

# The Silver Lining

## A LIGHT FOR BELIEVERS

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### THE SIMPLICITY OF REPENTANCE

Elder Bro. Willis R. Ehnle

"I must be careful what I do or I'll have to suffer for it when I repent." This thought went through my mind prior to conversion, and I wonder if it hasn't gone through the minds of others.

To suffer remorse for what we have done wrong is an important part of finding grace to do better, for who has ever sought help when he felt he didn't need any help? However, it is questionable that repentance should be thought of primarily as a time of suffering. We must always remember that we cannot earn forgiveness by our own suffering. Forgiveness requires the blood of Christ. Christ suffered in our place, and we cannot supplement His atonement which is complete in itself; "... it is the gift of God." Eph. 2:8.

To be convicted of one's sin and lost condition is a prerequisite to repentance, which results in the new birth of which Christ spoke, as recorded in John, 3rd chapter. Therefore, we pray that all those outside of Christ would feel convicted of their lost condition.

Repentance means different things to different people, and it is worth our giving some consideration to what it entails. We cannot settle the matter by saying that everyone knows what is expected of him if he is only willing to come. "Repentance" should have a desirable connotation and should seem to invite people. It should not be a word which causes resentment or fear.

Repentance is simple and enjoyable to a surrendered, believing heart and mind. Repentance is necessary for conversion ("Repent ye therefore and be converted...")

Acts 3:19) and it brings out another dimension of our personalities, that dimension which admits our limitations. Man repents, but God converts.

Repentance, as we practice it, requires: (1) that we realize that we are lost and separated from God because of sin, including our own; (2) that we tell someone that we want to repent and follow Christ; (3) that we confess our sins privately to our elder or some other authorized brother and consult with him; (4) that we make restitution where we have done wrong; (5) that, through grace, we obtain victory over anything sinful in our lives (it is best to also have the victory over things which might lead to sin); and (6) that we put our faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, with all our hearts, which results in peace with God. If we believe enough to obey, we should have peace with God on the basis of God's promise, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you..." John 14:27. There is no promise of some sign or special revelation, although it may be given if God determines it is needed.

Put simply, repentance, as we practice it, is full surrender to Christ and a turning back to God. The elder brother who baptized me said at my testimony service prior to my baptism that repentance is "a change of mind," and indeed it is.

Christ has done the difficult part for us. Our part, repentance, faith, and obedience is comparatively simple. Yet, Jesus teaches us to count the cost, which is self-denial and faithfulness. "For which of

you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient faith to finish it?" Luke 14:28.

To run the risk of being forever lost in outer darkness and torment is too great a risk. Therefore, please repent and put your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ if you have not already done so. A telephone call or a friendly visit to your elder or minister may make it much easier for you to at least consider the matter seriously.

I do not know just what it takes to make it easier for you to repent, but this I know, that you should count the cost, although your cost is nil compared to Christ's.

Repentance by believers is also Scriptural. We need to confess our faults to each other and pray for each another. In the second chapter of Revelation, the church of Ephesus was commended for many things; but, because she had left her first love, she was told, "Remember therefore, from whence thou art fallen, and repent..." Revelation 2:5. The unconverted need not feel that they are the only ones being told to repent. The converted are also told to repent for sin so that they do not risk losing their salvation.

Repentance may be thought of as a scriptural experience with the Lord Jesus Christ. It is through Him that we escape hell and inherit heaven, and there is an eternity of difference between the two places.

MOVING? LET US KNOW.

INCLUDE OLD AND NEW ZIPS

# A TREASURY OF PRAISE

A History of The Zion's Harp Hymnal (continued)

## Noted Authors and Their Hymns

Included in the **Zion's Harp** hymnal are numerous songs and melodies written hundreds of years ago by men long since deceased. Of course, these men never heard of the Apostolic Christian Church—or of the Evangelical Baptists in Europe—because these bodies were not as yet established when many of these glorious songs were written. Yet, their testimony of faith—so lucidly evident in the lyrics—mostly tends to concur with the beliefs of the Apostolic Christian Church.

These men possessed enormous talent and were led of God to transmit their energies and talents in a musical sense to words and tunes which subsequently could be used to inspire the hearts and minds of God's children as the years unfolded.

The hymns, for the most part, were written amid the turmoil of endless theological strife. These authors grew up in a time of religious disunity which stemmed from the Protestant Reformation of 1517, and which continued to prevail for hundreds of years. Persecution was not uncommon, and much suffering prevailed.

Even so, the Apostolic Christian Church has been blessed by these many talented men. To further illustrate the ability of the authors, their credentials and the times in which they lived, and the influences that shaped them, we have taken 13 of the authors and summarized their lives in biographical form:

### 1. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608)

This man was a Lutheran pastor and hymn writer at Herdecke, Westphalia, and Mengerhausen in Waldeck. He was born 40 years after the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, and died 195 years before the birth of S. H. Froehlich. In 1575, he entered the University of Erfurt, and in 1576 went to the University of Wittenberg where he finished his course, and then began a life as a minister.

Nicolai's theological career was a stormy one (which was not unusual for that time) and he was engaged in much church controversy. He sided with Martin Luther in partisan disputes with Catho-

lism and Calvinism. Disputes of this nature were intense.

In Hamburg, Nicholai was universally esteemed, was a popular and influential preacher, and was regarded as a "pillar" of the Lutheran Church. In his private life as well, he seemed to be esteemed and loved. Besides his fame as a minister, his reputation rested mainly on his hymns.

He wrote four hymns which appear in the **Zion's Harp**. They are: No. 1—"Praise Ye The Lord" No. 63—"Christ The Resurrected" No. 223—"The Morning Star" No. 210—"The Lord Is Your Reward"

He wrote the music for No. 250, "The Majesty Of God."

Regarding his hymns, Nicholai once said, "There seemed to me nothing more sweet, delightful, and agreeable than the contemplation of the noble, sublime doctrine of Eternal Life obtained through the blood of Christ. This I allowed to dwell in my heart day and night. Then, day by day, I wrote out my meditations."

### 2. Martin Luther (1483-1546)

Luther is known as the instigator of the Protestant Reformation. He began this protest by posting his Ninety-Five Theses on the door at Wittenberg in 1517. Ultimately, his movement had a great and far reaching impact on the entire world.

He wrote the song, "Gratitude for Deliverance." (No. 109). Perhaps the strife and suffering he experienced in his lifetime is best reflected in the phrase "a remnant small, a handful we, by many haughty men to be, despised and persecuted."

He wrote countless other hymns as well, but only one appears in the **Zion's Harp**. His hymns were characterized by simplicity and strength and a popular churchly tone. They exemplify one of the great doctrines of the Reformation, and one he championed greatly—justification by faith in Christ.

### 3. Michael Weisse (1480-1534)

Weisse is the oldest of the known hymn writers for the **Zion's Harp**. A former German Catholic priest and monk, he was born in Neisse, Silesia. In time, he became subjected to the influence of Luther.

In fact, when some of Luther's early writings fell into his hands, he quit his convent and became a protestant German preacher.

Luther called Weisse "a good poet with somewhat erroneous views on holy communion."

Many of his hymns have considerable merit. The style is flowing and musical, the religious tone is earnest and manly, yet tender and devout.

He wrote one song that appears in the **Zion's Harp** entitled, "At The Grave Of The Righteous," No. 248. His contribution to this hymnal is significant in that it is one of the oldest hymns in the book.

### 4. Albert Knapp (1798-1864)

This man holds a high place, perhaps the highest of all, in German hymnwriting. He was a German Protestant theologian who is best known as a writer of hymns.

His **Evangelischer Liederschatz** fur Kirche und Haus, published in 1837, contains 3,590 hymns, 1,200 of which he wrote himself.

To his hymn writing, he brought his talent as a poet and the depth of his being as an earnest and sincere disciple of Jesus Christ. In his hymns, his aim was to make known the fullness of the grace of God and to reveal the wealth and depth of the Holy Bible and the love of God to all mankind.

Knapp wrote a favorite hymn previously alluded to, "Oh, How Lovely Is The Morning," No. 166. He also wrote No. 167, "God, My Life's Creator" and No. 61, "All Devoted To One."

Late in life he suffered paralysis. He preached his last sermon on Feb. 13, 1863, at Stuttgart and died on June 18, 1864.

### 5. Samuel Gottlieb Burde (1753-1831)

Burde wrote one of the most familiar, and perhaps the most realistic **Zion's Harp** song entitled, "Steep And Thorny Is The Way," No. 99.

He was born Dec. 7, 1753, at Breslau, Germany, and later became a civil servant. He studied law at the University of Halle. He became tutor and superintendent of a charity school at Breslau.

Burde later became private secretary to the Cabinet Minister von Haugwitz. For two years he was

employed in the Department of Forestry. For some time he was secretary to the Department of Finance at Breslau. He was later appointed a member of the Aulic Council and Directory of Chancery at Berlin where he died April 28, 1831, which was at about the time the Froehlich movement was beginning in Switzerland.

He composed 100 hymns and five of these were subsequently translated into the English language.

6. Carl Johann Philipp Spitta (1801-1859)

Next to G. M. Mangold, Spitta contributed the most songs to the **Zion's Harp**, nineteen in all. As evidenced by the lyrics of three of his hymns, "Living In Faith," No. 139, "Our Happy Lot," No. 145, and "Thou Hast The Words Of Life," No. 203, he truly was appreciative of having a close relationship with God. In addition to these three beautiful hymns, he penned another favorite, "How Shall It Be," No. 146.

Spitta was a Lutheran minister and hymn writer who was born on Aug. 1, 1801, at Hanover, the son of Lebrecht Spitta, a bookkeeper and teacher of the French language. The father descended from a French Huguenot family named L'Hopital, who fled France to Brunswick after the Edict of Nantes by Henry IV in 1598. The French name was exchanged for the German equivalent (i.e. Spital or Spittel), and this was eventually modified to Spitta.

Interestingly, the Froehlich family were formerly French Huguenots as well and they too fled France, but instead went to Switzerland and changed their name—De Joyeux—to Froehlich.

Carl J. P. Spitta completed his theological training at the University of Gottingen in 1828. He served various pastorates, was tutor, and served as a superintendent at Wittingen in 1847.

Regarding his hymns, Spitta once wrote a friend, "To the Lord I consecrate my life, my love, and likewise my song. His love is the one great theme of my songs. To praise and exalt it worthily is the desire of the Christian singer. He gave to me song and melody. I give it back to Him."

His son, Philipp Julius Augustus Spitta (1841-1894) gained fame as the biographer of J. S. Bach.

On September 28, 1859, while sitting at his writing table, he was

seized with a heart attack, and died within fifteen minutes.

7. Friedrich Conrad Hiller (1662-1726)

This man wrote only one hymn contained in the **Zion's Harp**. It is, however, regarded by many as very beautiful. He authored No. 53 entitled "Passionate Longing," or, perhaps better known as "Oh, Jerusalem The Golden."

To anyone who is accustomed to Apostolic Christian services, the mere mention of this song quickly brings to mind the melodious phrases . . . "Oh, Jerusalem the golden . . . where God's praises ever ring . . . Heavenly choirs to Thee beholden . . . Holy, holy, holy sing."

Hiller was born in 1662 at Uterowisheim near Bruchsal. In 1680 he began studying law at the University of Tubingen, where he later became a licentiate in civil and canon law. At his death in 1726, he was an advocate in chancery at the Ducal Court.

Of his hymns, only the one mentioned above was translated into English.

Friedrich Conrad Hiller is not to be confused with Phillip F. Hiller, who also wrote hymns appearing in the **Zion's Harp**, totaling five in number. Two are favorites, "Give Thanks Unto The Father," No. 75, and "Boundless Mercy," No. 220.

8. Gerhard Tersteegen (1697-1769)  
This author was a leading German pietist who was born November 25, 1697, at Mors in Rhemish Prussia, the son of a merchant. Although thoroughly trained in the classics in the Latin school at Mors, it was because of his father's death in 1703 (when he was 6 years old), that his mother was unable to afford sending him on to university training.

It was her fervent wish that he become a minister of the Reformed Church in Germany. Instead, he took up a trade and eventually became a weaver of ribbons.

During the years 1719-1724, he reportedly entered into a state of spiritual depression. Apparently, this soon changed because on Maundy Thursday, 1724, he wrote out a solemn covenant with God in his own blood.

He thus remained outside the German Reformed Church and held meetings on his own, wrote, preached, and dispensed medicines to the poor. In some measure he was a promoter of mysticism. But he never formed a sect of his own.

According to one observer, his songs reflected "inner union with the soul, with God, and with Christ—the childlike simplicity which this brings, renunciation of the world and self, and daily endeavor to live as in the presence of God."

He is known as the father of Pietism along the lower Rhine. (Note: Pietism is defined as "a powerful religious awakening in the Lutheran Church of Europe during the latter decades of the 17th century in protest against the formal and unspiritual theology of that body. The Pietists emphasized the spiritual element in Christianity as against formal orthodoxy.")

Among the hymns Tersteegen wrote was No. 74, "God's Divine Compassion".

9. Johann Gottfried Schoner (1749-1818)

**Zion's Harp** song No. 91 is entitled, "The Heavenly Mind." The first line of this song almost always inspires the singer. It goes, "Heavenward, e'er heavenward, Let us wend our way." This phrase truly illustrates the goal and direction of the believer. It was written by Schoner.

Schoner was born in 1749 in Bavaria. He studied at the University of Leipzig and Erlangen, and was appointed preacher at St. Margaret's Chapel in the Kaiserburg at Nuremberg. In 1783, he was appointed a deacon.

In 1817, he had to resign from his offices because he suffered from nervous afflictions. Prior to this, he was a popular preacher and was especially noted for his success with children.

Schoner took a great interest in the circulation of the Bible, and

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founded the Nuremberg Bible Society in 1805.

10. **Heinrich T. Schenk** (1656-1727)

The ultimate goal of all true believers in Christ is the attainment of the heavenly home. A particular song in the *Zion's Harp* exudes this theme. It is "Who Are They Before God's Throne?", No. 249.

The author, Heinrich T. Schenk, answers this question in verse 4: It were they who came victorious Out of life's troubled sea, Bearing here the cross in patience From all selfish honor free. Robes of honor they possess, Called: The great Lamb's righteousness!

Schenk was a German pastor born April 10, 1656, at Heidelbach. He studied at the University of Giessen. At the Paedagoge he was "praeceptor classicus." On December 27, 1689, he was ordained as town preacher in Giessen.

11. **Friedrich Adol'f Krummacher** (1768-1845)

Krummacher was a native of Techlenburg, Westphalia, where he was baptized July 22, 1768, nine days after his birth. Thus, whether he ever experienced the "new birth" as known and understood in the Apostolic Christian Church remains unknown.

In any case, he went on and concluded his theological studies in 1789 and was for some time a tutor for the family of a Senator Meyer in Bremen. In 1800, he became Professor of Theology and Rhetoric at the Reformed University of Duisburg. He wrote a most beautiful song which appears in the *Zion's Harp*, "Arise, For The Light Cometh," No. 119. It begins, "One flock and a Shepherd true, What a glorious visitation . . ."

12. **Johann Anastasius Freylinghausen** (1670-1739)

A German theologian and hymnologist, he was a noted educator as evidenced by his creating a "system" of theology for the upper grades in high school in 1703.

He was best known, however, as a writer and publisher of hymns. In 1704, he published *Geistreiches Gesangbuch* with a total of 683 hymns. The second edition in 1705 contained 758 hymns. His *Gesangbuch* is commonly regarded as the most important collection of hymns in the era of Pietism.

One of the songs written by Freylinghausen is "The Incomparable," No. 19.

13. **Gottfried Arnold** (1667-1714)

Arnold wrote one of the most beautiful hymns found in the *Zion's Harp*. It is entitled, "Jesus, Mighty Liberator," No. 35. He also wrote "Evening Hymn," No. 49. He was a German Lutheran theologian and hymn writer.

He studied theology at the University of Wittenberg where he found the strictist Lutheran orthodoxy in doctrine mixed with the loosest of living. Froehlich, too, while a divinity student in the Protestant State Church in Switzerland experienced much the same conditions. The difference, at least while they were students, is that Arnold was indignant about it, while Froehlich was as yet unconvinced to turn away from it.

Arnold was repulsed by his observations of his friends' gross vices and this gave him enthusiasm to study the Word of God. He turned to contemplate the lives of the first Christians. He later gave consideration to preparing himself to become a lecturer and professor, but the worldly spirit which pervaded the church discouraged him from seeking to be one of her ministers.

In 1693 or so, he wrote his first important work entitled, *The First Love* (i.e. a true picture of the first Christians and their living faith and holy life). This book had wide circulation and was quite influential.

He became disinclined toward the Lutheran Church, and enjoined with the Pietist movement led by Philip Jacob Spener. Also, at one point, he somewhat eccentrically joined the "New Angel Brotherhood," which consisted of the followers of Jakob Bohme.

Between 1699-1700, he wrote a work of the early history of the church which won him the post of Historiographer to the King of Prussia. It was named *Impartial History Of The Church And Of Heresy*. This was a very controversial book since it denounced many practices in the Lutheran Church.

Later in life, Arnold reunited with the Lutheran Church.

(To be continued)

### A YOUNG CONVERT'S QUESTION

QUESTION: "Tell me, O thou whom my soul lovest, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon: for why

should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions?" Song 1:7.

Here is one in perplexity, not knowing the way. To whom does he turn? To Christ, the one whom his soul loveth. Who else can answer the question, or point out the way? The soul that has learned to say in truth, "The Lord is my shepherd," will instinctively turn to Him in every difficulty and seek His counsel in every perplexity. This is the distinctive mark of a true Christian.

Christ's company and countenance are necessary to the believer. The desire for that is what sends this inquiring one to Him. It is not for salvation because he already has that. He searches for communion. He wants to know where He feeds His flock; where the sheep rest under the Shepherd's care; and he refuses to turn aside to the "flocks" of His companions.

This is a question that will sooner or later crop up in the mind of every young believer who is seeking Christ's lordship and wants to be guided by His Word. He will want to know where Christ's flock is in order that he may be found among those who receive the Shepherd's care. The sheep may wander; not so the Shepherd. The word "flock" expresses fellowship. It describes the saints as "gathered together," as is so often expressed in the Word. The desire of this believer is to find where they are gathered in order that he may be among them.

### The Fellowship of the Saints

In other words, with whom and where ought you to be in church fellowship? It is an important inquiry, and your decision will leave a lasting impression for good or evil on your after-life.

How necessary it is, then, to make sure you do not err, choose your own way, or be led astray by others. You can be certain that many will be anxious to have you, now that you have been converted. But if you are listening to the Shepherd's voice, you will not be lured by the voice of the stranger. You will not be turned aside to the flocks of His companions.

They, too, have their flocks, but they are not Christ's. A sect is not His flock, even if some of His sheep are there. "For where two or

three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Mt. 18:20. He forbids divisions. I Cor. 1:10.

Among His people, He will guide the meek in judgment and He will teach the meek His way. Psalms 25:9. This is an all important lesson for the young believer to learn.

To inquire of the Lord concerning matters about which our minds are made up is dishonest. To pray, "Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths . . ." (Psa. 25:4), when we have already decided which way we are going and which path we intend to follow, is sheer hypocrisy. Need we wonder if the Lord deals with such as He dealt with Saul the self-willed and disobedient king of Israel? It is written that Saul inquired of the Lord, but the Lord answered him not. (I Sam. 28:6). The Lord answers the earnest, loving petition of the simple soul. The Lord immediately replies to that petition, and the reply is plain and definite.

#### Go With the Flock

ANSWER TO QUESTION of Song 1:7. "If thou know not, O thou fairest among women, go thy way forth by the footsteps of the flock, and feed thy kids beside the shepherds' tents." Song 1:8. He is speaking to individuals and to the church, but He does not chide their ignorance. He knows that they have only begun to learn the truth and He does not expect the young convert to know everything. He welcomes the first exercises of heart toward His ways and leads the soul on in truth, as he is able to follow.

The leading and the feeding of the flock must never be severed. It is of great importance for us to observe that feeding precedes leading in the Lord's order of things. (Psa. 23:2) The soul must be fed in order to follow one step at a time.

To the inquirer He says, ". . . go thy way forth . . ." There is no lengthy description of where it may lead—simply, "go thy way forth . . ."

This reminds us of the Lord's call to Abraham of old when Abraham dwelt in Ur of the Chaldees. The Lord said to him, ". . . Get thee out . . . unto a land that I will shew thee . . ." Gen. 12:1. He was

told to leave his country, kindred, and his father's house.

The Lord said, ". . . cease to do evil; learn to do well . . ." Isa. 1:16,17. This is the Lord's order of things.

He tells us, ". . . come out from among them, and be ye separate . . . and I will receive you . . ." II Cor. 6:17. That is His promise. The lesson is that the believer must follow the light given him from God in order to get more. If we are too closely associated with unbelievers, we need not expect that God will show us truths concerning our fellowship with saints.

Some say that they do not see this, that, and other truths. They do not understand about ministry, fellowship, or rule. Of course not; how could they? They must first take the steps which they do understand and then follow the light that God has already given. Then they will get more. Are you prepared to follow the light, dear young saints? It is not a popular thing to do. It seems that the world religions will tolerate anything but this.

The questions may be asked: What am I to do? Where am I to go? With whom am I to be associated? The Lord's answer is ". . . by the footsteps of the flock." Here is the plain path, the good old path in which those who walk find rest and refreshment. Where are these footsteps to be found? With the flock by the shepherd's tent. What He commanded then, He commands still.

#### The Shepherds' Tents

"(God) hath quickened us together with Christ . . . and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus . . ." Eph. 2:5, 6.

"In whom ye also builded together for an habitation of God through the spirit." Eph. 2:22.

Submitted by an elder. (Author Unknown)

Bro. Reuben Bach said that these words came to him:

Few fruits ripen from the spring  
Few fruits ripen from the spring-time  
sunshine;

Not 'til autumn is abundance  
shown;

Without waiting we ne'er feel the  
rapture

Of a precious, bounteous harvest  
grown.

#### ADVICE OF A FATHER TO HIS SON IN 1799

(Bro. Sam Kilgus from Remington, one of our residents at Parkview Haven, Francesville, discovered a writing that he shared with me. The writing was penned in 1799, "Advice of a Father to His Son." It was written in German, and Bro. Sam has translated it. Bro. Sam's comment was that it was translated in weakness by one who cares. It is marvelous that a writing that is nearly two centuries old is as meaningful today as it was when it was written. This certainly supports the Scripture that neither man—nor his needs—change, even though we are in a rapidly changing world. So it is with God: there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. Your needy brother in Christ, Elmer J. Bucher, Administrator.)

Gold and silver have I none, But what I have I give to thee. Acts 3:16.

Dear John, the time has come upon me that I must go a way from which I will not return. I cannot take you with me but must leave you in a world where good advice is not existing in abundance.

I have seen this world longer than you, and I am aware that not everything is gold that glitters. I have seen many a star fall from heaven, and have seen many a staff that man depended on for his protection break. Therefore, I want to give you advice and tell you what I have found and what time has taught me.

Man is not at home here, but he does not want to go about in a garment that is not respected.

Everything that is 'round and about us will pass away; therefore, we should not be careless, whether we go right or left. Do not consider yourself wise enough in yourself that you know the way, but search diligently for light, help, and advice from above.

What you can see with your eyes, that see; but use your spiritual eyes to see that which is unseen and eternal in the heavens.

Be faithful to the fathers of old. Should you hear anyone speaking empty words or mockery of these fathers, take no pleasure in that.

Shy no one more than yourself for within us dwells the judge that does not judge wrongly. In His voice there is more contained than in the whole world and its wisdom. Take this into consideration—not to go

against this voice before you plan or undertake anything, son. Place your hand to your forehead, and ask this judge for advice.

Be glad and learn from others. When wisdom, light, freedom, or virtue are spoken of, harken diligently. Not all clouds have water. We can speak of many things, and many times words are only words. This consider, son, horses oft-times draw a wagon loaded with goods, and they move only at a slow pace.

Think often on heavenly things, and be certain that they will not pass over without any inward gain. A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.

Do not teach others 'till you have learned yourself.

Give the truth consideration whenever you can, even tho' you would be hated of others.

Put that which is wholesome before you, being not concerned what the outcome will be.

Give your body its needed care, yet not as tho' it were your soul.

Be in subjection to the higher powers, but battle not with others.

Be in good standing toward mankind, yet trust yourself in fear.

Go not into things that are strange and playful, but strive with zeal for that which is wholesome.

Do not flatter anyone, and do not let yourself be flattered.

Help and gladly give when you have; and if you do not have, then turn to a cup of cold water, and it will be rewarded.

Do not say everything that you know, but always know what you say.

Sit not in the seat of the scornful, for they are the most miserable of all creatures.

Man that has the true fear of God in his heart is like the sun that shines to give light and warmth and yet does not speak.

Think daily of life and death, be concerned that you reach the goal of everlasting life, and be of a cheerful mind.

Your Faithful Father

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
CHILDREN'S HOME  
Doug Kellenberger**

Spring is slowly coming, and our little greenhouse is yielding some tiny sprouts. Lettuce, spinach, and radishes are coming up, and we hope to be able to partake of them in the near future.

Our staff is working well together as we organize for the summer activities, and we're looking

forward to the full-time presence of our new administrator, Bro. Bob Cockburn.

We need another couple for full-time duty doing general duties; for details call the Children's Home at 219-627-5138.

The children are very active and love the out-of-doors. Bertha is now in charge of feeding the rabbits. The chickens are on strike (we are putting them through a molt), so Mary will not have chores to do for a while. Yesterday, Doug A. took the boys for a walk down to the river where they put their fishing poles in the water. The girls and I rode down on our bikes. While down there, we had the usual amount of commotion expected with a "bunch of kids." Jeffrey dumped all the worms. Somebody got the line all tangled around one of the poles, and Thelma stepped into the river over both of her shoes. We finally got organized enough to return home. The girls were determined to beat the boys, so off we went on the bikes. On the way back, Debbie fell off of hers and slipped in the mud, but we still made it home before the boys and were only 40 minutes late for supper.

Life is a lot more serious for the older girls. They are concerned with some serious questions about life, and we have had some deep and interesting conversations together. One conversation, lately, centered around the feeling of being given up by parents. An astonishing awareness came from that discussion which happened to coincide with the Easter Season. Our Lord Jesus Christ truly understands an abandoned child's emotion, as He went through a similar experience at Calvary when He cried, "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

**APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN  
HOME FOR THE HANDICAPPED**

"Life is short, and we have not too much time for gladdening the hearts of those who are traveling the dark way with us. Oh, be swift to live! Make haste to be kind."  
—Henri Amiel

The reality of this truth was keenly felt once again as we bade farewell to our dear little Junior Williams who passed away suddenly on March 16, 1979. Memories of her love for everyone are

prominent in our hearts, for the phrase she spoke with greatest clarity and feeling was, "I love you." In the funeral service, it was brought out (John 9:1-3) how the love of God was manifested through knowing and caring for Junior. Though there were tears because the ties were broken, we know that "... blessings now are hers without length or measure. Golden streets she strides with limitless pleasure. Angels' song are her sheer delight. No more negatives are there for her; all things are at last right..." (Paraphrased excerpts from a poem written by Carolyn Todd, LPN, after Junior's death.)

James and Frances Williams, Junior's parents, considered her a precious charge sent from heaven and cared for her with love, wisdom, and understanding until the last seven years of her life, during which time she lived at the Home for the Handicapped. Now as Junior has become one of "Heaven's Special" children, they and we realize anew what a privilege was ours to care for her.

Though it was brisk and cold, an annual, happy event, an Easter egg hunt, took place one week before Easter. Some dear, faithful volunteers, who brought with them some Junior High students, planned and managed the afternoon again as they have done in years past. Simple joys such as these do much for our residents, whose activities are limited.

"The message of Easter cannot be written in the past tense. It is a message for today and the days to come. It is God's message which must re-echo through your lives."

—Frank D. Gatty

**ARIZONA, PHOENIX  
Julie Hoerr**

At 9 AM it's 75° on the day before Easter. All flowers, butterflies, and birds surely let us know the Lord has brought us an extra lovely spring.

On March 18, Bro. Roger Aberle, Sabetha, brought us a fine message from the Word, as did Rod Huber on March 25, visiting here from Valparaiso. A timely word was, "If we need a 'Spiritual Spanking,' give it to us, Lord!" "Our love shall not diminish. Nor fade nor wax away. Bind us till life we finish..."

Zion's Harp, No. 137

May God grant this beautiful love to Sis. Janice Breenbank and Bro. John Ruefner. Janice is with us in Phoenix; her folks are Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank of Akron. Bro. John is from Rittman. The May 20 wedding will be in Akron. We all wish them the Lord's blessings in their life together. Sis. Janice, we will miss you.

New grandparents are the Clarence Yackleys as Sis. Eileen and Bro. Tony Funk have taken little Joshua Lee into their hearts and home. Big foster brother is Wes. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Wm. and Sis. Verle Funk, Garden Grove.

Bro. Dr. Loren Schrenk and Sis. Betsy of Detroit have a precious addition, a new son, Peter Clayton. Paternal grandparents are Bro. Henry and Sis. Ora Schrenk, Phoenix. Little Nathan and Rachael also welcome Peter.

Much love and fellowship was shared at several hymn singings and church dinners this past month.

On April 7, our dear visitor, Levi Sauder, Lamont, KS, had a fatal heart attack after driving to Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport to pick up his son, Bill. Our sympathy goes to his wife, Beulah, his family, and niece, Sis. Gerry Beyer.

The Lord has worked many miracles with numerous hospital patients. Bro. Earl Sanders was in for a pacemaker and again later for quad by-pass surgery. Bro. Nathan Grimm was in for further tests and has now returned to Kansas. Sis. Lois Elsasser was hospitalized for extensive studies as was Bro. Eldon Nussbaum, Sis. Madeline Knochel, and Dutch Reber.

On April 10, Sis. Dorothy Zolinger was hospitalized for emergency surgery. Many prayers were uttered for her as nine days later she once again required emergency surgery. We pray God's healing touch for Sis. Dorothy during her recovery period.

Ed. Note: We have learned through Sis. Julie Hoerr's mother that Sis. Julie (our Phoenix reporter) has received a special blessing from the Lord as He opened the door to a new R.N. position in Arizona's first full-time Helicopter Air-Evac Service. They do "on scene" emergency calls without a physician, as well as any other

types of calls that come during their 12-hour shift. This is surely a challenging way to witness for the Lord and save lives for those who can not get to a hospital in time.

#### ARIZONA, TUCSON

Caroline Kaufman  
Kathleen Knapp

As summer quickly approaches and the temperatures begin to rise in Tucson, our winter visitors begin to wane. Yet, in this Easter month, Tucson has been blessed with two visiting ministers: Bro. Rod Huber from Valparaiso, IN, and Bro. Roger Aberle from Sabetha, KS. Surely we reap many spiritual blessings from the visitors that our sunny climate draws. We wish to sincerely thank all those winter visitors who came to Tucson and worshipped with us this season.

Not only have our winter visitors left with our prayers, but also one of our few younger brothers, Bro. Timothy Funk, son of ministering Bro. Jim Funk, left this week to live in Peoria, IL. Our prayers are truly with him, and we are sure that he will be welcomed with loving arms.

Even though the Lord has blessed us with a beautiful, sunny April, we are also mindful of the weather many of our loved ones are experiencing in the East and Midwest. We give them much support in thought and prayer.

#### CALIFORNIA, ALTADENA

Carol MacDonald - Shirley Witzig

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. (St. John 3:16, 17)

A blessed Easter day was spent listening to God's Word about Christ's crucifixion and resurrection.

Imagine the agony of carrying the weight of the world's sins! Yet, Jesus did not condemn the world but offered himself as a living sacrifice so that through him we might be saved!

Let us always remember the importance of the Easter story—not just one day a year, but every day.

In the past month we were richly blessed by visiting minister Bro. Loren Knapp of Tucson, AZ.

We have also enjoyed the gift of love and fellowship with many visitors, which surely has been a blessing.

#### CONNECTICUT, ROCKVILLE

Carlton J. Lanz

We have come to that time again when Christians and Jews throughout the world celebrate their respective holy days. The Christian holy days are Good Friday and Easter. To true believers, their purpose has deeper meanings, the sufferings and agony that Christ endured on the cross for our sinload. Even though this event took place centuries ago, it never grows old and is still observed and celebrated with reverence.

All of us know that untold millions of men have died. Thousands have died by crucifixion. Tens of thousands of noble, Godly, and pious men and women have died as martyrs for the truth. In all the history of the world, there is not a single death found attended by such marvels as those connected with the death and resurrection of Christ. The miracle of darkness (for three hours) came over the earth; the earth quaked, graves opened, and saints whose bodies had been in their graves for years were seen in the holy city; and the veil in the temple was rent from top to bottom, a sign by which God declared that a free way was open to all. All this took place while Jesus was hanging between heaven and earth, dying for the sins of the people.

We can read that when he had accomplished His noble mission and in every detail had fulfilled the will of God, His Heavenly Father, God was satisfied and gave Him the highest seat in heaven where He is now interceding for mankind.

Many beautiful hymns have been composed and written in commemoration of the Saviour's love for His creation. One Author in one of his writings said, "Sit and pause awhile . . . this great miracle behold!"

Apr. 6, a daughter, Kathy Lynn, was born to Bro. Keven and Sis. Cheryl Ryan. They have one other daughter. The infant's grandparents are Bro. Melvin and Sis. Mil-

lie Gerber and Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan.

Also, a daughter, Jeanette Carol, was born to Bro. Edward and Sis. Terry Mangold on Mar. 3. The grandparents are Sis. Carol and Warren Gottier and Bro. Clarence and Martha Mangold.

#### FLORIDA, FT. LAUDERDALE John and Caroline Hejja

"Walk in wisdom toward them that are without, redeeming the time. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man." Col. 4:5-6.

All Christian brethren have a great responsibility placed upon them. We are to be lights and examples to those who are without. We are to act wisely and watch so that we also speak wisely when answering questions concerning our faith. People who are without are watching our actions and judging if the type of life we live is "worthwhile" for them. Many times the righteous, loving, wise actions of Christians play a large role in helping to win others to Christ.

Speaking is a part of behavior and reflects our attitudes. A minister shared an interesting idea with us, recently. He commented that he did not like to hear Christians say, "Now I'll tell you the truth . . .," or preface statements with phrases such as, "Honestly . . ." or "Truthfully . . ." What comes out of a Christian's mouth should be the truth, stated honestly. We should not have to specify that the statement we are about to make is the truth and that we are not lying when making this particular statement. ". . . but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation." James 5:12.

Elder Bros. Ben Maibach and John Bahler shared the memorandum with the Ft. Lauderdale congregation. The following day we had the blessed privilege of sharing the Lord's Supper. This unites the members and gives us power to continue on our pilgrims' journey to heaven.

Visiting ministers this month were Elder Bro. Ben Maibach, Detroit, MI; Elder Bro. John Bahler, Rockville, CT; Bro. Corbin Bahler, Rockville, CT; and Bro. Bob Grimm, Goodfield, IL. The Ft. Lauderdale congregation also welcomed Bro. Roy Luginbuhl from

Rockville, CT. Bro. Roy is a frequent visitor in Florida during the winter months. We learned that he and his wife, Helen, plan to spend, perhaps, half the year in the Ft. Lauderdale area. He will continue to share with us in the ministry here.

#### FLORIDA, SARASOTA Elda Martin

As winter time is passing on, many of our loved ones are going back North. We trust they will all have a safe journey home. May the Lord watch over each one, and we will be looking forward to seeing them next fall.

Again, we have been blessed with many visiting ministers. They are Bros. John Wagler, Huntsville, AL; John Bahler, Rockville, CT; Corbin Bahler, Rockville, CT; Mark Bahr, Detroit, MI; Edwin Bahler, Remington, IN; and Dan Koch, Tremont, IL.

Sis. Sharon Rocke was hospitalized and had surgery but is again able to assemble with us. We do not question why these things have had to happen, but we know God will not give one of his children more than he can endure.

#### ILLINOIS, BRADFORD Evelyn Endress

Now it is accomplished! I'm no longer mine; Lord, I will forever and always be Thine, for Thou hast created and purchased me too, Baptized with Thy Spirit, Thou makest me new.

Zion's Harp No. 209

It was a blessed privilege to greet our new sisters in Christ, Gladys Klumpp (Bro. Raymond and Sis. Eunice) and Connie Rumbold (Bro. Elwin and Sis. Loretta), after witnessing their baptisms. Elder Bros. Dave Kieser and Perry Zimmerman (Forrest) shared in this precious work. Bro. Walt Herrmann (Princeville) was also with us that weekend. The following Sunday, Bro. Walter Rehklau (Toledo) was our visiting minister. We thank the ministering brothers for their labor in our behalf.

The announcement was made of the engagement of Sis. Martha Kay Kieser (Bro. David and Sis. Shirley) and Bro. Dana Regier of the Princeville congregation. May God bless them as they plan their life together.

We enjoyed hosting ACYF recently and hearing the many voices blend together to sing praises to God. Bros. LeRoy Hartman (Peoria) and Bill Hodel (Roanoke) brought forth the inspirational messages.

Russ Ehnle (Bro. Ed and Sis. Verlt) was hospitalized for a tonsillectomy.

Bro. George Kieser wishes to thank everyone for the many prayers, cards, visits, and kind deeds extended to him during his hospital stay and after returning home. He hopes that God will bless each one of you.

#### ILLINOIS, BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL Holly Stahl

I've really appreciated the Easter season this year in spite of how busy it has been. It's amazing how God can instill peace in our hearts in the midst of a whirlwind of family dinners, programs, and other Easter activities. And it's amazing how the peace that He gives can help us learn more about Him and what He has done for us.

It was just after our Easter Sunrise Service in church that one of those quiet, peace-filled moments came over me and I pondered what Christ had done for each of us. His crucifixion demonstrated God's love for us and His resurrection made victory over death possible. Our faith would be vain without a risen Christ, and I thanked God for that wonderful plan.

A thought struck me that I'd never seriously considered before. Acts 2:30-31 says ". . . he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; He seeing this before spoke of the resurrection of Christ, that His soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption." I never realized what He did. During the time that His body was in the grave, His Spirit descended into Hell (Hades). Heb. 2:14 tells us ". . . that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." What a mighty conqueror is our Saviour! "I am the living one; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades." (Rev. 1:18)

Yes, we really have something to celebrate at Easter time.



Our Sunday School program was held on April 8, and our Easter Sunrise Service was on April 15. It was a joy to all of us to dwell on the message of salvation in this special season.

Our choir visited Valparaiso, IN, on April 1, and ministering Bro. Byron Stoller visited our Bloomington congregation on that same Sunday.

Bro. Kevin and Sis. Dixie Knapp are happy to have added a new member to their household. A baby girl was born to them on April 16, and they have named her Alesa Noel. We also are happy to have a new convert in our church, Jan Keeley. Jan is the daughter of Bro. Roy and Sis. Ann Maurer of Forrest.

#### ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN - URBANA

**Charlen Banwart**

"If any man come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily and follow me." (Luke 9:23) This was the theme of College Weekend which was held here March 24 and 25. Elder Bros. Dave Keiser, Don Sauder, Wendell Gudeman, and Ed Hohulin were with us for the Saturday session, as were ministering Bros. Art Baurer, Edwin Bahler, Steve Rinkenberger, and Uriel Gehring. Bros. Bob Pflederer and Ken Hoerr ministered to us at church services on Sunday. Christian greetings were extended from 21 of our midwest churches. We sang the beautiful hymn "Challenge to the Nominal Christian" at the close of the morning services. May these words always remind us of the wonderful weekend we shared together in the Lord: "Follow me, the Saviour calleth; Come to me, I am the way! What is lacking I will give you; Trust in me and watch and pray! Follow me in true submission; I have borne all your transgression; Learn of me; both great and small, Meekly, humbly hear my call." (Zion's Harp, No. 95)

Doreen Leman, daughter of Bro. Leroy and Sis. Florence, was united in marriage to Lee Navel on Mar. 24. May God bless them as they establish their home in Kansas, IL.

Our Sunday School students reminded us of the Lord's death and resurrection when they presented their Easter program on Palm Sunday. The youngest classes recited

the following verse: "While Jesus was resting beside the sea, the children who loved him climbed on his knee. The disciples said, 'Take the children away, for Jesus is tired and resting today.' But Jesus arms held them and the disciples could see, that He loved them and said, 'Let them come unto me.'"

#### ILLINOIS, CHICAGO

**Kathy Schlatter**

After a week-long trip, my husband and I returned to "normalcy" and home. Being home was a joy, but it brought extra duties with dirty laundry and jobs shelved for a time now begging for action. Coming home with all its attending blessings was really Sunday in church. The radiance of meeting and greeting one another in His name after a short absence gave me a glimpse of the real glowing meaning of going home to heaven. Not only will we see those who've gone before and welcome others, too, as they come, but above all, our Lord will be there, He from whom all such heavenly love and peace flow. Ah, we are a blessed people who have His Spirit now and the promise of a mansion with Him later and for always.

We welcomed Bro. Bob Pflederer, Morton, March 18, and appreciated his labors from the Master's Word. Sunday, April 1, was another bright day for our congregation as Bro. Steve Law and Sis. Marlene Plattner were married in the Lord. Bro. Dale Eisenmann was given words to bless and prod us all as he spoke of the qualities of Godly love we need to portray, in particular, purity, humility, and simple trust.

How is it that as we grow into adulthood we tend to think of ourselves as "better" people? A little neighbor boy asked about Good Friday and its purpose—why did Jesus have to die on the cross? So I tried to explain how everything that God does is good and righteous and always right. I asked him whether he could say that about all his thoughts and actions (and I said I certainly couldn't). He shook his head right away. He knew. When he's older, will he say, "But I do the best I can, and I try not to hurt anyone"? No matter what we say, 'til Jesus came and took our place, we were condemned to die because we can never match God's righteousness. Jesus could—and

did—for us.

Sermon Note: As we were told on Good Friday, Barabbas (which means "a father's son"—symbol for every man?) was in prison for insurrection and rebellion and was judged and condemned to die. That third cross was his. But Christ took his place on that cross. Barabbas walked out of prison a free man. All he had to do was walk out. Each of us has a pardon on which is written our name, but we must come forward when our name is called on this side of the grave.

#### ILLINOIS, CISSNA PARK

**Judy Bauer**

**Mary Anderson**

It seems that spring often brings much sickness. We're sorry to report that Bro. Joe Hari, Sis. Mary Knapp, and Bro. John Conrad were surgical patients. Sis. Arcelia Bauer (Herman), Bro. Carl Moser, Kathryn Enz, and Christina Martin (daughter of Bro. Randy and Sis. Patti) were hospital patients, also. We're happy to report that all are feeling much better.

Bro. Bob and Sis. Sally Rinkenberger have a blessed new addition to their family. Melissa Ann arrived March 20. She was welcomed by a sister, Rebecca. The grandparents are Bro. Bill and Sis. Marge Rinkenberger and Dave and Sis. Margaret Kupferschmid.

Lucus Scott Sims was born Feb. 25 to Scott and Denise. The proud grandparents are Bro. Gilbert and Sis. Kathie and Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Sims.

We were privileged to have several visiting brothers share God's Word with us. We thank Bro. Henry Beer (Milford), Bro. Ron Heiniger (Bloomington), and Bro. Bob Beebe (Bremen) for letting themselves be used.

Easter week has given us several special blessings. The Sunday School children told us the story of Christ's death and resurrection through word and song on Wednesday evening. It was a beautiful reminder.

Bro. Nathan Steffen (Elgin) was with us Good Friday evening to share communion. Everyone received a blessing from this beautiful service. It seems that there is no more beautiful way to remember Christ's death and suffering for our sakes than through sharing the bread and cup.

We rejoice with Sis. Bonita

Stock (daughter of Bro. Melvin and Sis. Edith) and Bro. Bruce Frank (son of Bro. Bob and Sis. Clara) whose engagement has been announced. Bro. Bruce is from Oakville, IA. We wish them God's richest blessings.

It was brought out in a sermon that we should be "Rejoicing in hope . . ." Romans 12:12. This was certainly true on Easter Sunday as we celebrated Christ's resurrection. Because He arose from the grave, we can have hope of life eternal with Him in heaven. In the Sunday School class, we talked of Christ's coming again in a cloud as He ascended into heaven. One little girl with a sparkle in her eye said, "Oh, I wish He would come today!" She was certainly "Rejoicing in hope."

### ILLINOIS, CONGERVILLE

Gay Knapp

Pat Rinkenberger

Last evening during our Good Friday services, it was brought out that Peter wept bitterly after he denied Jesus. I could not help but be impressed that strong Peter, who would have died with Jesus, not only denied the Lord, but even ran away in fear of being caught. Peter later went on to do great things in Christ's name, against great persecution. What was the difference? After the Lord arose, the disciples were filled with the power of the Holy Ghost. We, today, are also privileged to have this power in our lives when we repent and surrender our hearts to God. So, then, when we see our brothers and sisters in faith stand up to overwhelming odds, we know that it is God's Spirit working in them. May His name be glorified.

This month we were privileged to have Bro. Russell Rapp (Morton) minister to us. We certainly appreciate our visiting ministers, as we do the ministers in our home congregation.

Bro. Glenn and Sis. Mardell Ott welcomed their first baby. Adam Glenn was born March 27. The grandparents are Clayton and Sis. Margaret Ott and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Marie Grusy.

Janet Knapp (Bro. Willis and Sis. Bernice) was hospitalized this month and is glad to be home again.

ADDRESS CHANGED?  
TELL YOUR REPORTER.

### ILLINOIS, ELGIN

Ruth Ann Getz

"For the homeland's peaceful stillness

Yearns my longing, weary heart!  
There awaits for me the fulness  
Of pure joy without a smart!"

From Hymns of Zion

"Yearning for the Homeland"

Our Bro. Charles Graf entertained these longings as he lay many weeks on his hospital bed. The Lord called him home March 26, at age 89. He was born April 11, 1889, to William and Christiana (Samitt) Graf in Lester, IA. He is survived by his daughter, Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger, several brothers and sisters, and eight grandchildren. Among those who came to pay their last respect to Charles were ministering brethren Carl Weiss (Washington), Marvin Schmidgall (Eureka), and Russel Wutrich (Pulaski).

Ron and Gail Hallead have been particularly blessed by the addition of Aaron Michael to their family. Aaron was born February 19 and came to live with Ron and Gail shortly thereafter. The grandparents are Bro. William and Sis. Evelyn Gudeman and Floyd and Eleanor Hallead (Marlette, MI).

Born to Bro. Tom and Sis. Connie Schambach on April 17 was Scott Gerald. He will be welcomed home by Jason, Matthew, and Joelene. Sis. Marilyn Kellenberger and Bro. John and Sis. Elizabeth Schambach are the grandparents.

We are grateful to report that the hand of God is stretched out still and is calling lost souls to repentance. We can understand in part what the Scripture says, "There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth." (Luke 15:10) Keith Leman, son of Bro. Richard and Sis. Edna (Remington), who has been attending our fellowship, has found grace unto repentance. This is also true of Edward, Jr., and Gayle Shambach. Our prayers go out to these young people that they may believe unto salvation and gain victory over sin.

We wish to welcome Sis. Mary Getz (Tremont) who is presently staying at Apostolic Christian Resthaven, 971 Bode Road, Elgin, IL 60120. Our prayer is that she'll be richly blessed in our fellowship. Unfortunately, Mary had to be

hospitalized just ten days after admission to Resthaven for a very sore finger. She is looking forward to being discharged soon.

Others who presently are hospitalized are William Foell and Gail Kellenberger (daughter-in-law of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Minnie Kellenberger). Both are having diagnostic tests. Dale Tatge (son-in-law of Bro. Nathan and Sis. Minnie Kellenberger) is hospitalized for open-heart surgery.

How precious it was to see and hear our children relate the story of the crucifixion and resurrection of our Saviour at our annual Easter program, April 8. How we love that life-giving story, and what a special privilege we have to instill this truth in our children!

Bro. Duane Kilgus (Fairbury) visited us and brought us the word of God in its truth and simplicity. We have to marvel at the faithfulness of God in providing for His children, even in these latter days.

### ILLINOIS, EUREKA

Melba Mangold

We felt privileged to have a number of ministering brothers visit us the past few weeks. Among those who were willing to come and give of themselves for us were Bros. Ron Heiniger, Bloomington, Virgil Metzger, Champaign, Edmund Kloter, Goodfield, and Art Gudeman, Lacrosse, IN.

On March 31, communion services were conducted by our Bros. Leroy Huber and Walter Anliker. They were assisted by Bro. Edwin Ringger of Gridley who also spent Sunday with us. We thank him. On Sunday afternoon, communion services were held at the "Home" for the dear ones there who were unable to assemble with us. May we try to be more faithful in following all the good teachings we are given.

The engagement of Bro. Alan Martin of Eureka to Sis. Sharon Leman was announced April 1. Their parents are Bro. Lester and Sis. Ruth Martin of Eureka and Bro. Richard and Sis. Edna Leman of Remington, IN. Sis. Sharon is employed in Bloomington and has assembled with us for some time. We are happy for them and wish them God's blessings.

Sis. Lena (Bro. Dan) Wiegand is again in the hospital, quite ill at this time. Wesley Martin, son of Melvin and Bonita Martin, was

seriously injured in an automobile accident but is recovering.

Friday, Apr. 6, we had services because a number of brothers were here for a World Relief Meeting. Occupying the pulpit were Bros. Herman Kellenberger, Elgin, IL, John Klotzle, Altadena, CA, Loren Strahm, Gridley, KS, and Jim Hoerr, Peoria. We heard many timely warnings from Bro. John and invited all of them to come again.

Two more dear seeking souls have taken advantage of the wonderful plan of salvation and are beginning a new life for which we are thankful. They are Gary and Elna Wettstein. Their parents are Bro. Art and Sis. Donna Wettstein of Eureka and Bro. Elmer and Sis. Mildred Bauman of Goodfield.

We were reminded of Christ's crucifixion and resurrection on Wed. evening, April 21, as the Sunday School children presented the Easter program. The Roanoke Bible Class was included in the program. We thank them for coming and joining with our class.

### ILLINOIS, FAIRBURY

Joyce Huber

Our Sunday School classes presented The Easter Story in a very inspiring program the evening of Palm Sunday.

We are sorry that Sis. Marguerite Lorch, Sis. Ada Hartman, Bro. John Koehl, and Sam Steffen, son of Bro. and Sis. Earl Steffen, were hospitalized.

Bro. Loren Strahm of Gridley, KS, was with us on a Sunday, giving us a life-giving message.

### ILLINOIS, FORREST

Beverly Eisenmann

Jan Bachtold

The engagement of Sis. Diane Koehl to Bro. Max Miller of Rittman, OH, was made known. The parents of the couple are Bro. Leroy and Sis. Janita Koehl and Robert and Sis. Melba Miller of Rittman, OH. They are planning a June 17 wedding. We wish them God's blessings and guidance as they begin their life together.

Sis. Carrie Wiegand has been in the hospital but is now back home at Fairview Haven.

Bro. Oscar and Sis. Kathryn Schneider wish to express their heartfelt thanks to each and everyone for the cards, gifts, prayers, and deeds of kindness shown to

them while Oscar was in the Fairbury Hospital and Americana Health Care Center in Urbana.

New "bundles from heaven" have recently brightened two homes in our area. Lana Lillian Lanz was born March 22 and welcomed home by Bro. Elmer and Sis. Lavonne and children Mike, Troy, Lori, Kristi, Shelly, Damon, and Dana. Barry and Rosemary Koehl had their first little girl, Kristen Rose, born April 4. She has two brothers, Ryan and Darren, to help care for her. The happy grandparents are Ralph and Velma Koehl and Sis. Alice Lehman. May God add His blessings to these family circles.

A number from our congregation have enjoyed the blessing of listening to the conference tapes. May the efforts of our elder brethren be richly rewarded.

Through Bros. Ray Sinn and Larry Winninger of Latty, OH, God's Word was read and explained to us in such a way that our hearts were filled to overflowing.

Bro. Clarence Kachelmuss conducted funeral services for Karen Huette, 30, who had not been well for several years. Bro. Vernon Leman and Elder Bro. Leroy Huber from Eureka were also here. Our sympathy and prayers are with her husband, Roger, her parents, Bro. Harvey and Sis. Leona Leman, her sisters, Diane Ducett and Rita Leman, and her brother, Darl.

Good Friday evening we plan to gather to again be reminded of Christ's death and resurrection by our ministering brothers and also by our Sunday School children through readings and songs.

As Mother's Day draws near, the following poem is a fitting description when we think of what a mother is.

### WHY GOD MADE MOTHERS

God knew that everybody needs  
Someone to show the way,  
He knew that babies need someone  
To care for them each day . . .  
He knew they needed someone  
sweet

To soothe their baby cries,  
To teach them how to walk and  
talk,  
And sing them lullabies . . .  
That's why God made mothers.  
He knew small children need some-  
one  
To lend a guiding hand,

To answer all their questions  
And to smile and understand,  
Someone to read them storybooks,  
To teach them wrong from right,  
To show them wonderful new  
games,

And hear their prayers at night . . .  
That's why God made mothers.  
And then throughout their child-  
hood years,  
God knew that children need  
Someone to smile at them with  
pride,

Encourage each new deed.  
As they grow up and all their  
lives,  
God knew that everywhere, all  
children need  
A mother's heart to understand  
and care,  
And that's why God made mothers.  
Katherine Nelson Davis

### ILLINOIS, GOODFIELD

Verna Hartter - Elna Grimm

### NAILED TO THE CROSS

"There was One who was willing to  
die in my stead,  
That a soul so unworthy might  
live;  
And the path to the cross he was  
willing to tread,  
All the sins of my life to forgive."

Gospel Hymns, No. 783

WE REJOICE: We are nearing  
the Easter Season when we remem-  
ber the fact that our Saviour, who  
died on the Cross, arose and is now  
in heaven interceding for us each  
day!

Best wishes to Sis. Molly Hin-  
richsen and Bro. Noel Davis who  
were united in marriage on  
March 25. Their parents are Mr.  
and Mrs. E. L. Davis and Bro.  
Hans and Sis. Arlene.

Bro. Ron and Sis. Barb Wiegand  
have a new little son, Jeffrey Dan-  
iel, born April 8. The grandparents  
are Mr. and Mrs. Walter Unsicker,  
Allentown, and Bro. Dan and Sis.  
Verla.

We are thankful that Charlene  
Hohulin (Bruce), and her little  
daughter, Anna, are home again  
after spending a time in the hos-  
pital.

We appreciated the ministering  
of Bro. Vernon Leman, Eureka,  
who visited us, recently.

Our dear Sis. Elsie Landis re-  
cently celebrated her 90th birth-  
day when 9 of her 11 children, and  
many friends, gathered for a pot-  
luck dinner and hymn singing. May  
God bless her.

### ILLINOIS, GRIDLEY Mrs. Perry Klopfenstein

"Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." John 12:24.

These words of Jesus are vividly illustrated as the farmers plant their fields and look forward to bountiful crops. As the seeds that die in the ground, Jesus was similarly willing to endure the cross that He might attain the joy that was set before Him. Through His suffering and death, He was glorified and God has brought many of us into His likeness by our faith in His shed blood. Thus, death has become a beautiful thing because it is the pathway to glory. The death of a seed brings forth much corn or beans or wheat. Because of Jesus' death, God has many adopted children who are clothed in Christ's righteousness. The death of our carnal longings, through repentance, produces a new creature with a clean and pure heart. And the physical death of one of God's children is precious because through it one can leave a mortal shell to put on immortality. "Death is swallowed up in victory." (I Cor. 15) So we do not sorrow as those who are without hope when a loved one is taken from among us. We understand the purpose of death, and we rejoice when we think of the glory which follows.

Sis. Martha Witzig, 72, passed away April 11. She lived with her sisters, Sis. Matilda, Sis. Pauline, and Sis. Ida Witzig in Gridley, and many precious memories will linger. Our sympathy is also extended to her other sisters and brothers: Sis. Emma Beckley of Remington, IN; Sis. Anna Schneider of Peoria; Sis. Ruth Meyer of Fairbury; Bro. Alpha, Bro. Sam, Bro. Edward, and Bro. Elmer Witzig, all of Gridley. Sis. Martha came from a family with 13 children. Two brothers died when they were still innocent, and the other eleven have been converted. How wonderful it is for them to think of the time when they will all be together in heaven with their family circle unbroken.

We are happy for the new couples who are looking forward to marriage: Bro. Arthur Schlipf is engaged to Sis. Twyla Menold of Morton. Bro. Richard Schlipf is engaged to Sis. Kathy Beer of Milford, IN. Tony Kaupp is engaged

to Jeanette Wright.

Sis. Lorene Stoller and Sis. Lena Meiss were hospitalized and are home again. Sis. Lena is 93 and fell while working in her garden. Unable to get up by herself, she lay there all night until her daughter found her the next morning. When she arrived at the hospital, her body temperature was only 79 degrees, but she has recuperated and is looking forward to working in her garden again as soon as she is able. We are all very thankful that God has been with her.

We appreciated the ministering brothers who laboured among us: Bro. Robert Pflederer of Morton, Bro. Albert Wuthrich of Pulaski, IA, and Bro. Marvin Schmidgall of Eureka. They were all here on Easter.

Sis. Sophia Kaupp wishes to thank everyone who helped her and remembered her with cards and gifts while she was in the hospital and nursing home and since returning home.

### ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY Deanna Marti

Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. Psalms 37:5. We notice in this verse that there are two conditions that we must exercise before God can answer our petitions. First, we must give ourselves over to God so we will know what His will is. One of the reasons for unanswered prayer is that what we are asking is our will and not God's. The second condition is that we must have faith. Jesus could not do mighty works in Nazareth because the people did not believe that He could do them. (Mark 6:1-6) Is there something Jesus cannot do for you simply because you don't believe He can? If we want God to work in our lives, we must commit our way unto Him and then have the faith to believe that He can do it.

All of us had a blessed evening hearing of our resurrected Lord and singing praises to Him as we worshipped together at our annual Easter program. We thank Bro. Joe Braker of Morton for coming and sharing that time with us. We also want to thank Bro. Ed Ringger, Gridley, and Bro. Ken Hoerr, Peoria, for their part in our Bible Studies. These brothers are with us while Bro. Joe Schrock is in Florida. We also want to thank Bro. Bruce Leman, Roanoke, and Bro.

Walt Herrmann, Princeville, for coming and speaking to us. That sounds like a lot of "thank yous," but I don't think those words can ever be overused.

### ILLINOIS, PEORIA

#### Mary Sue Rieker - Diane Hohulin

"And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." I Cor. 11:24, 25. As Palm Sunday and Easter approach, we are reminded of communion and of our Lord Jesus Christ's dying and shedding His precious blood for our sins and then rising again. On Palm Sunday, we were privileged and humbled to be able to partake of Holy Communion served to us by our Elder Bro. Roy Sauder and our deacon, Bro. Chuck Hemmer.

The engagement of Bro. Mark Criss, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Criss, to Sis. Linda Haefli, daughter of Bro. Bob and Sis. Ilene Haefli, was announced on April 8. They are planning a September wedding.

On March 30, a precious baby boy, Ryan Carl, was born. Ryan's parents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Debby Hoerr. The first-time grandparents are Bro. Carl and Sis. Evelyn Hoerr and Bill and Sis. Joyce Wai-bel.

A darling baby boy, Douglas, was born to Kathy Brewer. He is welcomed home by John, Jennifer, and Michelle. The grandparents are Wade and Marge Fehr.

On March 25, Bro. Jim Rinkenberger and Bro. Phil Stettner from Bluffton ministered to us. The Bluffton choir sang at our monthly Hymn Sing on that Saturday evening.

Among the hospital patients this month are Sis. Connie Triplett, Bro. Walter Witzig, Bro. Walter Feucht, and Bro. Connie (Conrad) Baer. We pray and trust God will heal and restore each one according to His will.

### ILLINOIS, PRINCEVILLE Ruth Ricketts

"There are no crown-wearers in heaven that were not cross-bearers here below." Charles Haddon Spurgeon.

Every day we see more signs of

## THE SILVER LINING

spring. We are so much looking forward to spring. Early flowers are blooming, and the trees are beginning to show signs of budding, even though there is still a chill in the air.

Bros. Wayne Anlicker of Forest and Bruce Leman of Roanoke were our guest ministers on March 18. Meditations from Matt. 7 and Eph. 6 were timely and inspiring. If we ask for God's grace it will be given to us so that we may seek salvation. By putting on the whole armour of God we will be able to stand against the evils of this world. By faith and prayer we will be able to live a Godly life and look forward to our reward in heaven. Their visit gave us a most blessed day, and we thank all of our visitors, especially those who gave of themselves for our behalf.

Several of our loved ones were hospitalized recently, and we are thankful that some are again able to be home. Naomi Frank is able to worship with us again after surgery. Sis. Natalia Feucht, who has been confined to her home for a time, was with us one Sunday, recently. Sis. Shirley Feucht submitted to back surgery and is slowly recovering at home. Bro. Howard Herrmann, too, had a severe back ailment which is somewhat improved.

Our dear Bro. George Seidel had a blood clot in his leg and had his leg amputated. Three years ago he had a stroke and since was unable to talk or walk, as one side was lame. He made his home with his son where he received tender, loving care. A few days following surgery, the Lord saw fit to take him out of his suffering. He died March 25 and services were held March 27, with Bro. Joe Stoller and our other ministers conducting services. He was a quiet, peace loving man, a pillar of the church because he stood for what he believed. He was esteemed by all as was shown by the large number who came to be with the family during their bereavement. He was laid to rest in the church cemetery beside his wife who has been gone for 12 years.

Bro. George was born Oct. 4, 1892, at Morton to Leonard and Martha Strunk Seidel. He married Lydia Streitmatter Dec. 7, 1919, at Princeville. Surviving are a son, Bro. Richard of Princeville; a brother, Joe; two sisters, Esther and Margaret Seidel of Morton; and

four grandchildren.

The family offers thanks for the flowers, memorials, cards, prayers, and many deeds of kindness extended to them.

Bro. Joe Stoller recited the following poem; it seemed so fitting for the Seidel's:

Sickness and sorrow come to us all,  
But through it we grow and learn  
to "Stand tall"—

For trouble is "part and parcel of  
life"

And no man can grow without  
struggle and strife.

And the more we endure with  
patience and grace

The stronger we grow and the more  
we can face—

And the more we can face, the  
greater our love,

And with love in our hearts we  
are more conscious of

The pain and the sorrow in lives  
everywhere;

So it is through trouble that we  
learn how to share.

Helen Steiner Rice

In conjunction with our regular monthly hymn sing, on the evening of Palm Sunday, the Sunday School children read scripture verses and sang songs concerning the death and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour. It was an inspiring evening and rewarding for all present. Bro. Walter Rehklau of Toledo, OH, was present and spoke touching words to us. We were thankful for the many that were present for this blessed evening, the beginning of holy week.

On March 18, a girl's light blue, hooded spring coat, size 8, was taken from church, and a size 6X was left. If anyone has found this, please contact Robert Herrmann of Princeville, IL 61559. The family waited for someone to exchange it, but assume now that a visitor may have gotten it by mistake.

### ILLINOIS, ROANOKE

Edith Sauder - Mae K. Hodel

"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, Him will I confess before my father which is in heaven." (Matt 10:32) Five dear souls gave testimony of their faith and were welcomed into the family of God: Jim Wiegand (Sis. Lena Wiegand); Kevin Fischer (Bro. Jerry and Sis. Marge); Paul Fischer (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Pat); Jim Barth (Bro. Morris and Sis. Ida Mae); and Beth Gerber (Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Malinda). We thank Elder Bros. Wendell Gudeman and

Dan Koch for helping with this important work.

The engagement of Bro. Gary Leman (Bro. Jim and Sis. Myra) and Sis. Tammy Diggle (Bro. John and Sis. Sarah) was announced. They plan a July wedding.

The coming marriage of Bro. Happy Hodel and Sis. Jane Beer was announced. They plan to be married May 2. We wish both couples God's richest blessings.

Bill and Jan Rassi welcome their first son, Jason William.

Bro. Dan and Sis. Dianne Fehr (and little sister June) welcome little Jerome Daniel, their first son. May God bless these two little ones and their families.

"Both young men and maidens; old men and children; Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven." (Psalm 148) The Prairie Choristers were the guest singers at our family sing night.

On Palm Sunday, we shared the Lord's Supper. Our Elder Bros. Herman Kellenberger (Elgin), Ed Frank (LaCrosse), and Alfred Bahler (Wolcott) helped Bro. Don Sauder with serving the holy sacrament. "Anew, Lord, we are bound to Thee through Thy blest sacrament, which we partook, that joined in heart and hand; To Zion's realm and holy land We journey on." (Zion's Harp, 200) We appreciate the loving concern and solemnity shown by our dear brothers.

Bro. John Klotzle (Altadena) and Bro. Marvin Schmidgal (Eureka) shared the Holy Word with us this month.

The Easter program was held at Eureka this year with the Roanoke Bible Class as guests.

We wish God's blessings for all our dear mothers across the land.

### A MOTHER'S PRAYER

Give me patience when little hands  
Tug at me with ceaseless small  
demands;

Give me gentle words and smiling  
eyes

And keep my lips from hasty sharp  
replies,

That when in years to come my  
house is still,

Beautiful memories its rooms may  
fill.

Unknown

### ILLINOIS, TREMONT

Lydia Rassi - Dorothy Waggenbach  
Visiting ministers on April 1  
were Bros. Marshall Heinold

Bob Walder (Con-  
 Steve Rinkenberger  
rk). Many good teach-  
 timely warnings were  
t out. One brother men-  
ted reading, recently, how the  
scholars of today cannot under-  
stand how the Scriptures could have  
been translated from the Hebrew  
and Greek into English so accu-  
rately. They said it was not possi-  
ble for human beings to do this  
unless there was divine interven-  
tion. Does this not prove how our  
Heavenly Father provides for His  
children?

Bro. Randy and Sis. Karen Kel-  
lenberger were blessed with the  
arrival of Galen Arthur on March  
13. He was welcomed home by his  
brother, Brent. The grandparents  
are Bro. Carl and Lydiann Wyss  
(Washington) and Sis. Marie Kel-  
lenberger (Sabetha).

A little baby girl named Camille  
Rose came to bless the lives of Bro.  
Richard and Sis. Evelyn Sauder.  
Kimberly welcomed her little sis-  
ter home. The grandparents are  
Sis. Clara Yackley (Taylor) and  
Bro. Robert and Sis. Elizabeth  
Sauder (Tremont).

Sis. Melba Hangartner (Jerry)  
was a surgical patient, and Sis.  
Louise Wagenbach (Simon) was  
hospitalized with shingles. Both are  
home and recuperating. We are  
thankful that God has again sent  
His healing power to our loved  
ones.

Nelson Koch, son of Bro. Jim  
and Sis. Nancy, had the misfortune  
of falling out of a haymow and  
breaking his leg. He is wearing a  
cast, but is recovering nicely.

Sis. Mary Getz is now residing  
in the Elgin Nursing Home. We  
have missed her assembling with  
us most of this past winter.

Cindy Sauder and Jim Boyle were  
united in marriage on April 7. The  
parents are Bro. Merle and Sis.  
Nancy and Charles and Louise  
Boyle. We wish them happiness as  
they start their life together.

An impressive Easter program  
was presented on April 8 by our  
Sunday School. May God bless the  
efforts of both the teachers and  
students.

As we approach this Easter sea-  
son, may we all remember what it  
cost our Lord and Saviour to do  
what He did for us.

**ILLINOIS, WASHINGTON**  
Valerie Kipfer - Linda Ziegenhorn  
Easter reminds us of the joyous

ascension of Christ into Heaven,  
giving us the promise of eternal  
life, but what agony Christ suffer-  
ed to save us. He prayed until  
sweat-drops of blood fell from his  
brow. He separated Himself from  
the Father that we might be saved.  
Do we really, truly stop to realize  
what the agony of the cross must  
have been? And Christ did this all  
for us! Truly, we must strive to be  
ever thankful and to repay Him  
for His suffering in whatever ways  
we can.

It has been a year since we  
started having services in our new  
church. God has richly blessed us.  
We have gained new families, new  
converts, and new babies. We lost  
only one brother, due to death. It  
has been a wonderful year.

Visiting ministers this month  
were Bros. Roy Sauder, John  
Klotzle, and Clifford Grimm. We  
always appreciate having visitors.

**INDIANA, BLUFFTON**  
Peggy Gerber - Shari Kaehr

If you from sin are longing to be  
free,

Look to the Lamb of God;  
He, to redeem you, died on Calvary,  
Look to the Lamb of God.  
Jackson

Five souls in our congregation  
recently have sought the way of  
salvation in their lives. We welcome  
them into our loving family of God  
and greet them as our brothers and  
sisters. Taken into the fold were  
Sis. Julie Frauhiger (wife of  
Chauncy), Bro. Jim and Sis. Pat  
Blumfield, Sis. Beth Aeschliman  
(wife of Dale), and Sis. Leonda  
Pfister (daughter of Bro. Ted and  
Sis. Rose). We wish to express a  
sincere thank you to Bro. Dale Ei-  
senmann from Chicago and Bro.  
Merle Bucher from LaCrosse for  
being with us on this special day.  
We also were privileged to have  
Bro. Art Ringger (Indianapolis)  
and Bro. Henry Beer (Milford) in  
our congregation this month. We  
thank all these brothers for their  
sincere efforts.

Many from our congregation  
were hospitalized this month. We  
are thankful to report that Bro.  
Bill Stoller's hand is showing im-  
provement. Also hospitalized were:  
Bro. Steve Reinhard, Sis. Roselena  
Steffen, Sis. Marie Steffen, Sis.  
Ester Geisel, Bro. Ned Kipfer, Bro.  
Phil Kaehr, Bro. Everett Geisel,  
David Fleming, Kay Craighead,

Anthony Gerber (son of Bro. Jerry  
and Sis. Ann), and Kent Frauhiger  
(son of Bro. Melvin and Sis. Lu-  
cille).

All feeling it is the Lord's will,  
three young couples have made  
their engagements known. Sis. Jean  
Gerber (Bro. Don and Sis. Justine)  
will become Bro. Terry Neuen-  
schwander's (Bro. Bill and Sis. Mil-  
dred) helpmate on June 24. Sis.  
Julie Baumgartner (Bro. Howard  
and Sis. Joyce) and Bro. Steve  
Schwartz (Bro. Les and Sis. Sally)  
will promise their lives to each other  
on July 8. On Easter Sunday,  
Sis. Jan Yergler (Bro. Richard and  
Sis. Lillian) and Bro. Jim Schwartz  
(Bro. Ralph and Sis. Leona) were  
engaged. Our best wishes and pray-  
ers go to these dear brothers and  
sisters.

There is yet another kind of love  
in our congregation, the love of  
children. Bro. Gary and Sis. Barb  
Schwartz welcomed their first-  
born child, Melissa Sue. David and  
Judy Fleming are very pleased  
with their first daughter, Salena  
Kay. Sis. Sarah Reinhard is Sa-  
lena's happy grandmother. On Apr.  
5, Bro. Ralph and Sis. Jean Baum-  
gartner were blessed with a pre-  
cious little daughter named Bar-  
bara. Little Cameron Lee was the  
precious little bundle given to Bro.  
Dennis and Sis. Deb Fry. Don and  
Sharon Reinhard welcomed their  
first-born daughter, Sarah Eliza-  
beth. The grandparents are Bro.  
Aaron and Sis. Irene Reinhard. Bro.  
Don and Sis. Suzie Fiechter were  
delighted with their precious bun-  
dle from heaven, little Heidi Joy.

Bro. Joe and Sis. Josephine Mey-  
er and Bro. Tobias and Sis. Hilda  
Steffen recently celebrated their  
50th wedding anniversaries. We re-  
joice with these couples and pray  
they may continue in their married  
lives together.

The Bluffton Choir spent a bless-  
ed weekend with the Peoria, IL,  
congregation on March 31 and Apr.  
1. We thank everyone in Peoria for  
making our visit so blessed and en-  
joyable. The Choir also sang at the  
Fellowship Hall on April 11 to con-  
clude this past choir season. We  
wish to especially thank Bro. Doug  
Gerber for all the time he willingly  
spent in directing our choir.

**INDIANA, BREMEN**  
Norma Lehman

To many, Easter means that  
spring has arrived. We buy new  
clothes and color eggs to celebrate

this time of year. Do we really realize how important this day is to each of our lives? Since the beginning of time, God has seen all our sin. He made man to be his companion, but since man chose evil over good, the relationship was broken. God knew something had to be done to restore the relationship. He saw our sin, but because He loved us so much, He sent His only Son to pay for all the wrong we had done. Jesus was perfect and sinless, and He had no reason to be put to death. Yet, His love was so great for us that He willingly went to the cross to which man had condemned Him. Three days after His death, Jesus Christ rose from that grave and came back to life to show that sin had been conquered. We, too, have the promise of living after we die if we only will believe and commit our lives to Jesus Christ. (By Sis. Laurie Suttor.)

Bro. Walt Rager from Toledo, Ohio, was with us on March 18. All of us found blessings in his message.

Sis. Kay and Bro. Dale Gramm are the proud parents of Kara Elizabeth, born on March 19.

Special prayers this month are for Bro. Carl Zeltwanger, Bro. Henry Souder, and Sis. Helen Zimmer who have all been in the hospital.

### INDIANA, FRANCESVILLE

Linda Gutwein  
Sharon Neihouser

"And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified. He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." Matthew 28:5,6. Many gathered early Sunday morning for a Sunrise Service. We appreciated the visit of Bro. Roy Grimm (Taylor) on Easter Sunday, and we were so richly reminded of the cost of our salvation. In the afternoon, the Sunday School children told us in verse and song of the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord and Saviour.

The engagement of Sis. Cindy Albrecht (Lewis and Sis. Carol) to Bro. Brian Wiegand (Bro. Joe and Sis. Lois) of Oakville was announced. We wish them God's blessings as they travel life's pathway together.

Bro. Emil Pelsy suffered a light stroke and is hospitalized. We pray that he can feel God's near-

ness at this time.

Our sympathy goes to Sis. Catherine Neihouser, Sis. Minerva Wuethrich, and Bro. Herman Wuethrich in the passing of their brother, Joe Wuethrich.

Our congregation was saddened by the passing of Bro. Dwight Bucher. He was killed in a one-car accident on April 10. He leaves to mourn, his wife, Sis. Carol, one son Terry, and one daughter, Mrs. Dewain (Debbie) Davis. Surviving also are his parents, Bro. Bert and Sis. Marie Bucher, five brothers, and three sisters. Services were held on Fri., April 13, with Bro. Bob Meyer (Bluffton) officiating. May they find comfort in God's Word in the loss of their loved one.

Joe Wuethrich's brothers and sisters wish to express their sincere thanks and appreciation for all of the many deeds of love shown during the time of his death. Even though in life he was unable to do as most of us, his love was there. The nice memories that all of the wonderful people provided will not be forgotten.

### INDIANA, LA CROSSE Lois Bucher - Pearl Nuest

Bro. Ernie and Sis. Emma Pfeifer celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house for family and friends on March 24. We wish them many more years together, filled with blessings from the Lord.

Glen and Becky (Troxel) Minich were blessed with their first-born, a boy named Lucas David. The grandparents are Bro. Phil and Sis. Mary Troxel and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Minich.

### KNOW EACH OTHER BETTER

Edward J. Wittmer, the youngest of eight children, was born December 7, 1892, to Bro. John and Sis. Anna (Ackerman) Wittmer at Morton, IL. In February, 1915, he came with those first ones who came to settle here in the LaCrosse area. He farmed the farm south of LaCrosse, known to us as the Otto Fritz farm, until 1920. He then purchased the farm east of LaCrosse on the edge of town, now known as the Weinkauff farm. It was after he settled here that he married Louise (Gerber) Siebenthal, a young widow of nearly three years.

Louise was born at Cissna Park, IL, August 17, 1896, to Theophile

and Sis. Julia (Bach) Gerber. On Jan. 1, 1915, she married David Siebenthal, Jr., who died here at LaCrosse in the flu epidemic. Louise and David, with their baby, Lucille, moved to LaCrosse in March of 1916. To this union were born two more girls, Sylvia and Florence.

When they came to this community, those who could went to the Francesville church. Before they built the first church at LaCrosse, they assembled in homes. When Louise became a widow in March of 1919, she stayed at LaCrosse for a year, then went to Latty with her parents.

On November 30, 1921, Edward and Louise were married and moved back to LaCrosse with the three little girls. To this union were born five children, two boys and three girls. They farmed here together until 1937 when they moved to the Valparaiso area.

They both found their Lord, Bro. Ed earlier in life than Sis. Louise. Each one enjoyed their life together as children of God.

For the last several years they have been in poor health. Sis. Louise suffered several strokes, the last of which has made her unable to communicate. It has affected her speech and right limbs. Bro. Ed has arthritis quite badly, which has gradually made him unable to get around.

All their children are married and live in this area except Sylvia, who is in Kankakee, IL, and Russ, who is in Bartonville, IL. There are 20 grandchildren.

A member of the family has written and submitted the following poem which is about Bro. Ed and Sis. Louise.

### THE FAMILY TREE

Not far from the trunk of the  
family tree  
Is a limb with the names of Ed and  
Louise.  
From this limb come eight branches  
sturdy and strong,  
They've now grown nigh a half  
of a century long.

Then proceeding from them, we  
find twenty more  
To enhance the tree's beauty with  
treasures in store.  
How extensive the growth from  
here, only God can know,  
But already near twenty small  
twiglets now grow.

How the Master must with anticipation observe,  
As these branches with leaves toward the sunshine do curve,  
And hopes within time from the fruit of this tree  
To gather a harvest most bountifully.

How it saddened our hearts when so early we found  
He picked two small blossoms His throne to surround.  
But as time healed the wound their absence had left,  
They got ready to meet them—why feel so bereft?

As the years rolled along, came the Master again  
To check on the progress 'mid sunshine and rain;  
Could some fruit have ripened enough to bring home?  
As he looked o'er the tree he chose Daniel, alone.

Now we know not how soon this dear Gardener will come  
To take blossoms or fruit to His heavenly home;  
But we know near the trunk of the family tree  
Are two well ripened fruit that the Master can see.  
But Alas! We don't know what might be in His plan.  
Perhaps one unexpected, whose life scarce began,  
Might be chosen before this ripe fruit be His choice.,  
And be the one to hear the death angel's voice.

Let's be wise and get ready, for we know not when  
It will be our own turn when He comes back again.  
"Repent for the kingdom of God is at hand,"  
He said when on earth—IT WAS HIS FIRST COMMAND.

Now these parents have prayed for this tree o'er and o'er;  
May God answer their prayers on that beautiful shore.  
So let's make every effort, as we tread this sod,  
That we're fully ripe fruit to meet them, and God.

**INDIANA, LEO**  
Mrs. Phil Schlatter  
Mrs. Al Frautschi

#### WHICH DISTURBS YOU MOST?

"Which disturbs you most? A soul that is lost or a scratch on your

new car? Your missing a day in the house of God or missing a day at work? A sermon 10 minutes too long or lunch a half hour late? A church not growing or your garden not growing? Your Bible unopened or your newspaper unread? The millions who do not know Christ or your inability to keep up with the neighbors? The cry of the multitude for bread or your desire for another piece of German chocolate cake? Support for God's work decreasing or your income decreasing? WHICH REALLY DISTURBS YOU MOST?"

G. Christian Weiss  
Spiritual blessings were received from meditations given by Bro. Wendell Gudeman, Francesville, April 9, and by Bro. Kenneth Hoerr, Peoria, April 22.

A son, Joseph James (Joey), was born April 8 to Mr. and Mrs. James Maxfield. Paternal grandparents are Bro. O. W. (Pete) and Sis. Helen Maxfield. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kitzmiller.

Bro. Aaron Schwartz was a hospital patient, now considerably improved.

Diana, daughter of Louis and Sis. Ruth Garman, exchanged wedding vows with Roger Strite on March 31. Relatives and friends extend best wishes.

Bro. Al and Sis. Marjorie Frautschi returned recently from a very wonderful trip to Israel.

Two young men have made the most important decision of a lifetime, the decision to turn to the Lord. James, son of Bro. Jack and Sis. Velma Bollier, and Steven, son of Bro. Oliver and Sis. Emma Jean Steiglitz, have made this eternally valuable choice. Praise the Lord; He is still inviting to come and taste and see!

#### INDIANA, MILFORD

Connie Beer  
Sandy Beer

Bro. Clint and Sis. Gayle Bucher and daughter Rochelle are rejoicing over the addition to their family. Jessica Erin was born March 31. Her grandparents are Bro. Vernon and Sis. Melva Bucher (La-Crosse) and Bro. Bob and Sis. Ida Aschliman (Bluffton).

Lindsay Marie Kaiser brought joy to the home of Bro. Steve and Sis. Joyce on April 8. She has a big brother Ryan. Her grandparents are Bob and Carol Kaiser and Bro. Phil and Sis. Thelma Schlatter

(Leo).

We wish them much wisdom and manifold blessings as they raise their children.

Bro. Wayne Anliker (Forrest) was with us on March 25 and ministered to us. We always enjoy the fellowship of our visitors.

Since her last hospitalization, Sis. Wanda Wiesser is living with her daughter and son-in-law, Bob and Carol Kaiser. Wanda has been a faithful sister and misses the fellowship, so she would surely appreciate all remembrances.

Sis. Aldine Reimschisel, who had been living with her daughter, is now able to return to her home.

Let us try to remember them in our prayers and pray for one another.

The following thought was written by F. B. Meyer:

"If we do the little duties of life faithfully, punctually, thoughtfully, reverently—not for the praise of man, but for the "Well done," of Christ—not for the payment we may receive, but because God has given us a little piece of work to do in His great world—not because we must, but because we choose—not as the slaves of circumstance, but as Christ's freed ones—then far down beneath the surge of common life the foundations of a character are laid, more beautiful and enduring than coral, which shall presently rear itself before the eyes of men and angels, and become an emerald islet, green with perennial beauty, and vocal with the songs of Paradise.

"We ought, therefore, to be very careful how we fulfill the common tasks of daily life. We are making the character in which we have to spend eternity. We are either building into ourselves wood, hay, and stubble which will have to be burnt out at great cost, or gold, silver, and precious stones that shall be things of beauty and joy forever."

#### INDIANA, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

(Lafayette)  
Candy Wuethrich

"Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Mark 8:34.

Happiness is following Christ! As we daily commit our lives to Christ, we experience a peace of which the world knows nothing. While attending college, we encounter hundreds of students



searching diligently for happiness and peace of mind. They will go to great extremes to try to attain happiness. Happiness is an empty emotion without the attainment of a peace deep within that only Christ can give. How can we tell them what true joy is? God said to let our light so shine before man. If we let our light shine as we daily follow Christ, we can share our joy with others.

Our Purdue Youth Group attended College Weekend on March 24 and 25 at Champaign, IL (U of I). Our cups were filled to overflowing. Our theme was "Following Christ." It is such a blessing to study God's Word so that we can more sincerely and completely follow Him.

A sister recently shared the following thought with me. She said that we are always saying, "God will provide," but God is providing each day, each moment of our lives. He is providing right now! She explained that we should not look to the future for God to provide but be thankful that He is providing now.

God is providing for Sis. Cindy Albrecht and Bro. Brian Wiegand as they plan to begin their life together on June 3. Their engagement was announced on April 1. Sis. Cindy is the daughter of Lewis and Sis. Carol Albrecht (Francesville), and Bro. Brian is the son of Bro. Joe and Sis. Lois Wiegand (Oakville). We wish God's richest blessing to them.

Our visiting ministers for the past month were Bro. David Bertsch (Leo) and Bro. Jesse Beer (Milford). Words cannot express our appreciation for their labor of love as they share the Word with us.

How sweet the name of Jesus  
sounds

In a believer's ear:  
It soothes his sorrows, heals his  
wounds,  
And drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole  
And calms the troubled breast;  
'Tis manna to the hungry soul,  
And to the weary, rest.

Hymns of Zion, 159

### INDIANA, REMINGTON

Amelia Schini - Mildred Clauss

The engagement of Sis. Sharon Leman to Bro. Allen Martin of Eureka has been announced and we wish them God's blessings. Bro.

Rich and Sis. Edna are Sharon's parents and his parents are Bro. Les and Sis. Ruth.

Sis. Marie Schini has been hospitalized for several weeks and at this writing is still a patient at St. Elizabeth Hospital. We pray that God will grant her grace and courage for each new day.

Two dear young couples are moving from here to Roanoke, IL. Bro. Marvin and Sis. Michaleen Braker and their two children and Bro. Nathan and Sis. Martha Braker and their four children will be greatly missed in our congregation. We pray that God will richly bless them in their new homes and in their new business.

### INDIANA, VALPARAISO

Susie and Marie Heinold

HIS LOVE WITHSTOOD IT ALL  
They mocked our loving Saviour;  
They nailed Him to the tree;  
And yet His love withstood it all—  
He died for you and me.

He died, but, oh, He rose again.

He sundered sins dread chains;  
Our Saviour broke the bonds of  
death.

He lives! He lives! He reigns!  
Author Unknown

This poem was given by an eleven year old on Palm Sunday for our Easter program. We were glad to have Elder Bro. Edwin Ringger for that day as well as the many other visitors. This past month, ministering brethren Earl Kilgus, Everett Hari, and Ron Heininger, and Elder Bro. Edward Frank favored us with their visits.

What a blessed Sunday when the Bloomington, IL, choir came to Valparaiso. Bro. Rod said, "These beautiful voices will echo in our ears for days to come." And so they have. The love they brought has also echoed in our hearts.

We heartily welcome Mike and Claudia Thomas and their three children who have chosen to attend the Valparaiso church.

How sad we are to have Bro. John and Sis. Tillie Heinold leaving Valparaiso to make their home at Francesville Parkview Haven. John and Tillie have nurtured our little church from its beginning in 1962, always cultivating a hearty portion of love. It is their ever faithful support that has helped bring our little church to where it is today. We look forward to their

coming back to worship with us on Sundays.

### INDIANA, WOLCOTT

Laurel Widmer

Spring is a time of awakening, new life. Born to Bro. Irv and Sis. Shirley Furrer on April 2 is a daughter, Kimberly Lynn. She has three big sisters to welcome her home. Bro. Fred and Sis. Mary Basham are also the parents of a new little girl, Jessica Amber, born April 5.

It was announced that Ralph and Jean Ravelette found peace with God. They hope to be baptized on May 6. We welcome them back to their home church.

On Good Friday, we held our Sunday School Easter program with songs and recitations from the various classes. We were reminded that from the youngest to the oldest, every individual plays an important part. Each has something to gain from the others. Whether we are the participants or the on-lookers, we are a part of the whole body and are incomplete unless we remain as one.

### IOWA, BURLINGTON

Judy Gehring

The Oakville Church assembled with us for a mid-week service. Bro. Jerry Kuntz and Bro. Ed Lanz brought us the Word of God.

Bro. Ed Aeschleman from Union City, NJ, was our guest minister on Wednesday evening, March 28.

Our monthly singing was held on April 8.

Bro. Harve Heiniger and Sis. Margaret Applegarth were hospitalized.

Bro. Ed Lanz spent Wednesday evening, April 11, with us.

We had the tapes from the annual conference on April 9, 10, 16, and 17.

Bro. Harve Heininger conducted our evening Good Friday services, which were well attended.

Sis. Sarah Gerst passed away at an Iowa City hospital on April 11. She is survived by 10 children and 50 grandchildren. Sis. Sarah, our oldest member, was 88.

### IOWA, ELGIN

Eleanor Butikofer

Each day brings spring a little closer and planting time a little nearer. Because the past winter has been unusual with long periods of frigid weather and with ice storms and blizzards that set rec-

Wiegand, son of Bro. Joe and Sis. Lois, and Sis. Cindy Albrecht, daughter of Lewis and Sis. Carol from Francesville, was made known. Also, Bro. Bruce Frank, son of Bro. Robert and Sis. Clara, and Sis. Bonita Stock, daughter of Bro. Melvin and Sis. Edith, Cissna Park, was announced. To these young people, who have first dedicated their hearts to the Lord, we would ask a special prayer and blessing that God will be their guide and help as they make their wedding plans.

#### IOWA, PULASKI

Mary Jane Knapp  
Ginny Wuthrich

We have been blessed with several visiting ministers this past month. We are always glad for their visits. On March 25, Elder Bro. Carl Kinsinger was with us and brought us the good Word. The following weekend, Elder Bros. Eddie Lanz and Leo Moser again preached the good Word. It is very important to do the will of the Father and not to follow our own will. The enemy is ever about us in these last times, and we must strive for love and unity in the church. Bro. Bill Funk was with us for mid-week services on Apr. 4, and we enjoyed hearing him and fellowshiping with him. He attended our church before there was a church in Garden Grove. May the good Lord bless all our ministers and elders as they bring forth the Word in its truth and purity; and may we be thankful that we can travel to other churches. Some countries do not have the privileges we have.

We were sorry to hear that little Cory Townsend, son of Sis. Lynn and Danny Townsend, was hospitalized. We are thankful that he is well and home again.

We are all anxiously awaiting spring and its beauty that only God can allow. As we look to spring, let us never forget our Saviour's death and suffering, but embrace it more dearly.

#### IOWA, WEST BEND

Mrs. Raymond Anliker  
Becky Banwart

God's peace has been shared with Wanda Metzger and Kevin Banwart. This is the most precious gift one could ever hope to receive. We rejoice with them.

On March 31, the marriage of Julie Banwart and Bruce Rongved

was solemnized. Julie is the daughter of James and Becky Banwart. The wedding and reception were held at the Apostolic Christian Fellowship Center. A reception was also held there on April 8 for newlyweds Gary and Linda Garlock. Linda is the daughter of Eldon and Verdell Fehr. May God bless the hearts and homes of each couple.

As graduation time is nearing, we rejoice with those who are completing high school. It's a time of remembering precious hours of fellowship and a time to ask God to remember each graduate, where ever they go. Graduates are: Jeff Fehr (Bro. Larry), Bill Fehr (Roger), Beth Schmidt (Bro. Ivan), Sandy Schmidt (James), Jay Schmidt (Bro. Jerry), Twyla Schmidt (Sis. Betty), Julie Rongved, Kent Banwart (Bro. Alvin), Terry Banwart (Dean), Tom Zaugg (Richard), Kurt Metzger (Bernard), Lois Metzger (Bro. Arnold), and the following exchange students, Geir Dingstad (Bro. Vic Banwart), Dagmar Wohlgemat (Bill Zaugg), and Seija Korhonen (Bro. Ivan Schmidt).

Hospital patients were Joey Wirtz (son of Keith and Sandy), Roger Fehr, Bro. Fred Wirtz, and Dick Schmidt. Dick remains in a Rochester, MN, hospital. May all who are afflicted feel God's nearness and trust in His healing power. But in all of our requests we must say, "Not our will, but Thine be done."

#### JAPAN, SHIODA

Sally Beutel

We were recently blessed with the visit of Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Fehr, Bro. Denny and Sis. Judy Fehr, Sis. Ruth Fehr, and Sis. Dolores Gerber, all from West Bend, IA. Denny and Jim unselfishly gave of themselves during our church services and Bible Class; we thank them for this. We enjoyed many hours of precious fellowship with them. Our fellowship with our brothers and sisters is truly a blessing. May we always appreciate and thank God for this wonderful blessing.

We had our kindergarten graduation here on March 23. One of our graduates was So Saegusa, son of Bro. Toru and Sis. Junko Saegusa. May the dear children always remember the teachings they have learned about our Heavenly Father.

Sis. Carol Huber, Francesville, was recently here visiting Bro. Hi-

sato, Sis. Kathie, and her new granddaughter, Rebekah Inoue. We trust she had a safe trip home.

We are once again enjoying God's handiwork this spring. The peach trees are blossoming a beautiful pink, and other fruit trees and many flowers are blooming now. God's magnificence is truly evident in His beautiful creation.

#### JAPAN, TOKYO

Yoshio Yamazaki  
Marie Inoue

Spring has come, but we have very unusual weather here in Japan. The weather feels like it is returning to winter again. However, we have wonderful cherry blossoms here and there in Tokyo today and people are really enjoying the "Ohanami," which means flower viewing. We are making a plan for our Tokyo church Sunday School Easter program on 15 of April, Sunday afternoon, to teach the children more about how wonderful it is that our Father in heaven gave Jesus power from his death and resurrected from his grave after three days.

We had several guests from the states this past month: Bro. Steve and Sis. Holly Stahl of Bloomington, IL, and Bro. Jim and Sis. Sharon Fehr, Bro. Dennis and Sis. Judy Fehr, Sis. Ruth Fehr, and Sis. Dolores Gerber, all from West Bend. Each of them brought special joy to us. Several times during their visit I was reminded of the "quiet witness" of which the Apostle Peter speaks. One of the brothers was not raised in our faith, and we were interested to know how he was led to the ways of the Lord and to our group of believers. Around the dinner table, we visited, and he explained the quiet witness he found in some Fairbury families. Their faith was not just a "pledge" in their youth, but it was a constant and everyday devotion to the Lord. He found real security there.

The two other brothers mentioned above spent their service time doing hospital work in Yokohama about 10 years ago. It was mentioned in a prayer how these two would often work all Sat. night and still make the effort to worship on the Lord's day—taking the two hour train ride to church Sunday morning. They couldn't even understand the sermons or songs but always came with a smiling face and uncomplaining attitude. No wonder the Apostle Peter says

ords, this spring will truly be welcomed.

### "SPRINGTIME"

The small brown buds of spring-time  
Are bursting one by one,  
And greener grows the hillside  
With blossoms in the sun.

'Tis only God could fashion  
The beauty of it all,  
The miracle of springtime  
And the blossoms on the bough.  
J. B.

Since the snow has melted, many birds no longer come to our feeding stations. However, the gold and purple finches, chickadees, woodpeckers, and nuthatches which still partake of seeds and suet are a delight to behold.

I love to think of nature as an unlimited broadcasting station through which God speaks to us every hour, if we will only tune in.  
G. C.

Bro. Jacob Gehring explained that he would like to be relieved from his duties in taking care of our World Relief project. We thank him for his faithful service in this area. Bro. Wm. Butikofer has now taken over these duties.

Bro. Gottlieb Pulfer is hospitalized, and we hope that his condition will soon improve. After having spent quite some time in a care center, Bro. George Butikofer is home again.

Our mid-week services have been resumed after their winter cessation. In addition, we have decided to devote the first Sunday evening of each month to a singing in our church assembly room. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Children can have no better inheritance than guidance from believing parents. Religion can become real in the midst of the family as in practically no other way. Many of us have inherited great riches from our parents—the bank account of their personal faith and family prayers.

We thank all of the Easter day guests who visited us.

### IOWA, IOWA CITY Connie Gerst

The engagement of Bro. Bruce Frank and Sis. Bonita Stock (both of Iowa City) was announced. Bro. Bruce's parents are Bro. and Sis. Bob and Clara, Oakville, and Bro. and Sis. Melvin and Edith, Cissna Park, are Sis. Bonita's parents. We

wish them much joy and pray they will receive the many blessings that a "marriage made in Heaven" can bring.

Visiting ministers this past month have been Bros. Uriel Gehring, Burlington; Earl Banwart, West Bend; Joe Zimmerman, Morton; Jon Schmidgall, Oakville; and Vernon Wettstein, Congerville. May the Lord richly bless their labors.

Although we are all rather impatient for spring weather to arrive here in Iowa City, it has been a good lesson for each one of us to endure a long, at times harsh, winter. It seems that warmer sunny days will never come, but they will. Perhaps at times in our spiritual lives we go through gloomy, cold days and feel the Lord has forsaken us; but He never does, and He has promised He never will if we trust and obey Him. How wonderful that we have a strong, stable "Heavenly Hand" to guide us in these days of turmoil and strife.

### IOWA, LESTER Alice Metzger

After several years of failing health, Sis. Lydia Knobloch was called to her eternal reward when she passed away on March 29. She was a staunch pillar of the church, and she and Bro. Jake instilled in their family a love of God. Besides Bro. Jake, she is survived by ten children: Sis. Matilda Fehr, West Bend; Sis. Eunice Knobloch and Sis. Dana Wyss, Elgin, IL; Sis. Gladys and Sis. Betty Knobloch, Lester; Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt, Winthrop; and Bro. Nathan, Bro. Art, Bro. Dale, and Orvie of this area. She is also survived by 40 grandchildren. The family is grateful for the many kindnesses shown to them at the time of her death.

Words are inadequate to express the joy we feel as we feel the work of the Lord in our midst the past few weeks. Several of our dear friends have answered the call to repentance and turned their backs on Satan and the world. Our new converts are Arnie Wulf, Rodney Metzger, Roy Feucht, Terry Knobloch, Donn Moser, Curt Kellenberger, Jean Heyer, Delbert and June Knobloch, Bruce and Harriet Metzger, and Eddie and Amelia Roeman. Our prayers are with them and also the many dear friends who regularly assemble with us.

We are thankful for our visiting minister, Bro. Nathan Stoller,

who brought us many good teachings on a mid-week and a Sunday service.

Bro. Ade Moser was hospitalized for injuries when a gravel truck he was driving lost a wheel and overturned. He was fortunate to have only minor injuries and was released in a few days. Other hospital patients were Bros. Chuck Leuthold and Art Knobloch for checkups on previous injuries.

### IOWA, OAKVILLE Phyllis Siegle

At Easter-time, we are reminded of what our loving Savior did when He was nailed upon that cruel cross and shed His precious blood for one and all. We are truly blessed and inspired by the Good Friday message and communion service. Elder Bro. Joshua Broquard helped in these important works.

Why do we have Mother's Day? According to our encyclopedia, Mother's Day has been generally observed since 1914 on the second Sunday of May as was proclaimed by one of our presidents. (It was first observed in 1907.) But do we need a special day to recognize the worth and beauty of our mothers? Should we honor them only on Mother's Day? Surely not! Often I think of the love and devotion our Christian mothers and grandmothers had. It comes to my mind, when I am confronted with problems, "Just how would they have handled these things?" No doubt, they, too, had similar problems or even greater ones. Surely, we will find the answers if we look to our Lord and Maker and put our full trust in Him as our parents did before us. Truly, mothers should be "honored" not just once a year, but we should remember them every day. They deserve regular expression of our love and appreciation for what they have done for us.

A bundle of joy came to the home of Stephan and Paula Stoller—a sweet little girl, named Stephanie Jill. The grandparents are Bro. Earl and Sis. Ione Stoller and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mack, Jr.

God opened the way for the following brothers to visit us: Bros. Gerald Sutter and Kenneth Knapp, Taylor; Elder Bro. Josh Broquard, Fairbury; and Bros. Stephen Rinkenberger and Kenneth Weerts, Cissna Park. We thank them and those who visited with them and invite them to return.

The engagement of Bro. Bryan

"... a meek and quiet spirit . . . in the sight of God (is) of great price." I Pet. 3:4. We thank each one for coming—our churches are small, and to have the benches filled brings special joy, also.

**KANSAS, BERN**  
Esther and Stella Moser

**FELLOWSHIP**

God talks to us  
When we read His Word;  
We talk to God when we pray;  
There is no sweeter fellowship  
When this happens every day.  
L. E. Bullock

The Sabetha congregation assembled with us for services on Good Friday. Bro. Clarence Dietrich (Silverton) was our guest-minister. Bro. Dietrich was also our guest-minister Easter Sunday.

On April 8, Fred and Joan Edelman gave their testimony of faith before the congregation. We then welcomed them into our fellowship as brother and sister and welcomed their seven children into Sunday School. Blessings multiplied that day as Bro. Wayne Miller (Fort Scott) was our guest-minister in the forenoon and Elder Bro. Gene Marti (Lamar) in the afternoon.

April 7, Clayton and Merriam Strahm's daughter, Suzann, was united in marriage to Douglas Plattner (Bro. Henry and Sis. Loree) at the Fellowship Center in Sabetha by Bro. Gene Marti. They will make their home on a farm, Rural, Sabetha.

Sis. Lena Hanni Baumgartner, 80, passed away Mar. 19 at the A.C. Home. Her husband, Bro. Louis Baumgartner, passed away only seven months ago. Lena was in failing health for many years and always enjoyed coming to church when she was able. Among her survivors are two sons, Leslie and Bro. Leonard, and three sisters, Emma Hanni, Sis. Lydia Hanni, and Sis. Mary Maurer, Sabetha.

Sis. Ellen Strahm (Bro. Curtis) was a surgical hospital patient. Fawn Esslinger (Bro. Leland and Sis. Patsy) was also hospitalized for a short time.

**KANSAS, FORT SCOTT**  
Jan Kraft

Singing with Grace in your heart  
to the Lord,  
This is true worship and love;

Living and singing in sweetest  
accord,

This is accepted above.

Gospel Hymns, "Singing  
With Grace"

We had true worship and love on March 31 and April 1 when the Morton choir came to share the weekend with us. Ministering Bro. Glenn Funk, Wichita, and Elder Bro. Joe Braker, Morton, with families, were here to share the weekend with us. The thought was left with us: "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep the things which are written thereon: for the time is at hand." Rev. 1:3. The three go together: we must read, listen to what we read, and then apply it. We can never be slack in any of the three parts.

The Sunday School children relived the Easter season for us on April 8. They enjoyed telling it as much as we enjoyed listening to it.

Elder Bro. Sam Anliker, Lamont, was here Good Friday to assist Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart in performing the holy sacrament of communion. How wonderful it is to sing at the conclusion of the service:

Anew Lord, we are bound to thee  
Through thy blest sacrament,  
which we  
Partook, that joined in heart and  
hand,  
To Zion's realm and holy land  
We journey on.

Zion's Harp

"Communion Hymn"

Hospitalized this month, is Sis. Elsie Sinn. Our prayers are with her.

**KANSAS, GRIDLEY**

Julie Strahm - Doris Bahr

We wish God's blessings upon the marriage of Bro. Gary Herr and Sis. Cindy Baehr. Bro. Gary is formerly from our congregation, and Sis. Cindy is from Princeville.

With joy in our hearts, we feel true thanksgiving for the ministering brethren who work and labor to share the true Word of God with us. Our visiting ministers have been Bro. Walter Herman, Princeville; Bro. Wayne Anliker, Forrest; and Bro. Glen Funk, Wichita.

A precious daughter, Crystal Lynn, was born to Mary and Dana Burdick. Mary is the daughter of Bro. Lloyd and Sis. Nadine Kraft,

who are the proud grandparents.

For quite some time now, we have missed the presence from our assembly of three dear older sisters. They are Sis. Mary and Ann Raaf and Sis. Sarah Beyer. We pray that good health may be restored to them and that they may be allowed to reassemble with us.

Victor Edelman, seven-year-old son of Bro. Albert and Sis. Jeanie, was hospitalized.

Thought to ponder:

The devil is forever convicting us of other people's sins, but the Holy Spirit convicts us of our own sins.

**KANSAS, KANSAS CITY**  
Paula Bahr

**GOD REMEMBERS**

I placed them here, crisp bulbs so  
brown,  
And shoved them deep into the  
ground.  
In haste I failed to mark the spot,  
And as days passed I soon forgot.  
But I, surprised, when weeks  
marched by,  
Saw tulips growing half knee-high.  
I guess God marks bulbs planned  
for spring;  
It's great how He remembers  
things.

Perry Tanksley

Spring is here, and, since God remembers each flower and tree and reminds them it is time to grow, we each have the assurance that God remembers us and will keep us in His care.

We would like to invite those of you who are nearing graduation or are looking for employment to consider Kansas City for further schooling or employment. There are many schools and job opportunities available in our area.

Our thanks go to Bros. Sam Huber, Sabetha, and Roy Wernli, Lamont, for sharing God's Word with us.

**KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Judy Bahr

Spring is such a wonderful time of the year to see God's handiwork. Even as God has cared for each little bird and flower, so has he promised to care for you and me.

Our visiting ministers for this month were Bros. Loren Strahm and Lloyd Kraft, Gridley, KS, Sam Huber, Sabetha, KS, and Sam Anliker and Bill Emch, Lamont, KS. May God richly bless them for tak-

ing the time and effort to come here and present God's perfect plan of salvation.

### KANSAS, KIOWA

Janice Bahr

"This is My body; this is My blood"  
So took He bread and wine,  
And in remembrance, we observe  
This final meal divine.

It came across the centuries  
Whenever men should meet,  
To speak of One who humbly knelt  
And washed His followers' feet.  
And then went out into the night  
To dark Gethsemane,  
Praying, "O Father, if Thou wilt,  
Remove this cup from Me."  
But history was made that night,  
The cup was never gone.  
It glows, a holy chalice still,  
With every Easter dawn!

Alice Kennelly Roberts

At this blessed Easter season, what way of remembering the shame and suffering our precious Lord had to endure could be more beautiful than the partaking of the holy sacrament of communion. We had this blessed privilege on Saturday evening, Mar. 31, as Elder Bro. Sam Anliker, Lamont, and Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson shared the Lord's Supper with us. It was an uplifting weekend for us as Bro. Sam also shared the Lord's Day with us and expounded precious words of faith from the Scriptures.

We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to John and Sis. Linda Liggenstoffer and family at the passing of their grandmother, Mae Liggenstoffer, Kiowa. May the Lord be a great source of comfort in their grief.

Our hospital patients this month included Bro. Vern Schurter and Sis. Betsy Diel, who underwent various tests, and Sis. Elizabeth Otti, who, although an outpatient, is constantly suffering much pain in her legs. We sincerely pray that our gracious Lord will again grant health to our loved ones who are ill.

Saturday evening, Apr. 14, and Sunday, Apr. 15, marked the beginning of a new life for Janet (Murrow) Wilson. Through a true repentance and conversion, Janet found peace with her Lord. She brought forth her testimony on the 14th. Then through baptism on the 15th, we witnessed her burial and arising to a new life in Christ. Elder Bro. Raymond Banwart, Ft. Scott, and Elder Bro. Ronald Nelson shared this special time with

us. As we see these precious souls still seeking their Lord and realize that God is still calling lost sinners, how grateful we are that God's Word is still true as it says in II Pet. 3:9: The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is long-suffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

### KANSAS, LAMONT

Mary Isch

As I write this, we are having a late winter snow storm. Much of it is melting as it reaches the ground. We look forward to spring and warmer days.

There is nothing more beautiful than a rainbow, but it takes both rain and sunshine to make a rainbow. If life is to be rounded and many-colored like the rainbow, both joy and sorrow must come to it. Those who have never known anything but prosperity and pleasure become hard and shallow, but those whose prosperity has been mixed with adversity become kind and gracious.

Author Unknown

Bro. Joe Aberle and Sis. Mary spent a recent Sunday with us. We thank Bro. Joe for expounding the Word of Life and hope that he and his wife will visit us again.

On the last Sunday in March we were privileged to have Bro. Walt Herrmann and his family visit us for evening services.

Our aged Sis. Emma Wernli has been moved from the hospital to the Madison Manor nursing home. May she ever look up to her Savior and know that her Redeemer liveth there in the mansions above and continually makes intercession for her and all mankind.

### KANSAS, SABETHA

Mrs. Joe Steiner

Doug Plattner and Suzann Strahm were married at the Fellowship Hall on April 7. Their wedding was followed by a reception. Bro. Gene Marti was here to perform the ceremony. We wish the new couple the blessings of God as they begin their life together. They will live near Sabetha.

We assembled together Saturday evening, April 7, to partake of Holy Communion. Bro. Gene Marti and Bro. Sam Huber served us and gave us good admonitions. It is well when we can fulfill the Lord's

commandments.

Sis. Louise and Bro. Carl Hartman wish to express their heartfelt thanks to all who remembered them with prayers, cards, food, visits, and good wishes during Sis. Louise's long illness. She has been attending church again the last few Sundays. May the Lord be with her so she can regain full strength.

Bro. Clarence Dietrich, Silverton, OR, was a welcome guest at our first Sunday evening song service on Easter Sunday. The first half-hour was spent in singing, then Bro. Clarence consented to give us a short service. We thank him for his visit.

As is our custom, we have discontinued our mid-week services and now have resumed our Sunday evening song service. We alternate with Bern every two weeks at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

### KANSAS, WICHITA

Judy Langhofer

It was Easter Sunday. The scene was Hermann Hill Park, Wichita, KS. Three thousand people were assembled . . . for a rock concert. It was reported that a small group of those assembled were illegally parked and were asked to move by the law enforcement officers. It seems this small group became defiant, acted in an irresponsible way, and a giant riot ensued. The law enforcement officers could not contain the crowd as it demolished police cars, threw bricks and rocks at the police, injuring many before it was stopped. We call this "following the crowd."

What was it that caused the people who escorted Jesus into Jerusalem as their King to then turn a few days later and cry, "Crucify Him, crucify Him." Some one feared for his position of authority, his rights, and incited the same kind of situation that we had happen here in somewhat of an orderly community. They became part of the crowd. Even Pilate, who saw no fault in Him, could not resist the peer pressure.

Could this be why Jesus instructed His disciples on that fatal night of the betrayal to watch and pray so that they would not enter into temptation because the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak?

Bro. Brent Robertson is now in St. John's Hospital, St. Louis, MO. He has expressed his thankfulness

for cards, letters, visits, and prayers.

Bro. Phillip Bowers and Bro. George Lambert were our hospital patients in the past month. We are happy to report that they were both again with us in church.

Bro. Joe Aberle was our visiting minister for the month. He spoke from the book of James on faith and works and stimulated much discussion on this subject among us. I overheard one young woman say that every morning she asks the Lord to plan her day; then, when the phone rings and someone asks her to do something that she had not planned to do she says, "Well, Lord, I asked you to plan this day, so I'll do it for you." The writer who penned these words, unknown to me, must have thought the same thought . . . "Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last." Today, lets say we will do it for Christ.

#### KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON Cathy Knobloch

Spring has sprung! How awesome to observe the brittle, brown grass of the Kentucky hills transform into lush, waving fields of green life. The celebration of spring at our church was begun with the acknowledgment of Christ's death and resurrection. The Sunday School children presented an Easter program of songs. Once again, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-nine years later, the exciting story of Christ's victory over death was retold.

Last month, our news article mentioned a next-door neighbor, Mr. Clement, who was dying of cancer. Two weeks ago, Mr. Clement passed on to glory. The Clement family expressed deep appreciation to our church members for upholding Mr. Clement in prayer. Every Saturday morning several men from the church would visit Mr. Clement, pray with him, and share Scripture. Praise God that these men can be living witnesses of Christ to those in need!

With summer fast approaching, we would like to issue a hearty welcome to all southern vacationers to stop by and visit us. There are many interesting attractions in our city. Also, we appreciate fellowship. Services begin every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. at 208 Locust Avenue.

#### MICHIGAN, ALTO Penny Erismann

"Some people have just enough religion to make them uncomfortable."

John Wesley  
So it was with Fred and Donna Oesch and Ferd Grauburg as their hearts were pricked and moved to repent. They have found the following kind of peace: "Lord, thou madest us for thyself and we can find no rest till we find rest in thee." St. Augustine. We're looking forward to hearing their testimonies in the future.

"If anyone would tell you the shortest, surest way to happiness and all perfection, he must tell you to make it a rule to yourself to thank and praise God for everything that happens to you. For it is certain that whatever seeming calamity happens to you, if you thank and praise God for it, you turn it into a blessing."

William Law

We had two major fires in our area which destroyed all livestock and the buildings belonging to Keith Feldman (son of Bro. Lyman and Sis. Vivian) and the home of Jerry and Sis. Brenda Patton. Thanking the Lord for His protection, no one was injured in either incident.

#### MICHIGAN, BAY CITY Patsy Knochel

A gentle but nippy cold wind, a rainy day or two, the sun's peeking rays through a budding tree, and, oh, the peaceful color of green enchanting each blade of grass! What a refreshing breath we can so freely take in the beauty of spring that God has created.

Girard and Sis. Diana Jacobs and daughter welcome a new baby boy, Jonathan, into their family. The grandparents are Clinton and Sis. Lula Meier.

We were pleased to have ministering Bro. Sam Schlatter (Junction) visit our congregation on a Wednesday evening.

Two couples, Debbie La Forest and Kirk Wieland (Bro. Merle and Sis. Elaine) and Kay Vantol and James Knochel (Bro. Norman and Sis. Leanore) were united in marriage. We offer best wishes to them in their new lives together.

Hospitalized have been: Sis. Carolyn Schambach (Bro. Lee) and Sis. Frieda Knochel.

Bro. Ralph Ramseyer, who had been ill for quite some time, is now gratefully able to be out and worship with us again. He wishes to express "thanks" to all who remembered him and his family through prayer, cards, and thought.

Sis. Tillie Freidinger, 85, passed away April 10 after a long illness. She was residing in a nursing center. Her husband, John, preceded her in death in 1969.

#### MICHIGAN, DETROIT Bonnie Popp

" . . . and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy."

Luke 24:50-52

On Palm Sunday, our Sunday School brought us the Easter message in Scripture verse and song. I believe each one present felt the Lord lifted His hands and blessed us so that we could leave that evening with our hearts full of joy.

We share in the happiness of Joe and Martha Szilagyi, who wish to continue in the Lord's will for their life and become part of the fold. Our support and prayers are with them.

Throughout the years so many things  
Have helped make life worthwhile;  
The handclasp of a precious friend,  
A mother's tender smile.

Sufficient strength for daily tasks,  
The Knowledge of His love,  
Great challenge in a needy world,  
Firm faith in God above.

Rich fellowship with human hearts,  
Blest sacred worship hour,  
The thrill of seeing lives transformed  
By Christ's redeeming power.

For these and countless other gifts  
In constant debt we are.  
Lord, somehow may we find the way,  
To live more thankfully."

Mildred C. Myer

ADDRESS CHANGED?  
TELL YOUR REPORTER.

### MINNESOTA, MINNEAPOLIS Carol Virkler

We are all anxiously awaiting spring after a long, cold, snowy winter. Along with spring comes Easter when we think of how Christ suffered and died on the cruel cross for your sins and mine. So with the Easter story is the message of hope for those who are in Christ.

### EACH SPRING, GOD RENEWS HIS PROMISE

Long, long ago in a land far away,  
There came the dawn of the first  
Easter Day.  
And each year we see that promise  
reborn  
That God gave the world on that  
first Easter Morn.  
For in each waking flower and each  
singing bird,  
The promise of Easter is witnessed  
and heard,  
And spring is God's way of speak-  
ing to men  
And renewing the promise of  
Easter again.  
For death is a season that man  
must pass through,  
And, just like the flowers, God  
wakens him too.  
So why should we grieve when our  
loved ones die,  
For we'll meet them again in a  
"cloudless sky"  
For Easter is more than a beauti-  
ful story,  
It's the promise of life and eternal  
glory.

Helen Steiner Rice

We were grateful to have Bro. Simon Wagenbach from Tremont with us on March 18. We thank him for his visit and for lending himself to speak God's Word.

### MINNESOTA, MORRIS Pam Sutter - Lili Koehl

Blessed are the poor in spirit  
Who, with meek and lowly heart,  
Plead now for the Saviour's mercy  
For His grace He will impart.  
He will hear their pleading voice,  
In His kingdom they'll rejoice.  
In His kingdom they'll rejoice.  
Zion's Harp, No. 54

Our congregation rejoices with the many souls who have chosen to walk the narrow path which leads to eternal life. They are: Randy and Shirley Koehl, Paul (Jr.) and Pam Fehr, Steve and Cathy Back-

man, Bob and Gwen Feuchtenberger, David and Eileen Nohl, Aldean and Charlotte Luthi, Dorothy Schmidgall (Bro. Gene), Charlene Luthi (Bro. Don, Sis. Della), Stan Schaefer (Bro. Anton, Sis. Verna), Brenda Schmidgall (Bro. Richard, Sis. Corrine), Kay Koehl (Bro. Edward, Sis. Lois), Kathy Nohl (Bro. Art, Sis. Sandra), and Dorene Moser (Gary).

Jacob Jay came to brighten the home of Bro. Tom and Sis. Colleen Dogotch on April 2. Damon and Aaron welcome him home. The grandparents are Bro. Leo and Sis. Thelma Dogotch and Bro. Jacob and Sis. Alice Wulf of Lester.

Bro. Ephraim Koehl was hospitalized for surgery.

After much suffering, Sis. Pauline Tohm was called out of this life on March 26. Our sympathy goes out to her husband, Bro. Ferdinand, her son, Richard, and her brothers, sisters, and friends. Pauline's family wishes to thank everyone for the visits and the many cards that were sent to her during her stay at the Villa of St. Francis.

Bro. Chuck and Sis. Esther Koehl wish to thank everyone who sent them a card for their 40th wedding anniversary.

### MINNESOTA, WINTHROP Delores Messerli - Mary Thiem

Oh, what a blessed Sat. evening it was when we sat in God's house and heard the testimonies of three dear friends. Then, on Palm Sun. we gathered with our many friends and listened to Elder Bro. Leo Moser minister to us, telling of Christ's entry to Jerusalem. After services, Bro. Leo Moser and our Elder Bro. Harold Messner conducted baptismal services. We now welcome Bro. Dean Messner, Sis. Denise Schmidt, and Sis. Patti Dapper into our fellowship. May God grant them the grace to keep their promises to be true and faithful until life's end.

It really is not difficult  
A blessed man to be.  
We trust the Lord with good result,  
And live in him so free.

Zion's Harp, 169

Following the baptisms, we "traveled" to Calvary's cross where our Saviour shed his blood and his body was broken so that someday, when he gathers his elect, we may sit in the Kingdom of Heaven to sup with Him as the disciples did so long ago.

Anew Lord we are bound to thee  
Through thy blest sacrament, which  
we partook,  
That joined in heart and hand;  
To Zion's realm and Holy land  
We journey on.

Zion's Harp, 200

Visiting minister Noah Miller (Mpls.) was with us Saturday evening. We thank the dear brothers for their labor of love, and we also thank the many visitors who shared this blessed weekend with us.

Esther Messner (George) and Bro. Walter Messner extend their thanks for all the kindness shown while they were hospitalized for treatment. Darold Thiem has returned home after re-entering the hospital for special care.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Sis. Lydia Knoblock, Lester, IA. Her daughter, Sis. Ella Mae Schmidt (Gene), worships with us.

As we celebrate Mother's Day in May, we are especially thankful for our rich heritage and for believing parents. We join their prayers for a circle that will be unbroken.

God took the fragrance of a flower,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The gentleness of morning dew,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The tender care of an angel,  
The forth of the mustard seed;  
Then God fashioned from these  
things a creature like no other—  
And when his masterpiece was  
through  
He called it simpy, Mother.

Author Unknown

To the dear young people who are graduating from high school: Remember—as on this earth you trod, knowledge comes from learning, wisdom comes from God. Those graduating are Sis. Ruth Messner (Bro. Don and Sis. Viola), Sis. Denise Schmidt (Bro. Darrel and Sis. Darlene), Cheryl Messner (Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Joanne), Verl Schmidt (Gene and Sis. Ella Mae), Ann Messner (Bro. Jim and Sis. Julia), and Kathy Messerli (Bro. Cornelius and Sis. Delores).

### MISSOURI, LAMAR Sandra Marti - Vera Luthi

At this Easter season, how often our minds turn to Christ and His great sacrifice at Calvary. We certainly should think of this daily and not once a year. Think how each of us felt when we were burdened

with sin. We can't begin to comprehend the heavy burden our dear Lord felt when He suffered for the sins of the whole world.

We feel we have been blessed beyond measure, as we have three more dear souls who have taken the journey to Calvary to lay their burdens at Jesus' feet. New converts are Jerry Braker (Bro. Raymond and Sis. LuEtta), Paul Stefan (Bro. Willie and Sis. Hilda), and Becky Marti (Bro. Charles and Alice). We truly rejoice with them and wish them God's grace.

We all appreciated the visit of ministering Bro. Charles Sinn and his family from Ft. Scott. We were reminded to dwell more on those things which pertain to our eternal life, rather than on earthly things which will pass away. May we remember to pray for those who proclaim God's Word.

#### MISSOURI, TAYLOR Loida Hodel

"I am glad that in the 'Spring-time' of life there were those who planted the flowers of love in my heart instead of thistles."

R. L. Stevenson

Kim Sutter (Bro. James and Lois) had knee surgery and is home again, getting along fine.

On Saturday evening, Mar. 21, we were privileged to share a trip to Japan in "travelogue" style with Bros. Ben and Curt Gramm from Gridley, IL. Most of us will not experience seeing the beautiful scenery of Japan or know the efforts our brothers and sisters are putting forth in spreading the Gospel to an "idol" worshipping country, so we appreciated getting a glimpse of it this way. We have much to be thankful for. We were reminded how the fellowship among just a handful of believers there is treasured, while here in America we have so many brethren to share our joys and sorrows. The familiar song reads, "We need the prayers of those we love." Our evening was concluded by joining in singing "Blest Be the Tie that Binds."

On Sunday, Apr. 1, Bro. Harold Schmidtgall and his wife, Betty, from Gridley, IL., were our visitors. It was a cold, damp, and dreary day outdoors, but Christian love and fellowship created a warm and sunny atmosphere indoors. We all received many good teachings—admonishments as well as encouragements. We always enjoy meeting

new brothers and sisters and especially appreciate those who are willing to be used as instruments of God. Bro. Roy summed up the afternoon service by reading Luke 4:18, 19, Christ's own words: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

Spring house-cleaning time has arrived again, and the task becomes easy when it is shared by many. The noon luncheon and fellowship is always enjoyed, and a real blessing is received in keeping God's house in "good order," physically as well as spiritually.

"But let a man examine himself, and let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup." I Cor. 11:28.

We have been reminded to prepare ourselves before taking part in Holy Communion. In the spring-time, the caretaker of the vineyard trims the vine way back; sometimes, it seems to be too much, but a greater harvest is realized both in quantity and quality. "It is better for us also, to be trimmed and grown than to be cut down and burned.

On April 8, Palm Sunday, Bro. Wendell Gudeman and his wife, Sis. Marcella, of Francesville, IN, were with us. Bro. Wendell assisted Bro. Roy in carrying out this holy sacrament. These are memorable occasions, and we are grateful to God that we can take part in this wonderful experience and once again try to realize the great price that was paid for our salvation. We thank Bro. Wendell and Sis. Marcella for coming.

"Anew, Lord we are bound to Thee through Thy blest Sacrament, which we partook, that joined in heart and hand; to Zion's realm and Holy Word we journey on."

Zion's Harp

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

Sis. Mary Diggelman spent more than a week in the hospital for tests and observation but is now at home again and in satisfactory condition. We are grateful to God for His healing power and for His willingness to hear prayers.

Richard Diggelman (son of Bro. John and Sis. Mary) and his wife, Helga, departed on April 8 for Seoul, Korea, where he has been assigned by his company, Eastman Kodak. May God watch over them, protect them, and see them safely home in due time.

Now that a difficult winter is behind us, we look forward to the beauty of spring and the warmth of summer. We are especially hopeful that brethren traveling through the East on vacation or business will take time to visit our small churches and lend their encouragement to our efforts.

#### NEW YORK, CROGHAN Alice Virkler

Our Sunday School children presented an Easter program of verse and song on Easter Sunday. It is a privilege to teach these little ones and then to hear what they have learned about our Risen Savior.

We are thankful that our hospital patients this month have been able to return home and to our assembly again. They were John Rauhe for minor surgery, and medical patients Betty Richie, Tessa Farney (daughter of Bro. Duane and Sis. Karen), and Heidi Schamback (daughter of Bro. Paul and Sis. Lisa).

Our mid-week services have begun for the summer months. We assemble at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and alternate with the Naumburg congregation. Visitors are welcome to assemble with us when they travel through our area.

#### NEW YORK, NAUMBURG Rachel Snyder

When a seeking soul finds the seeking Savior, there is going to be a happy meeting. E.M.

Angels again are rejoicing. Henry and Barb Beyer have heeded the Savior's call. Henry is the son of the late Bro. and Sis. Ralph and Nina.

Emma Virkler has been taken to the House of the Good Samaritan Hospital in Watertown for surgery on her ankle.

Clara Merz will be celebrating her 96th birthday Easter Sunday. She is one of our oldest members.

#### OHIO, AKRON Gail Spangler

We appreciated and were blessed by the visit of Bro. Theo Beer on Thursday evening and also on Sunday, April 8. May the Lord bless



him for his efforts in bringing the Word of Life to us.

The engagement of Sis. Janice Greenbank (Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily) and Bro. John Rufener of Rittman (Bro. Chester and Sis. Roma) was made known to us Sunday, April 8.

Sis. Ella Messner was hospitalized for a few days, and Ann Francis is in the hospital at this time. May the Lord be with each of them.

Bro. Elmer and Sis. Juliet Graf thank every one for their cards, gifts, and prayers. They hope our God will reward each and every one.

### OHIO, JUNCTION

Lester Manz

Ministers who visited our congregation and preached the Word to us this month were Bro. Henry Dotterer and Bro. Ron Steiner, both from Rittman. We trust the Lord will bless them for their labors for us.

Many of us traveled to the nearby Latty congregation on March 25 where Sis. Karen Klopfenstein and your reporter exchanged wedding vows. Our parents are Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary Klopfenstein from Latty and Bro. Elias and Evelyn Manz.

### OHIO, LATTY

Susie Sinn

Bro. Merrill and Dolly Laukhuf have two new grandchildren. Tara Michelle was born to Bro. John and Sis. Marsha Laukhuf and Chris is glad for a sister. Bro. Rod and Sis. Ede Laukhuf are the parents of a son, Daron James. Jason, Shane and Lori welcome him home. The maternal grandparents are Bro. Herb and Sis. Naomi Ramseyer (Bay City).

A daughter, Carmen, was born to Joe and Portia McCoy. The grandparents are Bro. Dave and Sis. Irene Stoller.

Our sympathy is extended to Bro. Justus and Sis. Ruby Stoller and family in the passing away of Sis. Ruby's mother, Mrs. Ethel Sites. May the Holy Spirit be a comfort to them in this time of sorrow.

Mar. 25 was the wedding day of Sis. Karen Klopfenstein (Bro. Marvin and Sis. Mary) and Bro. Lester Manz (Bro. Eli and Sis. Evelyn) of Junction. Sharing this blessed weekend with us were ministering Bros.: Earl Gerber (Forrest), Ken Sauder (Mansfield), Richard Aberle (Indianapolis), and Sam Schlatter, Bill Schlatter, Ben Manz, and

Don Manz (Junction). May God add His rich blessing to this union of hearts.

Little Jennifer Stoller (Bro. Dwight and Sis. Lori) was hospitalized for a short time, but is now home. Sis. Marie Stoller is in the hospital recovering from surgery. Sis. Sadie Riggenbaugh had the misfortune of falling in her home and is also hospitalized. Sis. Dorothy Stoller (Bro. Wayne) fell and broke her arm. Let us remember to pray for shut-ins and hospital patients, asking that they may soon be able to assemble with us if it is the Lord's will.

Bro. Bill Gerst (Alto) and Bro. Tom Leman (Elgin, IL) brought us the true Word of Life in recent visits. May we heed their kind teachings and admonitions.

"Therefore my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

I Cor. 15:58

### OHIO, MANSFIELD

Lucille Groh

Our ministering Bro. Kenneth Sauder recently mentioned that often when we pass by an unkept field full of briars and weeds, we wish we could get our hands on it to clean it up and make it into a beautiful garden. He said that likewise, our Heavenly Father would like to enter our dear friends' hearts and cleanse them and make beautiful gardens.

The seed of the Word falls on many a soil,

The fertile, the thorny, the hard;  
Lest haply it fruitless in thy heart  
be sown,

Blest soul, be thou ever on guard.

Author Unknown

Mike Batten has done this and has by faith sought the Lord. He now has a clean heart and peace with God and man. We rejoice with Mike and his dear wife, Carolyn.

Bro. Pete Baltic has been chosen to serve in the ministry and work in the Lord's garden. On April 1, our elders, Bro. Rudolph Graf and Bro. Joe Ramsier, were here for this purpose. We pray the Lord will provide and bless His Word and that many souls can be nourished and grow.

Our Sunday School presented its annual Easter Program on Apr. 8.

Also, on Apr. 8 the engagement

was announced of Sis. Ann Martin and Bro. Kenneth Maibach (Rittman). We rejoice with them as they pledge their lives to God and to each other.

Loving prayers have been said for loved ones hospitalized this past month. They are: Sis. Naomi Cordrey, Sis. Ann Martin (both admitted to University Hospital in Columbus), Sis. Clara Grossenbacher, Tom Roberts (broken jaw), and Jerry Roberts (leg surgery).

White are the fields for the harvest,

Workers are all too few;

Souls are awaiting the message—  
Can God depend on you?

Author Unknown

### OHIO, RITTMAN

Florence Hartzler

"Word which God has spoken . . ." Words of life were spoken by our visiting ministers, Bro. Steve Gutwein, Francesville, Bro. Tom Leman, Elgin, and Bro. Ernie Graf, Akron. We thank them for their love shown to us as they served us this past month.

"Words of peaceful token . . ." The peace of God was given to our dear one, Susan (Winkler) Murray. We are thankful for those who still find grace from God to repent and be born again.

"Comfort in affliction . . ." With great courage, our dear Sis. Ann Martin submitted to major surgery, twice within a week. We are so thankful she is feeling better and is able to attend church again. Willard Steiner (Sis. Marian) also had surgery and is able to be home and to attend church. Bro. John Hartzler, Sr., is also hospitalized at this time. We pray that the Lord in His almighty power will heal the body as well as the soul.

"Send to many hearts Thy radiance . . ." Love is radiance shining from one heart to another. This love was found in the hearts of three dear couples, and their engagements were announced. The happy couples are Bro. Max Miller and Sis. Diane Kaehl of Forrest (Richard and Sis. Melba Miller and Bro. LeRoy and Sis. Janetta Kaehl), Bro. Ken Maibach and Sis. Ann Martin (Bro. Roy and Sis. Mabel Maibach and Everett and Dorothy Martin), and Bro. John Rufener and Sis. Janice Greenbank (Bro. Chester and Sis. Roma Rufener and Bro. Gordon and Sis. Emily Greenbank of Akron). As they make

their plans for the future, we pray they will ask the Lord to guide them in all things and that He will bless them in their lives together.

"Once shall be united. . ." Two dear hearts were united in marriage on April 7. They are Jody Tatum and John Calame, Jr., who are now making their home in Smithville. The parents are John, Sr., and Sis. Margaret Calame, and the Daniel Troyers of Dalton. We pray the Lord will bless this union and will invite Him into their home.

"Christ fulfilled the Father's will, to His honor, praise and glory. What a joyful story." All the above phrases are from the Zion's Harp, No. 97.

The twelfth annual army reunion for E.T.S. (dates January 1967—January 1970) is being held in Rittman on July 14 and 15. Anyone with the E.T.S. dates above that did not receive an invitation is welcome to attend. Reservations should be in before June 15. Contact Fred Stoller (216-682-8175) for further information.

### OHIO, TOLEDO Josephine Rehklau

#### CHRIST, THE RESURRECTED

Praise to Jesus who has risen!  
Delivered from death's bond and  
prison,  
Appears triumphant God's own son  
Thru the heaven's spacious arches  
Resound the joyful songs of glad-  
ness,  
And peace doth glow around God's  
throne.  
Praise Him Who ever lives,  
Christ the Savior, And to our God!  
Death's dark abode is banished by  
His conq'ring rod.

Zion' Harp

These words reflect the thoughts brought forth in verse and song by our children in their Sunday School Easter program.

We were blessed by having with us as visiting ministers Bros. Gary Maibach (Rittman), William Schlatter (Junction), and Floyd Weiland (Detroit).

Nickolas Patrick, son of Sis. Connie and David Sanclaint, was born March 17. His grandmother is Sis. Frances Laidig.

### OREGON, PORTLAND Connie Steffen

"This is my body which is given for you: This do in remembrance

of me." (St. Luke 22:19) As we gathered with the Silverton brethren for Holy Communion, our minds went to that time when our Lord was serving His disciples, and I believe we could all ask, "How could the Lord love me that much?" Elder Bros. Carl Kinsinger (Altadena, CA.) and Nathan Steffen (Elgin, IL) were with us for Communion and served us so lovingly. We truly appreciate the brothers' coming and the Word they shared with us. Bro. Nathan was accompanied by his wife and two children.

We are beginning to have company from various communities across the States, and again we wish to extend an invitation to any who would be coming West to plan to spend some time in Oregon. We greatly appreciate the fellowship of brethren. Bro. Carl and Sis. Evelyn Hackenjos (Bluffton) and their children spent some time with us; we hope they will come again before too long.

Easter shows us suffering from many points. Jesus suffered for us, being rejected of God. Such agony we cannot know as when He felt the sins of all the world placed upon His sinless shoulders. The thief, who first reviled our Lord, then realized his lost and sinful condition and asked for forgiveness, had his suffering turned to joy. Mary, the mother of our Lord, saw her dear son hang in terrible agony. Her mother-heart must have almost broken from the pain of knowing that He was without guilt. Her flesh, her babe, become man and wreathed in torture for a world that would, for the most part, reject Him. Jesus, caring ever for His own, said she should behold her son, His beloved disciple, so she would be cared for in love. Pilate and Judas surely knew they had turned an innocent man over to the crowds to die. Down through the ages we see that men have suffered the pains of sin because of the hardness of their hearts, and so it will be until the Lord returns. Men will be as the two thieves, rejecting Him and dying in their sins or seeking His forgiveness: For where His Word is preached we hear the cry, "Behold the Man!" (St. John 19:5)

### OREGON, SILVERTON Mary Jane Winkler

The Portland congregation assembled with us on Apr. 1 when we were privileged to have Bros. Carl Kinsinger (Altadena) and Nathan

Stephen (Elgin, IL) with us for Holy Communion. It was, indeed, a privilege to partake of the Lord's Supper and to remember His suffering and death. It always brings us closer to God and to each other. May we always strive to have this peace in our hearts that we would be ready at anytime to meet our Lord and Savior. We would like to thank our dear brothers for lending themselves in our behalf.

Our annual Easter program was presented by our dear children in Sunday School. In verse and song, they told of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. The song "Christ Arose" (Gospel Hymns, No. 323) portrays, beautifully, the meaning of Easter.

Low in the grave He lay,  
Jesus my Savior!  
Waiting the coming day  
Jesus my Lord!

Vainly they watch His bed  
Jesus my Savior!  
Vainly they seal the dead  
Jesus my Lord!

Death cannot keep his prey  
Jesus my Savior!  
He tore the bars away  
Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave He arose,  
With amighty triumph o'er His  
foes;  
He arose a Victor from the dark  
domain,  
And He lives forever with His  
saints to reign.  
He arose! He arose! Hallelujah!  
Christ arose!

### TEXAS, ZAPATA Tillie Kellenberger

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, Bless His holy name. Psalm 103:1.

We were privileged to hear encouraging words and instructive messages from Bro. Nate Stoller, Bradford, IL and Bro. Joe Stoller, Princeville, IL, who visited our congregation on March 4.

Elder Bro. Paul Fehr and Sis. Anna have left for their home in Morris, MN, after spending several months here in Zapata. They received glad news that their son, Paul, Jr., and his wife were turning to the Lord. Surely, their cup runneth over with joy.

Elder Bro. Herman Kellenberger is attending our church's World Relief Committee meeting at Eureka, IL.

**NEW MARTINSVILLE  
WEST VIRGINIA,**

**Minnie Weltz - Della Witschey**

The annual all day meeting will be held at the country church on Sunday, June 24. The usual program and serving of lunch will be in order. Several ministers, as well as many out of town visitors, will be present. All interested persons are invited to come and spend the day.

**ARE ALL THE CHILDREN IN?**

I think oft times as the night  
draws nigh  
Of an old house on the hill,  
Of a yard all wide and blossom-  
starred  
Where the children played at will.  
And when the night at last came  
down,  
Hushing the merry din,  
Mother would look around and ask,  
"Are all the children in?"  
Tis many and many a year since  
then,  
And the old house on the hill  
No longer echoes the childish  
feet,  
And the yard is still, so still.  
But I see it all, as the shadows  
creep,  
And though many the years have  
been  
Since then, I can hear mother ask,  
"Are all the children in?"  
I wonder if when the shadows fall  
On the last short, earthly day,  
When we say good-bye to the  
world outside,  
All tired with our childish play,  
When we step out into the Other  
Land  
Where mother so long has been,  
Will we hear her ask, just as of  
old,  
"Are all the children in?"

Author Unknown

**The Sermon . . .**

(Continued from page 28)

" . . . if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know." Never before has so much effort been spent seeking new knowledge as has been expended in the space program. We see knowledge being given to men in the last fifty years in greater measure than was given in the prior two thousand years combined.

You may have read, recently, that six scientists told about their faith in almighty God. One of

those intelligent men said that every time they learned the answer to one question, they had two more questions to ask. You and I know that God created everything and that all knowledge was His from the very beginning. You and I have the privilege of going to this great, almighty, omnipotent Being and asking Him to guide our lives. We ask Him to edify (enlighten or instruct) us so that we can understand how insignificant we really are and yet how valuable in the sight of God. Even though there are countless billions upon the earth, He is aware of us. He has a place for each one to serve both Him and our fellow men, thus being our brothers' keepers.

We read in Joshua an account of half the people standing against Mt. Ebal and half the people standing against Mt. Gerizim while the priests blessed them. Then Joshua read all that Moses had commanded. It must have been a very impressive thing because Israel was a countless throng.

What happens when you shout in a hollow? You not only hear it when you say it, but when you get through and are quiet an echo comes back to you. Probably Joshua had to shout there between the mountains, and the people not only heard the shout but also heard an echo returning. Life is the same. In school a teacher reminded us over and over that we always meet ourselves coming back. What happens when we come to the house of God and ask Him to edify us? What happens when we sit down with our Bibles in our laps at home, and we ask Him to bless us? We get a blessing not only when we read, but also as the words keep echoing back. If we wake up between two and three or four o'clock in the morning, the mind is fresh and clear and echoes back the blessing of almighty God.

If life is filled with earthly cares, trials, and troubles, they will take precedence over the blessings of God. Some of us have a terrible time trying to make sure that the mind gives us back a blessing rather than distress. You know what it's like to be burdened with such care that you wake up, toss and turn, and can't sleep. That isn't the way that He wanted it to be. When we wake up, our first conscious thought should usually be

of almighty God. That will happen if we try with all our hearts, and souls, and minds to serve Him, and ask Him to guide our lives in every way. Then, most of the time, the echo that comes will not be of distress and trouble, but it will be of the holy nearness of the loving, redeeming, heavenly Father; and that's what people want. How many times have you heard people sigh because of the distresses of life? How many times have you heard people say that they were looking forward to the day when they could retire? What man wants is what God has to give—peace and contentment. In His word, He instructs us in those things that will give what we would like to have.

Returning to the thought of being our brother's keeper, we are warned in this chapter to be careful so that we do not mislead someone else. "For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; And through thy knowledge shall the weaker brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend."

How much do we love our brother? How much do we love God? How much are we going to put ourselves out? How much are we going to sacrifice? Even though we say, "It doesn't hurt me," are we willing to give something up for the love of someone else? We are put to the test every day, and God is watching us. How He has blessed us!

As we look forward, there are war clouds hanging over us. A mother who has a little boy sitting at her side this day must look forward to the time when he will be in the army, for I believe that as long as the earth exists, we will never have peace again. But all of this distress need not overburden us, for, even in the face of death, the Lord said that we should not grieve as those who have no hope. As we sit here, every brother, every sister, and every friend has hope this day because the grace of God is still present.

## SERMON BY ELDER BRO. LOREN STOLLER OF LATTY, OHIO

Text: I Cor.8

We just sang the song "Brotherly Love." We are told in the book of Genesis that the first two brothers disputed and one killed the other. The murderer looked toward heaven and asked, "Am I my brother's keeper?" God made it plain then, and He has made it plain ever since that we are our brothers' keepers. We live in a strange kind of world. We woke up one day as a little boy or a little girl, and discovered that we'd been born and that we had to face life. As we grew older, we saw multiple problems all around us, and we watched our fathers and our mothers struggle with those problems. We didn't understand as little children, and we trusted that they could somehow take care of us, and they did. It was amazing how soon we became the mothers and the fathers, and it was our turn to solve the problems.

We have heard people say that it's more difficult to raise a family today than it was years ago. We have heard people say that it's harder to raise four or five children today than it was to raise ten fifty years ago. I'm not so sure. Satan has always been present here upon earth and wickedness has always abounded. Satan has seen to it that people have had troubles "a plenty." We feel like repenting, or trying to repent, for the whole human race when we read in the eighth book of Genesis that, "... the imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth." God repented that he made man, and we are one of them. Doesn't that make us want to do more for God and for our distressed fellow men?

We are much more fortunate than so many people upon the earth because we were born in a land that allows its people freedom of worship. We have read and heard stories of our forefathers' struggles in foreign lands. Many of them came here because they did not have freedom to worship

the almighty God according to their beliefs. As citizens of this nation we have the blessing of freedom of worship, and we have the greater blessing of believing the Word of God, which clearly and plainly provides salvation in Jesus Christ.

God's requirements are not difficult to understand if we fully submit ourselves to Him in every way, but we find that suffering begins whenever we have withdrawn from His holy will. When we remove ourselves from His loving care, our problems multiply. As we read in the Word, we see that the people who walked this way before did not walk a "path of roses." They had troubles all their own and problems to solve; but, loved ones, God always helped them with their burdens. When they prayed, He didn't necessarily take the burdens away, but He gave enough strength to carry them.

As parents, we look at our children and would like to do so many things for them. We would like to protect them from many of the difficulties that they have to face, but this would not make them stronger. Some of the greatest people who ever lived became great because they went through difficult struggles. Often the best comes out of a person when difficulties and adversities are faced. We shrink from this, and we want to protect our children if we can; and yet, that might not be good for them.

At the beginning of this chapter which we read together, there is a sentence that is extremely good for any young person who is in school today. "Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth." Let's call it the love of God. Let's call it love for people, not just love enough to pray for them, but love enough to do something for them.

Let us look at America in the 1930's. We went through a depression that those who lived

through will never forget. Since 1938, the American economy has been going up and up and up, and we ask ourselves, "When will it stop?" We have more than we need. We are being blessed with more than just the food, shelter, and clothing that is necessary. Our spending went up with the economy, but is it right? Do we have a right to spend for ourselves even though we have it? Love begins when we push aside the things that we would like to do, and follow the Lord's leading even when it appears unpleasant. It's very easy to kneel down at the end of the day and say a prayer for somebody who is in great distress, but when we put ourselves out to help them, that is love.

The Bible says that love of money is the root of evil. We find that we hate to part with it, but love also begins when we are willing to give our money to the distressed. This world will never be without poor people. There are more people who do not have the necessities than there are people who do. Just think of that. It is said that people never get used to being cold; they never get used to being hungry; it always continues to hurt. If we gave all that we had, we wouldn't make a pin point dent in the earth's poverty, but our heavenly Father watches all the time. He knows how much we love, and if we love enough to sacrifice ourselves. He knows how much we really care and in what measure charity, or Godly love, actually fills our hearts. Charity also gives us understanding.

As never before, the young search for knowledge, not only in America but also in many foreign countries. We can see that this knowledge does "puff up" a person, or makes him proud, if he is not aware that charity edifieth (that the spiritual love of God is really the thing that makes one wise). Verse two tells us that

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