill and hospitalized the past month. Sis. Emma Asal is recovering slowly from repair work on an eye which had a cornea transplant several months ago. She observed a birthday while in the hospital. She wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, get well cards, birthday cards, letters, visits, gifts and the many other deeds of love and kindness.

Bro. Herman Stahl was in the hospital several days and is at home awaiting the results of his tests conducted while there.

Sis. Helen Schick is receiving treatment in the hospital. We pray that she will be helped and will be able to return to her home soon.

Sis. Lisette Stahl was also hospitalized a few days while getting insulin adjusted for her diabetes. She has been confined to her home for a number of years. Our thoughts often go to her as we know she must spend many lonely hours since she is not able to fellowship as we do with those of like faith.

Sis. Bessie Martin has been confined to her bed for several weeks. She is suffering from phlebitis in her leg. She is now able to be up some, but needs to be very careful.

We have just learned that our young friend, Rodney Wagenbach, son of Bro. Raymond and Sis. Betty, is hospitalized. His affliction has been diagnosed as acute leukemia. We are thankful, also, to learn that he is seeking his soul's salvation. May he find the help he needs at this time and that peace that passes all understanding. We pray that the Lord will be near to him and his family during their trying days.

Many were in Gridley, Illinois, May 21 to witness the marriage of Bro. Wayne Klopfenstein, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen of Latty, Ohio, and Sis. Carol Stoller, daughter of Bro. Reuben and Sis. Emily of Gridley. Bro. Wayne has been living in our area the past four years and has recently purchased a home near Princeville, so he and his new bride will continue to worship with us. We welcome Sis. Carol heartily.

Bro. Phillip Wingeier of Sara-

sota, Florida, was our guest minister on a recent Wednesday evening. Meditation was on St. John 3, a well known chapter and one that is most loved. We were thankful for his visit and pray that the Lord will add His blessing.

We are looking forward to the next two weekends to hear the testimonies of eleven dear friends who have repented and found peace with God and man.

We have seven high school graduates this year, namely: Fred Christ, son of Bro. Walter and Sis. Doris; Mike Martin, son of Bro. Elmer and Sis. Janet; Alan Streitmatter, son of Bro. Alf and Sis. Ginnie; Curt Wagenbach, son of Bro. Raymond and Sis. Betty; Cynthia Baurer, daughter of Bro. Edwin and Sis. Carol; Cheryl Herrmann, daughter of Bro. Harry and Sis. Bertha Jeanne; and Brenda Martin, daughter of Bro. Ellsworth and Sis. Donna. There is much advice we could give each one, but I feel these words from a graduation card are most fitting.

May life always bring you
The things most worthwhile—
The courage to greet
Each new day with a smile,
A purpose to work for,
A challenge to meet,
And real satisfaction
To make life complete!

ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Edith Sauder - Mae K. Hodel

"Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven." We are thankful that the prayers of Jake Stortz, 91, and his wife Martha, 89, have been answered. They sought the Lord and found Him. Bro. Josh Broquard and Bro. Don Sauder conducted the baptismal services at the Roanoke A. C. Home where the Stortz's have been residing. They are originally from the Fairbury area. They are in failing health.

Bro. Rick and Sis. Raylene Zimmerman are the parents of a little daughter, Heidi Jo. She is welcomed by Robin, Jeremy, and Joni.

Our friend, Cindy Walker, has found peace with God and wishes to give her testimony in the near future.

The engagement of Bro. John Weigand (Bro. Morris and Sis. Lena) and Sis. Mary Farney (Bro. Ira and Sis. Doris) has been an-

nounced. We wish them God's blessing.

Debra Leman (Bro. Rowland and Sis. Verla) and Stewart Kinkade have announced their engagement. They are planning a September wedding.

Some of our loved ones have been hospitalized and are home again. Our friend, Joan (Bertschi) Blakeley is hospitalized at this time.

Bro. Tim Hohulin (Bro. Bob and Sis. Marie) and Sis. Cathy Klopfenstein (Bro. Ralph and Sis. Katherine), Gridley, exchanged wedding vows, May 28. We welcome Sis. Cathy to our congregation.

In memory of our loved one, Sis. Faith Fischer, who died June 1, 1977, we would like to share a page in a diary that she wrote during her illness. As a sister in faith, she did not fear death, only the unknown circumstances leading to it. God granted many months of life after this page was written, but when death came it left a young family of seven behind. This page gave us a great deal of comfort in our bereavement.

Feb. 17, 1972

When I die, think not of me as dying, but think of me as living—living without pain, living without sorrow or unhappiness, living without the confining nature of this, my human body, with all its human faults, frailties, and problems.

Yes, I die in this frail shell called my body, but my spirit is soaring, singing, and praising God for all His goodness that He lets happen to those who are ready.

Would you who love me, wish to deny me release from my problems and cares only to be a bigger and bigger burden upon your shoulders, when I can pass, with only a few last parting glances, through the lonesome way that each of us must journey alone—but to be by all the loved ones who have journeyed that way before.

I will wait and meet you, each of you, at the gate when it is time for our reunion. Love will quietly gather each and everyone of us together again in some distant peaceful land. May it be God's will.

Mom

ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Lydia Rassi

Into each life some rain must fall. Its purpose is to make the blossom sweeter and more perfect.

We savored rich memories of the

Lord's goodness on May 7 when Bros. Ben Wysong, Sabetha, Kansas, and Ken Dietz, Bradford, IL, ministered to us. Together our congregation shared again the precious privilege of holy communion on May 14. May that solemn sacrament always bring us renewed dedication of our lives and love to the Lord. Elder Bro. Ed Lanz and Bro. Harvey Heiniger, Oakville, Iowa, were our welcome visiting ministers on that special Sunday,

Ken and Linda Sauder are the happy parents of Mikalia Marie, born May 13. Fond grandparents are Bro. Bob and Sis. Elizabeth Sauder and Rev. and Mrs. Ed Harding of Brimfield. May the Lord keep them in His loving care.

Our best wishes and the Lord's blessings go to our graduates. Our eighth grade graduates are: Gene Beutel, Jim Dill, Lisa Dill, Sara Gschwind, Chuck Koch, Kim Koch, Sheilia Largent, Renee Michael, Kerrie Prather, Kevin Rinkenberg, Nancy Sinn, and Diane Steiner. High School graduates include: Tim Aberle, Bro. Dwayne Dill, Fern Glueck, David Huette, Donna Huette, Bro. David Kalb, Don Kaiser, Justin Koch, Keith Pflederer, Diane Rocke, and Joe Schweigert. Jill Koch also graduated this year from nurse's training.

Our sympathies are with Sis. Louise Wagenbach at the death of her sister-in-law, Sis. Edna Klein. Sis. Iva Getz wishes to thank those who remembered her with cards and other kind thoughts and deeds during and since her eye operation. Bro. Arnold Rassi has just undergone major hip surgery. May the Lord, as always, provide.

As we celebrate Father's Day, a sister gave this thought to me:

A father is a man so strong
It hurts to see his body weaken.
Yet spiritually his example shines undimmed

And is even brighter when—
against adversity—
We see what the shining cost him.

ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON

Linda Ziegenhorn

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

What a beautiful song and what a beautiful way to start each day. Bible reading and prayer in the morning can bring a great blessing all day long if we will just take the time.

The Peoria Choir sang for us at

our monthly hymn sing. We greatly enjoyed their music and the wonderful fellowship. A group of sisters from Peoria also sang several songs in German. That was quite a treat for those who understood. One song in particular made us stop and think, "Please Search the Book, Is My Name Written There?" We must be prayerful and watchful so that we may be sure our names are written in the book of Life.

We are so thankful that we have so many ministering brothers who are so willing to come and share the burden of the pulpit with Bro. Carl Wyss. This month they were Bros. Ralph Garber, Uriel Gehring, Joe Schrock, Marvin Schmidgall, LeRoy Huber, Willis Wiegand, Bob Grimm, Francis Rother, Russel Rapp, and Joe Zimmerman.

INDIANA, BLUFFTON

Connie Troxel - Teresa Fiechter

Elder Bros. Theo Beer from Milford, Ezra Feller from Cissna Park, and Loren Stoller from Latty were here to help in sharing Communion on May 6.

Our dear old Sis. Olga Frauhiger, 87, passed away. We extend our sympathy to her family.

Many prayers are with our hospital patients who are Bro. Steve Reinhard, Sis. Wanda Gerber, little Jenny Gerber (daughter of Bro. Luther and Sis. Sharon), Bro. Ed Kipfer, Joshua Shriver (son of Randy and Kathy), Bro. Howard Baumgartner, Stacy Stoller (4-year-old daughter of Bro. Bill and Sis. Kathy), Bro. Amos Reinhard, and Dean Tonner (son of Bro. Bill and Sis. Diane).

Bro. Gary and Sis. Nancy Schladenhauffen are the parents of little Tiffani Ann. Becky Jo is a new daughter of Bro. Joe and Sis. Denise Maller. Joseph Douglas (Bro. Doug and Sis. Ruby Gerber) was welcomed home by little Molly. Bro. Steve and Sis. Karen Aschliman are the parents of Rachel Beth.

Congratulations to all of our 1978 graduates. Author Nathaniel Hawthorne said, "Every individual has a place to fill in the world, and is important, in some respect, whether he chooses to be so or not."

The poem written by an unknown author makes us wonder if we give enough of our time to the Lord.

NO TIME?

I knelt to pray but not for long

I had too much to do.
Must hurry off and get to work
For bills would soon be due.

And so I said a hurried prayer,
Jumped up from off my knees—
My Christian duty now was done,
My soul could be at ease.

All through the day I had no time
To speak a word of cheer;
No time to speak of Christ to
friends,
They'd laugh at me I feared.

"No time, no time, too much to do."
That was my constant cry,
No time to give to those in need,
At last 'twas time to die.

And when before the Lord I came
I stood with downcast eyes;
Within His hand He held a book,
It was the "Book of Life."

God looked into His book and said,
"Your name I cannot find;
I once was going to write it down
But never found the time."

INDIANA, BREMEN

Norma Leman - Leona Leman

The Mother's Day message was revealed to us by Bro. Walt Rager (Toledo). Christian mothers are indeed the heart of the home.

Our graduating seniors this year are Bro. Mark Sauder, Jane Zeltwanger, Don Lehman, Terri Meister, and Dewayne Carothers. As this begins a new chapter in your life, may we always seek the Lord first. That is the way all success is attained. Commemorative services were held for ministering Bro. Henry Souder on Sun., May 27, for his faithful 51 years of serving as minister and for his upcoming 90th birthday. (There will be a feature article in the next issue about this service.)

"God is merciful and wise through long hours of tribulation, He gives us time for meditation. No sickness can be counted loss, that teaches us to 'bear our cross'."

Helene Steiner Rice

Submitting to surgery this week were Sis. Arlene Kaehr and Bro. Verne Lehman. They are now both recuperating.

Our dear Sis. Leah M. (Leman) Zimmer, 70, was laid to rest after a long illness. She lived in South Bend since 1928, when she moved from Bremen. She married Eugene Zimmer, who died in March, 1973.

Surviving are a daughter, two sons, 15 grandchildren, two sisters, and five brothers. Many fond memories of this dedicated sister will linger on—of her faith, of her willingness to do whatever was asked of her, and of her faithfulness to the Lord. She was a close relative of your editor.

INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Linda Gutwein - Sharon Neihouser

Our dear sister, Louise Anliker, passed away on May 9. Funeral services were held on May 11. Surviving are one son, Myrtis, and six grandchildren. Bro. Joshua Broquard (Fairbury) conducted the services. May God comfort the family.

The home of Brad and Nancy Wuethrich was blessed with a baby girl, Melissa Rae. Travis and Patrick are happy to have a sister. Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb Wuethrich are the grandparents.

A program was held on May 24 to honor the graduates. Each one was presented with a Bible, the book that will teach them how to live and prepare them to die. Our graduates this year are: Anita Boehning (Dick and Phyllis), Sis. Cindy Albrecht (Louis and Sis. Danny and Sis. Carol), Brad Neihouser (Bro. Andre and Sis. Lois), Clara Yaggie (Bro. Merle and Sis. Louise), Sis. Nadine Yaggie (Bro. Irven and Sis. Lois), Jan Gutwein (Bro. Harold and Sis. Maxine), David Anliker (Bro. Earl and Sis. Liz), Brad Gutwein (Phil and Julie), Sis. Miriam Wuethrich (Bro. Dave and Sis. Barb), Sis. Jinny Gutwein (Bro. Edison and Sis. Chrisann), Pirjo Koskinen (foreign exchange student from Finland living with Bro. Glen and Sis. Mary Ann Gutwein), Mary Novotny (Bro. Art and Sis. Maxine), Scott Leman (Bro. Sidney and Sis. Fern), and Kevin Wuethrich (Bro. Chris and Sis. Ruth). We wish them all God's blessings in their future.

INDIANA, LA CROSSE

Grace Heinold - Lois Bucher

Bro. Bill and Sis. JoAnn Frank are parents of their second child, Julie Kristin, who was born May 6. She has a brother, Lucas, who also welcomes her home. Bro. Ed and Sis. Lea Frank, and Bro. Clarence and Sis. Emma Knoblock, of Bradford, are the grandparents.

We have several high school graduates this year; namely, Dick

Bucher, Bro. Joe Feller, Scott Frank, Bro. Mike Fritz, and Sis. Laurie Zeltwanger. May God direct each one of them in their future plans.

Sis. Louise (Bro. Ed) Wittmer suffered a stroke and is hospitalized. Bro. Gilbert Nuest was also in the hospital but is home again. We pray that God will grant His grace and help to all who are afflicted.

Bro. Ed and Sis. Carol Troxel have moved to Remington, Ind. We miss them but trust that God will bless them in their new location and work.

We wish to extend our sympathy to Sis. Evie (Bro. Eugene) Heinold whose mother, Sis. Edna Klein, passed away on May 12.

INDIANA, LEO

Mrs. Phil Schlatter - Mrs. Al Frautschi

Messages by visiting ministers Robert Grimm, Goodfield; Orville Ringer, Bluffton; and Ben Stavenik, Mansfield, blessed us in the month of May.

Baptismal services for Renee and Marlise, daughters of Bro. Marvin and Sis. Joan Stieglitz, added joy to the Sabbath Day, May 28. The new Christian loves His companionship. Sometimes those who have known Him for a long time tend to grow indifferent to his presence. If this should be true of us, may we recapture that earlier desire and appreciation of His love to witness that He's "sweeter as the years go by."

Sis. Ethelyn Schlatter is recuperating after a brief hospital stay.

The following letter, appropos to Father's Day, was anonymously printed in a recent paper:

Dear Daddy,

How does one tell her father what he means to her? I don't know. It's hard to convey the full meaning, the precise meaning.

Thank the Lord for parenthood. Somehow, being one helps me to see the worth and value in other people more clearly—specifically, you. I love you. I remember when I was a little girl, you were always tickling my neck, or pinching my knee, or poking or tickling me somewhere. At the time, I remember thinking it was a nice game. Now I know it was your way of telling me that you loved me, that you approved of me, that I was important to you. And I needed that, and somewhere inside you must've

known I did.

I have always admired your willingness to stick up for the underdog, to give everyone the right to make mistakes, and to help them recover from their mistakes, and your ability not to criticize. I think you taught me the value of work and thriftiness. Your quietness about the good you have done (except, of course, shooting deer!) has impressed me, too. Most importantly, I want to thank you for guiding me to the Savior. After all, what is there really to life without Him?

If you're like me, I suppose you've wondered often in years past if you were doing the right thing as a parent. I think you've done a good job. A praying father has a hard time failing. And I derive more comfort, as time passes, from thinking that you are praying for me every day.

I want you to know how much I have appreciated all the material things you have given me. There have been so many. I could not begin to repay. It's a hopeless cause for children to repay their parents, and parents don't really expect it, I think. I mention material things last because of your influence. I really believe they are not the most important things in life. I still remember what you wrote in my autograph book in grade school, "Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last." When I was ten, I couldn't imagine life ending, but now at the ripe old age of 30, I realize your message left me with a true value whether I understood it or not.

Oh yes,—one more thing. I have learned many spiritual truths from things you have said at the Lord's table.

I, for one, just wanted to tell you your life on earth has not been in vain. You didn't accomplish what you set out to do as a youth—you accomplished more, by the grace of God. Don't stop living and growing in God—I am still watching.

Lovingly,
Your Daughter

INDIANA, MILFORD Sandy Beer

Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them . . . Eccl. 12:1.

That is our hope for our high

school graduates. They are: Sis. Kathy Beer (Bro. Jesse); John Beer (Bro. Phillip); Blane Hurd (Bro. John); John Kaiser (Bro. Dick); and Rex Wuthrich (Glen).

Also graduating this spring from Butler University is Bro. Tom Speicher (Bro. Louis). We are happy he has found employment in Milford. We welcome Bro. Tom, Sis. Tammy, and little Trischa to Milford.

Congratulations to David Martin (Gerald and Garlene) and Sherrie Lovellette who exchanged vows on May 20. David's grandparents are Bro. John and Sis. Dorothy Martin.

We appreciate the ministering of Bro. Joe Schrock (Congerville) and Bro. Vernon Leman (Eureka). Also, we are glad for all of the visitors we have had.

Our dear Elmer Rassi has undergone major surgery. We hope he can feel God's nearness. Sis. Lynn Beer (Bro. Ken) remains hospitalized as they await the arrival of their third child. Their son, Jonah, had been hospitalized and is now improved. We're sorry for Sue Speicher who met with an accident at work. Her parents are Bro. Lewis and Sis. Miriam.

INDIANA, REMINGTON

Amelia Schini - Mildred Claus

Bro. Sam Schlatter of Junction, Ohio, and Bro. Don Gudeman of La Crosse were our visiting ministers on Apr. 30. We thank God for the inspiring message they brought to us.

Our congregation extends a warm welcome to Bro. Ed and Sis. Carol Troxel who have recently moved to Remington. We wish them God's rich blessings.

The engagement and approaching marriage of Stephanie May to Larry D. Humes of Salina, Kansas, has been announced by her parents, Hollis and Sis. Angela May. July 3 is the wedding date they have chosen and we wish them God's blessings as they begin their life together.

Recent hospital patients have been Sisters Marie Schini, Emma Blume, and Emma Beckley. We are happy to report they are improved and able to be in their homes again.

Hospitalized at this time is our friend, Elmer Wasner; also Heidi Vaughn, daughter of Joe and Betty (Braker) Vaughn.

Our sympathy is extended to

Sis. Marge Pitman, whose mother, Mrs. Hazel Dandlinger, recently passed away.

INDIANA, VALPARAISO
Marie Heinold

Would we know that the major
chords were sweet,
If there were no minor key?
Would the painters work be fair to
our eyes,
Without shade on land or sea?
Would we know the meaning of
happiness,
Would we feel that the day was
bright,
If we'd never known what it was
to grieve,
Nor gazed on the dark of night?
author unknown

Ministering brethren Bob Meyer, Todd Feller, Jim Leman, and Elder Bro. Ed Frank came to visit us this past month. Many good teachings were left with us. Something I like to remember and often think of is: Grace is divine power given through faith.

Our friend, Edward Lester, became seriously ill with a stomach ulcer and was hospitalized. His wife Caroline awakened at night and sensed something wrong because of the way he was breathing. She called an ambulance, and he was rushed to intensive care, where he was given six pints of blood. He felt no severe pain and thought he had flu. God was merciful and spared this young father's life.

INDIANA, WOLCOTT
Laurel Widmer

Spring is a time of regeneration and new life. We celebrate spring by welcoming two new lives to our congregation. To Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Basham, God has given a son, Ryan Carlton, born Apr. 29. Bro. Don and Sis. Rita Furrer welcome their new little boy, William Lee, born May 12. Donita, Troy, and Sharon are happy to have this baby brother with them.

The La Crosse junior high Sunday School class spent Apr. 30 with our comparable classes. New acquaintances today will become old friends, and often the best friends, in the years ahead.

We appreciate Bro. Rod Huber who took time to spend an evening with us for services on May 16.

Graduating from high school this year are Chris Bahler (Bro. Al-

fred and Sis. Frances), John Lehman (Harold and Jane), David Schieber (Sis. Marylin), Sheli Furrer (Bro. Vernon and Sis. Jan), Tony Christopher (Wayne and Sis. Nancy), and Lenny Farney (LeRoy and Fran). We wish each one of them the best in the life and vocation that is ahead of them.

IOWA, BURLINGTON
Mayme Gerst - Judy Gehring

AFTERGLOW

The day died in a flood of crimson
flame
That bathed the hills in beauty
richly rare.
All the world bowed down
And I, too, came to stand and wonder
in worship there .

Then a small voice seemed to
question me,
When death shall come and I must
gladly go,
Will there be someone to love my
memory?
Oh, LORD, shall I, too, leave an
AFTERGLOW?

Author Unknown

Driving home from Illinois the other evening we saw the most unusual sunset. The sun was like a huge ball of fire. On one side of the sun were dark clouds, on the other side were many hues of pink, surrounded by light and dark clouds making light and dark shadows. It was a sight only God could create. It reminded me of our lives, with our highlights and shadows. We kept watching until, all of a sudden, it was gone. As with our lives, we, too, shall soon be gone. We should make the most of each day, as "Today is the day the Lord hath made."

We had a blessed evening when our Elder Bro. Ed Lanz served us Holy Communion. It is always good to be reminded of Christ's suffer-and death by partaking of this holy feast. It is good, also, to examine ourselves and start anew, greeting each other as in a new day.

We thank Bro. John Steiner, Oakville, for bringing us the Word of God.

As another Memorial Day arrived, we remembered our loved ones who have finished their race and have gone "the last mile of the way." We pray we shall all be ready when we are called to our

eternal home and can all be together—never to part: just "good-night here, and good morning up there."

IOWA, Elgin
Eleanor Butikofer

We were recently blessed with a delightful rain-fall; as a result the pastures are lush, the corn rows are visible, and some garden vegetables are appearing above the ground—namely, beets, beans, chard, and radishes. The Scriptures tell us that all good and perfect gifts come from above; indeed our creator is very generous.

Our snowball and bridal wreath shrubs are perfectly beautiful at this stage of bloom.

After our church services yesterday, my husband and I placed some flowers on some graves in our cemetery. The ones who first came to our minds were of course, those of our grandparents, our parents, our brothers, and our uncle Isaac Gehring. Many treasured memories are brought to mind as one visits the last resting place of loved ones. We know full-well that the grave is not man's final destination.

We commence our news on a glad note. Kathy Pulfer, daughter of Paul and Sister Evelyn, felt the need to repent and live for the Lord. We are looking forward to hearing her testimony and witnessing her baptism, which will take place in the near future. We are very happy for her.

We enjoyed having visiting minister Bros. Harold Messner from Winthrop and Uriel Gehring from Burlington.

Bro. Harold assisted our Elder Paul Butikofer in serving communion to us. This is always a solemn and sacred service. It serves to remind us vividly of our dear Saviour's sacrifice and deep love for mankind. May we all feel renewed and strengthened in our faith.

Sis. Alta Thoman is able, once again, to assemble for church services after having been confined to her home for quite a number of months. We are so happy to see her feeling much improved.

Sis. Celia Butikofer is hospitalized at Postville. We hope she will improve to the extent that she can return to her home. May the good Lord give her the much needed patience it takes to be ill. We miss

her presence at our church services very much.

Faith is a gift of God. It is not a material thing that can be seen, heard, smelled, tasted or touched; but it is as real as anything that can be perceived with these senses. One can be aware of faith as easily as one can be aware of earth. Faith is as certain as is the existence of water.

Faith is as sure as the taste of an apple, the fragrance of a rose, the sound of thunder, the sight of the sun, the song of an oriole, and the feel of a mother's loving touch. Who draws nigh to God through doubtings dim, God will advance in blazing light to Him. The christian on his knees sees more than the philosopher on tiptoe.

The schedule for our mid-week services is as follows: the time is Wednesday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00. The first week is devoted to singing, and the second and third weeks will be regular church services. The fourth Wednesday night is Bible study. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Our Bible School commences on the 30th of May and continues for one week.

Congratulations to Bro. Lonnie Butikofer. He graduated on the 26th of May as an RN with associate credit from the Area One Vocational Tech School located at Calmar, IA. We wish him the best of everything. May God always bless his efforts and work.

Sis. Janet Mogler also graduated as an RN with associate credit from the Area One Vocational Tech School at Calmar. We extend congratulations to her. May she find many spiritual rewards in her profession.

We are delighted to have the barn swallows and orioles back. The swallows are constructing their nests—very neat structures indeed; and the orioles have been weaving their hammock-like nests in our maple trees. The song of the oriole is so melodious that it adds to the pleasure of our day. The swallows are very graceful in flight as they fly in and out of our garden in search of innumerable insects.

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Prov. 3:6.

ADDRESS CHANGED?
TELL YOUR REPORTER.

IOWA, IOWA CITY

Connie Gerst - Twilla Whipple

We are again thankful for the visiting ministers who traveled so far to bring us God's Word. This month they were Bros. Ed Hohulin (Goodfield), Uriel Gehring (Burlington), and Bob Walder (Congerville).

The gardens are growing to bring forth fruit, the birds are singing, and the beauty of nature is all around us. It surely does remind us of the wonderful creations of God.

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

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

Hymns of Zion

IOWA, LESTER

Alice Metzger

We were richly blessed when Bros. Russell Wuthrich, Pulaski, and Roger Aberle, Sabetha, were recently directed into our midst. We are thankful for sincere and upright ministers who proclaim the Word, whether they be at home or visiting.

Several have been on the sicklist. In the hospital for surgery were Sis. Florence Knoblock and Bro. Phil Mobler. Other hospital patients were Bro. Ed Gerber and Fred Metzger. All are home again, and we pray for their complete recovery.

A precious baby girl was born to Bro. Dale and Sis. Becky Wulf on May 22. Lisa Joy has a sister Joni and grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Leona Wulf and Bro. Paul and Sis. Betty Leuthold.

As Father's Day is near, I would like to include these words by Edgar A. Guest:

Your Name

You got it from your father. 'Twas the best he had to give.
And right gladly he bestowed it.
It's yours, the while you live.
You may lose the watch he gave you—and another you may claim,
But remember, when you're tempted, to be careful of his name.
It was fair the day you got it, and

a worthy name to bear.

When he took it from his father, there was no dishonor there; Through the years he proudly wore it, to his father he was true.

And that name was clean and spotless when he passed it on to you.

Oh, there's much that he has given that he values not at all.

He has watched you break your playthings in the days when you were small.

You have lost the knife he gave you and you've scattered many a game.

But you'll never hurt your father if you're careful with his name.

It is yours to wear forever, yours to wear the while you live.

Yours, perhaps, some distant morning, to another boy to give.

And you'll smile as did your father—with a smile that all can share—

If a clean name and a good name you are giving him to wear.

IOWA, OAKVILLE

Phyllis Siegle

God's Day

The scent of roses in the breeze,
The singing of birds joyful in trees,

People smiling as they greet
To loved ones where they meet,
This is a day which God has made;
Should we, then, in it be afraid?

On May 21, the engagement of Bro. Gary Schulz to Sis. Karen Lanz was announced. Gary is the son of Bro. Myron and Sis. Dorothy. Sis. Karen is the daughter of Elder Bro. Ed and Sis. Joan Lanz. We wish them God's blessing.

We are sorry to have Bro. Randy and Sis. Mary Lynn Massner leave our Oakville church and community. Our prayers go with them as they make their new home in the LaCrosse area.

Bro. Christ and Sis. Nettie Gerst observed their 40th wedding anniversary in May. We certainly wish them God's blessing and presence as they continue to walk hand in hand in their pilgrimage here on earth. Their children helped in making this event a very pleasant one for them.

It is always a pleasure to meet

and greet those of like faith. Our visiting minister this past month was Bro. Earl Banwart from West Bend, Iowa. We thank him and those who accompanied him for their visit.

We wish much happiness to Sherry Getz and Larry Wegman who were recently married. Larry is the son of Bro. Sam and Sis. Rosemary, and Sherry is the daughter of Robert and Mary Catherine Getz, Morton.

IOWA, PULASKI

Janice Rikenberger

Mary Jane Knapp

We are all thankful when the long, cold months of winter are gone, and we can see the handy work of our Heavenly Father; when the leaves of the trees turn the countryside green, and the flowers turn the air to perfume.

Elder Bros. Leo Moser and Ed Lanz were with us to serve holy communion. We thank the brothers for reminding us that communion should be sacred and that we should thoroughly search our souls before we partake of it.

IOWA, WEST BEND

Mrs. Raymond Anliker

Becky Banwart

We have two sets of thankful parents. Bro. Norman and Sis. Polly Zaugg have a new son, Paul Lyn, born May 14. Grandparents are Sis. Emma Meyer (Lester) and Bro. Oscar and Sis. Francis Zaugg. Bro. Duane and Sis. Elizabeth Metzger have a new son, Donald Arthur, born May 23. Grandparents are Bro. Orttie and Sis. Ver-na Rocke (Oakville) and Bro. Arnold and Sis. Alice Metzger.

Charles Schneider (son of Bro. Lawrence and Sis. Ella) and Kay Schutz of Mallard have announced their engagement. A July 15 wedding is planned.

Leona McCue was a hospital patient. We wish her a speedy recovery.

On May 21 our cups were overflowing when Bro. Roger Aberle (Sabetha) and Bro. Eugene Metzger (Lester) ministered to us. It was graduation day, and the seniors were reminded of their journey through life. They were asked to take with them spiritual crumbs from their mom's and dad's tables, and not lose sight of the wonderful heritage that can be theirs. May we all look to God to lead us on.

JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki

It was a beautiful day today, and we had a real blessed Sunday. We always appreciate the ministry of our Bro. Willis Ehnle, as he and his family were our guests.

Seiji Sakuta, son of Yoshiko and Shoji had his tonsils removed earlier this spring and was hospitalized for about one week. We are glad he is fine and coming to Sunday School again.

A farewell picnic was held on May 21 for our Karen Krieger who spent four months here in Japan as a part of her college study. She told her classmates in Tokyo that she could take the train one and one-half hours from there (which would be our church) and meet folks just like at home. We enjoyed her friendship and attendance in our church circle. She is from our Rockville, CT, assembly. Another friend of our church leaving for the states (Detroit) is Tomio Mizuta. He works for Chrysler Corp.

A young girl Emiko Harashima, 18, left to the states for study in American college on May 23 and is staying at Bro. and Sis. Art Gramm (Sis. Sally's parents), Chenoa, Illinois, by their kindness for two weeks there. After that, she goes to the dorm of the University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois. She is going to stay in America for two years, at least. She is a real nice girl and attended our Sunday School when she was little. I knew her parents well since she was little baby. Anyway, she is young, and seems to us too young, for her life in over seas alone. We are a little bit worried about her. If anyone who live near her school can contact with her, we really appreciate it. We are really concerned for her. Thank you.

JAPAN, SHIODA

Sally Gramm - Jane Weiss

We rejoice with Bro. Toru and Sis. Junko Saegusa in the birth of their long-awaited baby girl on May 10. Her name, Michio, means "peach blossom," and we hope and pray that she will grow to be a gentle and beautiful glory to the Lord, as is the lovely flower after which she is named.

The mountains and valleys are all green now, and flowers of every shade and hue are blooming profusely. The countryside of Japan

is a riot of color. I recently spent a few days with a young couple who attends our church often, helping them in the fields during the day and sharing their supper and company in the evening. As the young wife and I walked toward the fields together, we commented on the beautiful day and the lovely landscape. She said, "I feel so close to God here in the country. As I work out in His wonderful creation, I can see Him everywhere." I was reminded of a verse in the Psalms: "All thy works shall praise thee, O Lord, and thy saints shall bless thee." Truly God can be found everywhere—in the smallest flower and in the farthest star; in the eyes of a newborn baby and in the eyes of a dying saint; in the brightest sunlight and in the darkest night. May we always seek Him, and may we learn to find Him in every situation in our lives. Truly, when He is dwelling within us, He is closer to us than our own breath and as intimate as our own heartbeat. Let us always strive to be "tuned in" to Him, as we find Him in our lives from day to day in nature, in our contacts with others, and in the depths of our own hearts.

KANSAS, BERN

Esther and Stella Moser

THE BEST GIFT

The best gift you can give
Is not decked in gold,
Or wrapped in gilt paper
And topped off with bows.
It's not paid for with money,
Nor bought at a store.
You never get too much,
And need to give more.
Have you given any lately?
God gives it from above.
The best gift you can give
Is simply called love.

Mary Margaret Wilbanks

Best wishes to our high school graduates, Martha Grimm, (Bro. Paul and Sis. Katie), Edwin Strahm (Bro. Alpha and Sis. Mamie), and Daniel Esslinger (Bro. Martin and Sis. Arlene). May they always include the Lord in their future plans.

Our guest minister was Bro. Lee Plattner, Zapata. (I'm sorry I wasn't present, but I was battling problems, due to a late spring cold.) Lee was born and lived in the Bern

community until recently, when he moved his little family to Zapata for health reasons. May the Lord grant him strength and courage as he strives to bring the true Word of God.

KANSAS, FORT SCOTT
Jan Kraft

May 5 and 6 was a special weekend for Bro. Roger Kraft as he gave his testimony of repentance and conversion and was baptized. Elder Bro. Sam Anliker was here to assist Elder Bro. Raymond in this important work. Also here were ministering Bros. Lloyd Kraft (Gridley) and John Lehman (Bern).

David Matthew was born May 9 to Bro. John and Sis. Carol Sinn. To welcome him home are Doug John and Janelle Marie. Grandparents are Bro. Danny and Sis. Dorothy Sinn and Bro. Emanuel and Sis. Elsie Sinn (Tremont). We are so thankful that this child can come to a home where God is present.

This year's graduates from high school are Steve Sinn (Bro. Wayne and Sis. Wanita) and Jerry Behr (Bro. Jim and Sis. Ruth). Fort Scott Community College graduates are Judy Bahr (Bro. Jim and Sis. Ruth) and Edwin Fischer (Bro. Lyle and Sis. Lillian). Also graduating from Kansas State University is Sis. Teresa Bahr (Bro. Jim and Sis. Ruth).

A GRADUATE'S PRAYER

Father, I have knowledge, so will you show me now
How to use it wisely and find a way somehow
To make the world I live in a little better place,
And make life with its problems a bit easier to face . . .
Grant me faith and courage and put purpose in my days,
And show me how to serve Thee in the most effective ways
So all my education, my knowledge and my skill,
May find their true fulfillment as I learn to do Thy Will . . .
And may I ever be aware in everything I do
That knowledge comes from learning and wisdom comes from you.

Helen Steiner Rice

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

KANSAS, GRIDLEY

Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr

High school graduates are Sam Bahr (Bro. Rudy and Sis. Eileen) and Mark Kraft (Sammy and Carol). Eighth grade graduates are Kent Beyer (Vernon and Rosemarie) and Paige Metzger (Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene).

Our sincere sympathy is extended to the family of our dear Sis. Dorthy (Ephriam) Young in the death of her father, Edward Bartels.

Hospitalized this past month were Barry and Paige Metzger (sons of Bro. Eldon and Sis. Dorene), Bro. Sam Kraft, and Frank Knapp.

We wish to welcome our new convert, Bro. Jeff Bahr (Bro. Rudy and Sis. Eileen), into our midst. Bro. Jeff made his choice to live for the Lord when he had previously been living and assembling in Kiowa. Praise God for His almighty works.

On May 3, a daughter, Becky Dawn, was born to Norma and Jim Hildebrand. Becky has two older brothers, David and Kevin. Bro. Ivan and Sis. Ada are maternal grandparents.

Many thanks to Bro. Al Langhofer, Wichita, for sharing God's Word with us.

Our vacation Bible School classes, shared with the Lamont congregation, begin this next month. How thrilling it is to see the little ones so eagerly awaiting the time of assembling together to learn more about Jesus. It seems to be such a rare trait anymore! We are so thankful for God-fearing parents.

KANSAS, KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Cynthia Meyer

The Lord bless thee, and keep thee:
The Lord make his face shine upon thee,
and be gracious unto thee:
The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee,
and give thee peace.

It's hard to believe that another semester is almost over. We pray that God will watch over us as we go separate ways. Sisters Brenda Tucker (Kiowa) and Teresa Bahr (Ft. Scott) are graduating this spring. They will be greatly

missed by the group at K-State and the neighboring churches. Our loss will be a gain for Ft. Scott, as they are both planning to move to Ft. Scott.

Our final church service was conducted by Bros. Lester Hartter and Harvey Grimm (Bern). We extend a special thanks to all the brothers, sisters, and friend who attended services in Manhattan this year. It made our Wednesday evening services that much more special.

KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Frieden

I read recently that when Queen Victoria reigned in England, she occasionally would visit some of the humble cottages of her subjects. One time, she entered the home of a widow and stayed to enjoy a brief period of Christian fellowship. Later on, the poor woman was taunted by her worldly neighbors.

"Granny," they said, "who's the most honored guest you've ever entertained in your home?" They expected her to say it was Jesus, for despite their constant ridicule of her Christian witness, they recognized her deep spirituality. But to their surprise she answered, "The most honored guest I've entertained is Her Majesty, the Queen."

"Did you say the Queen? Ah, we caught you this time! How about this Jesus you're always talking about? Isn't He your most honored guest?"

Her answer was definite and scriptural. "No indeed! He's not a guest. He lives here!" Here hecklers were put to silence. Does Jesus "live" in our home? Does He reign in our hearts? He will if we'll only open the door and let Him come in.

Our prayers are with Sis. Laverne Roth, who was hospitalized this month for extensive tests. We truly hope for her quick return to our midst.

We were saddened, recently, by the sudden passing of Glen Dominick of Morris. We extend our deepest love and sympathy to his family, along with the prayer that God will comfort them in this time of sorrow.

This past month we witnessed the graduations of Sis. Brenda Tucker, daughter of Dale and Sis. Marie Tucker, and Lynne Murrow, daughter of Bud and Sis. Helen

Murrow. Sis. Brenda, a graduate of K.S.U. in Manhattan, Kansas, will begin work for Diehl, Fletcher, and Banwart at Ft. Scott, Kansas, in June. Lynne, a graduate of South Bubes High, plans to attend Lola Junior College next fall. May our Blessed Lord walk with Sis. Brenda and Lynne in all areas of their lives and grant His wisdom and love in all their decisions.

KANSAS, WICHITA

Glenis Allenbach

Greetings! We have appreciated the recent visits of our Elder Brothers Sam Anliker and Gene Marty. We feel good has come from this, as we now have a new minister, Bro. Glen Funk. I know Glen would want you to pray for him so that he can really be used by the Lord. We are happy to pass our good news on to you.

Bro. Howard Plattner and Sis. Kristin Wulshleger's engagement and approaching marriage has been announced.

We are sorrowed by the passing of our dear Bro. Roy Yackley. He made it so easy to love him, and he will be missed.

Have you ever wondered about angels? The Bible tells us they have a ministry, offices, duties, and characteristics. There is a story told of a recent manifestation during the short war between Israel and Egypt when Israel was so victorious. It is said that the Egyptians were amazed to see a huge army advancing. In fear, they retreated only to find the army had disappeared right before their eyes.

The Word says God's power will be greatly manifested in the last days.

Just a thought in closing: In the prayer of faith, "if" is to be omitted.

MICHIGAN, BAY CITY

Patsy Knochel

Spring is surely upon us—with planting the fields again for another season, making ready for fall harvest. So it is with our hearts; are we "Sowing seeds of goodness to bear fruit for harvest day"?

Bro. John Lambert has been ill and hospitalized. Although he is at home again, our thoughts and prayers are still with him, asking for the Lord's ever protecting hand.

Eleanor Knochel (Bro. Victor)

and Sis. Carol Broquard (Bro. Duane) have been hospitalized for surgery. Thankfully, both are back with us again and doing well. We wish them God's blessings for a full recovery.

We would like to extend our sympathy to our friends, Mr. and Mrs. James Rylance, over the death of their son, Eddie Knochel. (Jim's parents are Sis. Merle and Marshall Rylance.)

MICHIGAN, DETROIT

Bonnie Popp

"Where there is love the heart is light;
Where there is love the day is bright;
Where there is love there is a song
To help when things are going wrong;
Where there is love there is a smile
To make all things seem more worthwhile.
Oh, blest are they who walk in love;
They also walk with God above—
For God is love and through love alone
Man finds the joy that the saints have known.

Author Unknown

If the Lord wills, we will have Open House on June 25 and Dedication is planned for July 9. We welcome anyone who would be interested in assembling with us in our new church **anytime**. It would be a joy to meet you in our new house of worship.

A weekend of love and fellowship was shared when the Toledo brethren visited with us this month. The Toledo choir presented hymns of praise which truly were a blessing and inspiration to all of us who shared in listening on Saturday evening.

We were grateful also for having Bros. Eugene Fetter and Homer Reineck minister to us on Sunday. It is a blessing to be joined hand in hand through the love of God.

Sis. Lydia Voina is visiting with us from Sarasota. She will be in the Detroit area for a month or so before returning home to the South.

ADDRESS CHANGED?
TELL YOUR REPORTER.

MINNESOTA, MORRIS

Pam Sutter - Lili Koehl

"CHRIST LIVETH IN ME: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me." Ga. 2:20. Four hearts were prayerfully prepared, and Christ now lives in our new brothers and sisters, Gary Schmidgall (Bro. Gene and Dorothy), Maxine Sauder (Virgil and Mildred), and Dennis and Judy Wulf (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi and Art and Dorothy Durkee). As our church has increased in number, may each member be growing spiritually so it may also increase in faith.

Elder Bros. Dan Koch (Tremont) and Harold Messner (Winthrop) assisted our Elder Bro. Paul Fehr as we received Holy Communion. What a wonderful renewing of faith, hope, and love.

"If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father." Jn. 14:28. Our Sis. Frances Domnick is comforted by these thoughts as her dear husband, Bro. Glen, was chosen by God to be called out of this world. Two believing children, Bro. Gary Domnick, and Sis. Glenagene Fehr (Bro. Milvin) of Whittemore, Iowa, and six little grandchildren also give Sis. Frances faith in His promise, "I WILL NOT LEAVE YOU COMFORTLESS." Jn. 14:18. Also surviving are her mother, Sis. Ruth Domnick, two sisters, Sis. Ellen Koehl (Bro. Albert) and Sis. Mildred Koehl (Bro. Eric), and a brother, Bro. Dale Domnick, all of Morton, Ill.

July 23 is the day that Bro. Tom Schmidgall and Sis. Ruth Hoerr (Peoria) look forward to when, ". . . they two shall be one flesh." Mark 10:8. Parents are Bro. Floyd and Sis. Vila Schmidgall and Bro. Carl and Sis. Evelyn Hoerr.

Little Mindy Lyn is fortunate to have Bro. Doug and Sis. Joyce Wulf as her new Christian parents. Grandparents are Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi Wulf and Art and Dorothy Durkee.

Jerry and Linda Wulf have chosen to live for Jesus. Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi have so much to be thankful for!

Our thanks go to ministering brother Noah Miller of Minneapolis who recently shared a day with us.

LuJean Nohl and Randy Thielke

were married on May 6. LuJean is the daughter of Bro. Noah and Sis. Shirley.

"O Lord, be not far from me." Ps. 35:22.—a thought for Sis. Pauline Tohm, who is in the hospital.

Our high school graduates this month include: Dale Brown (Bro. Vernard and Sis. Barb), Brian Moser (Bro. Carl and Sis. Norene), Myron Moser (Bro. Alphai and Sis. Pearl), Sis. Jan Dogotch (Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma), Sis. LeAnn Wulf (Bro. Leonard and Sis. Vi), Mary Schmidgall (Bro. Richard and Sis. Corrine), Chip Fehr (Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Judy), Ted Gramm (Bro. Harold and Sis. Ila), Stan Schaefer (Bro. Anton and Sis. Verna), Jeff Luthi (Bro. Reuben and Sis. Crystal), Henry Messner (Bro. Frank and Sis. Gladys), Guy Koehl (Bro. Ed and Sis. Lois), Mike Moser (Bro. Dave and Sis. Norene), and Lynette Spohr (Wilbur and Ruth).

The Glen Domnick family wishes to express their sincere and heartfelt thanks to all who expressed sympathy and loving kindness to them through prayers, cards, and gifts for their dear departed husband, dad, and grandpa, Glen Domnick.

MINNESOTA, WINTHROP

Delores Messerli - Marcelle Dapper

We welcome Maxine Souder as our dear sister in faith. She was taken into the fold in the Morris church, which is her parent's home church. Maxine lives and works here, and I like to think we have some small part in her life for God.

Our high school graduates are Brian Dapper (Bro. Ernie and Sis. Marcelle); Dave Messner (Bro. Roland and Sis. Melva); and Paul Messner (Bro. Don and Sis. Viola). Sis. Dixie Messner (Bro. Leo and Sis. Georgia) received her elementary education degree from the U. of M., Morris. May God bless and guide these dear young people, lest they forget: Knowledge comes from learning, and Wisdom comes from God.

Sis. Mary Lou Schmidt (Dick) was hospitalized for treatment, and Sis. Florence Messner (Walter) spent time in Mayos for tests. Paul Messner (Don) will have knee surgery this morning. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Congratulations to Wanda and Stan Lawagie on the birth of twins, a girl and a boy. The maternal

grandparents are Don and Idabell Witt. May God bless you.

We have enjoyed visitors this past weekend and must compare the joy of meeting and visiting together with those of like mind and faith to the joy we will have when we all meet again in the promised land.

The following was submitted by Bro. Gerald Messner.

In this day and time of unrest and discontentment, isn't it wonderful to have someone to turn to and find rest for our weary souls? "Ask and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you." Luke 11:9.

We that have been redeemed by the blood of Jesus Christ, through our repentance and conversion, did seek to find something far greater than what we had. We sold that which we had to enable us to purchase this great pearl. We cast aside the things of the flesh that warred against our soul's salvation. We were willing to lay down at the feet of Jesus; we were willing to be content with just being a child of God. Isn't it wonderful?!

But wait! Think for a moment! Have you reached back into the mire and picked up some of the things you once cast aside? Do you now think that it wasn't quite necessary to "give up" all of the things you once did? Remember the questions our beloved elders asked you during your provings (before the cloud of witnesses)? "Will you uphold the church and the Holy Bible, the teachings and the doctrines of the church? Will you change anything in the church which was handed to you by your forefathers?" Do you remember these questions? Have you so soon forgotten your vows made before the baptismal waters? When you found your precious piece of silver which you so diligently swept for, did you put down the broom, or did you set it aside for a little season? Are you going to pass along the same banner, the same torch, **THE SAME FAITH** which you had so wonderfully handed to you? Are you going to allow things to come into your beloved faith that are now going to cause confusion to future generations (if the Lord should tarry)? Remember, God's house is a house of order and not of confusion. If you allow con-

fusion into your house, will it then be God's house?

Dear brothers and sisters-in-faith, lets **ALL** renew our baptismal vows each and every day. Let the world have its sports, entertainment, and false evangelistic movements. We live in this world, but let's not be part of it. Let's hold onto the traditions of our forefathers. Let's listen and be obedient to the watchmen on the wall. Let's give our children the same God-fearing faith which was handed to us.

May God grant us the grace and strength to be overcomers, and present our Lord with a church without spot or wrinkle.

MISSOURI, LAMAR Janice Braker - Sandra Marti

If God within these evil days His mercy were not sharing,
No strength or grace could we obtain;
Our hearts would be despairing.

A remnant small, a handful we, By many haughty men to be
Despised and persecuted, Despised and persecuted.

I marvel to think that these words from our Zion's Harp were written some 400 years ago, and, yet, mean so much today. How thankful we should be for God's unchanging Word when many things around us are so unstable.

As another school year is ending, our congratulations go to our graduates. Bruce Frieden (Bro. Virgil and Sis. Bernice) and Kurt Marti (Bro. Charles and Sis. Alice) are our high school graduates. Becky Marti (Bro. Charles and Sis. Alice) is to graduate in June from nurse's training. May they seek God's guidance as they step ahead.

Dear Sis. Emma Lanz has been admitted to the hospital once again. She has had to endure much pain and suffering the past few weeks. We also think of our dear Sis. Marie Stewart who hasn't been able to assemble with us for some time. We earnestly pray that God will always be a comfort to them in their lonely hours..

MISSOURI, TAYLOR Lena M. Haerr

Thou in faithfulness hast afflicted me. Psalm 119:75.

I read that it's up to us to participate with God in this work by

yielding to Him. If we do, we will develop a Christ-like character and discover first hand the everlasting value of being cut to perfection.

I may not understand, Lord—But one day I shall see Thy loving hand was taking pains to fashion me like Thee.—Anon.

The breaking of the outward man is God's way of blessing the inner man.

We enjoyed visiting ministers Bros. Bud Huber, Valpariso, Bob Pohl, Burlington, Nate Steffen, Elgin, Gene Lehman, Wolcott, Fred Knapp, Congerville, and Clarence Yackley, Phoenix.

We have eight high school graduates: Vicki Knapp (Bro. and Sis. Kenny and Phyllis), Sis. Trudy Knapp (Bro. and Sis. Mike), Dan Gerber (Bro. and Sis. Bob and Nancy), Brent Hoerr (Bro. and Sis. Robert and Emma D.), Brenda Huber (Vernon and Judy), Curtis Heimer (Sis. Naomi), David Feller (Bro. and Sis. Don and Judy), and Kevin Hodel (Henry and Sis. Loida). We wish them all a blessed future.

Tom Cottrell (Bro. and Sis. Wm. and Ruth) was in the hospital for tests for severe headaches but is now back to work. Sis. Marie Butikofer is in the hospital now (May 26). I know she would be glad for our prayers. Philip Wiegand (Bro. and Sis. Marvin and Joann) has many stitches in his leg from a dog bite.

NEW JERSEY, UNION CITY (and Philadelphia, Pa.) Ed Aeschleman

May 10 marked the day that our dear friend, Richard Diggleman, returned to this country with his wife Helga after serving two years in his employer's Cape Town, Africa, offices. His parents, Bro. John and Sis. Mary, welcomed them joyfully, as all of us did. Richard and Helga will make their home in Rochester, N.Y. May God's rich blessing rest upon them in their new home.

Sunday May 28 was Sis. Marie Walsh's last Sunday with us in Union City for the summer. Sister Marie will travel to Vermont with her employer where they will live during the summer months. We will sorely miss Sis. Marie's sincere Christian fellowship. May we always be diligent in remembering each other in our prayers.

Sister Kathy Clough has not been able to meet with us in Philadelphia for several weeks due to her illness. We pray that God will grant her a speedy recovery and send her back to us.

NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

We enjoyed a weekend of blessed love and fellowship when our dear elder brothers, John Bahler of Rockville and Rudolph Graf of Akron, assembled with us and ministered to us. On Saturday evening, we assembled to hear the testimonies of two dear friends, Duane and Karen Farney. How uplifting it is for each of us to be reminded of the time when we turned our backs to the world and accepted God's calling. We are thankful that God is still calling loved ones from this world's darkness. On Sunday, May 14, we assembled for their baptisms and welcomed them as a dear brother and sister-in-faith. Sunday evening we assembled with the Naumburg congregation to partake of Holy Communion, which made a wonderful ending for the weekend. May we all remember the importance of this sacrament as we walk our daily paths, and may the words of the beautiful Communion Hymn which we sang together be our guide for the future.

O, Spirit of God's strength and
might,
Create in us new life and light;
O, join us all in heart and mind,
That access to God's throne we
find
Within Thy light.

At this writing, Sister Hazel Schneider is a surgical patient in Watertown.

NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Corrine Virkler

The Bible says, "Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things." (Romans 2:1)

We enjoyed the Mother's Day weekend when we assembled with the Croghan congregation to hear the testimony of Duane and Karen Farney and witnessed their baptism into our precious faith.

We were privileged to partake of

the Lord's Supper Sunday evening in our church. Elder Bros. John Bahler and Rudolph Graf served us. It was a blessed weekend.

Bro. Earl Hohn is a patient in the Lewis Co. Hospital.

Sis. Dorothy Herzig is a patient in the intensive care unit.

Jesse Karcher spent a few days in the hospital for tests.

OHIO, AKRON Gail Spangler

We welcome Richard and Ella Messner as our new brother and sister in Christ. They gave their testimonies on Saturday evening, May 27, and were baptized on Sunday, May 28. Elder Bros. John Bahler (Rockville) and Joseph Ramsier (Rittman) assisted our Elder Bro. Rudy Graf in this very important work. Their joy in their new-found salvation is so evident; and we know that they, as we, pray that all who have not found it would answer the call and seek while the door of grace is still open. Bro. Robert Beyer (Naumburg), Bro. Earl Kilgus (Remington), and Bro. Gary Maibach (Rittman) also spent the day with us. We thank all our visiting ministers and elders for coming; and may God grant them a special blessing as they so willingly bring us the Word of God.

We rejoice with Converts Evelyn and Ervin Walker as they are seeking the Lord. May they feel His nearness every step of the way.

We have had quite a number of friends and brethren who have suffered injuries or have been hospitalized lately. Sandra Bako (Bro. Zoltan and Sis. Bonnie), Jeff Baumgartner (Bro. Richard and Sis. Evelyn), and Mark Graf (Bro. Leon and Sis. Janet) have had injuries; and Sis. Elizabeth Heib (Bro. Leo) and Brother Charles Novatny have been in the hospital. We are glad to have Sis. Anna VonGuten assemble with us again. May the Lord touch each one with His healing hand.

OHIO, GIRARD Kathryn Emch

During the past several months we have had a number of visitors. We appreciate our loved brethren putting forth the effort to be with us. Akron, Rittman, Mansfield, Ohio, and Gridley, Ill., have all been represented. Bro. Ben Stave-nik served us from the pulpit.

We had a bus load of brethren from the Chicago area come for a weekend. We want to thank each one for their desire to come to worship with us. It was a blessing for us and a special joy to have Brother Leonard Meyer and Brother Dale Eisenmann minister the Living Word to us.

We have had four break-ins at our church since the first of the year. We have now installed a security system. Just four days after it was operating we had another break in. One young man is now in jail awaiting a trial. Two juveniles were with him. We pray for the protection of the church but more important that the love of God will change the hearts of the vandals.

OHIO, JUNCTION

Gwen Manz

We welcome Maburn and Sis. Julia Hale back to our area. They have come from Florida for a few months.

We thank Elder Bro. Loren Stoller, Latty, for ministering to us recently.

Philip Schlatter, son of Sis. Esther, and Alvin (Bud) Manz, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty, are our high school graduates this year.

Joseph and LeAnn Buell were united in marriage May 15. Bro. Alvin and Sis. Betty Manz are Joe's parents.

OHIO, LATTY

Karen Klopfenstein - Susie Sinn

Luke Offerle, nine month old son of Terry and Pat was hospitalized for tests. May the Lord see fit to restore his health again.

On May 6, Bro. Jim Ramsier (Bay City), spent the day with us. We were reminded over and over again that, "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." "Therefore let us not sleep as do others; but let us watch and be sober." We should strive to follow these precious teachings.

LaVonne Evans, wife of Bro. Bill (who formerly lived in our area), passed away at Oak Hill, Ohio, where they live. We extend our sympathy to Bro. Bill and his family in this time of sorrow.

On May 21 the uniting of hearts of Bro. Wayne Klopfenstein and Sis. Carol Stoller was performed

by Bro. Edwin Ringger in Gridley. Bro. Wayne's parents are Bro. Alvin and Sis. Ellen from Latty (Refer to Gridley and Princeville, IL, news.)

Congratulations to our high school graduates. They are: Sis. Charlotte Wenninger (Bro. Don and Sis. Josephine), Patty Riggenbach (Harlan and Sis. Delores), Laurie Stoller (Bro. Darl and Sis. Iva), Kim Schlatter (John and Sis. Lillian), Lynette Stoller (Bro. Loren and Sis. Esther), Teresa Stoller (Bro. Jud and Sis. Ruby), Janel Price (Bob and Aldean), Tom Sinn (Bro. Carl and Sis. Tootie), Todd Stoller (Bro. Russel and Sis. Melvane), Jerry Plummer (Bro. Rex and Sis. Ann), Clark Stoller, (Bro. Dave and Sis. Irene), David Gerber (Roger and Sis. Eunice), Eric Stoller (Ralph and Ruth), Bill Eisenmann (Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary), and Wilford Eberhardt (exchange student from Germany, living with Bro. Lee and Sis. Mary Eisenmann).

May all God's blessings be showered on you, And may his love light your pathway, through a wonderful future.

OHIO, MANSFIELD

Lucille Groh

Bro. Henry Beer of Milford, Indiana, wrote, "There are friendships that we cherish in our daily walk of life, friends with whom we meet and labor in our earthly toil and strife, friends among the aged and youthful, friends that live from us apart, friends of higher rank and station, find a place within my heart".

I'd like to write about a certain dear sister who recently spent an evening of fellowship with us in our home. Sis. Martha Streitmater, age 88, was born March 29, 1890, in Princeville, Illinois. Princeville used to be known as "Streitmater Prairie" because there were so many Streitmaters living there, she explained. There were eight girls and four boys in her family. She recalls that their father was a song leader in the Princeville church, and he loved to sing number 244 in the Zion's Harp. Reminiscing of her childhood, she remembered so well her grandmother saying, "If you don't go to bed early, you can't get up in the morning."

One day at a very young age Martha was to report for work at her first job (she did housework most of her life). When she arrived at the lady's house, her first assignment was to bake twelve loaves of bread. Well, this rather frightened Martha, and she said, "Mary, what if I have bad luck and no one can eat the bread?" Mary, however, was confident Martha could bake the bread. Martha then remembered that her mother taught that if you start the yeast at night in a crock, and if the crock is full by morning, you will have good bread; also, if you add potatoe water it will make the bread soft. So she did what she had been taught, and the bread turned out all right.

At the age of 16, the Lord began to work in her heart. Out on the prairie the summer storms were quite severe and the sky would become very black. One day, Martha's mother told her that the world can come to an end when it is so dark. Martha began to think. She knew she was not prepared for the Lord's coming. That summer she repented. She said there were a lot who repented that year, around 50. Bro. Andrew Rapp proved her in German. We asked her, "Since you have served the Lord for over 72 years, has the Lord ever left you down?" She replied, "No, never!" She advised never to talk anyone out of repenting, especially if they are young; they may never have another chance.

Although sister Martha is in the sunset hours of life, it is a joy to meet and greet her each time we see her. We can truly feel the love she has for her Saviour. No wonder her favorite hymn is:

When sounds the hour, O when
will I be there?
Home, O sweet home! Home, O
sweet home,
Saviour to meet Thee in heaven
so Fair?
Home, O sweet home! Home, O
sweet home!

Loving sympathy is extended to Sister Anna Hoffman, Bro. Aaron, Bro. Ora, and Noah Sauder in the loss of their brother, Silas Sauder.

How thankful we are to report that sisters Clara Wahl, Millie Matthes, and Clara Grossbacher were protected when they were involved in an automobile ac-

cident after church one Sunday afternoon. Sisters Millie and Clara were hospitalized for a few days but are now at home. Also hospitalized were Sisters Francelia Beer and Lena Beer, who both had surgery. They are also recuperating at home. Sis. Louise Sabo is still hospitalized, at this writing, after suffering a fall and a stroke. We pray that the Lord will comfort all who have been stricken with illness.

This year marks the 20th Anniversary of the Vesper Choir. Bro. Charles Sauder has been the director and has had much patience. The choir has spent many hours practicing and enjoying entertaining the elderly in different nursing homes and has sung many other places. The most recent program was held on May 21 when about 130 attended and enjoyed hearing them sing. We thank all who have participated and wish them God's continuing blessings.

It is an excellent thing, thanking
the Lord,
Singing praises unto Thy name
Most Exalted
Each morn Thy loving kindness,
Each evening Thy Faithful
promise
Yea, Thy grace and Thy mercy
declaring.

OHIO, RITTMAN
Mary Jane Winkler
Margaret Winkler

We experienced a blessed weekend as five dear souls were proved and baptized. All testified that they were sinners who needed the Lord, and they also told of God's great love and mercy. They were Randy and Shirley Miller, Martha Zollinger (Carl), Brenda Zillinger (Bro. Rudy), and Art Riggenbach (Lynn). Here for this blessed occasion were Elder Bros. Theo Beer (Milford) and Rudy Graf (Akron). Other ministers here were Bros. Delbert Indermuhle (Sardis), Robert Beer (Mansfield), Ernest Graf (Akron), and Eugene Pamer (Akron). We thank all the ministers for sharing this blessed time with us.

A little "bundle from heaven" arrived to gladden the home of Dan and Sis. Brenda Sauer. Andrea Nicole was welcomed home by brothers Craig and Doug.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Emmanuel and Sis. Helen

Balin as they both experienced the loss of a brother.

Those who were hospitalized during this month were Ron Riggenbach (Vernon and Sis. Martha Jane), Sis. Martha Riggenbach (Bro. Will), Janette Woyat (Ron), Bro. Fred Widmer (Sis. Ella), Virgil Hanzie (Florence), Bro. Ernest Hartzler (Sis. Pauline), Chad Lorentz (Annette and Ken), Jay Maibach (Bro. Alpha and Sis. Helen), and Lee Gasser (Bro. Burt and Sis. Lucy). Bro. Fred joined his wife at our "home" upon his release from the hospital. The rest have returned home although not all are feeling well. May the Lord heal each one in His own time, and strengthen each one who has bodily afflictions so that they might bear them patiently and to the Lord's honor and glory.

We want to thank Bro. Paul Gasser (Akron) for lending himself in preaching God's word. May the Lord bless him.

On Memorial Day weekend we were blessed with the presence of about eighty young folks here from Rockville, Connecticut; Eureka, Illinois; and Oakville, Iowa. The singing was beautiful as the voices blended in praise to our Lord. For Sunday evening services we were blessed to have Elder Bros. John Bahler (Rockville) and Rudy Graf (Akron) here. Other ministers here were Bros. Robert Byer (Naumburg), Eugene Pamer (Akron), Ernest Graf (Akron), and Paul Gasser (Akron).

We want to thank Bro. Byer and Bro. Bahler for preaching God's word to us. The Lord richly blessed us all.

OHIO, SARDIS
Joyce Indermuhle

To break Thy bread we now have gathered, In covenant to drink Thy wine; As brethren we unite together, That unto death we might be Thine. This promise we with heart and will; Give grace our promise to fulfill. The flock at Sardis partook of the blessed Lord's Supper. How thankful we are that we have the opportunity to remember and renew our commitment to the Lord. We were so thankful to have Elder Brothers Rudy Graf (Akron) and Joe Ramseir (Rittman) serve us on this blessed occasion. They also read to us the memorandum and expounded upon it. May we ever be mindful of our duties

as brethren of Christ and children of God.

Once again the time approaches when the children will be home from school for the summer. How the time has flown. Did they learn and grow in the past year? Let us consider and see whether we, as adult lights to these dear ones, have been the proper spiritual teachers. Remember, life is in vain unless one becomes a believer in Christ. Let us not fail to train our young in the most important aspect of life.

OHIO, TOLEDO
Josephine Rehkla

The Lord has blessed His church in Toledo. We were privileged to share the sacraments of baptism and Holy Communion. For our dear Bro. David Beard, it was the giving of a testimony of the way God still works in the hearts of men, being baptized in the name of the Father, the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, and arising to a new life in Christ Jesus. Following this was the prayer of consecration and the laying on of hands by our Elder Bros. Ben Maibach, Joe Waibel, and Andrew Virkler.

We rejoice, as do the angels in heaven, that Bro. David has now dedicated his life to serving the Lord.

For the brethren, the Holy Communion was a renewing in heart and mind of the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus. The taking of the bread is symbolic of His body which was broken for us, and the drinking of wine from the cup is the new testament in His blood. He requests that we do this in remembrance of Him until He comes again. Each time we fulfill His Commandment we feel strengthened and more closely joined to Him and His body of believers.

We sincerely thank our elder brothers for their dedicated service.

A number of brethren and friends enjoyed a weekend of fellowship and singing with the Detroit congregation.

The marriage of Donald Reinck, son of Sis. Josephine and Bro. Homer, to Barbara Ross is planned for the 19th of June. We wish them God's blessings on their pathway together.

A thought to consider . . . a powerful reality is the fact that everybody has influence. We in-

fluence others by what we say, do, think, and, even more strongly, by what we are.

We cannot lightly pass aside the reality of influence. It is present and here to stay. Human life is greatly influenced by parents, home, church, teachers and companions. We move in these spheres, and the customs, life, and requirements of these spheres produce an effect upon us. It often amazes us when a person tells us they remember something that we said years ago.

Even though money talks, there are other things that talk louder. Reflecting back over your life, evaluate the influence that certain people, as parents, Sunday School teachers, friends, and enemies, had upon your thinking and decisions.

Consider, do I have a Christ-like influence upon those with whom I come in contact in my daily walk of life? There is no human being who does not influence someone.

OREGON, PORTLAND Connie Steffen

Spring has been truly lovely this year. The weather has been so mild. Blue skys and flowering trees and shrubs make us think of Springtime in Glory.

June is a busy time for most of us with graduations and other activities. Our high school graduates are Cynthia Miller and Johnette Owens. We are glad Bro. Steve Miller will be home again for the summer and able to be with us regularly. Bro. Steve came home as often as possible during school, but now it will be so good to have him with us every Sunday. We should pray for all those who are not able to attend church regularly.

We are looking forward to having company, with the happy hours of fellowshiping, and would extend a hearty welcome to all of you. This meeting of kindred hearts, across the miles and from all areas of the world, is something the world cannot appreciate. We should never take this wonderful fellowship lightly, but cherish it as a God-given gift.

OREGON, SILVERTON Mildred Dietrich

Inspire, O Lord, each servant
With love and ardor fervent
Thy gospel to proclaim . . .

We thank Bro. Duane Kilgus, Fairbury, for his loving teachings and for the warnings of the signs

of the times in which we live today. May we always keep our lamps trimmed and burning. "And if we are not watchful at the post, that which we once had won will all be lost."

May 14 was set aside to honor our mothers. Bro. Ed Knecht brought forth an inspiring message to thank God for God-fearing mothers, not only on that day, but every day. Each mother was presented an embroidery painted dish towel made by the Sunday School class.

WEST VIRGINIA, NEW MARTINSVILLE Minnie Weltz - Della Witschey

The annual all-day meeting at the country church will be held on Sunday, June 25, and will be the same order of worship as former years. The guest minister will be coming from a long distance, and all friends of the church are invited to come and spend the day.

Mrs. Louise Lance and Mrs. Esther Saylor of Girard, OH, visited in Parkersburg with relatives and friends in Sardis and New Martinsville during the month of May. Good to have had you; come again.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Witschey of Doylestown, Ohio, were the guests of relatives during May.

SILVER THREADS

MY CHARACTER

(Published in the S. L. in 1947)
Don't ask me, friends, to tarry, I
haven't time to stay.

I'm working on a structure, and
I'm busy night and day.
Just come and see the blueprints,
They're plain as plain can be,
For God, the Master Builder, has
drawn them up for me.

Now, here's the excavation, dug
deep in time, you see;
And here we'll place the pillars,
Great stones of truth they'll
be.
And here's the first floor drawing,
Two halls—they're faith and
love,
And here you'll see the stairway
of hope leads up above.

And here's the second story. The
rooms of course are small.
For here we're building chambers,
The fairest of them all:

Compact in each department, the
talents all you'll see,
For God will help me build them
And furnish perfectly.

We're putting forth all efforts,
No pains we're sparing there;
We want those little chambers the
rarest of the rare.
For there you'll find contentment,
And peace, and joy, and
prayer,
Fidelity and justice, and honesty
are there.

And over here's forgiveness, and
gentleness you'll find,
And charity and patience, and
faith in all mankind,
And reverence and meekness, and
there is self-control—
A room for every virtue that God
could give a soul.

I do not have the roof-plan; God

said He'd furnish one;
He said He'd have it ready when
my work here is done.
For the roof's to be of crystal,
That all the world may see
If I have watched the blueprints
That God has drawn for me.

So, friends, you see I'm busy; But,
as you pass along,
Just drop in, won't you kindly?
And keep me from the wrong.
And when you see I'm erring, just
point it out to me.
I want this finished structure a
perfect one to be.

—Author Unknown
Submitted by Mrs. Sam Aeschliman

Bro. Dale Aeschliman, son of
Elder Bro. Sam and Minnie Aesch-
liman was killed in action in World
War II. The following poem speaks
of Dale.

COMFORT

(Published in the S.L. in 1947)

In the pages of God's Holy Book
we can read
Of a gracious Lord Who knows our
every need.
And in Him, the weary-burdened
soul can find
A true source of comfort, and last-
ing peace of mind.

It seems that into every life must
go
Alternate days of joy and days
of sorrow.
But in God's promises we may
safely rest,
For we know that His will is
always best.

You have lost a kind and loving
son
It seems—before his life had
scarcely begun.
"We regret to inform you—," the
message read,
"Your son was killed in action."
He's dead!

How short are the pleasures of
life here on earth,
We wearily ask and wonder—what
is it worth?
But then we usually find as time
goes on
That somehow a new hope begins
to dawn.

What God takes He will also in
some way replace,
If we have faith His precious
promises to embrace.
Oh, doubt not His power and His
infinite love.
For Dale must have a beautiful
mansion above.

Over there—for others his life he
gave
A little white cross now marks his
grave,
He paid with the supreme sacrifice
His blood for justice and peace now
cries.

He is not dead—his body is gone
But in our memory he shall live on.
His body may lie in a foreign land
But his soul is in its Maker's hand.

He remembered his Creator in the
days of his youth
And was faithful to his God in the
service of truth.

You need never feel that he died
in vain,

The cost was great—but for him,
dying was gain.

And though for many, the smoke-
filled, fiery sky
May dim the star's brightness to
the mortal eye,
Yet the eye of faith can still look
up to Him
For that star of hope will never
grow dim.

So from these words I hope you'll
find
A bit of comfort, courage, and love
combined.
Trust Him, in Whom all our destiny
is planned,
And rest assured—"Someday we'll
understand."

—Mary E. Leman
Roanoke, Illinois

Submitted by Bro. Walter Steffen:

Let me not live a life that's free
From the things that draw me close
to Thee,
For how can I ever hope to heal
The wounds of others I do not feel?
How can I tell that the hurt is
deep?
If my heart is cold, and it never
bleeds,
How can I know my brothers'
needs?

For when ears are deaf to the
beggar's plea,
And we close our eyes and refuse
to see,
And steel our hearts and harden
our minds,
And count it a weakness when-
ever we're kind;

We're no longer following the
Saviour's way
Or seeking His guidance from day
to day.
For without crosses to carry and
burdens to bear,
We pass through a life that is
carefree and fair,

And chasing the rainbow, we have
no desire
For roads that are rough, or realms
that are higher.
So, spare me no heartache or sor-
row, Dear Lord,
For the heart that is hurt reaps
the richest reward.

And God enters the heart that is

broken with sorrow
As He opens the door to a brighter
tomorrow,
For only through tears can we
recognize
The grief that lies in another's eyes.

PUT NOTHING ON A BIBLE

Put nothing on the Bible,
Only hands that fold in prayer.
Our flag is held in reverence,
but His Word give special care.

Our country's flag is not allowed
to drag along the ground,
So put nothing on the Bible;
Let His Holy Word be found.

You can offend our Precious Lord,
I'll explain it if I must—
I'm sure He sadly turns His face
if it's covered up with dust.
Louise Ella Akel

TO MY BIBLE
Robert Waite Fuller

I love thee, sacred Volume,
With fondness o'er thee bend;
I love thee well, my Bible,
My old, my faithful friend.

The time I still remember—
Long years since then have
flown—
When, first upon my vision,
Thy truths in glory shone.

Since then how many shadows
Have crossed my earthly lot;
But all of earth's sad changes,
Dear Book, have changed thee
not.

From friends of earlier days
I'm wide asunder thrown;
And in the prime of manhood
I feel almost alone.

Disease hath laid its hand, too,
Upon this feeble form,
And o'er my once glad homestead,
Hath burst affliction's storm.

But oh! thou guiding pillar,
All bright with Jesus' name,
'Mid scenes of change and darkness,
Thou still hast been the same.

Sweet through each lonely valley,
Thy peaceful rays were shed;
Sweet in the silent chamber,
Where lay the sheeted dead.

Sweet in thy sacred pages,
The Saviour's form has shone,

And pointed from earth's trials,
To Heaven's eternal throne.

I love thee, sacred Volume,
With fondness o'er thee bend;
I love thee well, my Bible,
My old, my faithful friend.
(From the Sunday School Times)

HOW I KNOW I'M SAVED

R. B. Brown

How do I know I'm saved, dear
friend?

Well, I'll tell you how I know:
My life was sinful, my heart was
saddened,

Was filled with grief, and with
woe;

But sorrow no longer lines my
brow,

My heartaches were healed long
ago;

My life belongs to my Saviour now,
I'm saved and that's how I
know.

I thought I was happy and seemed
content

On that sinful path I trod;
But I didn't know what happiness
meant

Till I lived my life with God.
I looked for joy 'mid earthly strife,
Then from my sinful grave
He lifted me and gave new life.
That's how I know that I'm
saved.

God's blessings come from Heaven
above,

His treasures He willingly
shares;

His grace, His glory, and His love.
As Christians we are His heirs.

To the sorrowing heart much joy
He brings,

Peace to the heart filled with
woe,

For He is the Giver of all good
things,

I'm saved and that's how I
know.

In the quiet evening when day is
done,

I think of the Cross He bore.

I know some day when victory's
won

I'll be with Him evermore.

Following Jesus all the way,

My path with blessings is paved;
I count them all at the end of the
day,

That's how I know that I'm
saved.

Christ's glorious Name I proudly
bear,

A Christian faithful and true;
I'll live my life a constant prayer
That others might know Him,
too.

He paid the price for all my sins—
My life to Him I owe,

By His grace and love I'm saved
in Him.

Yes, I'm saved, and that's how
I know.

REMEMBER

Remember, young man, remember,
That God is in the sky;

That He looks down on all we
do,

With an ever wakeful eye.

Remember, oh remember,
That, all the day and night,

He sees our thoughts and actions
With an ever watchful sight.

Remember, young man, remember,
That God is good and true;

That He wishes us to always be
Like Him in all we do.

Remember that He ever hates
A falsehood or a lie;

Remember He will punish, too,
The wicked, by and by.

Remember, oh remember,
That He is like a friend,

And wishes us to holy be,
And happy, in the end.

Remember, you man, remember,
To pray to Him in heaven;

And if you have been doing wrong,
Oh, ask to be forgiven.

Be sorry, in your prayer,
And whisper in His ear;

Ask his forgiveness and his love,
And He will surely hear.

Remember, you man, remember,
That you love, with all your might,

The God who watches o'er us,
And gives us each delight;

Who guards us ever through the
day,

And saves us in the night.

Author Unknown

Everywhere Across The Land

You See God's Face

And Touch His Hand

Each time you look up in the sky
Or watch the fluffy clouds drift

by,

Or feel the sunshine warm and
bright,

Or watch the dark night turn to
light,

Or hear a bluebird gayly sing,
Or see the winter turn to spring,

Or stop to pick a daffodil,
Or gather violets on some hill . . .

Or touch a leaf or see a tree,
It's all God whispering "This is

Me . . .

And I am Faith and I am Light
And in Me there shall be no Night."

Helen Stiener Rice

A SMILE

The thing that goes the farthest
toward making life worth-
while,

That costs the least and does the
most, is just a pleasant smile—

The smile that bubbles from a
heart that loves its fellow men

Will drive away the cloud of gloom
and coax the sun again;

It's full of worth and goodness,
too, with manly kindness

blent,

It's worth a million dollars, and
it doesn't cost a cent.

Author Unknown

CHRISTIAN FRIENDSHIP

There are friendships that we
cherish

In our daily walk of life.

Friends with whom we meet and
labor

In our earthly toil and strife.

Friends among the aged and youth-
ful,

Friends that live from us apart

Friends of higher rank and station
Find a place within my heart.

But I prize the friendship highest
Of the one whose heart is true,

Friends who live by truth and
goodness

And who live in Him anew.

Friends whose hearts are up in
heaven

Though their feet traverse this
sod,

Find a place of highest merit

In our fellowship with God.

There's a tie of noble kinship
In a soul who loves the Lord,

There's a friendship warm and
lasting

If he heeds the Master's Word.
There is mutual understanding

And a sympathy so kind

In the tie of Christian friendship,
As on earth we oft-times find.

When at last these ties are riven,
When we're called to go on high,
Oh, how sweet to meet in heaven
Friends forever you and I.
When at last these ties are riven
When we're called to go on high,
Oh, how sweet to meet in heaven,
Friends forever you and I.
Bro. Henry Beer.

AFTER

After the toil and trouble,
There cometh a day of rest;
After the weary conflict,
Peace on the Saviour's breast;
After the care and sorrow,
The glory of light and love;
After the wilderness journey,
The Father's bright home above.

After the night of darkness,
The shadows all flee away;
After the day of sadness,
Hope sheds her brightest ray;
After the strife and struggle,
The victory is won;
After the work is over,
The Master's own word, "Well done."

After the hours of chastening,
The spirit made pure and bright;
After the earth's dark shadow,
Clear in the light of Light;
After the guiding counsel,
Communion full and sweet;
After the willing service,
All laid at the Saviour's feet.

After the pain and sickness,
The tears are all wiped away;
After the flow'rs are gathered,
No more of earth's decay;
After the deep heart sorrow,
An end of every strife;
After the daily crosses,
A glorious crown of life.
Author Unknown

JESUS OF NAZARETH PASSETH BY

What means this eager, anxious
throng,
Which moves with busy haste
along,
These wondrous gatherings day
by day?
What means this strange com-
motion pray?
In accents hush'd the throng reply:
"Jesus of Nazareth passeth by."
Who is this Jesus? Why should He
The city move so mightily?
A passing stranger, has He skill
To move the multitude at will?
Again the stirring notes reply:
"Jesus of Nazareth passeth by."

Jesus! 'tis He who once below
Man's pathway trod, 'mid pain
and woe;
And burdened ones, where'er He
came,
Brought out their sick, and deaf,
and lame,
The blind rejoice to hear the cry:
"Jesus of Nazareth passeth by."

Again He comes! From place to
place
His holy footprints we can trace.
He pauseth at our threshold—nay,
He enters—condescends to stay.
Shall we not gladly raise the cry—
"Jesus of Nazareth passeth by?"

Ho! all ye heavy-laden, come!
Here's pardon, comfort, rest, and
home
Ye wanderers from a Father's
face.
Return, accept His proffered
grace.
Ye tempted ones, there's refuge
nigh
"Jesus of Nazareth passeth by."

But if you still this call refuse,
And all His wondrous love abuse,
Soon will He sadly from you turn,
Your bitter prayer for pardon
spurn
"Too late! too late!" will be the
cry—
"Jesus of Nazareth has passed by"
Gospel Hymns

CALL THEM IN

"Call them in"—the poor, the
wretched,
Sin-stained wand'ers from the
fold;
Peace and pardon freely offer;
Can you weigh their worth with
gold?

"Call them in"—the weak, the
weary,
Laden with the doom of sin;
Bid them come and rest in Jesus;
He is waiting—"Call them in."

"Call them in"—the Jew, the Gen-
tile;
Bid the stranger to the feast;
"Call them in"—the rich, the
noble,
From the highest to the least:
Forth the Father runs to meet
them,
He hath all their sorrows seen;
Robe, and ring, and royal sandals.
Wait the lost ones—"Call them
in."

"Call them in"—the mere profes-
sors,

Slumbering, sleeping, on death's
brink;
Nought of life are they posses-
sors,
Yet of safety vainly think:
Bring them in—the careless
scoffers,
Pleasure seekers of the earth:
Tell of God's most gracious offers,
And of Jesus' priceless worth.

"Call them in"—the broken-
hearted,
Cowering 'neath the brand of
shame;
Speak Love's message low and ten-
der,

'Twas for sinners Jesus came:
See, the shadows lengthen round
us,
Soon the day-dawn will begin;
Can you leave them lost and
lonely?
Christ is coming—"Call them
in."
Gospel Hymns

JERUSALEM MY HAPPY HOME

Jerusalem! my happy home!
Name ever dear to me!
When shall my labors have an end,
In joy, and peace, in thee!

Oh, when, thou city of my God,
Shall I thy courts ascend,
Where congregations ne'er break
up,
And Sabbaths have no end?

Jerusalem! my happy home!
My soul still pants for thee;
Then shall my labors have an end,
When I thy joy shall see.
Gospel Hymns

The Sermon . . .

Continued from page 28

do that. We thank God that He opened our eyes when we were not better than the rest of mankind. God is willing to open the eyes of everyone. He is not a respecter of persons. The Pharisee said, "I thank Thee, that I am not as other men are . . ." and he mentioned all the good things he thought he was doing for God. He finally said, "even as this publican." The publican smote his breast and did not dare so much as to look to heaven, we read. He smote his breast and said, "God be merciful to me a sinner." The Bible tells us that this man went away justified, ra-

ther than the other. For whosoever exalts himself shall be abased, and whosoever humbleth himself shall be exalted.

As children of God, as followers of the Lord, we should humble ourselves and be loving and kind. I am jumping around a little bit in the Scripture, but at this moment a passage comes to me which Jesus taught on the mountain. He said, "I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." When the Lord sits upon the throne of His glory, he will say, "I was hungered, and ye gave me no meat. I was thirsty and you gave me no drink: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick and in prison and ye visited me not." Some will ask when they didn't do this and didn't do that. Then the Lord will tell them when they did not unto the least of His little ones, they did it not unto Him. Then he will say unto the others, "... inherit the kingdom prepared for you . . . I was hungered and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty and ye gave me drink: I was sick and ye visited me: Naked, and ye clothed me . . ." When, Lord? That is what always inspires and lifts me up.

To live a Christian life is a joy. It is not a job that has to be done. It is something that lifts us up. They said: When Lord; when did we do this or that? He said that what we do unto the least of His brethren we do unto Him. That gives me hope and courage to look around at my fellowmen, wherever they are, and lend a helping hand; to do something, give them a pleasant smile, a word of encouragement and help them along life's pathway. We sing in a song, "Each day I'll do a golden deed by helping those who are in need. For life on earth is but a span and so I'll do the best I can." Those things are attributes, virtues that we can acquire by the help and grace of God. Those are the things that we should exercise ourselves in. Not that we would say, "I have to do this, or I have to do that; I have to, but I don't want to." That is not the way the Lord wants us. He does so much for us that we should be willing to follow. What has the Lord done for you? What has He done for me? We can never repay Him in all the days of our lives. We can engage ourselves in His service and dedicate and re-

dedicate our hearts and lives to Him.

The Lord spoke a parable about a man who had a fig tree planted in a vineyard. This often goes deep into me. Dear ones, Let us not ignore it. It says, "... and he came and sought fruit thereon, and found none." We assume that it was the season for fruit, but he looked and found none. Then said he unto the dresser of his vineyard, "Behold, these three years." (Now it was three years.) "I come seeking fruit on this fig tree." Certainly, it should bring fruit during the years some time, whether it be in the spring or fall or whatever, but in three years he said he found nothing. "Cut it down." What good doeth it the ground? That is very natural. When a man plants a tree, and he thinks it is time for it to bear and it doesn't bear, he certainly is tempted to cut it down. "Why cumbereth it the ground?" Let's put something else in there. But, we find, "And he answering said unto him, Lord . . ." Now, the dresser of the vineyard represents our Lord, the intercessor who intercedes for you and mee, for you friends. All these years have brought no fruit. Let us get it out of the way. What is it using space for? Let it alone this year also. Now he is interceding. Let it alone one more year and give it another chance. "Dig about it and dung it; if it bear fruit, well." In other words, it had another chance. If it still doesn't bear fruit, then cut it down.

What a wonderful Lord! What a wonderful Saviour, interceding to His God for all who are wretched sinners; who have not yet experienced a regeneration, who have not yet been softened enough to come to Him and say, "Lord, here I am." I can tell you, from personal experience, the devil tries to make a mountain and tell us it is a lot harder than you think it is. It is so complicated that it is impossible for you to live a Christian life. That is not true; that is one of the biggest untruths that ever was. Have you ever worked for a man who tells you to do this and that, but he himself won't touch it? Sometimes that goes a little bit against the grain, when a boss is stern and expects his employees to do something that he wouldn't do. Let's look at our Master, our

Lord and Saviour who has never asked you to do anything that He has not done. That makes it possible to follow Him wherever He leads us. Wherever the Lord might lead us, let us say, "You go ahead; we'll follow. Gladly, we'll follow." In life, we set our aim upon a certain goal, and, when we have acquired it, there is satisfaction. Let's set our aim and our goal beyond death and the grave. Let's think again of painting a picture of heaven. The Apostle Paul says, "Eye hath not seen," and the brother mentioned it in his prayer this morning, "Eye hath not seen nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." Is it worth it? Certainly, it is worth your effort and mine, with renewed courage, with renewed enthusiasm, with renewed conviction to go out and serve our Lord and represent Him proudly. We shouldn't be ashamed of our Lord. He died on the cross, and He gave His life and shed His blood, and He begged, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

If we feel someone has wronged us, let us have the grace to fall upon our knees, when we go to bed at night, and say, "Father, forgive them; they know not what they do." If we want to follow Christ, let us be Christ-like; and the only way we can be Christ-like is to acquire Christ's virtues to do the things He asks us to do, the things that are in this Book; and they are not hard to follow. We will say someday; Lord, did we do this or that? Oh, no, we were so blinded. Spontaneously, we do it. We're not thinking that we're glad to do it. It is our duty to do it.

May the Lord encourage all of us, and let us encourage the friends in our midst. Let's not wait until tomorrow; tomorrow might be too late. So suddenly our loved ones are called out of life. It has been said, and I think you have heard it, "There is nothing surer than death; there is nothing more uncertain than life." Not one of us here in this room knows, when we see the rising of the sun, if we will see the setting of the sun. We don't know. Our God has it all in His power and at His command. Why not, then, be prepared so that when our Lord calls, we are ready to meet Him.

SERMON SPOKEN BY BRO. HARRY BUCHER OF VALPARAISO, IND.

Taken from St. Luke, Chapter 13

It has been said that in our day and time there is too much heaven preached to our fellow men and not enough hell. Now, we feel that it is not fair, and I believe that the Almighty God feels that way, too, to paint a picture of heaven and leave the other out, or visa versa. So, it is only fair that God points out to all of us the things that he would have us do.

We are all here for a purpose, every one of us in this room. Every person born into this world has a place and a station in life. Many young men and young women go to schools of higher learning. They major in something, and, then, as time goes on, they devote their life to that particular profession, whatever it might be. So, I think that, to most of us, the Almighty God has given a reasonable amount of intelligence, so that we with His help, can find the vocation or the station of life that He would have us follow. It is only good business to select a profession which will eventually benefit us. That is only good judgement, and God will not hold us accountable for that; but He is going to hold us accountable for this good Word, wherein we find the solution to most of the problems that are in the world today. When Christ comes into the heart of a human being, all the greed, hatred, lust and pride, the very things that are the enemy of the cross of Christ, will die. Our Lord and Saviour came into the world for that purpose—to abolish the things that would hinder man from acquiring the things that would be beneficial to him.

The Bible says that the men who put on record the things that are labeled as God's Word were inspired by the Holy Ghost; and they were prompted to speak these things for you and me. We can't say that this Word is outdated and no longer applies to us. We

have to say that it fits our daily lives. When we read it we sometimes think, "How does that apply to me?" It applies to our daily life if we examine it.

The Word of God is a mirror, and it shows us ourselves as we are. We are all human. Surely the Lord has called us, and we feel that we have been converted. Still, there is that conflict of flesh and spirit which is ever confronting us, and we have a battle. The Apostle Paul says that the things that he would do, he didn't do, and the things that he didn't want to do, he did. However, so long as we rely upon our Lord as our personal Saviour, He is the Master. He will go on before us and hold the banner high, and we are to follow Him.

Here it says, "There were present at that season some that told him of the Galileans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices." Apparently that was a great abomination. "Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans, because they suffered such things? I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." So he is driving it to them. He told them what they had to do.

Let us not occupy our time looking around and finding fault, accusing a brother or a sister or some friend of this or that, that they are doing or indulging in. Every one of us has a job to do, and may God give us grace to acknowledge our own condition and not continually try to force an accusing finger at someone else. We should not say that because of some particular person we couldn't do as we wanted to and couldn't repent. Dear ones, we're all going to have to give an account of our life before the judgement seat on that day, regardless of whom we are. There is going to be no prestige. God is not a respecter of persons. We will

have to answer and give an account of what we have done. We are all human; sometimes when a tragedy happens, someone will say, "Well, he had it coming; he asked for it." You've heard those remarks. Dear ones, that is dangerous ground, because God is going to hold us all accountable for ourselves, not for others.

Then Jesus said, "Or those eighteen, upon whom the tower of Siloam fell, . . ." A brother once came and said to me, "Well, they probably got their punishment because of so and so; God probably punished them." That is a human inclination and we are apt to say that. I am reminded of John 9 when the disciples came to Jesus and said, "Master who did sin, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" That is what I am trying to point out; that we can so easily try to label people with something. He says, "I tell you, Nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." So he tells us what we have to do. May he give us grace to do it, that we not only read it, but apply it to our hearts and say, "Yes, that's for me."

I hope you don't think I'm up here telling stories, but once when a ministers had finished a sermon, the remark was made, "That was sure good for him," or for her, whoever it might have been. Now that is a human inclination. Let us stay away from it; let us stay clear from it. We can read of the two men who went into the temple to pray. One was a Publican and the other, a Pharisee. You know, that according to the Scriptures, the Pharisees were a self-righteous people. The Publicans were considered a degraded people, sinners. The Pharisee went into the church and thanked God that he was not like other men. Now I feel that we are on dangerous ground when we

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